

LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a remote Meeting held on Tuesday 16th March 2021

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

Apologies: Cllr K Evans, J Shaw, S Meredudd

TC 35/21 **Declaration of Interest**
Cllr J Jones 49//21 a&b

TC 36/21 **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 16th February, 2021 were approved and signed.

TC 37/21 **Clerks’ Report**
Celf O Gwmpas – Art Installation
The council has been notified that the art installation along the Bargain Buys Alleyway will be carried out on 23rd March 2021. There has been a lot of press interest. The formal public opening will be delayed until Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.

Central Economy Fund – Temple Chambers – Llandrindod Re-Use Hub

Things are moving quickly now in Temple Chambers with the majority of the refurbishment works completed and all the equipment for the Hub has been secured. The Hub will be operated by Severn Wye Energy Agency Ltd and the Town Council will remain as owners of the building.

This is a really exciting project for Llandrindod Wells and I am sure we all look forward to working along with Severn Wye.

Nurture Our Nature Garden

The re-design and refurbishment of the Rose Garden on Temple Gardens is underway. The pathways will be laid during a dry period and materials, plants and other items have been secured.

Thanks to Cllr Laurence for his design work and for leading on this project. We look forward to watching this town centre area developing into a sensory garden.

War Memorial

The Town Council has arranged for the refurbishment works at the War Memorial following the recent vandalism. These will take place shortly, weather permitting. The works will be funded out of the Town Council War Memorial budget.

TC 38/21 **Chairs Report**

The Chair had attended lots of meetings during the last month.

He confirmed that he would not be nominating any members for the office of Chair or Vice, he felt it would be unfair. He advised members not to feel pressured to nominate any member if they did not feel the member would be appropriate for the role.

TC 39/21 **Public Speaking**
None.

TC 40/21 **Correspondence**

a) Joe Botting - Trawsnewid Llandrindod Transition & Pomarium

Offer from TLT to make a presentation to the Council on their works and projects.

Resolved: to approach TLT to address members at a specific remote presentation event in April 2021.

b) Relate Cymru – Thanks

Welsh Air Email thanking the council for the grant awarded.

c) Ambulance – Thanks

Email thanking the council for the grant awarded.

d) Cty Cllr J Williams – Signal Box Museum (for information)

Request to “Llandrindod Wells Town Council” for information with regard to the Signal Box Museum.

The Clerk had responded to this email and a subsequent one outlining the position which was detailed on social media and on the Town Council Facebook page on 8th June 2020.

Cllr Nicholls felt it was extremely rude to continue to address “Llandrindod Wells Town Council” and not to address the Clerk directly, particularly as she had addressed his as “County Councillor Williams.”

Cllr Jones felt it is a display of disappointing behaviour by Cty Cllr Williams on an item that has been dealt with and reported within the public domain several months ago.

The Chair stated, yet again County Councillor Williams mentions money taken from the precept to maintain the Signal Box. Had County Councillor Williams shown any due diligence during the almost 3 years that he was Chair of this Council into finding any documentation regarding ownership, leases held or obligation to repair this could have been removed from the budget some 4 years ago. The Chair also commented that he trusts he has remembered to inform the inquiring resident of this fact.

TC 41/21 **Planning Applications**

a) 21/0245/FUL

Grid Reference: **E:305934 N: 261265**

Proposal: Erection an awning - Site Address: KDM Local Newsagents, Strand House, Station Crescent, Llandrindod Wells Powys

Resolved: As TC has committed 20% funding to this project as part of the Town Centre Initiative, it was deemed inappropriate for the Town Council to comment on this application.

b) 21/0138/FUL

Grid Reference: **E:305922 N: 261191**

Proposal: Installation of replacement canopy awning to shop frontage - Site

Address: Laburnum House, Middleton Street, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5ET

Resolved: As TC has committed 20% funding to this project as part of the Town Centre Initiative, it was deemed inappropriate for the Town Council to comment on this application.

c) 21/0100/FUL

Grid Reference: **E:305749 N: 261074**

Proposal: Formation of outdoor seating area with fence and planter surround

Site Address: Gino's Pizzeria, Park Crescent, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1

Resolved: As TC has committed 20% funding to this project as part of the Town Centre Initiative, it was deemed inappropriate for the Town Council to comment on this application.

TC 42/21 **Applications for Financial Assistance**

None.

TC 43/21 **Finances**

a) To approve the payments for February 2021
The accounts were approved and signed by the Chair.

b) Expenses/Budget to 28.02.21
This was noted.

TC 44/21 **Council Vacancies**

The Clerk informed members that no calls for election had been made for the North Ward nor East Ward Vacancies. The Council may now go ahead and co-opt.

There were no applications for the existing East Ward vacancy.

Resolved: to advertise the vacancies one at a time.

TC 45/21 **Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 – Clerk**

The Clerk had circulated documents to members which include the changes and implications for Town & Community Councils in the new Act. The main ones are as follows:

- Councils are now permitted to host meetings remotely at any time in Wales.
- Councils will be expected to produce an Annual Report from May 2022 for publication
- Councils must draft and publish a Training Plan for members from May 2022
- Voting is now open to 16/17 year old residents
- The General Power of Competence is now open to those councils who qualify.

There are some other changes which are included within the Act. Members had a few questions which were answered by the Clerk.

The Clerk will research this fully and participate in networking events.

TC 46/21 Dental Provision Crisis in Powys

The survey has now closed and 1012 responses had been received. The Clerk had analysed the results, however, some questions contained text responses and will need analyzing individually. Cllr Jones, Cllr Sims and Cllr Brelstaff offered to analyse individual questions in support of the Clerk.

The Chair felt that the Council needs to decide how to move forward with this information and it was felt that some joint working with PTHB would be required.

Resolved: Cllr Jones, Cllr Sims and Cllr Brelstaff to analyse the remaining questions and provide the results to the Clerk.

TC 47/21 NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers Day – 5th July, 2021

The Chair left the room for his item. The Vice-Chair took over the Chair for this item.

Cllr Brelstaff suggested that this could be combined with an online presence, possibly a Facebook event page to encourage people to share their memories and images. The Clerk will look into launching a Facebook event.

The Clerk suggested involving the 2 primary schools by asking them to provide decorations for the back of the display boards. Cllr Williams and Cllr Nicholls will approach the schools a Governors.

Depending on the regulations with regard to Covid 19, members may be required on the event day to ensure social distancing is adhered to at the Bandstand on a rota basis.

The Clerk asked the Chair and Cllr Sims to measure up for the boards within the Bandstand.

Resolved: to progress with these ideas in preparation for 5th July 2021.

TC 48/21

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.

The Chair returned to the meeting.

TC 49/21

Confidential Matters

a) Grounds Maintenance Tenders – Princes Avenue Leisure Park

Cllr Jones declared an interest in this item and left the room whilst discussions took place.

The Clerk confirmed that the notice of tender had been advertised on the Town Council website, Facebook page and noticeboard.

One submission was received as follows:

PALP	20/21	21/22		
Main Mow	Per Cut	Per Cut	Cuts	Increase
Around	60	60	12	0

Features				
Edges	12	12	12	0
Rear	72	72	1	0
Waste	28	28	1	0
Weed Treatment	124	124	2	0

Resolved: to award the contract to Jamie Jones Garden Services

b) Grounds Maintenance Tenders – Oxford Road Field

Cllr Jones declared an interest in this item and left the room whilst discussions took place.

The Clerk confirmed that the notice of tender had been advertised on the Town Council website, Facebook page and noticeboard.

One submission was received as follows:

Oxford Road Field	20/21	21/22		
	Per Cut	Per Cut	Cuts	Increase
Main Mow	88	88	12	0
Perimeters	48	48	10	0
Rear Boundary	84	100	1	16
Waste	36	36	1	0
Weed Treatment	124	124	2	0

Resolved: to award the contract to Jamie Jones Garden Services

c) Financial Matters – Bank Accounts

The Clerk asked the council to consider closing the Chairman's Allowance account and introducing a budget line within the main accounts prior to financial year end. The Clerk had approached the council a couple of years ago about this. She explained that this will assist with the accounting process.

Resolved: to close the Chairman's Account and transfer the balance to the current account for year end.

d) Town Wifi Beacon

Powys County Council had recently approached the Town Council to ask if a Town Wifi Beacon could be sited on Temple Chambers. The Chair and Clerk had approached Severn Wye about this as they will be leasing the building. They did not have an issue with this as long as it did not have a negative impact on their wifi.

Resolved: to give permission to PCC subject to the agreement by Severn Wye Agency.