



CYNGOR TREF LLANWRTYD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2019 in the Council Chambers War Memorial Institute

Present: Cllrs. L Pace-Avery, J Davies, A Edwards, A Jones, S Jones, M Pigott, T Van Rees, J Rowlands, T Van Rees

Apologies: Cllrs P James, J Parkinson, R Hughes

In Attendance: S Middleton Town Clerk

Cllr L Pace-Avery opened the meeting at 7.00pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

1. **Declaration of Interest.** None declared.
2. **Minutes of the September meeting:** Amendment reference to ear car cost was made by Cllr A Jones and not Cllr R Hughes. The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr A Edwards and seconded by Cllr A Jones.

At 7.05 Cllr Van Rees joined the meeting.

Matters Arising;

3. **Finance:** October finance sheets were perused. Expenditure was proposed as a true record of accounts by Cllr J Davies and seconded by Cllr S Jones. The Clerk again raised the issue of Internet Banking being a preferred method for payments. With Barclays now reneging on their proposal to withdraw from Post Office Services, the Clerk requested we continue with our banking arrangements with them for ease of use. A discussions took place regarding the second authorising user for the Internet banking. Cllr J Davies will take this role. It was voted and unanimously agreed to proceed with the change.
4. **Finance Sub-Committee;** Following a meeting of the previous Wednesday (13th) November the Clerk briefly outlined the forecast Precept for 2020/21. A slight increase would be requested to cover our expenditure which is currently greater than this year's Precept. A discussion took place about how to manage without having to deplete our Reserves. Cllr A Edwards emphasised the need to make cut backs to grants and requests for monies from the Council. Each would be considered at the time of asking.
5. **Traffic Calming:** Cllr J Rowlands wished to continue with corresponding with Minister Ken Skates regarding the VAR. A copy of the last letter received from Richard Morgan Head of Planning was passed to Cllr Rowlands. Cllr Rowlands also reported the speed watch team were still maintaining their vigilance, however, numbers were depleting. There was a gap during the summer months but now a session was being carried out once a week.
6. **Anti-Social Behaviour:** The CCTV meeting with Dafydd Llewellyn was very informative. It was noted that CCTV would not be available due to there not being sufficient recorded crime for the town. In order to pursue to matter ourselves we would require a permit from the County Council. Public dwellings would need to be blocked from any view. An Impact Assessment would be required. Cllr L Pace Avery will circulate the links to the assessment for Councillors to look over. Cllr S Jones stated she was disappointed at the lack of support at the meeting from local businesses. It was also noted that PCSO J Kelham did not support the issues raised whereas at previous meetings she was very supportive of CCTV.

PCC Dafydd Llewellyn stated we should be happy with our low crime rate.

Cllr J Davies stated there were still on-going issues with parking/drugs/vehicles which shouldn't be on the road. Drugs and alcohol were also driving other issues, especially anti-social behaviour.

Llandrindod police stated that Llanwrtyd Wells was to be given priority on weekends. However there was no feedback on the Restorative Justice issue from PC Wayne Ballard. The Clerk was asked to lodge a complaint with the Police Professional Standards Dept. regarding the issue.

A suggestion box has been placed in the Doctors Surgery for anyone to anonymously leave a complaint regarding the issues raised.

7. Feedback from Councillors:

Cllr J Rowlands thanked the Council for his card. He stated that on reading the minutes he felt the meeting with James Marchant was very negative. He had always considered Llanwrtyd Wells to be very lucky to have a Doctor's surgery and Pharmacy in such proximity to the Town. Cllr Pace Avery answered that the meeting was indeed very positive and the issues raised about the possible closure of the surgery were allayed. Cllr Edwards stated that there had been an airing of the angst felt by locals regarding several issues and Mr Marchant took on board all the issues raised.. Cllr A Jones wished to know if the lease on the building had been signed off yet. This point is still unknown at this time.

Cllr J Rowlands reported back on the Wales in Bloom award of Silver prize. Ms G Perrett and L Ball attended the ceremony and were very pleased at the reception they were given. They would like to take it forward and promote the event again in 2020. A grant from the Lottery Fund was being looked at and Cllr Rowlands asked for monetary support from the Council. Cllr Edwards reinforced the earlier comment regarding the matter of grants from the Budget and asked what amount the team would be requesting. Cllr Rowlands would ask this question but thought it would be around the £400, the same as this year's contribution. Cllr A Jones congratulated Cllr Rowland on the Award.

Cllr A Jones - Reported of an elderly resident who had had a wait 10 hrs for an ambulance due to the systems in place of ringing 111. Several calls made and eventually a Doctor arrived who called for an ambulance on 999.

Cllr T Van Rees – Reported on an appeal in place for planning of holiday let buildings to be erected near Lake House. Also the success of the recent Concert in Victoria Hall. He requested a letter of thanks be sent to Ken Burton for his work on the Memorial Institute. Cllr A Edwards –reported the 40 mile/hour sign on the Cambrian Mill side of town was faded and required replacing. Clerk to speak to relevant office.

Cllr S Jones - reported drainage on road towards Abergwesyn.

Cllr M Pigott- reported on the old Roman Road was being worked on by the Council when he last went past.

Cllr J Davies – reported the usual problems from the Real Ale Wobble event in town. The parking of visiting vehicle was an issue, together with noise. There could be a potential hazard if the Fire services were called out or the First Responder and they could not get through the parked cars. Perhaps a park'n'ride scheme could be adopted.

Cllr L Pace-Avery – reported an event held by Ms Sue Price on the 30th November for the Eisteddfod 2020.

Also the Festival Committee were replacing the damaged lights from last year. They were to cost around £900. Green Events had contributed £800 towards the cost. The Christmas tree was to be donated and the electrics have been completed. The lights would be switched on on Saturday 30th November.

A new Grit Bin was to be requested outside Bryn Irfon. A request to take the ICLA course alongside the Clerk was approved. An update of the CCTV meeting would be forwarded to Grapevine.

8. **Website:** October was the second busiest month so far with 932 visits 713 of which were unique.

The Town Council website was re-discussed and everyone tasked to look at the content of the existing website and review the archival material we would want included on the new site. Sarah was asked if she would translate the material to Welsh to comply with legislation. Everyone asked to re-write their biography and email to Cllr Edwards with a photograph. It was suggested we could approach Chris Pritchard for use of some photographs for inclusion.

9. **Planning:** Two Applications – Application for External Flue at Glangwesyn, Abergwesyn, and Construction of turning area at Pentwyn farm Abergwesyn

The Clerk reported there was now a reply from Minister Julie James stating she could not meet with us to discuss the Planning Programme. However Kirsty Williams AM had replied saying she would gladly meet with us to discuss our concerns. Clerk to contact Kirsty and ask her to our next meeting in December. A Written Statement : Local Government and Elections Bill from Julie James was put on the table for anyone to read.

10. **Twinning:** The Clerk read out a letter of thanks from the twinning Association thanking us for our contribution of £200.

11. **Councillor Training:** PAVO Training available in Talgarth Town Hall in December. Email to be circulated

12. Services:

- a. **Library** – Cllr Van Rees reported that £175 was raised from the Youth Band Concert. It was expected the cost of the Library services were in the region of £800 – 1000k. It is currently being “manned” by 4 volunteers and the Librarian.
- b. **Public Toilets** – Cllr J Davies reported the estimate for the heating discussed with Howell was in excess of £1800 so the plans had been dropped. Instead the pipes were being lagged and secondary insulation was being installed to the glazing to insulate over the winter months. Simon Powell was to carry out the work and he was to obtain an order for any materials he required from Ratcliffe’s. He heating wire on the pipes in the disabled toilet had been disabled. The overall cleanliness was better and it looked as if the bins were being emptied more frequently.
- c. **Surgery** –No further update
- d. **Dolwen Fields** – Cllr Pigott reported that grants had been applied for including Bags of Help from Tesco. It was suggested to retry the Co-Op as their scheme had re-opened. MS L Ball had had quotes from contractors for the roads and parking areas. These were between £95K and £115K. A grant from the Lottery Fund was being looked at for the road, parking track and equipment. The sensory garden was on hold. Cllr Pace Avery reported the PCC Llewellyn mentioned a grant of £200-£300 for a Youth Club being set up. Cllr Van Rees was asked again about the proposed Lease/Licence agreement.
- e. **Town Square:** Cllr Pace Avery reported that Simon Powell was to erect the tree more securely than last year to prevent further damage to the structure on the square.

15. Date of Christmas Dinner: Through many discussed dates it was agreed upon the Christmas taking place in the Neuadd on Friday 20th December if they can accommodate us. The Clerk were circulate the menu for choices and she will pass them onto the Neuadd.

16. Correspondence:

Welsh Government – Securing Biodiversity Enhancements
Powys CC – School Vision 2019 Town & Community Councils Engagements
Countryside alliance Awards – Nominations
This to be forwarded for inclusion in Grapevine.
Welsh Government – Sustainable Drainage Systems
Community Health Council – our Plans and Priorities in 2020/21
Powys Cc- Public rights of Way - Passed to Cllr Pigott
Dave Howells – Speed?
Citizens Advice –Annual report2018/19 – To be emailed to Cllr L Pace Avery
Rural Development Programme “Arwain”. Passed to Cllr Pigott
Powys Dyslexia Group- requesting financial Support
An Email from Reuben Thomas regarding the signage of Dolecoed Road. – Still being pursued by Clerk

Cllr Pace Avery thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.00

Signed.....

Dated.....

Date of next meeting - 11th December 2019 at 7.00pm