

## LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2013 in Committee Room A, County Hall**

**Present:** Cllr J Green, P Hill, C Bailey, G Price, S Dorkenoo, R Coleman, S Millington, R Houghton, W Francis, A Bridgman, S Meredudd, E Worgan, D Gambles

**Apologies:** Cllr H Macaulay

**TC 01/13** **Minutes Silence**

Members observed a Minutes Silence in memory of the late Mr Roger Manning. Roger had worked tirelessly for Llandrindod Wells and was an active member of many organisations and Town Council Committee. He will be greatly missed.

**TC 02/13** **Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012 were confirmed and signed.

**TC 03/13** **Clerk's Report/Information from Meeting:**

a) **TC 164/12a Welsh Government – Junction at South Crescent & A483**  
No further information has been received

b) **TC 164/12d Powys County Council – LED Streetlight Replacement Scheme**  
Confirmation from Leigh Williams that when PCC did Llandrindod Wells it was part of the Mid West area - it has since moved to the Mid East area. Llandrindod is now complete - although he can still help you alter lights where there are problems.

c) **TC 164/12h Remembrance Day Parade**  
Meeting dates supplied are Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 11.30am or Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm or 4pm. **Resolved:** Cllr Gambles to attend meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Cllr Price will be attending as County Council member for the area.

d) **Tennis Courts**  
A further meeting has been called for representatives of the Town Council to attend to discuss the future of the Tennis Courts – the suggested dates are, Tues 12<sup>th</sup> February, Cllr Francis, Cllr Hill and the Clerk to attend.. The Council will need to make its decision at the February meeting regarding this matter.

**TC 04/13** **Chairman's Announcements**

a) **Twinning School Exchange Visits**  
The Chairman had now received confirmation from the Welsh Government that in December 2012 school exchange visits are exempt from CRB checks. He felt this is great news for the Twinning Association and he will be speaking to the Headteacher of the High School again. He also received confirmation that Powys County Council does not have a policy to prevent school exchanged.

b) **Euro Twinning**  
The Chairman reported that the Mayor of Bad Rappenau has sent an invitation to 50 residents of Llandrindod Wells to visit Bad Rappenau for the above Festival in June 2013. Anyone wishing to attend would be expected to fund their own travel, but would be hosted by families in Germany. Any Council member wishing to attend should approach the Twinning Association directly.

c) **Festival of Cycling**

A representative of York Festival of Cycling had contacted the Chairman with a view to running a festival in Llandrindod Wells. The Chairman had spoken to Anthea Jones, the Cycling Officer for Powys who had mentioned that there may well be funding available to support this. The Chairman would look into this further and report back to the Council.

TC 05/13

**Correspondence:**

a) **N Coates – Parking for Residents of Spa Heights**

The following email had been received:

“I am writing on the lack of parking for residents of Spa Heights in High Street. I, and several other residents, have previously approached Powys County Council on this matter but they are either unable or unwilling to make any changes to the current situation.

When Spa Heights was built there was only allocated parking for the 2 bedroom properties. This leaves 7 properties in this block with no free parking available in the vicinity. It begs the question as to how planning permission was granted without some future provision being made for parking.

The parking restrictions in the layby on this part of High Street run from 0800-1800hrs every day except Sunday. Considering there is only a handful of businesses in this street, most of which are part-time and none of which open on a Saturday, I find this situation utterly ludicrous. Surely residents who are paying council tax are also entitled to some rights? I personally work away but it does mean that when I am here on leave I have nowhere to park during the day. The same applies to other residents when taking time off work.

I would like to request that the Town Council investigate this matter with a view to issuing resident's parking permits to the owners/tenants in Spa Heights who do not have an allocated parking space. In my opinion if residents were allowed to park in the layby with no restrictions it would have no impact on the businesses in the vicinity due to the fact that most people will be out at work all day unless they are on leave.”

Cllr Worgan mentioned that she would be attending a meeting with Cty Cllr Barry Thomas, Phil Jackson, Cllr Hill and Cllr Macaulay to discuss car parking on 16<sup>th</sup> January. **Resolved:** Cllr Worgan to bring this matter up at the meeting and report back to members.

b) **Powys County Council – Street Naming, Finch Court**

Confirmation following the Council's recommendation that the sign will read:

FINCH COURT  
yn arwain at / leading to  
MINERVA CLOSE  
TROED Y RHIW  
HEIGHWAY COURT  
LLYS HEULOG

c) **Shropshire Star – Quarterly Llandrindod Wells News Spotlight**

Requesting editorial items to promote relevant Llandrindod Wells events. Clerk to circulate this to local groups. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the Shropshire Star with information.

d) **Powys County Council – Annual Council Reporting Framework**

This report can be viewed at:

<http://www.powys.gov.uk/index.php?id=9034&L=0>

e) **Cty Cllr G Banks – Lakeside Restaurant**

Letter confirming the Council's concern over the above. Stating that Cllr Banks is unable to provide the information requested at this time but he has arranged for a briefing to be given to all three local members in mid to late January. Cllr Price confirmed the briefing will be on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2013, Cllr Price will report back to members providing he is able to disclose the outcome of the meeting.

TC 06/13

**Applications for Financial Assistance**

a) **Scouts – Grant to purchase tables**

Cllr Meredudd declared an interest in this application and left the room whilst discussions took place. Further information received pointing out that the scouts are not always able to use the Youth Centre tables and are also looking to purchase tables to take on camp. **Resolved:** to give a grant of £150 for the purchase of tables.

TC 07/13

**Representatives Report** – None received.

TC 08/13

**Planning Applications**

a) **P2012 1325** – Full: Erection of a general purpose agricultural building at Land at Cemetery Corner, North Avenue, for S Kemp. Cllr Bailey abstained from the vote as the applicant was a former work colleague. **No objection.**

b) **P2012 1356** – Full: Replace 10 existing wooden windows on the front elevation with wooden box-sash double glazed windows. Replace 2 existing wooden doors on the first floor with double-glazed wooden doors and replace a wooden window (originally a third door) with double-glazed wooden door at Conservative Club, South Crescent. **No objection**

c) **P2012 1432** – Full: Change of use from caravan/camping outlet (sui generis) to veterinary clinic (D1) at Unit 5A Ddole Industrial Estate for Mrs E Jones of Ddole Veterinary Clinic. **No objection.**

d) **P 2013 0001** - Full: Change of use from dental surgery to residential unit at Dental Surgery, Times Building, South Crescent, for Mr P Knight. **No objection.**

TC 09/13

**Accounts**

The accounts for January 2013 were approved and sign

TC 10/13

**Minutes of Finance Meetings**

Subject to some minor amendments, the minutes were approved and signed.

TC 11/13

**Precept 2013/14**

Cllr Price indicated that he was unable to accept the budget as a change had been made to one of the grants at the second Finance meeting, therefore he would have to vote against the budget. **Resolved:** to accept the budget for 2013/14 and request a precept from Powys County Council of £118269 equating to £53.86 per household based on Band D.

TC 12/13

**Members Resignation**

The meeting was notified of the resignation of Cllr Nathan Casey on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013. The Clerk had completed and posted the statutory CV2 notice of vacancy notices. The closing date for display of these notices is noon on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013. If the 10 written signatures required have not been received requesting an election the Council will then be able to co-opt to fill this casual vacancy.

TC 13/13

**Beaufort Road/Lant Avenue Signage**

Members had been circulated a photograph of the area in question. Cllr Meredudd felt that the sign which states 'Lant Avenue' should state 'Beaufort Road leading to Lant Avenue. Cllr Price agreed with this and felt that the existing signs could be moved to the start of Lant Avenue. **Resolved:** to make these requests to PCC.

**TC 14/13****Open Spaces**

The Clerk reported that the Council has £3000 in its budget for 2012/13, £1000 to be spent on each of the 3 open spaces. Projects are identified by the 3 Steering Groups and are notified to the Town Council late in the budget year for agreement on the projects and allocation of funds.

Cllr Francis had come forward with an idea to purchase Bird and Bat boxes for the woodland area of the Lake hopes to involve the 2 primary schools. He intends to bring this to attention of the Lake Park Steering Group.

Members are concerned that the Steering Groups had not met for over 12 months and were eager for meetings to be organised. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact Stuart Mackintosh asking what is his/County Council's vision for these 3 Steering Groups and voicing the Town Councils wish for meetings to be held as soon as possible.

**TC 15/13****Resident's Survey**

Cllr Houghton proposed a huge vote of thanks to Cllr Worgan for all her considerable hard work involved in analysing and producing the reports.

The Chairman felt that further work needs to be done. Cllr Worgan feels that the Council should be developing its own Business Plan to determine actions and objectives. She has tried to find other examples of Welsh Councils but has failed, however England has many examples. She also felt that the Council needs to look at 'quick wins.' Cllr Price felt that the Section 106 Tesco money could be included in this Plan and projects identified.

**Resolved:** the existing members of the Task & Finish Group to meet and prepare a Business Plan and identify possible projects to be carried out. Cllrs Worgan, Houghton, Millington, Bailey and Green to meet to discuss this. The Clerk to offer support if required.

**TC 16/13****Town Crier**

The Chairman had brought forward the idea and 3 applications have been received so far. The budget for 2013/14 has now been approved and funds have been allocated to employ a Town Crier. **Resolved:** Clerk to prepare information for the February meeting for the Council to discuss so that this may be developed,

**TC 17/13****St David's Day Flag**

The Chairman had suggested previously that it would be appropriate to fly the flag of St David on the Old Town Hall on and around St David's Day. Cllr Bailey supported this and also felt that the Flag of Llewellyn should be flown on 11<sup>th</sup> December and the Flag of Owain Glyndwr flying on 16<sup>th</sup> September. He supported the Chairman's suggestion to fly the Flag of St David, as did Cllr Bridgman.

Cllr Coleman opposed this proposal for 3 reasons, firstly, the Council only has two flag poles and he would not want to see the Union Flag nor the National Flag of Wales (the Red Dragon) lowered in favour of the flag of St. David. Secondly, the flag of St. David is the emblem of the Welsh Christian Party and it would be unfair to fly this flag and not the flag of the Labour Party or the Conservative Party etc, thirdly, the public attention this would create could be good for the town as the Chairman stated but it might also create the wrong sort of attention given that the Christian Party have campaigned in the past against the Red Dragon flag.

Cllr Hill agreed with Cllr Coleman and added that the Christian Party have stated that the Red Dragon is evil and Satanic - wanting it replaced by the flag of St. David.

Cllr Francis, Cllr Price, and Cllr Meredudd were also opposed to this. **Resolved:** to continue to fly the Welsh Dragon and Union Flag.