

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 22nd January 2015 in the Council Chambers of the War Memorial Institute

Present: Cllrs P James, P. Tonks, A. Jones, R. Thomas, N. Price, P. Lambkin, S. Jones

In attendance: Mrs L E Ball (Clerk and RFO)

Visiting Speaker: Mr S. Amor (Officer in charge of Llanwrtyd Wells Fire Station)

Cllr James thanked those present for accommodating the change of date.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs J Rowlands, T. Van Rees, L. Haines

The Clerk read an E-mail received from Cllr Haines in which she tendered her resignation from the Town Council to take effect immediately (i.e. Monday 19th January). Members present were saddened by this news but accepted the decision.

Cllr James formally thanked Cllr Haines and requested that a letter be sent to her thanking her for all she has contributed to the Town Council over the last three years.

Action: Clerk to write to Cllr Haines .

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the December meeting were considered. No further amendments were brought to the table and therefore the minutes were accepted as accurate. Proposed by Cllr P. Tonks and seconded by Cllr R. Thomas.

3. Finance

3.1 Balance Sheet – The balance sheet was presented to members. This included receipt of the final precept payment which included £500.00 allocated for website update. It was suggested that this money be put into the Reserve account in order to ring fence it if this was viable. It was requested that the Clerk contact the relevant person at County Hall to clarify if this would be appropriate. The proposal was formally proposed by Cllr A Jones and seconded by R Thomas with the proviso that it was found to be acceptable.

Action: Clerk to contact relevant person at County Hall to get advice

3.2 Proposed budget for 2015-2016 – The Clerk outlined the proposed budget for the forthcoming Financial Year. No increases have been made in any of the headings since the precept remains the same. It remains to be seen whether the cost of services will rise and at what percentage. It was agreed that the proposed budget be ratified at the next meeting when all will be present, giving members present to come back to the table with any queries.

3.3 The Clerk informed relevant members that no requests had been made for Revenue grants for Halls for this year and that the form for next year's grants had been received. Members agreed to write letters of request as soon as possible.

Visiting Speaker Mr S Amor arrived at the meeting at 7.30pm

Mr Amor was welcomed to the meeting by Cllr James. Mr Amor showed members present what the defibrillator looked like, explained the workings of it and demonstrated how to use it. He was of the opinion that another defibrillator could only enhance provision within the Town.

The issue of placement was discussed and the fact that it needed to be in a weatherproof cabinet (this is to be provided as part of the donation from the Friends of Healthcare in Builth Wells and District).

Once received it is the Council's responsibility to look after and maintain it.

After much discussion Cllr James offered to install it on the wall of his premises inside the front Garden area. This was thought to be a central point within the Town, easily visible and accessible. Once received Mr Amor offered to register the device with WAST (The Welsh Ambulance Service Trust).

The issue of training in its use was raised. It was felt that a public awareness drive would be useful to assess training need and interest in learning how to use the device. It would also highlight where other

defibrillators were in the Town. Cllr Jones agreed to put a piece into the Grapevine to gauge response. Mr Amor was more than willing to set up training if and when needed.

After much discussion it was proposed by Cllr Tonks that Cllr James offer of siting it at The Drovers be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr R Thomas.

Mr Amor brought to the attention of the meeting the need for a new response vehicle for the Fire Service as the existing vehicle is no longer fit for purpose. The service was working hard to raise money for a new vehicle and sought the Town Councils support for such fund raising. Cllr James pledged the Town Councils full support for the project and requested that members be kept informed of progress and where possible would support any fund raising events.

Cllr James thanked Mr Amor for an interesting and informative presentation. Mr Amor left the meeting at 8:10pm.

4. Anti –Social Behaviour

- Cllr A Jones reported Fly Tipping at Victoria Recycling area. The Clerk reported that information had been received from Powys County Council. This would be addressed under Correspondence.
- Cllr Tonks reported that the issue of disability parking on Station Road had been dealt with. He also reported that no written complaint had been received regarding the vehicles parked on Station Road.
- Cllr James brought to the attention of members a verbal complaint made regarding parking on the corner of Dol-y Coed Road. He would be willing to approach the offender to ask if the van could be parked a little further down so as not to obscure oncoming traffic when crossing at that point.

The complainant indicated that a letter would be written to the School Governors regarding the matter.

5. Traffic Calming

Cllr Tonks brought to the attention of members an article in the County Times naming Llanwrtyd Wells as having the worse reputation for speeding.

The Clerk offered the response form Go Safe partnership who in recent months had traffic data strips laid across the A483 Trunk Road through Llanwrtyd .It was felt that these two pieces of information warranted a letter to Mr D Williams requesting that VA signs to be installed.

Action: Clerk to find article from County Times and write to Mr Williams with the evidence.

6. Feedback fro Councillors

Cllr Lambkin requested a letter of thanks be sent to whoever cleared the pipes at Brynhynog.

Cllr James observed that trees brought down by the recent high river in Llanwrtyd had been promptly dealt with.

Cllr Lambkin observed that during the snow the hill up to the Surgery had been very slippery and wondered if there was salt available to clear it. Cllrs informed Ms Lambkin that there was salt available and that Mr P Cook had actually cleared the pedestrian footpath from the Town up to the surgery.

It was noted that during the snow many residents showed great Community awareness and spirit in making the walkways safe.

7. Planning

7.1 Application P/2014/1256-Change of use from domestic to business for the Cedars on Victoria Road. This application was considered and it was felt that clarification was needed as to what the business is going to be.

Action: Clerk to write to applicants requesting this clarification.

7.2 The Clerk updated the meeting on the proposed Housing Development at Maes y Dre on Beulah Road. Several documents are available to see on the Powys planning website .The issue has not yet gone to full Planning Committee.

7.3 The Clerk read out a response to the Council's concerns about the Snack Attack. After much discussion it was felt that the Clerk should speak to Mrs Fourie to get a clear picture of what is happening with this property as there appears to be much confusion surrounding it.

8. Twinning

The Clerk read a letter from the Twinning Committee from Mrs H Davies thanking the Town Council for their donation.

An e-mail from Cllr Rowlands was read regarding a gift for the Council of Cesky Krumlov. This had been discussed at the Twinning meeting and two options had been put forward. Either a Crystal vase or a stained glass Kite. It was also requested that the Town Council meet half the cost of the gift after some discussion the majority agreed that this would be acceptable.

The feeling of the Town Council was that the Kite would be most appropriate and would be more meaningful.

Action : The Clerk to inform Mr Davies of the decisions made.

9. Public Toilets

Cllr James updated members on the meeting had with Mr A. Knox before Christmas. Cllrs James, Price, Van Rees, Tonks and Rowlands met to discuss the condition of the facility. As a result it was felt that the Public toilets needed minor repairs and a general facelift to make them acceptable.

Mr Knox had promised to restore the electricity and to send an inventory.

The Clerk outlined the content of the meeting attended in Brecon provided by PAVO entitled Capital asset transfer. The general consensus of the meeting was that Councils were being asked to make rushed decisions often without all the information necessary to make those decisions.

The Town Council requested that the Clerk write a letter to Powys County Council outlining these concerns. It was also requested that contact be made with Mr Knox regarding the electricity and the inventory.

Action: Clerk to contact Mr Knox with regard the above.

10. Dolwen Fields.

10.1 Pavilion - Cllr Price presented to members the new Inspection Schedules for the Play Area and the Pavilion. These were considered to be very user friendly. It was unanimously decided to adopt them. Cllr Price reported that he would instigate the new Inspection regime from February onwards.

Cllr Price requested that the Clerk call a pavilion management meeting in February. The date of Thursday February 19th was decided upon.

Cllr Price asked if we had had any feedback from the New Terms and Conditions sent to all organisations before Christmas. The Clerk reported that there had been no feedback and no bookings to date.

Cllr James reported that he had made contact with his "toilet roll holder" supplier to be told that there had been three given at the time of refurbishment.

Actions; Clerk to investigate the whereabouts of the holders given at the time of refurbishment.

Clerk to invite members to the meeting of the pavilion Management group to a meeting at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers on Thursday 19th February.

11. Town Square and Green.

No issues were brought to the table.

12. Correspondence

Item 5 on Agenda - G-mail from Go Safe partnership with Data from the traffic strips.

Item 7 on Agenda – application P/2014/1256 Change of use –garden room from domestic to business use at the Cedars

Item 8 on Agenda- Letter of thanks from the Twinning Committee.

Item 8 on Agenda E-mail from Cllr Rowlands regarding gift for Cesky Krumlov

Item 10 on Agenda G-mail form Cllr Price regarding inspection sheets (sent to all Cllrs.)

Item 12 on agenda

Item 12.1 Letter from One Voice Wales re: area Committee Meeting to be held in Victoria Hall.

Item 12.2 G-mail from Julie Lewis At sustainable Tourism Wales

Item 12.3 G-mail from Geraint Lee re: fly tipping at the recycling centre in Llanwrtyd.

The Clerk reported that Powys County Council would monitor the area at the back of Victoria Hall and ensure that the recycling units are put back (after emptying) to ensure safe usage.

Item 12.4 Letter from Western Power distribution re: unmetered connection for Festive Lighting.

Item 12.5 Letter from Dunya Fourie re; request for information about Snack attack.

Item 12.6 Letter from Relate requesting a donation

Item 12.7 Letter from Welsh Government outlining Section 137 expenditure

Item 12.8 G-mail from Mr Ronicle regarding the defibrillator

Item 12.9 Letter from Powys County Council regarding the proposed annual grants for The Halls.

Item 12.10 G-mail from Cllr Haines tendering her resignation.

Item 12.11 G-mail from PCC ---- Clinical Waste Update

Item 12.12 G- mail from PCC re Local Development Plan

13. Miscellaneous

No issues were brought to the table.

Signed.....

Date.....

Date of next meeting; Wednesday 18th February

