

LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Remote Meeting held on Tuesday 15th June at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr L Weerdmeester-Price, W Curzon, J Jones, S Thomas, M Morgan, K Nicholls, S Sims, S Deeks-D'Silva, K Brelstaff, S Meredudd, B Williams, J Shaw

Apologies: Cllr K Evans

Absent: Cllr H Azeem

TC 81/21 **Declaration of Interest**

TC 87/21e Cllr S Meredudd

TC 87/21d Cllr J Jones, Cllr S Sims, Cllr S Thomas

TC 96/21a Cllr B Williams

TC 96/21b Cllr L Weerdmeester-Price

TC 82/21 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual meeting held on 18th May 2021 were approved and signed.

TC 83/21 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual meeting held on 18th May 2021 were approved and signed.

TC 84/21 **Clerks' Report**

Wooden Trail

We are awaiting a quote from a contractor to replace play grade bark in wooden trail.

Noticeboards – Lake Park

2 noticeboards have arrived to be installed on the lake gates as previously agreed by the council.

Brookland Road Kiosk

I have been in contact with Western Power about reinstating the power to the Brookland Road kiosk to house a defibrillator, this is now in place and installation should be done shortly.

Princes Avenue Leisure Park

Still one week available during the school summer holidays 16 – 22 August. If anyone knows of a group who would like to hire the park, also some weekends available.

We will need arrange a visual tree inspection for the site, which will be arranged shortly.

Hanging Baskets

These were put up at the end of May and are looking lovely. The seven day planters have also been replanted and are being watered along with the hanging baskets regularly.

Weed Spraying

I have made enquiries with PCC about weed spraying within the town centre. I await a response.

Land Registry

I have entered into the process of officially registering Town Council land via a Land Registry scheme and will be part of a pilot for the scheme. I will update the council on this process as it moves along. It is important that all land is registered with the Land Registry, particularly land which has been vested in the Town Council to establish official ownership.

TC 85/21

Chairs Report

The Chair had visited the Repair and Reuse Hive and had been given a guided tour by Carl. He came away with a better knowledge of what they were doing and was impressed by the services they provide.

On 30th May the Chair attended the event at the Rock Park Heritage Centre – “From the Heart.” He had spoken with several residents and people with stands including the West Radnor Haven charity. He was pleased to see other members in attendance.

On 31st May he visited the Ashfield Community Enterprise event and enjoyed the displays of arts, crafts and produced. This was his first visit to the site and he was pleased to see so many people supporting it.

On 5th June he visited the Lon Cwm Green site being hosted by Cllr Jake Berriman and met with local residents, Cllr Pete Roberts and Jane Dodds AM. This group is looking at developing a play area and some gardens on site. He was pleased to see Cllr Jamie Jones on site also.

TC 86/21

Public Speaking

None.

TC 87/21

Correspondence

a) Bracken Trust – Thanks

Letter of thanks for the grant of £2000 towards the new summer house. This was noted.

b) Joe Botting – Pomarium – Thanks

Letter of thanks for grant of £500 towards the Pomarium. This was noted.

c) Pavilion Mid Wales – Thanks

Letter of thanks towards the purchase of equipment. This was noted.

d) Macmillan – Thanks

Letter of thanks for grant of £500 to support the care of the residents of Llandrindod Wells. This was noted.

e) Spa Town Trust – Representative

Request for the Town Council to elect a representative on to the Spa Town Trust Committee.

Resolved: to appoint Cllr S Meredudd to represent the Town Council.

f) Barclays Bank – Closure

Cllr J Jones, Cllr S Thomas and Cllr S Sims declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

Email notifying the council of the closure of Barclays Bank in Llandrindod Wells on 26th August 2021.

Members were extremely disappointed to hear this news and felt that as the County town of Powys, Llandrindod Wells should retain its branch, which is extremely busy. It was also agreed that this would cause issues for many business customers who would need to take time of their day to travel to Builth Wells. There was also no indication of the opening hours for the Builth branch which are currently only part time. This would also leave another empty building within our town centre. Cty Cllr Pete Roberts had instigated a petition and was undertaking a survey of customers. Some members had taken part in this.

Resolved: to write to Barclays Bank voicing these concerns and asking for clarification of the proposed opening hours for the Builth Wells branch.

Cllr Brelstaff felt that it would be good for the Town Council to do some work on what it would be like when the town has no banks open. How will people get money and access banking services?

Resolved: to form a Task & Finish Group to explore this matter; Cllr Brelstaff, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Meredudd and Cllr Jones would form the group and an invitation to Cty Cllr P Roberts and Cty Cllr J Berriman to join the group.

The Clerk asked the group to develop a terms of reference for this group.

TC 88/21

Planning Applications

a) 21/1073/FUL

Grid Reference: **E:305958 N: 261042**

Proposal: Change of use from offices to one dwelling (retrospective)

Site Address: The Lindens, Spa Road, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 5EA.

Resolved: No objection.

b) 21/1026/FUL

Grid Reference: **E:307672 N: 260784**

Proposal: Erection of Log cabin, access track and installation of treatment plant and drainage field. Site Address: Pantpurlais, Cefnlllys Lane, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5PD. Cllr Thomas felt there was limited information supplied with the application with regard to materials, whether it is for residential or commercial use, part 10 of the submission states no trees are to be removed, however there are trees on the site, there is no inclusion of renewable or low carbon processes, and there has been no neighbourhood consultation.

Resolved: to object to this application due to lack of information supplied and for the above reasons.

TC 89/21 **Applications for Financial Assistance**
None.

TC 90/21 **Finances**
a) To approve the payments for May 2021
Resolved: the payments were approved.

b) Expenses/Budget to 31.05.21
This was presented to members for their information and was noted.

TC 91/21 **NHS Day – Monday 5th July 2021 – Update & Rota**
The Clerk updated members on the progress. The boards for decoration are now with Ysgol Trefonen and Ysgol Cefnlllys. These will be collected on 1st or 2nd July. The Clerk thanked Cllr Sims for his work on the boards.

Members were asked to commit an hour on the rota for the day at the Bandstand to monitor the site and greet visitors. The Clerk will provide paper, pens and pins for the visitors to post. She has also created a Facebook Event page to promote the event and enable residents to post messages etc.

TC 92/21 **Nurture Our Nature Garden**
The official opening will be on Saturday 3rd July 2021 at 2pm. A guest list has been prepared and all members of the Council are invited. Dr Caroline Turner, Chief Executive of PCC will also be invited.
Resolved: to organise the official opening for 3rd July 2021 at 2pm.

TC 93/21 **Cycle Track**
Cllr Deeks-D'Silva had been approached by Cty Cllr Pete Roberts with regard to a proposed Cycle Track in the Lake park. Cllr Deeks-D'Silva called a meeting of the South 1 and South 2 councillors who met with Cllr Roberts and Steve Gealy, Outdoor Recreation Officer to discuss the idea. Cllr Sims said the idea is to develop a beginners track.

A local contractor had offered to loan a man and mini digger for a day to develop a track within the woodland area just above and behind the Skate Ramp. Local residents are involved, but in order for the project to progress it needs to be adopted by a constituted group.

Cllr Deeks-D'Silva agreed to approach the Town Council about this project and about taking over this area via lease in order to develop this project. He confirmed there would be no expense to the Town Council.

Cllr Brelstaff felt that further details and plans would need to be supplied in order for the council to make an informed decision.

Cllr Meredudd asked if Radnorshire Wildlife Trust had been approached. Cllr Deeks-D'Silva said this would be done if the project is progressed.

The Clerk was asked about Public Liability Insurance; if the council were to lease the land this would need to be added to the insurance schedule at additional cost and would be covered by the council's public liability insurance. The council would also be responsible for developing risk assessments and inspect the site on a regular basis.

Resolved: to express an interest to PCC in this and ask for plans and concerns to be addressed prior to making its final decision.

TC 94/21

Dental Provision

James Evans AM has contacted the Council to arrange a meeting with a delegation from the Council on Friday 9th July at 10am.

The Clerk has also been contacted by Joyce Watson MS who was aware of the survey and asked for a copy of the results.

Members discussed this at length and it was suggested that James Evans AM be asked to organise a cross-party meeting to include all 4 MS representatives for our area, Fay Jones MP, County Councillors for the town and a delegation from the Town Council to include the Clerk.

Resolved: to ask James Evans AM to organise the above meeting. Cllr L Weerdmeester-Price, J Jones, K Brelstaff and S Thomas will represent the Town Council.

TC 95/21

Resolution – Confidential Matters - “resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as there would be disclosure to them of confidential information relating to contractual, legal and personnel content.

TC 96/21

Confidential Matters

a) Firework Display

The Council discussed the Victorian Festival Firework Display and the possible implications of Covid 19 restrictions. As the Town Council is a local government body it has a duty of care for its residents and must abide by Welsh Government current regulations and restrictions.

Resolved: To contact the Victorian Festival to ask what their plans are for the Firework display.

b) Nurture Our Nature Garden Project- Budget/Expenditure.

Cllr Weerdmeester-Price declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place. Cllr.W Curzon took the chair.

The Clerk gave a financial report on the project.

The Council was then asked to consider the payment of £512 for 4 days work undertaken by Cllr Weerdmeester-Price via his company Lawns To Wickets. The advised the Council she had requested the that Cllr Weerdmeester-Price submit an invoice for these particular works.

Cllr.Deeks-D'Silva stated that a cheque had already been made out and signed by Cllr Weerdmeester-Price and when asked to provide the second signature Cllr Deeks-D'Silva refused as there had been no suggestion of Cllr Weerdmeester-Price charging for his work at all during the previous 6 months. A lengthy discussion followed.

Resolved: not to pay this invoice.