

# PRIORY WARD NEWS

## FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN L PROSSER

### Member Priory Ward - Chairman MCC

CONSERVATIVE  
December 2014



Dear Householder,

As the County Councillor and one of the Town Councillors for Priory Ward I have compiled this newsletter to update you on important forthcoming engagement sessions to discuss budget setting for 2015/16. If you have other issues you wish to discuss please contact me on **01873 850534** any day of the week!

Monmouthshire County Council have issued the following press release:

**“Times are tough....**

**but we’re fighting to keep the services that matter**

Monmouthshire County Council is facing huge pressure to reduce costs. Next year 2015/16 we have to make savings of £5.7 million, these are on top of the £7 million savings that are being delivered in this year 2014/15. We’re trying to find ways of continuing as many services as possible, but we have tough decisions to make.

**Here are some ideas (no decisions have been made yet) that we’re looking at to reduce costs and increase income:**

- **Two becomes one** – our one stop shops could merge with local libraries to create Community Hubs.
- **Savings for schools** –we’re giving schools the same cash as last year unless they have less children.
- **Tightening the school transport budget** - we’re moving to statutory distances (from 2 miles to 3 miles for secondary school pupils and from 1.5 miles to 2 miles for primary schools) which means fewer pupils will have transport provided for free.

Ideas continued...

- **Less building costs** – we're saving money by reducing the number of council buildings - some community groups may be affected and will need to work together in a different way.
- **Changing the way we fund support for children with additional learning needs** – we're integrating support into the mainstream so we have an inclusive education system.
- **Goodbye grey bags** – each household will still be allowed two rubbish bags per fortnight but grey bags will no longer be provided.
- **Generating extra income** –additional income to be generated, we are exploring opportunities to sell advertising space and there may be some increased charges for discretionary services.

## **Have your say!**

**We're holding various Monmouthshire Engages events so our communities can talk to us about these proposals.**

**Please join us at one of the events listed, or visit:**

[www.monmouthshire.gov.uk](http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk),

[www.monmouthshire.madeopen.co.uk](http://www.monmouthshire.madeopen.co.uk)

or find us on Facebook or Twitter. “

## **Engagement Venues and Times**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 King Henry VIII Comprehensive 6pm**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Monmouth Leisure Centre 6pm

Weds. 7<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Caldicot School 6pm

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Chepstow School 6pm

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Magor 9:30am

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Tintern 12 noon

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Trellech 1:30pm

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Raglan 9:30am

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Usk 12 noon

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Gilwern 2pm

## **Welfare Reforms**

If you are concerned about Welfare Reform issues contact One Stop Shop on **01873 735800** or the Benefits Enquiry Helpline on **0845 6088569**

## **Representation at Planning Meetings**

Remember I am willing to present your case at Planning Committee whether you are in favour or against any particular planning application. Just call me to discuss!

## **Work on Council**

As Chairman of the County Council I am involved in the preparation and chairing of meetings of Full Council. These meetings can now be watched live via you-tube, just go to our website to obtain the link. I am also the Ceremonial Head of the Council and represent the Council at many Civic engagements all of which are reported at each meeting of Full Council. I am also a member of the Economy and Development Select Committee, the Licensing and Regulatory Committee, the Democratic Services Committee, and the Bryn y Cwm Area Committee.

As Armed Forces Champion I sit on the Armed Forces Community Grant Scheme Panel, and I represent MCC on the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association, and the Aneurin Bevan Health Board Armed Forces Forum, and also the Stakeholders Reference Group. I attend ADPAC (Abergavenny and District Partnership Against Crime) and Abergavenny Business Against Crime meetings as often as I can, and town twinning meetings. I am also the County Council Scrutiny Champion. Please contact me if you wish to discuss any of the above!

## **Community Police Contacts**

Our new Neighbourhood Police Inspector is Sarah Taylor. She is supported by David Seymour Neighbourhood Sergeant, PC Maldwyn John Crime and Disorder Reduction Officer, PC Shane Prosser Neighbourhood Officer, and Police Community Support Officers for Priory Ruth Moyse and Amanda Yung. They can be contacted by telephone on **01495 233917** (office) or by email at **abergavenny@gwent.pnn.police.uk**. The current Ward Priorities are seasonal crimes and vehicle customer thefts.

**In emergency dial 999—To report a crime you should dial 101**

**To report issues to MCC contact One Stop Shop on 01873 735800**

### **TO CONTACT ME**

**If you wish to discuss any issues with me please call:**

**01873 850534 or 07814 808324**

**Or email [johnprosser@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:johnprosser@monmouthshire.gov.uk)**

**Twitter: [@chairmanmcc](https://twitter.com/chairmanmcc)**