

## Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7:00pm in the Council Chamber of the War Memorial Institute in Llanwrtyd Wells.

**Present:** Cllrs; L Haines P Tonks, J. Rowlands, P Lambkin, R Thomas, B. Hodges, P. James, T. Van Rees Cllr N. Price

### **1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs A. Jones, G. Rowlands

**In attendance:** Mrs Lynn Ball (Clerk and RFO)

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting**

Minutes of the meeting of January 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 were discussed. One amendment at the request of Cllr Lambkin was added under "11.7" concerning an appreciation from Mrs Steph Power to those concerned with assistance with a flooding problem.

Cllr Tonks proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Cllr Hodges.

### **3. Finance**

#### 3.1 Balance Sheet

The balance sheet for the period 15/01/2014 to 18/02/2014 was discussed.

Cllr James proposed them as an accurate record. This was seconded by Cllr Price.

### **4. Anti-Social Behaviour**

#### 4.1 Fly Tipping

Cllr. Tonks outlined the issue of fly tipping on the Sugar Loaf the nature of which posed a possible health hazard. He had contacted Ian Harris who immediately sent a team to clear up the debris. He subsequently e-mailed him to thank him for his prompt action. The issue of general litter on the Sugar Loaf was discussed but as this area is within the jurisdiction of Carmarthenshire County Council it was felt appropriate to write to Camarthenshire Council and Cynhordy Community Council outlining our concerns.

**Action: Clerk to write to both Camarthenshire County Council and Cynhordy Community Council.**

4.2 Cllr Rowlands reminded members of an anti-social incident highlighted at the last meeting. Cllr James and Cllr Rowlands had met with PC J Darby who outlined the importance of the BOB (Behave or be banned) scheme that landlords use when they wish to ban a customer. The meeting was productive and concluded that the BOB scheme was the way forward as opposed to actions by individual landlords. The complainant was happy with the outcome.

4.3 The Clerk reported that the Pact meeting held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February was well received. The officers were pleased with the response.

No other issues of anti-social behaviour were brought to the meeting.

### **5. Traffic Calming**

Cllr Rowlands informed members that he had spoken to Mr D Williams regarding town signage. The new signage for both the trunk road and the town was currently being made. He assured Cllr Rowlands that new gateway signage at entries to the town will be in place by the end of the financial year and hopefully for the town too. Cllr Van Rees commented that there could be further delays as he had heard that there was a three month waiting list for signs to be made.

Cllr Rowlands also reported that the issue of the street lights on Cefn Gorwedd Road had been satisfactorily resolved and the one at the entry to the path leading to the pavilion was now switched on. The Clerk had sent an e-mail of thanks to Emma Bradford at PCC( Ddole Road Industrial Estate) who dealt with the issue. This was much appreciated.

The Clerk read a letter received from Mr D Williams regarding installation of a mirror opposite the garage on Beulah Road. The letter outlined the Council's and the Trunk Road Agency's position regarding such mirrors and the implications of installing one independently. The main substance of the letter was against using such a mirror. Discussion then ensued as to how best to alleviate the problem of lack of visibility exiting the garage. Cllr Haines offered to approach one of the local residents whose vehicle was contributing to the problem with the possibility of moving it elsewhere when not in regular use. All members agreed to this proposal.

**Action: Cllr Haines to approach local resident.**

Cllr Tonks raised the issue of whether the traffic activated (VA) warning lights could return to Llanwrtyd. Cllr. Rowlands felt that we should let the Trunk Road Agency first install the new gateway signs, which would have a speed camera sign above the 30 mile speed limit sign. He suggested that once these are in place the issue of the VA warning lights could be revisited, although he understood that the Welsh Government was currently reviewing its policy on VA signs for trunk roads. This was the general consensus of the meeting.

## **6. Feedback from Councillors**

### **6.1 WAG**

Cllr Hodges reported that there was no current feedback from the World Alternative Games. Cllr. Rowlands reported that Ms Perkins was sorting out a simplified version of accounts which was to be circulated to Councillors. Cllr Lambkin reported that since her e-mail was down she didn't know whether she had had a response from Ms Perkins.

**Action: Cllr Hodges and Rowlands to follow up.**

### **6.2 Other issues**

Cllr Lambkin voiced her thanks to Mr C. Dodds for the repair of the Wells sign. She also requested information on the position with the Scouts and Guides in Llanwrtyd at the present time. Cllr Rowlands outlined that Cubs and Beavers operate from Bromsgrove Hall every Friday evening. The Scouts currently have no leader and are therefore not in operation.

Cllr Van Rees outlined the current position regarding Bromsgrove Hall. Management of the Hall has been handed back to Powys County Council and the existing Bromsgrove Hall Committee is to be disbanded. An agreement has been made for the committee funds to be handed over to Ysgol Dolafon. Once a copy of the formal resolution is received the Bromsgrove Hall Committee would meet to dissolve itself. Cllr Van Rees assured other Councillors that these new arrangements will not cause in any way a threat to the future of the school.

## **7. Planning**

No planning requests were brought to the meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding the property "Snack Attack" The Clerk read an e-mail update from Mrs S. Abson regarding the property. Councillors. were concerned that no planning application had come forward from the owners despite being told that they had to submit such an application within a fortnight of being approached by officers from PCC. As no such application appears to have been made the Clerk was requested to write to Mr G Davies, Chief Planning Officer, to seek clarification on the issue.. Cllr Price also offered to speak to Mr Davies.

**Action: Clerk to write and Cllr Price to speak to Mr Davies.**

## **8. Twinning**

Cllr Lambkin reported that Mr B. Davies and Mrs H. Davies had made a presentation to Merched Y Bont regarding the Twinning Association which was both informative and enjoyable. An invitation for membership and/or involvement in the exchanges was extended to all at the meeting and to Council members.

## **9. Services**

### **9.1 Green Bring Site**

Cllr. Van Rees reported that he had met with Ian Harris regarding the Green Bring Site at Cwrt-Y-Cadno. Mr Harris agreed that this would be a good site and is to communicate with the Trunk road Agency to seek their approval. He will communicate the Trunk Road Agency's response to Cllr Van Rees. Cllr Hodges reported that Ms L Samuel had been in contact with Cllr Van Rees regarding pursuing the idea of the site at "Ratcliffes". Cllr Rowlands felt that this should be pursued further as a second option.

### **9.2 Riverside Toilets**

In the light of recent communications the urgency regarding the management of the public toilets has eased somewhat. However, Cllr Hodges reported that Council needs to remain vigilant in addressing this

issue as it will not go away. Cllr Rowlands reported that he had emailed interested parties suggesting that they should meet shortly with Councillors. Cllr Van Rees proposed that the Council wait to see what PCC come back with. This was seconded by Cllr Price. Cllr James requested that we write to Llandovery Council to find out who they deal with in respect of charging for their toilet facilities.

The clerk reported that due to illness she had not been able to visit Welshpool Town Council to see how they were managing their toilets. Councillors were supportive of her rearranging the visit. No communication had been received from Mr Gaukroger regarding the use of the grant in maintaining the toilets at Abergwesyn but the Clerk will write to him again

**Actions:**

- **Clerk to rearrange visit to Welshpool**
- **Clerk to write to Llandovery Council requesting information about toilet charging.**
- **Clerk to further communicate with Mr Gaukroger.**

## **10. Open Spaces**

### 10.1 Dolwen Fields/Play area

Cllr. Price reported that as a result of the questionnaire completed by various members of the community he was in the process of putting together a "spec" to install a cycle/running path around the perimeter of the field with built in "laybys" and "bumps" to make it more fun for cyclists. The spec was due to go out to tender in the next two weeks.

Cllr Lambkin raised the issue of whether parking facilities should be included but it was felt that this would involve a massive amount of work and would best be looked at a later date. Cllr Rowlands felt that the Welsh Government Aggregate Levy Fund (AFLW) could be approached for funding to match an application to Sport Wales and made members aware that the next round of funding applications to AFLW was April 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### 10.1.1 LWPARC

The Clerk outlined the problems being encountered with saturated ground which has prohibited the laying of top soil and turfing. The work is near completion but needs this final phase of work to be done. The Clerk explained that the financial arrangements with AFLW need to be completed by 24<sup>th</sup> March. She also reported that Ms P.Lowe, with the help of Ms J Ralph, had submitted a plan to spend an additional grant of £5,000 offered by PCC. They intend to install an additional slide and enclose the parent shelter to make it weather proof. It was agreed that a letter from LWPARC to the Town Council outlining their proposals would be appreciated as the Council will be responsible for future maintenance of the equipment.

**Action ; Clerk to write to Ms Lowe.**

#### 10.1.2 Pavilion Management Group

Cllr Price reported that he had received an invoice from Mr Connelly re electrical work done. Cllr Rowlands queried a recent electricity bill from SWALEC which included an estimated reading. Cllr Price offered to read the metres. No major issues relating to the pavilion were reported. Cllr Price to make contact with Mr K. Burton to do some minor repairs.

### 10.2 Town Square and Green

The lamp on the fountain in the Square had been damaged by the recent storms. The various parts are in the Neuadd but it needs some iron work doing to repair it. Cllr James offered to approach Mr D Morris with a view to obtaining a quote for the repair work.

**Action: Cllr James to approach Mr D Morris..**

## **11.0 Correspondence**

Item 4.0\_E-mail from Peter Tonks re fly tipping on Sugar Loaf

Item 8. Letter from the Secretary of the Twinning Association thanking the Town Council for the £200.00

Item 9.2 Letter from County Councillor John Powell to Kirsty Williams and Roger Williams re: closure of Public Toilets.

Item 10.2 A certificate of unmetered electricity supply (for Christmas Lights)

Item 11.0 G-mail conserving and maintaining Welsh War Memorial Heritage. Conference to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March at the Royal Welsh Showground **(Clerk to book 2 places for this event)**

Item 11.1 G-mail re; Motions for the One Voice Wales Annual Conference in October **(Cllr. Tonks proposed that the severity of the cuts be taken forward as an issue).**

Item 11.2 Snack Attack and former Abergweswyn vicarage update

Item 11.3 One Voice Wales membership **(members agreed we should renew membership)**

Item 11.4 Citizens Advice bureau Petition **(many had already signed petition on line but two more signed paper copy – Clerk to return)**

Item 11.5 Letter of praise for Fire station for their prompt and thorough action as a result of storm damage to their house - from Paul and Cheryl Rickard.

Item 11.6 E-mail from Dean Williams in response to mirror and signage outside garage.

## 12 Miscellaneous

12.1 Cllr Rowlands revisited items from the last meeting.

- Had we had a response form the Post Office re: Post box on Erw Haf?
- Had we had a reply from Peter Davies inviting him to our March meeting?
- Had the clerk pursued the issue of gas supply?

The Clerk reported that no reply had been received from either the Post Office or Mr P. Davies.

It was suggested she write again to both. The Clerk reported that initial inquiries had been made with British Gas but as yet she had had no reply although the query had been acknowledged. Cllr Hodges suggested asking for the information through the Freedom of Information Act if we get no satisfaction.

12.2 Cllr James asked for an update on the refurbishment of the War Memorial Institute. Cllr Van Rees outlined developments to date. He enquired where the deeds of the building were. Cllr Rowlands was of the opinion that there may be with other documents at Powys Archives. He would investigate.

12.3 The Clerk enquired if the Town Council was recognising the WW1 Centenary Celebrations. Cllr Van Rees informed members that he had discussed ways that Ysgol Dolafon might be able to recognise the Centenary through its curriculum work.

12.4 The Clerk made members aware of the fact that the insurers had asked for information from the Environmental Agency regarding the threat of flooding to the Public Toilets in Llanwrtyd. Clerk to send information she had received to Julie Holgate at the Insurance Company. The meeting closed at 9:00pm.

Lynn E Ball (Clerk and RFO)  
23/02/2014

Date of next Meeting Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....