

LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual meeting held at 7pm on Tuesday, 17th May 2016 in Committee Room A, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells.

Present: Cllr C Rouse, J Williams, R Houghton, J Green, A Bridgman, S Meredudd, S Millington, G Price, E Worgan, S Dorkenoo, P Hill, W Francis, C Carmichael

Apologies: Cllr R Coleman

Absent: None

The outgoing Chairman welcomed all members to the first meeting of the new Llandrindod Wells Town Council and thanked members for their support over the last year.

AGM 01/16 Chairman's Report

The Chairman had issued the following report:

I can't quite believe that my term of office as Mayor and Chairman is at an end. It has been an honour and a privilege to represent the Council and the town at so many wonderful events during my year.

Barry and I have been made so welcome wherever we have been invited. We have joined in a number of anniversary celebrations starting with the 300th.Anniversary of Caebach Chapel. The Repair Café had their 1st in Rock Park.

The Welsh Guards celebrated their Centenary in Brecon and Llandrindod joined with Knighton to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the railway opening between the two towns. Wylesfield celebrated their 50th Anniversary and U3A their 10th.A huge "thank you" to every one for inviting us to your special occasions.

We have judged floats, shop windows, costumes, cars and stalls....what a responsibility that was!!

I have made speeches, started rides, presented prizes and awards, cut ribbons and cakes, given talks and partaken of delicious food.

There is a wealth of talent and kindness in Llandrindod, it is heart-warming and humbling to meet so many people who work tirelessly to make a difference to the lives of others.

Councils everywhere have been focusing on budgets and community delivery. The taking over of and refurbishment of Station Crescent toilets in early 2015 has been a big project for the Town Council with some problems along the way but on a positive note we have received compliments from visitors and residents alike.

The decision was made to take over operation of the Lake toilets earlier this year which has also given rise to compliments too.

The installation of the new play equipment at the Lake has proved to be extremely popular.

The refurbishment of the Grotto is complete and has been used for two excellent and well-attended events.....Halloween and Christmas story telling organised by Cllr Jon Williams and family.

We continue to listen to our residents following our surveys and to that end we held a very successful Dog-fouling Awareness event around the Lake in conjunction with Keep Wales Tidy. The look of our town is important to us and we are always looking at ways to make improvements.

The Town Council is being asked to consider taking over other services too. Difficult decisions have to be made and public money spent wisely for the benefit of as many people as possible. I am confident that Llandrindod Wells Town Council is up to the job. Which brings me very neatly to thank you all for your hard work, support and commitment over the past year. Special thanks to Cllr Jon Williams for being a really great Vice-Chairman and Deputy Mayor. Special thanks to Jane our Town Clerk, we are so lucky to have someone who is so highly qualified and professional. I know everyone will join with me in appreciation of her hard work and commitment. Jane has worked extremely hard on the creation of the new town website making sure it has all the information residents and visitors could possibly need.

I have a sum of money left over from my Mayors Allowance which after discussion with Jane I have ring-fenced to be able to give grants over the next few months to events and projects involving the young people of the town.

I have given £100 to the Junior Football Club towards their new shed at the Oxford Rd. playing field and the same amount for the purchase of plates, cups etc for the Queens 90th. Birthday street party in Middleton Street on 12th June.

I have given £90 for a QR-code plaque to be placed on the War Memorial. This is a historical and educational project we are supporting in conjunction with Llandrindod Wells Royal British Legion. The money I have given is a donation towards the research of the people named on the Memorial. The project is particularly aimed at young people so that they can learn about earlier generations of young people from their community who died on active service.

I will finish by saying thank you once again to you all for everything you have done during the past year and for caring enough to make the commitment to be a Town Councillor.

Cllr Rouse concluded by thanking Karen Evans, Owain Farrington and Ernie Husson for their continued support and reporting of Town Council matters and gave a special thank you to her husband Barry for his unfailing support.

Cllr Rouse had received one piece of advice from Cllr Green former Chairman of the Council. He told her to always eat before attending an official function as there is never time when you at an engagement. This is very true.

AGM 02/16 Election of Chairman/Mayor 2016/17

Cllr Ron Houghton and Cllr Jon Williams were nominated for the office of Chairman. A ballot took place. Cllr Jon Williams was elected to serve as Chairman for 2016/17.

Cllr Williams signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office and took over the Chair. He thanked Cllr Rouse for her hard work and Barry for his support. Cllr Williams hopes he do as good a job and promised to always try his best.

AGM 03/16 Election of Vice Chairman/Deputy Mayor 2016/17

Cllr Ron Houghton and Cllr Elaine Worgan were nominated for the office of Vice Chairman. A ballot took place. Cllr Elaine Worgan was elected to serve as Vice Chairman for 2016/17

AGM 04/16 To appoint members to serve on Council Committees:

Members were appointed.

AGM 05/16 Cheque Signatories

Resolved: Signatories to be Cllrs J Green, P Hill, S Meredudd, G Price, S Millington, E Worgan & C Rouse.

Chairman Date

LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

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Present: Cllr J Williams, C Rouse, R Houghton, J Green, A Bridgman, S Meredudd, S Millington, G Price, E Worgan, S Dorkenoo, P Hill, W Francis, C Carmichael

Apologies: Cllr R Coleman

Absent: None

TC 46/16 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 19th April 2016 were confirmed and signed.

TC 47/16 Clerk's Report/Information from Meeting: .

TC 38/16e Lake Toilets

The toilets have now been operational since 1st April. Healthmatic has now taken over the cleaning contract employing local people. We still await work to be carried out by Powys County Council.

TC 29/16 b Victorian Festival Grant

It has been confirmed that the Town Council will be sole sponsors of the Solo Circus on Saturday and Sunday during Victorian Week. There will be a Festival Press Launch on 24th May at Dickens.

TC 43/16 Commemoration of Battle of The Somme

The Town Council will be working with the Royal British Legion and arranging a Vigil of commemoration on Thursday 30th June at the War Memorial from 10pm – 11pm. Further details will follow.

TC 44/16 Co-op Store

The Town Council made many approaches to large companies informing them of the availability of the Co-op Store, plans and supporting information were also provided. To date no definite responses have been received.

TC 45/16 Grant Presentation Evening

This will be held on Monday 6th June 2016 at 6.00pm in County Hall. All recipients have been asked to send a representative to receive the grant cheque.

Storage Shed – Oxford Road

The Town Council has given permission for the Junior Football Club to erect a new shed on the Oxford Road Field. Following a site meeting this will be erected to the rear of the storage containers and will then be obscured from view. Cllr Chris Rouse has agreed to donate £100 towards the cost of materials for this project.

History Project

Cllr Chris Rouse has donated £90 towards the cost of research on the history of the people named on the War Memorial. A QR code plaque will be erected which can be scanned by mobile phone and which will then link to the History Points Website - <http://www.historypoints.org/brief-memorials.htm>

TC 48/16 Chairman's Announcements

- 12.04.16 Talk to Pensions Club, New Life Church
We were made so welcome as always. A very enjoyable afternoon
- 11.04.16 Crabtree Green Allotments Site Meeting
- 14.04.16 Talk to Brownies, Trefonnen School
We stayed for the whole session and had a great time, with some interesting questions.
- 19.04.16 Full Town Council Meeting
- 21.04.16 Joined the march to County Hall to support the objections to education cuts
- 23.04.16 Jon and I met at Oxford Road field with people from the Junior Football club to discuss the possibility of them putting a larger shed on the site.
- 25.04.16 U3a 10th Anniversary Celebration, The Metropole
A brilliant speaker and a delicious tea.
- 11.05.16 Town Leaflet, Autopalace
Meeting to plan the development of the new town promotional leaflet.

TC 49/16**Correspondence****a) Powys County Council – Formal Consultations Builth Wells & Llandrindod High Schools**

Cllr Hill, Bridgman, Dorkenoo, Green and Millington declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

Letter to inform of the extension to the Consultation period. The Chairman urged members to complete the consultation.

b) Dawns Powys Dance – Llandrindance

A 20 day dance initiative to get Llandrindod dancing. Local businesses and groups have taken part. Some members were interested in taking part, however the initiative is currently on day 17.

Resolved: Chair to check if it is possible to enter.

TC 50/16**Applications for Financial Assistance**

None

TC 51/16**Representatives Reports**

a) One Voice Wales Area Meeting (SM) noted.

b) One Powys Local Action Group Meeting (SM) noted.

TC 52/16**Planning Applications**

a) P/2016/0396: Restoration of 2 no boxed sash windows on 2nd floor, replacement of 2 no casement windows on 1st floor at Porticus. **No objection.**

b) P/2016/0398 Restoration of 2 no boxed sash windows on 2nd floor, replacement

of 2 no casement windows on 1st floor at Ashlays Carpets, 2 Middleton Street.
No objection.

- c) **P/2016/0451** – Listed Building Consent for installation of bulkhead light fittings, installation of 1 fixed mini dome security camera, installation of sign fixed to railings and erection of 1.8m high fence/gate to create bin storage area at The Gwalia. **No objection.**
- d) **P/2016/0453** Installation of 1.8 metre fence and gate to create a bin storage area at The Gwalia. **No objection.**

TC 53/16

Accounts

a) **To approve the payments for April 2016**

The accounts as listed for April were approved and signed.

b) **Audit 2016/17**

Sections 1 & 2 of the Annual Audit form were presented to the Council.
These were agreed and signed by the Chair.

TC 54/16

Town Council Vacancy

The closing date for calling an election has now past and the Town Council will now enter into the co-option process. The Clerk had prepared a draft advertisement which was approved and would be distributed to the press, within the community and on the website and social media. The Clerk reminded members that the Council would not be permitted to hold interviews, applications would be discussed at the July meeting when a ballot for co-option would take place. The Code of Conduct must be adhered to for this process.

Resolved: to enter into the co-option process.

Confidential Minutes

TC 55/16

a) **Annual Insurance Premium**

The Clerk had obtained quotes, Zurich had offered a reduction in premium for a three year fixed contract.

Resolved: to engage Zurich Insurance at a cost of £1651.64 fixed for 3 years.

b) **Oxford Road Grass Cutting**

Powys County Council have tendered for the grass cutting of the field at a rate of £518 plus Vat and £85 plus VAT for Crabtree Green hedge cutting. This is reduction on 2015-16. The Clerk informed members that the majority of PCC grass cutting has now been contracted out to Green Fingers from 1st June 2016.

Resolved: to accept the PCC quote for 2016/17 and look into contacting Green Fingers prior to renewal next year.

c) **Signal Box Museum**

Email from Prof Paul Salveson with regard to community interest in the Signal Box Museum

Resolved: to arrange a meeting with the interested parties.

d) Outdoor Equipment

Cllr Williams brought information to the Council with regard to looking into purchasing a portable Ice Rink.

Resolved: The Chairman and Clerk to travel to view the item with a view to purchase providing that it meets all requirements.

Signed: Date: