

LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 16th June 2015 in Committee Room A, County Hall

Present: Cllr C Rouse, J Williams, E Worgan, S Meredudd, J Green, R Houghton, A Bridgman, W Francis, S Dorkenoo, C Bailey, C Carmichael

Apologies: Cllr G Price, P Hill, R Coleman

TC 63/15 **Minutes of Annual Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 19th May 2015 were confirmed and signed

TC 64/15 **Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 19th May 2015 were confirmed and signed.

TC 65/15 **Clerk's Report/Information from Meeting:**

TC 49/15a **Accounts Package**

This is now installed and fully operational. I am currently inputting figures from the start of the financial year to date.

TC 49/15b **Public Toilets**

These have now been open for a month and on the whole have been received very well within the community and by visitors as a marked improvement on the previous service provided. There have been some issues with people trying to force open the door to the male block and some people using the rear of the toilets. New doors will be fitted week commencing 15th June. Further report will be made under 'Confidential Matters.'

TC 53/15c **Emergency Planning**

Andrew Twigger will address the Council at the Business Development meeting on 6th July 2015

TC 61/15 **Community Delivery**

Task & Finish Group met with Paul Griffiths on 9th June 2015 and progress is now being made. PCC are now producing figures to be presented to the Task & Finish Group on 30th June 2015.

TC 66/15 **Chairman's Announcements**

20.05.15 Dementia Awareness Session, Hotel Commodore
Interesting and informative session, further information will come from this session and is included on the agenda.

20.05.15 Twinning Association – AGM, Hotel Commodore

23.05.15 Morgan Sports Car Event, Hotel Metropole
Judging of cars. Best 1970 Car (The one I wanted to take home) I was lucky enough to be taken out for 4 rides around the town.)

- 29.05.15 Official Handover Photograph, Marina Gallery
- 04.06.15 Commemoration Meeting, Royal British Legion
To discuss service on 2nd August for commemoration/celebration of VE/VJ Day with Cllr Worgan and Cllr Houghton
- 06.06.15 Hope House Hospice Fun Day, Temple Gardens
A lovely day as always. Good to see lots of other organisations participating too and lots of local residents and visitors.
- 07.06.15 'The Big Lunch' on Temple Gardens.
I was asked to officially open this event. A fabulous day, brilliantly organised by Samantha Evans of Cymryd Rhan. This was the first time I had used a microphone! Also the launch of the Llandrindod Soup project. This raised £155 for the winning pitch made by Nikki Braun of the Thumbs Up Club. The winner was chosen by those who purchased Soup and attended the event.
- 08.06.15 Dementia Awareness Meeting, Hotel Metropole
Meeting to discuss setting up a steering group with regard to Llandrindod Wells becoming a 'Dementia Friendly Town.'

TC 67/15

Correspondence

a) Powys County Council – Speeding Issues

Email from Alan Davies as follows:

1. In relation to the speeding issues along Tremont Road and Wellington Road the Police confirmed at the speed management meeting that officers have been tasked to provide enforcement at these locations.
2. We have informed NMWTRA of your concerns.
3. We have informed NMWTRA that you may be able to meet some or all of the costs if interactive signing was allowed on the Trunk Road.
4. We have taken traffic counts at 2 locations along Ithon road, however, the results have not been conclusive and we will have to confirm the results with further traffic counts. We will provide the results of the traffic counts as soon as possible.

This was noted.

b) Powys County Council – Kerbside Collection

At the end of the financial year 2014/15 Powys achieved the statutory recycling 52% which we are delighted about and have thanked residents and traders using the recycling services for their efforts to date and to continue with their efforts

However, the council needs to achieve a recycling rate of 58% in 2015/16 to meet the next statutory target and will need to improve its recycling rate further as there is still too much rubbish going to landfill. This is a very expensive option for council tax payers which can be avoided if Powys residents make an effort to reduce, reuse and recycle their rubbish wherever possible.

We have also been reviewing the materials that we collect to ensure that we recover as high a quality recycle as possible. The higher quality the material we collect the

more income we will generate and less costs will be incurred during its recovery. One of the materials that causes great difficulties is plastic film. It is extremely difficult to find a market for, and also adds additional cost to the sorting process, for very little benefit.

Therefore, from the 1st of June the council will no longer collect plastic film - stretchy plastic items such as carrier bags, magazine wrappers and bags and bubble wrap at the kerbside or at recycling centres. Clean plastic bottles and tops, pots, tubs and food trays, food and drink cans, aluminium foil, metal bottle tops and jar lids and aerosol cans can still be recycled in your red plastic and cans box.

Most other Welsh local authorities do not collect plastic film because of the problems with its recovery. Plastic bags can be reused, used to line your rubbish bins at home, can be recycled at most supermarkets or placed in your wheeled bin.

Powys County Council has also recently been announced as one of the top performing Welsh councils in an independent report into the Recycling Carbon Index for the UK for 2013/14. The report shows that the CO2 emissions savings from Powys County Council's waste and recycling services have increased by 2% since 2012/13 from a figure of 102 to 104 in 2013/14.

Members were asked to circulate this information to residents with regard to recycling of plastics.

c) Powys County Council – Presentation on Planning Policy

Invitation to all members to attend a presentation on Monday 6th July 6.00pm – 8.00pm in County Hall.

Resolved: The Clerk, Cllr Francis, Cllr Rouse, Cllr Houghton Cllr Williams, Cllr Carmichael, Cllr Meredudd will attend until 7.00pm and move on to the Business Development Meeting.

d) Powys County Council – Weeding in Llandrindod Wells

Email from Jeremy Patterson as follows:

“Thank you for your mail regarding weeds in Llandrindod Wells. Nigel Brinn, the head of service for Highways Transport and Recycling has advised that weeds within Llandrindod Wells have been treated within the last two weeks. The herbicide which the Council uses requires the weeds to be growing for maximum effect. Whether the weeds treated are the ones in the photographs will be evident shortly.

I would also take this opportunity to advise you that the Council removed the weed control element of the highways budget last year as a saving. Resources have been found to treat weeds in a selection of towns and villages this year but it is highly unlikely that these resources will be available in the next financial year.

The Council has already agreed to make substantial savings within the highways and street scene budgets over the next three years. Weed control in future is an activity which town and community councils will need to discuss with their communities as it falls within the discretionary nature of the Council's responsibilities.

Members noted the comments in the letter; it was pointed out that some weed spraying and clearing had taken place.

Resolved: To write to PCC thanking them for carrying out this work.

Cllr Houghton and Cllr Bridgman voted against sending a letter

e) Powys County Council – Deposit of Powys LDP

The Deposit Plan is now out for consultation until 4.30pm on 20th July 2015. There was an exhibition at the Gwalia on 8th June.

Cllr Francis had attended the event and pointed out that previous comments would not be taken into consideration during this consultation.

Resolved: to resubmit all the comments sent on initial consultation to ensure that all information is included.

f) Edwina Hart AM – Speeding Issues Llandrindod Wells

Letter from Minister as follows:

“We recently completed a review of speed limits across all our trunk roads in Wales, the results of which can be seen online using the following link <http://www.traffic-wales.com/Trunkroadsafetyreview.aspx>

We are currently considering the installation of vehicle-activated signing in Llandrindod Wells. We will also be considering additional road safety measures as part of our programme of providing safe routes to schools on the trunk road network.

The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Direction do not permit the placing of 30mph repeater signs on roads lit by means of street lighting. The presence of street lighting means a limit of 30mph applies automatically, with the lamps taking the place of 30mph repeater signs. Signs placed unlawfully may render the speed limit unenforceable.”

Members felt this was a positive step and the Clerk suggested a copy be sent to Mr Deeks D’Silva who contacted the Council about this initially.

Cllr Carmichael felt that interventions may be some way down the line and would like to press for 30mph to be painted at the both entrances to Llandrindod Wells.

Resolved: to write to the Minister asking for these as an immediate measure.

TC 68/15 Applications for Financial Assistance

- a) **Twinning Association** – Release of Grant - £1000 Cllr Dorkenoo declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place. Approved.

TC 69/15 Representatives Report

- a) **One Voice Wales/SLCC Conference (SM)**

The Clerk highlighted part of the report which stated that Leighton Andrews AM would be happy to hear from Town & Community Councils with regard to their relationships with Unitary Authorities.

Resolved: members to forward comments to the Clerk and this matter to be placed on the agenda for the July meeting.

b) **Trawsnewid Llandrindod Transition (SM)**c) **Walking (SM)****TC 70/15** **Planning Applications**

- a) **P/2015/0472** for Reserve Matters application for the erection of 4 dwellings, new access and all associated works following approval of permission P/2014/0272 at Development adj to Tyn y Coed, Cefnlllys Lane for PJ Martin. **No objection.**

TC 71/15 **Accounts**

These will be produced for July meeting.

TC 72/15 **Dementia Awareness**

The Chairman, Clerk and Cllr Worgan recently attended awareness sessions and a steering group is being set up with a view to promoting Dementia awareness and making Llandrindod Wells a Dementia Friendly town. Both members will be part of the Steering Group and the Clerk requested that the Town Council support this initiative by offering some admin support. Cllr Williams and Cllr Houghton will also attend.

Resolved: for the Town Council to become a stakeholder within this group and permit some administrative support.

TC 73/15 **Iconic Poppies**

Cllr Francis had read a recent article where the Minister for Culture had encouraged town and cities in Wales to host the Iconic Poppy Sculptures.

“Locations across Wales are being encouraged to bid for the opportunity to host the iconic poppy sculptures which were previously installed at the Tower of London.

Welsh buildings, open areas and landmarks will have opportunities over the next three years to host the poppies as part of the commemorations to mark the centenary of the beginning of the First World War.

Two parts of the original Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red, which attracted millions of visitors during its time at the Tower of London, will be displayed at locations across the UK in 2015 and 2016.”

Members felt this was a great idea and several sites were proposed, Memorial Gardens, Temple Gardens, Lakeside Common, War Memorial Hospital and a floating display on the Lake.

Members were asked to provide supporting information and evidence of Llandrindod Wells’ link with WWI to submit with the application.

Resolved: to make an application for Llandrindod Wells to host the display.

Cllr Williams felt it might be a nice idea to involve the children of the town and produce a display created by the town’s residents. Cllr Worgan felt that the Royal British Legion would need to be consulted about this timing of this display.

Resolved: to set up a Task & Finish Group (Cllr Williams, Cllr Rouse & Cllr Worgan) to talk to schools and playgroups regarding this in order to move this project forward

TC 73/15

Confidential Matters**a) Public Open Access Wi-Fi (POW)**

Cllr Worgan reported that the Task & Finish Group and Town Champion had received presentations from the 4 shortlisted companies for the Website tender. Some further information has been requested prior to awarding the tender.

Resolved: to give the Task & Finish Group delegated powers to allocate the tender to the successful applicant. Cllr Williams and Cllr Bridgman abstained from the vote

b) Bandstand

Refurbishment works are now well underway on the Bandstand and should be completed by end of June 2015. Cllr Williams, Cllr Houghton and Cllr Green visited the site to look at the inner wall, this is built of block and therefore does not need replacing. The Clerk suggested an inspection of the electrical system.

Resolved: Clerk to appoint a local electrician to look over the electrical system, and obtain quotes for further work required.

c) Station Crescent Public Toilets

There have been some incidences of vandalism with the outside male door being forced open, three toilet roll holders being jemmied open and some other minor incidences. These have been reported to the Police. Steel external doors are being installed shortly which should assist with the issues.

d) Trunk Road Agency Banners

Cllr Williams informed members that several banners and signs have been in left in place at both entrances to town on the A483 and have been in place for some time. He questioned why these have now been removed.

Resolved: to write a strong letter to Nigel Brinn Head, PCC Highways (copy to Edwina Hart) asking why the zero tolerance policy has not been adhered to on this case, pointing out and asking why only Town Council and Councillors signs have been removed.

e) Register of Member's Interests

The Clerk updated members on the recent changes to legislation and the requirement to publish member's interests on the Council website. She had challenged the information provided by One Voice Wales which stated that the Register of Member's Interest should be published. A new instruction from One Voice Wales has now been received stating that a list of Declarations of Interests is to be published. She informed members that this has been practice for the Town Council for some time.

f) Tesco Section 106 Projects

The Regeneration Officer had met with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk with regard to works in the Grotto, Temple Gardens and on the town Noticeboards. It was suggested that as the Clerk had obtained quotes for the work required that PCC pays the Town Council the money for these works only on presentation of a pro-forma invoice and the Clerk arrange for all works to be carried out.

Resolved: Members agreed to this with this hope that these projects will finally move forward.