



CYNGOR TREF LLANWRTYD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the AGM of Llanwrtyd Wells town council held on Wednesday 15th May in the Council Chambers of the War Memorial Institute

Present: Cllrs L.Pace-Avery, A. Jones, P. James. T. Van Rees. P. Lambkin, M. Pigott, J.Rowlands, J. Davies, R. Hughes

In Attendance: Mrs LE Ball (Clerk and RFO).

In The Chair : Outgoing Mayor Cllr L. Pace Avery

Cllr Pace-Avery opened the meeting at 7:00pm

1. Apologies for Absence : Cllr A. Edwards and Cllr S. Jones

2. Mayor's Address:

Cllr Pace-Avery gave a comprehensive report of events, visitors and finance throughout her year in office. She outlined the major issues that the Council have been involved in through the year and outlined the challenges in the forthcoming year as being the funding of voluntary organisations by Powys and the recruitment of a new Clerk.

Cllr A. Jones gave a vote of thanks to Cllr Pace-Avery for a comprehensive and informative resume. This was echoed by the remaining Cllrs and all agreed that much had been addressed during the year.

3. Finance

- 3.1 to consider the April balance sheet – the Clerk outlined the income and expenditure for the month and after due consideration it was proposed as an accurate record by Cllr A. Jones and seconded by Cllr R. Hughes.

Cllr Rowlands proposed that in future a baseline of £10,000 be established under which the Council should not go . This was well received by Cllrs and much debate was had regarding the setting of the budget and identifying Council spending priorities for the future which could be the beginning of creating a Community plan. No formal decisions were made but this idea is to be kept live for future consideration.

- 3.2 Bank reconciliation for Account number two- the Clerk presented the bank reconciliation for Account No 2

and after due consideration it was proposed as an accurate record by Cllr A. Jones and seconded by Cllr R. Hughes.

- 3.3 Formal acceptance of all finances for the year ending March 31st 2019-the Clerk presented finances for all aspects of the Council for the year in the form of a booklet which contained bank reconciliations for all accounts , public toilet accounts, receipts and expenditure information and together with the proposed budget for 2019-2020 and an asset register. After due consideration these were formally accepted by all councillors.

- 3.4 Formal acceptance of the Accounting Statement and the Annual Governance statement for the external Auditor. After due consideration these were accepted by members and duly signed by the responsible Financial Officer and the Mayor.

4. Election of New Mayor

Cllr Pace-Avery relinquished the chain of office and informed members that she was prepared to stand for a second year .Cllr Van Rees thanked Cllr Pace-Avery for all her hard work throughout the year.

Cllr Davies proposed that Cllr Pace-Avery should remain Mayor and Cllr Hughes seconded this proposal however, The Deputy Mayor , Cllr Lambkin ,felt unhappy about the process and when asked if she wished to put herself forward for the position of Mayor she said yes.

The two candidates, Cllr Pace-Avery and Cllr Lambkin, left the meeting while a formal vote took place. Voting papers were distributed to remaining members and a secret ballot was held . Votes were counted by the Clerk.

Both candidates were returned to the meeting and the result was revealed.

5. Cllr Pace-Avery was duly elected as mayor for 2019-2020. She took up the chain of office and took her place as Chair of the meeting where she was officially welcomed as the Mayor for the forthcoming year.
6. **Election of Deputy Mayor-** Nominations for the Deputy Mayor were called for. Cllr Van Rees proposed that Cllr Lambkin be asked to stand for a further year as Deputy Mayor if she would do so. Cllr Lambkin confirmed that she was prepared to take this role for a further year and this was unanimously agreed by all members. Cllr Lambkin was duly elected as Deputy Mayor for 2019-2020.

6.1 Appointments to Committees -Cllrs were duly allocated to various Committees and the new document is attached to these minutes as **Appendix 1**

7. **Minutes of the April meeting and Matters arising**-the minutes of the April meeting were duly considered and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr Rowlands and seconded by Cllr A.Jones. **Matters Arising** -the Clerk read thankyou letters from Mr and Mrs Tonks and Mrs Ketteringham for the Civic reception held for Llanwrtyd Fire station crew. Cllr Van Rees reported that he also had had very positive feedback from officials at Powys regarding the event and thanked all concerned for their efforts ,in particular Cllr James who provided the buffet for the evening.

The Clerk informed members that she had spoken to Mr Thomas at Powys regarding the bridge repairs, the missing name plate for Dol-y- Coed Road and the waste bins on Irfon Crescent. He had sent an e-mail confirming his actions.

Cllr Van Rees requested that I send a copy of the e-mail to him so he could follow up

Action: Clerk to send above e-mail to Cllr Van Rees.

The Clerk informed members that Mr Capener of the Housing Allocation Team would attend the July meeting and that Mr Dafydd Wyn Morgan of the Cambrian Initiative would attend the June meeting.

The Clerk informed members of a response for the Access to information team at NRW regarding the tree felling . A full response to the queries raised would be forthcoming within the next 20 days.

The Clerk read a letter received from the deputy director of Primary Care , Mr A Evans , who said he would be happy to attend a meeting with the Council and the Builth Medical practice. It was noted that he could be invited to the next meeting between the two groups.

Cllr Van Rees requested that a letter of objection be raised by the Town Council regarding planning application for a holiday let near the Abernant Lake on the grounds of accessibility and the vulnerability of any children on the site should this proceed.

Action: Clerk to draft the above letter.

8. **Balance sheet for April** -this was considered at point 3.1

9. **Feedback from Councillors**

Cllr A. Jones reported that

- One Voice Wales would like to host their meeting in Llanwrtyd on the 19th July and that she had booked the Victoria Hall for the event. Councillors usually attend and provide refreshments.
- the charges for Victoria Hall had been increased due to recent fall in revenue and increased overhead costs.

Cllr Hughes reported

- that cars were speeding along the road between the Llangammarch Road junction and Station road and up onto Ffos Road and she wondered if the traffic calming initiative could do something. Cllr Rowlands informed her that in the past a speed strip had been placed on Ffos Road and nothing major was evidenced.
- That double parking on Irfon Crescent was still causing problems ,particularly for large lorries which were having to drive through a "slalom" parked of vehicles often causing major blockages for other vehicles.

Much discussion ensued regarding this issue and talk of double yellow lines was once again dismissed with the feeling that parking was actually a form of lessening speeding through the Town, though it was recognised that parking on both sides of the road was causing problems.

- that the tractor run would take place on Sunday 19th May starting at the School car park at 10.am.Proceeds from this run would go to Ysgol Dolafon.

Cllr Van Rees reported

- that the "Bear"'s arm had been taken away by Mr D. Hayes for repair.

- that he had received information from the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding a grant of up to £5000.00. The clerk had also received this information and had passed to the Mayor.
- that the planning application for the institute was to extend the time to get works done. He had secured monies for improvement of the premises.

Cllr Lambkin was concerned that the process of finding a new Clerk was moving too slowly and requested clarification as to progress made so far.

Cllr Pace-Avery confirmed that adverts had been posted around Town with closing date of the 24th May and to date there had been no response. It was decided to extend the time frame for applications with an advert going to the Grapevine for inclusion in the June edition, that the closing date be extended to the 19th June with interviews taking place on Wednesday 3rd July. Information was to be put onto the Powys job search site and in Builth and Llandrindod.

Cllr Rowland requested

- that the caretaker clean the bus shelter as it was looking unkempt at the moment.

Action: Clerk to contact Mr Dodds to request the above.

- he enquired about the green waste system that is now in operation in Powys which felt had not been widely advertised.

Cllr Davies enquired about the Council's Health and Safety policy and whether there were risk assessments done. He was concerned that children were present on the field while grass cutting was taking place. The Clerk assured Cllr Davies that the Council did have a generic Health and Safety policy and that risk assessments were done for specific events that took place..

Action: Clerk to write to Mr Croker suggesting that a sign be put in place when grass cutting occurs prohibiting any member of the public to be on site.

Cllr Van Rees informed members that a sign had been erected directing coaches to Manor Adventure. Manor Adventure had put up the sign to prevent coaches heading up to Berthllwyd.

Cllr Pace-Avery reported that

- she had been approached by the Ketteringhams with regard to providing something for the children on New year's Eve
- she was also concerned that whilst we promote "Walkers are Welcome" it is equally important that we provide our visitors with disabled access and facilities. Cllrs were asked to consider these points for the next meeting.

10. Bromsgrove School Visit-Cllr A. Jones informed members that a primary school in Bromsgrove would like to visit Llanwrtyd on the 28th and 29th September to celebrate the 80th anniversary of them coming to Llanwrtyd Wells. They would like to have a parade through Town with the cadets followed by a laying of a wreath at the War Memorial. The school would sing in Church and would like some sort of Celebration. The council felt that this was a very busy weekend with many councillors away in Cesky Krumlov and with a running race taking place on the 28th. Cllr Jones felt that nothing had been formally decided as the organiser was still waiting for funding and approval of the project. Councillors felt that they should be in Town to support the event and provide some sort of activities for the children. Whilst enthusiastic about the project they asked if Cllr Jones could liaise with the organiser with a view to changing the date.

Action: Cllr Jones to liaise with the organiser and report back at the next meeting.

11. Website- Cllr Rowlands reported that he and Cllr Pigott were working with the web designer and hoped to have the website finished by 31st May with a launch possibly on the 5th June. It was hoped to hold the launch in Victoria Hall. A cheque is to be raised by the Town Council for £150.00 and made payable to the Heritage centre which is managing the monies promised from various organisations for the website

Action: Clerk to raise the above cheque.

12. Anti-Social Behaviour-Cllr Pace-Avery began by saying that residents of the Town have been irate about the anti-social behaviour and the apparent lack of police response. She outlined the nature of recent events and her contact with PCSO Jo Kelham in dealing with these issues. It was felt that a meeting with those who have been affected by this behaviour and the Police would be beneficial. The town Council have facilitated such a meeting which will take place on Wednesday 22nd May at 7:00pm in the large room of the War Memorial Institute. Councillors will meet to prepare the meeting at 6:30pm.

The Clerk read an e-mail from Mrs Keteringham who was concerned that the behaviour was beginning to have a detrimental effect on the business and offered to support the installation of CCTV cameras. An e-mail from Mr G Palmer was also circulated to members and discussed.

It was stated that, a recent meeting set up by the Town Council and the Police for the residents of Llanwrtyd and the outlying villages to garner interest for a neighbourhood watch scheme and to share safety information, had only one attendee. Anti-social behaviour was a Community issue and as such needed the Community to engage with the Police.

The issue of installing a CCTV system was once again discussed. It was felt that the Council need to take expert advice and be clear about the protocols for setting up such a system. Nevertheless members felt this was a worthwhile project and Cllr Rowlands suggested setting up a working group. He requested that the item be on the next meeting's agenda.

13. **Traffic Calming** – Cllr Rowland felt that an update should be sought from Ken Skates as to the assessment that was promised.

Action: Clerk to write to Mr Skates regarding the above.

14. **Planning** -planning notice 19/0681/REM Variation of condition 1 of permission P2014/0474 to allow extension of time to implement the permission re: The War Memorial Institute was duly considered. There were no objections.

15. **Twinning**-Cllr Davies informed members that 24 people were going to Cesky Krumlov at the end of September as part of the twinning. The committee had heard from Monsieur Delannoy in Meriel who said that the Council was happy to take the twinning forward without the Jumleage Committee however the Llanwrtyd twinning Committee are in some quandary as to who they will be dealing with in Meriel and are concerned about the situation which they will monitor over time and report back to full Council.

16. Services

a) **Public Toilets**- Cllr Lambkin had nothing to report regarding the Public Toilets. Cllr James handed over monies from the toilets to the Clerk to be banked. The clerk raised an e-mail from Mrs Ketteringham the issue of Man v Horse who wanted to know if the public toilets would be open on the day as last year. After some discussion it was felt that the same arrangement could be operated with the toilets being open from 11:00am until 1:00pm without any charging system in place and that a donation for consumables of £100.00 be sought from Green Events.

Action : Clerk to relay this information to the Ketteringhams and secure payment.

b) **Dolwen Field** -the Dolwen Field Committee continue to work hard to raise funds for this project but are still being held up by planning issues, in particular the ecology department. It is hoped that this will be resolved by the end of May. The next fund raising event will be the Charity Shop in Llandrindod and volunteers were called for to support this week beginning the 13th July.

Cllr Pace-Avery relayed information about "Project Awesome" who want to use the Dolwen Field for an Event during the bog snorkelling. Cllr Pace-Avery had sought clarification of what the event was. Concern was raised about Health and safety issues and risk assessments. Cllr Pace-Avery to contact them to decline their proposals.

c) **Town Square and Green** -Cllr Rowland reported that he had removed a white plastic chair from the Square that had been left there for some days.

He informed members that we were waiting hear about permission to hang baskets on lampposts on the square and asked the Clerk to go back to Mr Williams for an update as time was now of the essence. He outlined the expenditure needed to enter the competition and requested a grant of £400.00 to cover entry fee, bedding plants hanging baskets attachments and the hanging baskets themselves. He requested that in future years that a similar budget be allocated within the budget to cover these costs. It was unanimously decided to grant this money this year and look at Council priorities in the future to decide whether Wales in Bloom be an annual event that needed budgeting for.

The Clerk read an e-mail from the gardening club requesting a grant of £280 to plant up all the boxes in Town in readiness for Wales in bloom judging. There was unanimous decision to award this grant this year. The whole issue of awarding grants is an issue that needs to be addressed in the future with a policy put in place as to how these grants are awarded.

The Clerk read an e-mail from Ms Pritchard which she has sent to Powys regarding the damage done to the plant boxes on Beulah road after the cutting of the verges.

The Clerk informed members that a quote had been received from Mr Howell I Evans regarding the electrical work to be carried out on the square . it was felt that this could be carried out after the Wales in bloom event but that it needed doing and the quote was accepted.

d) Surgery -there were no issues to report regarding the surgery brought to the table

e) Library -there were no issues regarding the Library brought to the table

17. Training- Three councillors opted to go to the code of conduct training in June at Builth Wells . As only two places were allocated Cllr . A. Jones forgo a place and so Cllr Pace -Avery and Cllr M. Pigott will attend.

18. Correspondence

Item 7 on Agenda

- Thankyou letter form Peter and Jo Tonks re: Civic Reception
- Thankyou e-mail form Catherine Ketteringham
- e-mail from Reuben Thomas PCC regarding issues reported
- e-mail form Mr Capener re: housing in Llanwrtyd
- e-mail from the "Access to Information Team" at NRW regarding tree felling
- letter from Mr A Evans Powys Teaching Health board in response to letter sent 1st December 2018

Item 12 on agenda

- e-mail from Mr Giles Palmer
- e-mail from Catherine Ketteringham

Item 14 on Agenda

Planning application 19/0681/REM Variation of condition 1 of permission P/2014/0474 to allow an extension of time to implement the permission

Item16c on Agenda

- e-mail form Jen Walsby re: Gardening club grant
- e-mail sent to PCC by Tina Pritchard regarding damage to flower boxes on Beulah Road
- quote for electrical work on the Town Square from Howell Evans

Item 17 On Agenda e-mail from One voice Wales re: Code of conduct training in Builth

Item 18 on Agenda

18.1 e-mail from One Voice Wales requesting up to two motions to be taken forward to the AGM in October .

18.2 e-mail from Dafydd Wyn Morgan re : Celebrating National Walking Month

Signed.....

Date.....

Date of next meeting; WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE

Amendments:

Cllr Rowlands requested the following inclusion at the end of item 11 "Website"

"which is managing the monies promised from various organisations for the website"