

LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 17th February 2015 in Committee Room A, County Hall

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

Apologies: Cllr J Green, A Bridgman

Absent: None

TC 13/15 **Minutes**
The minutes of the last meeting held on 20th January 2015 were confirmed and signed

TC 14/15 **Clerk's Report/Information from Meeting:**

TC/11/15 Town Hall Pond

Steve Gealy has instructed LE to carry out the remedial works on the pond and surrounding areas. We will await further contact from PCC with regard to possible transfer of ownership once works are completed.

Following contact from the Town Council the reeds on the Lake have been cut down but by local contractors, a clear view across the lake is now possible. Steve Gealy has confirmed that he will arrange for daffodil bulbs to be planted in the areas where they were removed to install the Toad Tunnels. He has also confirmed that he will arrange for the walking sign to be re-sited.

TC 12/15 Station Crescent Toilets

PCC's Cabinet agreed to the following at its meeting of 27th January 2015:

That Cabinet agrees to forego a potential capital receipt of £20,000 for the freehold of the Public Conveniences at Station Crescent as shown edged red on the Plan filed with the signed minutes and instead agree to transfer the property to Llandrindod Town Council for £1 provided that :-

(a) a covenant be contained in the transfer ensuring that the site is maintained and used as public conveniences and

(b) a clause be inserted into the transfer protecting the County Council in the event that at some future date Llandrindod Town Council should wish to dispose of the site, the Town Council must first offer the County Council the opportunity to transfer the site back for the original consideration of £1 but subject to an allowance to reflect the value of any significant capital improvements undertaken by the Llandrindod Town Council during their ownership.

For your information - Cllr Houghton has withdrawn as one of the Town Council representatives on Trawsnewid Llandrindod Transition. The Town still have 2 representatives, Cllr Sian Meredudd and Cllr Chris Carmichael.

Business Development Meeting – Meeting on 9th March is now cancelled, new date is booked for Mon 23rd March at 7.00pm in Committee Room A

I have been working with Cllr Jon Williams to prepare tenders for works to be carried out on the Bandstand and Signal Box Museum. Work is scheduled for April – June 2015.

TC 15/15

Chairman's Announcements

Events attended

- 27th January Attendance with Town Clerk at PAVO's information session on Community Asset Transfer and community service delivery
- 30th January One Voice wales regional meeting with Cllr Sian Meredith. Guest speaker Susan Simpson from Powys County Council on the Community delivery strategy
- 7th February Opening of the new library at The Gwalia. A well supported event with lots of entertainment throughout the morning. Invited by Cllr Graham Brown to cut the ribbon, and the scissors worked!

Future events and invitations

- 25th February Attending Community Delivery meeting with Cllr Chris Carmichael.
- 4th March Fairtrade event at the Herb Garden .
- 27th March Brecon and Radnorshire sports awards to be held at the pavilion.
- 4th April Invitation from Llandrindod Wells Probus club to give a talk.

TC 16/15

Correspondence

a) **One Voice Wales – Subscription Renewal**

The cost of renewal is - £807 - 2924 dwellings at 0.276p. Cllr Francis pointed out that OVW offer legal services to its members.

Resolved: to renew the subscription on 1st April 2015.

b) **One Voice Wales – Joint Event with SLCC – 14th May 2015**

The cost of this event is £69.00. The Clerk will be attending along with Cllr Meredudd

c) **Powys Archives – Future Directions**

Letter requesting Town Council support.

Resolved: to write a letter of support for this important community facility.

d) **i. Helen Edwards – Pavilion**

The following email was received:

"I refer to the Powys County Council Report presented to Cabinet in January 2015 on "Future Management Options" for The Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells.

I also refer to the recent Mayor's Report published on the Town Council website which refers to discussions which have taken place between the Town Council and County Council about taking over The Pavilion under a Community Asset Transfer. The Mayor's Report also states that the Town Council considered that it had not received sufficient information from the County Council to enable it to make a strong business case to proceed with an asset transfer.

I am writing on behalf of a "Friends of The Pavilion" group which I have set up to "help preserve The Pavilion as a community asset". There are currently 29 members of the group, including private individuals, business proprietors, and members of local community organisations. The general feedback is that The Pavilion is a valuable asset of Llandrindod Wells, as an events venue and community resource, and it would be a great loss to the town if it was sold on the open market.

I would like to know whether the Town Council has made a final decision as to whether or not it will take on The Pavilion under a Community Asset Transfer?

Does it intend to ask for further information from the County Council to enable it to make such a decision?

If not, would the Town Council be prepared to work with community, third sector and business organisations within the town to examine other options for retaining The Pavilion as a community asset, for example, a Community Asset Transfer to a partnership of local organisations; also to consider eligibility for lottery funding.”

This matter was discussed at length and members agreed that The Pavilion is an important community facility. The Town Council made its decision not to pursue taking over The Pavilion in September 2014 as indicated in the recent press release due to the lack of detailed information provided by Powys County Council which did not allow the Town Council to form a sound business case to pursue this matter. The Town Council, under Standing Orders, is unable to revisit this decision for 6 months.

With regard to the request for the Town Council to work with groups within the town to examine options, this matter was discussed.

Resolved: The Town Council would, in principle, be prepared to work with community, third sector and business organisations within the town to examine other options for retaining The Pavilion as a community asset. The Town Council would require information such as the Friends of the Pavilion remit and details of appointed officers. It may also be appropriate for the Town Council to have representation on this group.

ii. PCC Press Release & Future Bookings

Members were provided with a copy of PCC’s press release which was noted.

e) Planning Aid Wales – Training – 22nd April

The cost of this training is £30. The Clerk will be attending along with Cllr Worgan and Cllr Rouse.

TC 17/15

Applications for Financial Assistance

a) Powys County Council – Application for sponsorship for Brecon & Radnor Sport Awards

Resolved: to award a grant of £150 for sponsorship of this important event.

TC 18/15

Representatives Report

None.

TC 19/15

Planning Applications

a) P/2015/0061 – Full: Change of use of meeting hall to a three bedroom residential property at ATC Centre, Quarry Lane for Mr T Mythen. **No objection.**

TC 20/15

Accounts

The accounts as listed were approved and signed by the Chairman.

TC 21/15

Pension Policy

The Personnel Committee considered the Pension Policy and recommended that Full Council approve this.

Resolved: to adopt this policy.

TC 22/15

Trustees – Allotment for Labouring Poor of Cefnlllys

The above charity requires 3 Town Council Trustees, Cllr Price is an existing Trustee so there is a requirement to appoint 2 new members. Cllr Price and Cllr Meredith declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

Resolved: to appoint Cllr Hill and Cllr Williams to serve along with Cllr Meredith.

TC 23/15

Town Branding

The Town Champion had reported at a recent meeting that the Business Group is exploring rebranding Llandrindod Wells, this will involve employing consultants. It appears that the Town Council will have no involvement in this project. Members felt that as a major stakeholder the Town Council should be involved in this matter and not to consult the residents is ludicrous.

Resolved: to write to Edwina Hart stating that as a major stakeholder in Llandrindod Wells the Town Council would wish to be involved in all aspects of work on this project and would wish to have representation on the Business Group. Also to point out that the Town Council put forward the suggestion of Town Wifi and some other aspects which have now been taken on board by the Business Group via the Town Champion.

TC 24/15

Confidential Matters**a) Public Toilets – Operations Contract**

Members discussed the Operations Contract and made some additions. This will be forwarded to Cllr Francis for a final read through.

Resolved: Clerk to write to PCC regarding the scheduling of the grant towards operational costs.

b) Tender for Works – Bandstand

The Clerk had prepared a tender in conjunction with Cllr Williams

Resolved: to advertise this in the local press.

c) Tender for Works – Signal Box Museum

The Clerk had prepared a tender in conjunction with Cllr Williams based on the tender drawn up by Cllr Francis in 2012. The Clerk is awaiting a response from the Planning Department regarding this.

d) Public Open Access Wi-Fi (POW)- Contractual

The Town Champion has produced a proposal which involves Town Wi Fi and creating a new Town Council website. Members read the information and felt that some questions needed to be answered with regard to this

Resolved: Clerk to contact the Town Champion with these questions.

e) Memorial Gardens – Quotations for work – new Wall

Cllr Worgan and Cllr Hill declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

The Town Council was approached for a grant to fund the building of a new wall around the back of the War Memorial. The RBL were asked to obtain quotes. 2 quotes have now been received.

Resolved: to provide a grant of £1700 plus VAT to pay for the cost of erecting the new wall subject to the receipt of suitable drawings prior to the project being commenced. Members also felt that a plaque could be incorporated within the wall.

Signed Date