

## LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in Committee Room A, County Hall**

**Present:** Cllr C Rouse, J Williams, E Worgan, J Green, R Houghton, R Coleman, W Francis, C Carmichael, A Bridgman

**Apologies:** Cllr S Dorkenoo, G Price, C Bailey, S Meredudd, P Hill, S Millington

**Absent:** None

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and also Rhys and Mike Gough.

Members stood for a Minutes Silence for those people lost in the recent Paris disaster.

#### **TC 108/15**

##### **Presentation**

Presentation from Rhys Gough on setting up a Youth Council. Rhys had provided an electronic presentation which had been circulated to members in paper form. He briefly explained his proposals which will enable school age children to form a Youth Council and explore their creative ideas, and give opinions on issues facing the youth of Llandrindod Wells. He suggested a logo competition and possibly taking over the running of the Youth Market. Rhys envisaged that the Youth Council would be separate from the school and be standalone group with one or two Town Council representatives.

Members asked some questions and gave some suggestions as to a way forward to the group. Rhys has had quite a lot of interest from pupils wishing to join the Council and he would appreciate the support and guidance of the Town Council. The Clerk suggested that they may wish to apply for a small grant towards publicity etc. She also volunteered to support Rhys and assist him with preparing a Terms of Reference.

Presentation:

My idea is to create a Youth Council for Llandrindod Wells, in which youths could discuss problems facing the young people of Llandrindod today.

The young people will be able to discuss the topics and ideas relevant to youths in Llandrindod.

The organisation would be aimed at high school pupils who are interested in developing and improving Llandrindod as a town.

We would attend a meeting every month so that we could discuss the topics relevant to that month.

We would meet between town councils meetings.

The Youth Council could take over activities such as the Youth Market, this would give us a chance to show ourselves in the community and we might be able to do more activities using other council member's ideas.

I would like you to support me in the creation of the Youth Council and the future work of the council. It would be supportive to have a member of the Town Council at our meetings.

We could run a competition to create the Youth Council logo, creating youth interest in the Council.

We could ask the High School Council Chairman to join us at our meetings. I think children will like the Youth Council because they could make a difference.

The Chairman and members thanked Rhys for a clear and concise presentation, this matter will be discussed by Full Council on 15<sup>th</sup> December and the outcome will be notified to Rhys before Christmas.

**TC 109/15** Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were confirmed and signed.

**TC 110/15** Clerk's Report/Information from Meeting:

**TC 98/15 Town Bus Service**

This service is now in operation on Mondays, Wednesday & Fridays and is a request service.

**TC 98/15 Halloween**

Cllr Williams and family arranged a very successful event in the Grotto for Halloween

**TC 100/15 Remembrance Day**

Cllr Williams attended the parade and service on behalf of the Chairman and took the salute from the parade.

**TC 107/15 Coca Cola Truck**

Unfortunately the Coca Cola Truck will not be visiting Llandrindod Wells for Christmas 2015.

**TC 111/15** Chairman's Announcements

17.10.15 Dog Fouling Event, The Big Scoop – Lake Park

Event organised by the Town Council in conjunction with Rachael Palmer of Keep Wales Tidy and Amy Greaves. Thanks to those of you who supported the event. It was enjoyed by all who took part.

21.10.15 Twinning Meeting – Hotel Commodore

Discussion on forthcoming trip to Bad Rappenau. Cllr Jon Williams and family and Cllr Elaine Worgan are going to represent the Town Council.

31.10.15 Halloween Storytelling – The Grotto, Memorial Gardens  
 Fantastic Event! A huge thank you goes to Jon, Jo, Ben and Elin for all their hard work. Elaine's costume was amazing!

06.11.15 Guides AGM – Penybont Village Hall  
 Thank you to Elaine for attending this event on my behalf as I was away.

07.11.15 Tree Planting in Commemoration of Gallipoli – Rock Park  
 Planting of tree donated by Martin Heighway and commemorative plaque. This project was put in motion when Elaine was Chairman and she organised the event. Jon attended in my place and thanks to go all who attended.

08.11.15 Remembrance Day – British Legion & War Memorial  
 As I was away Jon undertook the laying of the wreaths from the Town Council. Thank you Jon.

Jane and I have attended various meetings to discuss the new Town website, town Wifi and the town branding. All information should be revealed shortly.

## TC 112/15

### Correspondence.

#### **a) Jane Asplin, Headteacher – Llandrindod Wells High School**

Letter thanking the Town Council for their support. Cllr Green & Bridgman declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

The Clerk had also met with the Chairman of the Governors, Mr M Thorn who had expressed his grateful thanks on behalf of the Governors. He will contact the Town Council when specific support is required.

#### **b) Powys County Council – P/2015/0930 – Land Adj to Highland Moors**

Email from Gwilym Davies, Professional Lead Development Manager confirming that a planning enforcement investigation has been commenced and that Llandrindod Town Council will be kept informed of progress. The investigating officer will be Miss Holly Hobbs. Cllr Green declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

The Clerk had been contacted by a resident of the area on 11<sup>th</sup> October stating that further removal of trees was taking place. She and Cllr Price contact the Planning Department to inform them of this immediately and an officer visited the site. Members agreed to await further information.

#### **c) Powys County Council – Weekly Rubbish Collections**

**Email from Cty Cllr John Powell, Portfolio Holder as follows:**

“As you will be aware the Council faces unprecedented budgetary pressures and all departments are having to make significant changes to how they deliver services. One of the measures that is being taken to realise savings is the move to three weekly residual collections. As stated in the Cabinet report the annual projected saving is £482k.

In terms of the capacity available to householders, a compositional analysis carried out on behalf of the Welsh Government showed that over 30% of waste

in the residual stream could actually be recycled at the kerbside with even more that could be recycled at recycling centres. On this basis there should be ample capacity if residents fully utilise the recycling options available to them. We can provide additional recycling containers on request and we do already have a policy in place for large households and families with several children in nappies.

As regards health issues, if residents remove the putrescible element (food) from their residual waste there should not be a problem with storing the non-degradable waste for a further week.

A number of authorities have already introduced three weekly collections and they have not reported an increase in fly tipping. This is of course illegal, and very few residents are likely to resort to such activities following such a change in service.

You are correct that Powys is achieving good recycling rates and we are hoping to achieve the statutory rate of 58% for 2015/16. This has, however, only been achievable through significant increases in recycling following the award of the new contracts for the Household Waste Recycling Centres, and a diversion of some residual from waste from landfill to an energy recovery facility. The next target is 64% in 2019/20 which will not be achievable simply continuing with current arrangements. Whilst many residents have taken on the challenge of recycling, there are still many that do not recycle as much as they can and this is evidenced by the compositional analysis as previously mentioned. Restricting the residual waste capacity will further incentivise these residents to play their part in achieving the increasingly stringent targets set by Welsh Government. Incidentally we have received a number of positive comments from residents who are very happy with the capacity that they currently have and feel that all residents should be further encouraged to play their part.

We do currently recycle as many materials as possible but unfortunately we are restricted by the availability of processors for these and the volatility of markets. We do want to be honest with the public and hence not collect materials that will be rejected by processors at a later stage and then landfilled. Furthermore collecting materials that will contaminate larger loads reduces the value of these loads and hence increases the overall cost of providing the service.

We do appreciate that this is a new way of approaching a service that affects all residents in Powys, but it is important to remember that we are still providing a weekly service with the collection of recyclables (including the problematic food) and it is only the frequency of waste that we can't recycle that is changing."

Members noted these comments

**Resolved:** to write to the Portfolio Holder and ask him if he could provide information to the Town Council on which of the 22 authorities have moved to three weekly collections with an indication of timescales.

**d) Powys County Council – Electronic Planning Applications**

Notification that PCC will cease to send paper copies of planning applications to Town & Community Councils from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016. Members objected to this proposal for the following reasons:

- This is an equality issue, many members and residents do not have access to the Internet and would not be able to examine plans and supporting information.
- Paper plans are crucial for detailed examination, to enable an informed judgement to be made by the Town Council as a statutory consultee.
- The County Council has a duty to give its residents the basic right with a view to democracy to issue paper plans
- The Town Council does not have Internet/Wifi access within its meeting rooms

**TC 113/15**

**Financial Applications**

**a) LOUDA (Llandrindod Opens Up to Dementia Awareness)**

Application for grant to produce information leaflets for the group. Cllr Williams and Worgan declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

**Resolved:** to give a grant of £165 to fund the printing of information leaflets for the group.

**b) Friends of Rock Park – Application**

Application to fund signage and fencing for the new Community Orchard.

**Resolved:** to give a grant of £500 for the signage and fencing and request acknowledgement on the signage of the Town Council.

**c) YMCA – Release of Grant (£500) - approved.**

**TC 114/15**

**Representatives Reports**

**a) Powys Local Action Group (SM)**

**b) Trawsnewid Llandrindod Transition (SM)**

**TC 115/15**

**Planning Applications**

None

**TC 116/15**

**Accounts**

The accounts as listed for October were approved and signed.

**TC 117/15**

**Halloween Storytelling**

The Chair congratulated Cllr Williams and his family for organising a wonderful event in the Grotto for Halloween. The Council had received a thank you card from a visitor to the town who praised the event and its organisers. Cllr Williams was delighted with turnout; approximately 60 children attended with adults and there has been great feedback in town and on social media for this free event. He thanked the Chairman, Cllr Worgan and Barry Rouse for helping out on the evening.

Cllr Williams and the Clerk will now be arranging a Christmas Storytelling Event on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 along the same lines as the last one. All members are welcome to come along and help out. Posters etc will be available shortly.

Members were delighted with the event and thanked Cllr Williams and his family for organising it.

**TC 118/15**     **Remembrance Day**

The Chairman thanked Cllr Williams for attending the Remembrance Day Parade and performing the civic duties on her behalf. Cllr Williams was delighted and honoured to carry out this role. He thanked those members who attended the event, however he had received some comments at the lack of support from the Town Council in the parade. He had also been approached with regard to the Town Council having its logo within the wreaths, Jane has now been in contact with the RBL and this will be put in place for 2016. Cllr Green was thanked for taking the official photographs of the event in the absence of Ernie Husson.

Cllr Williams thanked Cllr Worgan for organising the Gallipoli Tree planting and ceremony. Sadly Ernie Husson broke his ankle coming to this event. The event was very successful and members were urged to go and look at the tree and the commemorative plaque. Martyn Heighway presented Gallipoli Dawn Daffodil bulbs to the Council to be planted around the tree.

**TC 119/15**     **Confidential Notes****a) Town Council Responsibilities**

Members were informed that the Station Crescent Toilets have now been reopened for 2 weeks. Members were asked to pop in when passing to keep an eye open for vandalism and issues and to report them directly to the Clerk. This will alleviate some of the pressure from Cllr Williams and the Clerk.

**Resolved:** to write to Christopher Salmon, Police Commissioner with regard to recent reports of vandalism

**b) Signal Box Museum**

Email from Gwili Railway who are unable to take over the Signal Box. Cllr Houghton has written to Cadw with regard to delisting the Museum.