

## LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Remote meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 via Zoom

- Present:** Cllr M Morgan, W Curzon, P Smith, Jamie Jones, N Bastow, Jonathan Jones, D Markinson, S Deeks-D'Silva, S Sims, S Meredudd, L Weerdmeester-Price
- Apologies:** Cllr K Nicholls
- TC 07/24**      **Declaration of Interest**  
None.
- TC 08/24**      **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 09/24**      **Confidential Matters (Contractual, Legal or Personnel Related.)**
- a)    **Job Evaluation – Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer**  
The Clerk and non-Council attendees left the room whilst discussions took place.  
**Resolved:** to defer this matter to April 2024. Cllr Morgan abstained from the vote.
- The Clerk returned to the meeting.
- b)    **Administrative Assistant – Job Application Form – Time Frame**  
The job application form was circulated for discussion. The application form was approved and the timetable for the process was agreed:
- 1<sup>st</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> February – Applications Open  
4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> March – Short listing  
11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> March – Interviews.  
**Resolved:** to agree the application form and timetable as above.
- c)    **Personnel Committee Membership**  
This matter was deferred to a future meeting.
- d)    **Lake Park**  
The Clerk had received a response from Tony Caine who had asked for this to remain confidential within the Town Council.  
**Resolved:** to put this item on the agenda for the February meeting to enable the Town Council to decide upon a preferred option.
- TC 10/24**      **Minutes.**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 19.12.23 were confirmed and signed subject to one amendment to minute TC 184/23b regarding the annotation. Cllrs S Deeks-D-Silva, Jamie Jones and D Markinson voted against this. Cllr Meredudd abstained from the vote.
- Cllr Deeks-D'Silva stated that the Chair in conjunction with the Clerk had acted outside of Standing Orders by suspending and subsequently closing the meeting and excluding the press and public without a proposal or vote. The Chair responded by stating that as the matter was confidential and should not have been discussed, she felt the meeting should be closed.

***(Standing Order 10a***

- i. to exclude the press and public from a meeting in respect of confidential or other information which is prejudicial to the public interest;***
- ii. to not hear further from a councillor or a member of the public;***
- iii. to exclude a councillor or member of the public for disorderly conduct;***
- iv. to temporarily suspend the meeting;***
- v. to suspend a particular standing order (unless it reflects mandatory statutory or legal requirements);***
- vi. to adjourn the meeting; or***
- vii. to close the meeting.)***

**TC 11/24**

**Clerks Report**

None.

Cllr Deeks-D'Silva asked the Clerk why she had not reported complaints received in line with Standing Order 14a. The Clerk confirmed she had recently received notification of a complaint to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, she will notify the Council of this at the next meeting. She thanked Cllr Deeks-D'Silva for the reminder.

***(Standing Order 14a - Upon notification by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales that it is dealing with a complaint that a councillor or non-councillor with voting rights has breached the Council's code of conduct, the Proper Officer shall, subject to standing order 13, report this to the Council.)***

**TC 12/24**

**Chairs Report**

Firstly, I would like to wish everyone a very happy, healthy and successful 2024.

**13/12/23** – I had been invited to open the Christmas Fayre at Ysgol Trefonnen. This was a brilliantly organised event and I had such a very warm welcome from everyone. The children had been taught business and financial skills and had put these to good use in the making of and selling craft items and designing interesting games to play to raise money. Well done to everyone involved, I really enjoyed the afternoon and came home with some beautiful purchases to remind me of a very special afternoon.

**15/12/23** – Christmas Carol Service and Awards Ceremony for the Cubs and Scouts at the Holy Trinity Church. Thank you for the invite to attend this lovely service, it was an honour to present the awards and the cubs and scouts looked very smart in their uniforms.

**17/12/23** – Two lovely Christmas invitations for today. The morning saw me attending the Family Christ Dingle Service at the Holy Trinity, organised by Dr Gill Tattersall. Everyone in the congregation were fully involved throughout the service singing beautiful carols and taking part in telling the Christmas Story. I enjoyed doing a reading, I think that I am getting well used to doing them now!

The Stewards at our Golf Club had invited me to spend the afternoon at their Members' Family Christmas Afternoon.

Our wonderful Town Silver Band played the music for us all to sing and enjoy the Christmas Carols. The children were entranced by Santa and even I believed in him - well done to everyone at the Golf Club for organising a magical afternoon for us all and as I said, we must always believe in the Christmas magic! What a perfect way to spend the Sunday before Christmas, thank you everyone.

**6/1/24** – Tremont Park Nature Area Plan. It was great to see over 20 residents popping to see us at the site for the new Tremont Park Biodiversity element of the site. This was in liaison with Powys County Council's Ben Mullen, Nature Recovery Officer.

**8/1/24** – Meeting with PCSO, Josh Wright to discuss issues around the town. These meetings will now be carried out on a regular basis.

Cllr Weerdmeester-Price thanked the Chair for her reports.

**TC 13/24**      **Public Speaking**  
None.

**TC 14/24**      **Correspondence**  
None.

**Cllr Curzon took over the Chair at this point.**

**TC 15/24**      **Planning Applications**  
*(Applications may be received after the agenda has been published and due to the 21- day response time may be considered at this meeting.)*

**a) 23/1901/REM**

Grid Reference: **E:305986 N: 261051**

Proposal: Section 73 application to vary condition no's 2 and 4 attached to planning approval 23/0815/FUL (to allow amended plans and to increase the number of flats approved from 8 to 9) - Site Address: The Manor, Lindens Walk, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5EA.

**Resolved:** No objection. Cllr Weerdmeester-Price voted against this.

**TC 16/24**      **Applications for Financial Assistance**

**a) Wales Air Ambulance**

**Resolved:** to award a grant of £250. Cllr Deeks-D'Silva abstained from the vote.

**b) Llandrindod Wells Junior Football Club**

The Clerk had researched the cost of 8ft containers both locally and via the Internet.

The local supplier including delivery and siting would be £1950. There are various options on the internet which do not include delivery and siting ranging from £1700 to £2300. The Clerk recommended that if the council supported the purchase of a container it remain within the Councils ownership and be used by the Football Club and Play Radnor for its sessions on site.

**Resolved:** to purchase a container from a local supplier at £1950 plus VAT, ownership to be retained by the Town Council, purchase to be funded from the Sports and Well-being budget.

**TC 17/24**      **Finances**

a) To approve the payments for December 2023

**Resolved:** approved

**Cllr Morgan returned as Chair at this point.**

- b) Income/Expenditure to 31.12.23  
**Noted.**

**TC 18/24**

**Council Vacancies**

The Clerk confirmed there had been no applications for South 2 Ward. A new co-option advertisement will be published shortly.

Following the resignation of Cllr Benjamin Williams, the Clerk had published the statutory Casual Vacancy notice and awaits the outcome.

**Resolved:** if no election is called, Clerk to advertise for co-option.

**TC 19/24**

**National Association of Local Councillors**

The fee for the remainder of this municipal year would be £165 plus VAT.

**Resolved:** to join the Association for the remainder of the municipal year. Renewal to be discussed once received. Cllr Weerdmeester-Price voted against this.

**TC 20/24**

**County Councillors Reports**

**a) Cty Cllr J Berriman**

His apologies were submitted.

**b) Cty Cllr P Roberts**

His apologies were submitted

**c) Cty Cllr J Ewing**

Her apologies were submitted, however, Cty Cllr Ewing submitted the following written report:

“Thank you, Chair, and councillors for this invite, please except my apologies for this evening.

First and briefly, I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the council for the activities funded during the summer 2023 and latterly, the community Christmas events over December- and also a quick thank you to the Hive, The Pavilion and The Metropole, Llandrindod Events and The Lakeside, to all the incredible volunteers within our community, that assist in these events for all.

In regards current ward work, I am continuing to support many residents with multiple issues, from housing to reporting concerns to PCC.

Councillors, I’d like to share with you again how issues/concerns can be reported directly to the council via the website, from litter/ fly tipping, to dog waste and any news reports regarding waste collection.

**Links for clerk and social media** ([Missed Bin Collections - Powys County Council](#)) ([Report - Powys County Council](#))

Sadly, Llandrindod has a dog fouling problem, Temple Street and paths around the Bandstand. We (PCC) have arranged more signage on both routes to aid reporting from the public- multiple clean ups have been done in response to public complaints. Officers and I request the help of the community to report anyone found leaving their pets mess upon our streets.

[Report dog fouling - Powys County Council](#)

Pavement parking and walking/ crossing access within the ward is causing concerns again. Several residents and I have walked the ward to identify the impact of parking and safety crossing points in the south, we were successful in adding a crossing point at Play Radnor with WG, as part of the ATR. This is an ongoing project, and I will be joined by Cllr. Roberts and an officer at the end of the month to address issues within the centre of the ward, concerned with crossing, visibility, and path parking from The Post Office around to the Hazels Temple St. This is a private walk, but I have requested a survey and review for community communication on this Project and I hope to share information with you soon.

Several reports regarding lighting around the train station and Bus Station have been logged (Nov/ Dec) I am in discussion our local PCSO and PCC officers on illumination to help aid the anxiety to public transport users, and the antisocial behaviour in this location we are experiencing.

There are also a selection of confidential matters coming into the public knowledge within months, I can report that this news will bring several conversations to an end regarding provisions within our community and will have a great impact upon us all.

In February/ March I hope to report back to councillors and public regarding the Active travel route consultation and also, 'The day opportunities' in Powys roadshow feedback.

Here ends my brief ward summery Jan 2024."

**TC 21/24**

**Review Financial Regulations**

The Council members were asked to review the Financial Regulations subject to one amendment removing European Procurement Regulations and replacing with UK Procurement Regulations.

**Resolved:** to re-adopt the Financial Regulations subject to the amendment above.

**TC 22/24**

**Green Gen Towy Usk**

Cllr Jamie Jones gave an update and members entered into a lengthy discussion on this matter.

Cllr Markinson asked if the Council is aware what the feelings are of the local County Councillors. It was agreed to ask the local County Councillors, MP and MS for this area whether they are in support of this project or not.

**Resolved:** to write to County Councillors, MP and MS for the area to ask if they are in support of this project.

Cllr Weerdmeester-Price was concerned that the public are not fully aware of the impact the turbines will have on the landscape. He qualified this statement by giving some examples for comparison. There will be 70 turbines each measuring 220m high.

Statue of Liberty	93m
London Eye	135m
Pyramids	139m
The Tower (tallest building in Wales)	107m
Equivalent to 66 storey block of flats.	

Members agreed to hold a Public Meeting in the Pavilion to get the publics opinions on this project and provide information such as above. This will be led by Cllrs Deeks-D'Silva, Jamie Jones, Weerdmeester-Price and Meredudd, although all members will be asked to attend.

**Resolved:** to hold a public meeting on this matter for Llandrindod Wells residents and surrounding area.

**TC 23/24**

**Wales Air Ambulance**

Cllr Jamie Jones reported that the consultation is stretching longer than expected, and the final consultation will only be on line with no engagement events.

**Resolved:** to write to the Consultants expressing the concerns sent in a previous letter.