

LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 15th December 2015 in Committee Room A, County Hall

Present: Cllr C Rouse, J Green, A Bridgman, C Carmichael, R Houghton, W Francis, E Worgan, G Price, S Millington, R Coleman

Apologies: Cllr S Dorkenoo, J Williams, C Bailey, P Hill, S Meredudd

Absent: None

TC 120/15 **Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 17th November 2015 were confirmed and signed.

TC 121/15 **Clerk's Report/Information from Meeting:**

TC 117/15 Christmas Storytelling

Building on the success of the Halloween Storytelling session, a Christmas Storytelling event has been arranged within the Grotto for Tuesday 22nd December 2015 commencing at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome and it is hoped that some members will be able to attend.

The Grotto – for the first time ever the Grotto has now been decorated for Christmas and has a real tree, the tree was kindly donated by Mr Bernard Baker of The Woodlands. We hope to continue to decorate this area annually.

I would like to thank Karen Evans, Owain Farrington and Ernie Husson for their interest and support of the Town Council and for promoting our events when requested.

As Clerk to the Council, I would like to wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2016.

Christmas Meal

Members have been notified that there will be a Christmas Dinner held on Friday 18th December 2015 at 7.30pm for 8.00pm in Llandrindod Wells Golf Club.

Business Development Meeting

The next Business Development Meeting will be held on Monday 1st February 2016.

TC 122/15 **Chairman's Announcements**

11.11.15 Armistice Day, War Memorial

A moving occasion as always which was attended by many local residents

18.11.15 Twinning Meeting, Hotel Commodore

27.11.15 Meeting with Healthmatic

27.11.15 Welsh Two Day Enduro Presentation, Ridgebourne Inn

The Chairman of the organisation presented a total of £5000 to local organisations in thanks for their help at the event.

- 28.11.15 G&A Jones Christmas Fayre, Hotel Metropole
A very well attended event, lots of nice stalls and a lovely atmosphere
- 01.12.15 WiFi/Website Meeting, Automobile Palace
- 02.12.15 Lions Charity Lunch, Hotel Commodore
Delicious lunch and good company.

The Chair reported that Cllr Williams and Cllr Worgan had recently represented her and the Town Council on a trip to Bad Rappenau. She thanked them for this. Cllr Worgan reported that they had had a great visit which was very busy and had been made extremely welcome.

TC 123/15

Correspondence.

a) **Fairtrade Group – Fairtrade Status**

Request for Town Council support for the renewal of Fairtrade status for Llandrindod Wells and committed to use Fairtrade products where possible at Town Council meetings and events. Cllr Meredudd to remain as Town Council nominated representative to attend Fairtrade Group meetings.

Resolved: Unanimously to write a letter of support for this application.

b) **Mid & West Wales Fire Rescue – Address to Council**

Request for Alan Sherman, Head of South Powys Command of Mid & West Wales Fire to address the Town Council. Cllr Francis asked if he could provide relevant statistical information for Llandrindod Wells.

Resolved: to invite him to attend the Business Development Meeting on 1st February 2015. Clerk to request information.

c) **Powys County Council – Refuse Collections**

Following the Town Council's request, Cty Cllr John Powell confirmed that Gwynedd and Blaenau Gwent are now operating a three weekly residual collection alongside a weekly collection of recyclables including food. Gwynedd began their rollout in October 2014 with Blaenau Gwent changing their frequency in October of this year.

Resolved: to make FOI requests to Gwynedd and Blaenau Gwent with regard to fly tipping.

d) **Powys County Council – Community Delivery**

Letter from Cabinet Leader as follows:

“When I wrote to you on the 13th October I explained the position the County Council is facing with regard to the level of austerity set before us and the need for us to work on a three year Mid Term Financial Strategy to ensure we can balance the budget. This has had an impact on the initial proposals we set out concerning the Community Delivery initiative.

We realised that expectations had been raised with regard to the funding that would be available to assist with the transfer and delivery of services to the community. Given the change in the financial situation and after further debate on the matter, we are now able to confirm our proposals for the future.

As mentioned previously, some services are facing a reduction to their budgets of over 50%.

Therefore with regard to the allocation of funding, the preference is to align this to the cashable savings against the minimum specification for service delivery and this would commence with 40% funding for the first year reducing down to 35% in the second year and then 30% from the third year onward.

This will be maintained for a period of up to five years. In the third year PCC will carry out a review of the arrangements which will include the option to extend the arrangements or to exercise the option to bring the arrangements to a close at the end of the third year.

Cashable savings are those that are directly realised as reductions in spending. Each individual transfer will need to be considered separately to determine what the associated cashable savings will be. General examples of non-cashable and cashable savings are given below:

Non-cashable = fixed costs such as machinery/equipment still held by the Authority. Staffing, where there is a minimal reduction in hours and therefore resource levels and costs are maintained. Costs which are funded purely by income where the ability to achieve that income no longer exists.

Cashable = variable costs such as utilities and consumables. Staffing, where there is a significant reduction in hours, so that resource levels and cost are reduced.

There are two options for communities to consider as follows:-

- The delivery of the service at a minimum specification to remain with the County Council, any additional delivery to be met by the community from funds in their Town/Community Council precept budget.
- Alternatively the Town or Community Council or Cluster group can take the funding from the council which would cover delivery of the minimum specification and deliver the service themselves. Any additional specification will also need to be covered by funding from the Town/Community Council precept budget.

As a separate issue from service transfers, any asset transfers will follow the current and established procedure whereby if any party is interested in the transfer of an asset, either by the CAT option or a lease arrangement, we require an Expression of Interest form to be completed for the County Council to consider in line with the procedures.

We will be writing to you again next week to set out the payments, in cash terms, that will be available for those Councils who have expressed an interest in taking on specific services.

Below is a list of the assets and services that are currently open for discussion regarding transfer options:-

- Allotments
- Day Centres
- Grounds Maintenance – within
- Playgrounds
- Public toilets
- Street Scene – cleaning, bins etc.

- Town/Village boundary
- Markets (internal covered buildings)
- Meals on wheels (already underway)
- Outdoor Recreation
- Transport – e.g. community schemes
- Tourist Information
- Village Halls & community centres
- Woodlands

The following services are currently being reviewed to assess their future delivery arrangements, they might become available on the list for discussion with any interested party under the Community Delivery initiative in the future:-

- Library Services
- Museum Services
- Youth Services

As previously mentioned, we are extremely grateful for the time and effort Councillors and Clerks have spent on the Community Delivery initiative and we hope to be able to continue working successfully with you on this initiative in the future.”

This was noted.

e) Twinning Association

They Association are seeking support from the Town Council for the proposed Youth Exchange Visit in 2015. The Association will be putting in a grant application to the Erasmus+ programme to fund part of this visit. Members were happy to give support for this application providing that Contrexeville and Bad Rappenau Council’s also give their support.

Resolved: The Chair and Vice Chair were given delegated authority to send a letter of support once clarification has been established with regard to Contrexeville and Bad Rappenau.

f) Royal British Legion

Letter thanking Cllr Jon Williams and the Town Council for their support at the Remembrance Day Parade. Cllr Coleman was pleased to receive this, as it was mentioned at the previous meeting that there had been observations made at the lack of Town Council presence.

TC 124/15 Financial Applications

None

TC 125/15 Representatives Reports

None

TC 126/15 Planning Applications

- a) **P/2015/0936** Installation of a new shopfront and air conditional units at the Bakehouse, Station Crescent for Greggs plc. **No objection.**
- b) **P/2015/0938** Installation of shop signage - 1 x Fascia 2 x Photographic laminated card at The Bakehouse, Station Crescent for Greggs plc. **No objection.**

- c) **P/2015/0975** Relocation of existing fence and erection of new (retrospective) at 8 Maple Ridge Close for Miss C Pears. **No objection.**
- d) P/2015/1132 - Erection of conservatory to rear of dwelling at 2 Brookland Road for Mr L Hampton-Saunders. **No objection.**

TC 127/15**Accounts**

The accounts as listed for November were approved and signed.

TC 128/15**Youth Council**

Following last month's presentation, members gave their full support to the setting up of an independent Youth Council. Members felt that Rhys may need some support from the Town Council. Cllr Price offered to approach a young Town Councillor from a neighbouring Council who has experience with Youth Councils to ask him to advise Rhys. The Town Council would be happy to nominate 2 representatives to sit on the Youth Council.

Resolved: to offer the Town Council's full support for this initiative and to ask Rhys if there are any particular members he would wish to work with.

TC 129/15**Eisteddfod Representative**

Due to poor health Cllr Bailey has resigned a one of the Town Council representatives on the Llandrindod Wells Eisteddfod Committee.

Resolved: Cllr Millington will now represent the Town Council.

Signed: Date: