

BUILTH WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGORTREFLLANFAIR-YM-MUALLT



Minutes of the Meeting of Builth Wells Town Council held on **Tuesday 9th January 2018** commencing at **7.30 pm** in The Strand Hall, Builth Wells.

Present : Cllrs M.Prynne (Mayor), P. McNiffe (Deputy), A. Jones, D. Ronicle, B. Reardon, A. Powell, D. Jones, B Watkins, S. John, R. Price

Apologies for Absence: Cllr G. Davies

BW/010/18 Declaration of Acceptance of Office :

The Mayor welcomed Simon John as a newly co-opted Councillor and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly completed and signed by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

BW/011/08 Declarations of Interest: None

BW/012/18 Minutes :

To authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of meeting held on 12th December 2017 as a correct record.

Proposed. Cllr R. Reardon, Seconded Cllr D. Ronicle. Unanimous

BW/013/18 Clerk's Report :

- a) Llanelwedd Little Learners – Letter sent on 15th December 2017 requesting confirmation of the amount of funding they received from Powys – No reply to date.
- b) Hay Road Garage Site – Letter regarding tidying the site sent to Adam Deans of James Dean estate agents who are acting on behalf of the site owners – No reply to date.
- c) Register of Members Interest Forms – Reminder that these need to be completed and returned by the Town Council meeting on 13th February 2018.
- d) Grass Cutting – Letter sent to Mr Terry Conti on 15th December 2018 thanking him for his verbal quote to cut the grass and requesting a formal written quote for the 2018 season. – No reply to date.

BW/014/18 County Councillor's Report :

- a) County Cllr J. Pugh reported that since the public meeting/march held on the Groe arranged by Mike Price, he has been inundated with complaints/concerns regarding the dog fouling.
Cllr J. Pugh reported that he has met with Powys County Council legal team to draft a new bylaw that all dogs on the Groe must be kept on leads.
Cllr J. Pugh asked for agreement and support from the Town Council for signs "No Dogs Allowed" to be erected in the children's play area and "All Dogs to be Kept on Leads" to be erected on the Groe.
As this was not an agenda item Councillors were unable to vote at this time but would vote when discussed later under agenda item 15b – Dog Fouling on the Groe. The outcome of the vote would be communicated to him the following morning.
- b) Builth Wells Rugby Club – County Cllr J. Pugh reported that the club's lease on the Groe is out of date and it is not in the club's interest to sign a new lease as this will weaken their position as tenant. Powys County Council are looking into producing a new open ended contract.
- c) County Cllr J. Pugh reported that the prices for lights, solar and mains power, to illuminate the avenue of trees on the Groe have been received.
The cost for solar lights being £2,800 per light and as these only have a battery life of 12 months he asked for support of the Town Council for cables to be put in. He hopes that he will be able to secure a grant of £20,000 from Powys County Council towards this. County Cllr J. Pugh advised that Powys County Council would be paying for the electricity and therefore there is no cost implication for Builth Wells Town Council. The proposed lights would be the same style as those on Groe Street and County Cllr J. Pugh asked Town Council to confirm to him that they were in agreement.
- d) County Cllr J. Pugh reported that he has received a number of complaints regarding parking in Brecon Road, Western Grove and Castle Road. Currently members of the public employed in High Street businesses are parking there and restricting access for residents. The current cost for an annual licence to park on the Groe Car Park is £354 and County Cllr J. Pugh is looking for letters of support for a cost of £150 per annum for resident parking on the Smithfield Market site.
- e) Cllr A. Jones reported that the footpath light near the old people's bungalows in Pendre wasn't working and County Cllr J. Pugh said he would check this.
- f) Cllr M. Prynne advised County Cllr J. Pugh of "fly tipping" on Powys County Council land adjacent to the garages block adjoining Builth Surgery. Cllr Pugh would investigate.

County Cllr J. Pugh left the meeting at 8.00 pm

BW/015/18 Co-Option of Councillor(s) :

Following the resignation of Ashley Offa and the casual vacancy – Letter received from Mr Rob Sweet, who will be automatically Co-Opted to the vacant post. Clerk to send letter of confirmation to Mr Rob Sweet and inform Powys County Council of the co-option.

BW/016/18 Planning: None



BW/017/18 Finance :

Proposed Cllr B. Reardon, Seconded Cllr A Powell, unanimous in favour to approve the following accounts for payment:

Cheque No	Payee	Purpose	Cheque Total £	VAT to be reclaimed £	Budget Expenditure
Current A/C					
2951	Blachere Illumination	Xmas Lights Sundries	571.80	95.30	476.50
2952	EOM	Stage Lights Electricals	491.18	81.86	409.32
2953	Nibletts	Strand Hall Consumables	138.38	23.06	115.80
2954	Helen Bozier	November Salary	503.50	-	503.50
2955	SWALEC	Strand Hall Electricity	499.60	83.26	416.24
2956	SWALEC	Strand Hall Gas	20.96	0.99	19.97
2957	K D Cannings	Xmas Lights Connection	2,736.00	456.00	2,280.00
		Totals	4,961.42	740.47	4,221.33
Groe Toilets A/C					
0020	TC Cleaning	Cleaning November	1,418.83	236.47	1,182.36
0021	TC Cleaning	Consumables November	186.34	31.06	155.28
		Totals	1,605.17	267.53	1,337.64
Strand Hall A/C					
0035	EOM	Strand Hall Electrical Work	186.18	31.03	155.15
0036	Stage Depot	Stage Black Paint	577.39	96.23	481.16
0037	J P Leisure	Light for Mirror Ball	30.94	5.16	25.78
0038	Nisbets	Catering Equipment	687.44	114.57	572.87
		Totals	1,481.95	246.99	1,234.96

- a) Register of Members Interests: To comply with the Local Government Act 2000, Builth Town Councillors must establish and maintain a register of interests of all member Councillors. Relevant forms were circulated.
- b) Update on the independent remuneration panel for Wales (IRPW) proposal for allowances for elected Councillors 2018/19 – To be discussed once the IRPW decision has been made. Due February 2018.

BW/018/18 Grant Applications :

Wyeside Arts Centre – The application was considered at the budget meeting held on 8th January 2018 and, in view of the increasing strain on the Town Council finances, a unanimous decision was made to reduce the grant requested from £5,000 to £4,000. Clerk to send a letter to Wyeside advising of the reduced grant award and that the decision had not been taken lightly.

Proposed. Cllr A. Jones, Seconded Cllr A. Powell. Unanimous

BW/019/18 Committee Membership :

Following the resignation of Ashley Offa a vacancy has been created on the Strand Management Group and Cllr S. John volunteered to fill the vacant position. Clerk to confirm other committee vacancies and report back at the next meeting of the Town Council on 13th February 2018.

BW/020/18 Correspondence (Received) :

- a) Thank you letter from Builth Wells Ladies Choir for £1000 grant payment.
- b) Western Power Certificate of unmetered connection for Xmas Lights.
- c) Proposal to develop a Major Trauma Network. Item discussed and agreed no councillors to attend as it does not cover the Builth Wells area
- d) Email – Tackling loneliness amongst older people. Information only.
- e) Review of Community and Town Sector. Panel looking to hear views – 1) what Community & town Councils are responsible for. 2) How they operate. 3) Their standing in the community. 3) How they best represent their local community.
- f) Email from Jane Stephens at Builth Surgery regarding overhanging branches from a Town Council owned tree. At the request of The Mayor, Mr Terry Conti has inspected the tree which may be diseased. Cllr A. Powell advised that she will take her husband, Luke to look at the tree for a 2nd opinion.
- g) Email from Hayley Beavan regarding disabled parking at the back of the Strand. Reply sent advising that there is none at the Strand.
- h) HMRC – update that their IT systems for claiming VAT. New reference number to follow. Information only.
- i) Letter from Sydney G Thomas & Co solicitor's reference Elizabeth & Margaret Powell's charity. Chasing a reply to their letter dated 22nd January 2016.
- j) Email from Colin Evans regarding Hearing Loss in Wales. Information only.

BW/021/18 Strand Hall Progress Report :

- a) Cllr A. Jones reported that the Builth Wells Primary School concert was a great success and there was an amazing atmosphere with 200 parents and family attending the last performance. Cllr A. Powell advised that she received very positive feedback about the new refurbished Strand Hall and the facilities it offers.
- b) Cllr A. Jones gave a progress update on phase 3 – Bryan Jones is finalising the as-built drawings for the Health & Safety file, which will be passed to the Town Council on completion.
Retention monies of £2,500 will be released to Andrew Davies, Builders, when authorised by Bryan Jones, Architect. Any snagging items or works omitted will be completed within the maintenance period of the contract.
Cllr A. Powell suggested an open day in the New Year.
- c) Caretaker/Cleaner position – Cllr A. Jones reported that the job roles need to be defined. At present, cleaning is being carried out by a few Councillors which is not ideal and there is a need to communicate with all Councillors to come in and do their bit. Cllr A. Powell suggested sourcing a self-employed cleaner in the short term to come in to clean after events.
Karen Compton (press) confirmed that the position will be reported in the newspaper either this week or next.

Cllr A. Jones proposed that a temporary advert for the position be placed in a prominent public position. Cllr B. Reardon expressed that the successful applicant should be experienced in the role.

Proposed. Cllr A Jones, Seconded Cllr B Reardon.Unanimous

BW/022/18 Christmas Lights :

- a) Cllr M. Prynne thanked Councillors and all volunteers for their work taking down the Christmas Lights on Sunday 7th January. The event was well organised with 14 men undertaking the work, starting at 6.00am and finishing at 8.15am. Breakfast was then provided by the Greyhound Hotel. As the hoist was unavailable there are 3 lights remaining at Wyeside and these will be taken down in the next couple of nights. Special thanks to Cllr G. Davies for use of the cherry picker, Mike Davies for the use of his lorry, Charlie Bass, Malcolm Metcalf and Graham Davies.
- b) It was suggested that the volunteers be invited to attend the next meeting of the Christmas Lights committee to share their ideas.
- c) Cllr D. Ronicle suggested an official event to switch on the lights next year. Cllr A. Jones advised that the current infrastructure for power to the lights comprises 10 individual fused supply boxes along the length of Castle St, Broad St, and High St. To achieve a simultaneous switch on would require 10 people up ladders to operate individual switches at the same time. Cllr A. Jones suggested re-establishing lights on the Wellingtonia tree at the Groe car-park entrance and having an official switch on at that location. It was agreed that this was something to research for December 2018.

BW/023/18 Groe :

- a) The purchase of additional dog bag dispensers for the Groe was discussed. Cllr Brian Reardon advised that only the bins were needed and not the posts. Cllrs agreed that dispensers should be sited at the entrance to the Groe opposite Alpha Chapel and the entrance to the Lant field from Pendre.

Proposed. Cllr B. Reardon, Seconded Cllr D. Ronicle.Unanimous

- b) Cllr D. Ronicle reported that he has looked at Powys, Anglesey other council's policies on dog fouling and has drawn up a sample draft policy for discussion. Clerk to forward this to all councillors and the Policy and Resources committee. Cllr A. Powell would like to see "Name and Shame" followed by prosecution as well as posters "This will Kill" to show our commitment. Also the council's logo should be displayed on Mike Price's signs.
More pink fluorescent paint is required – Clerk to order.
Cllr A. Jones suggested a working party of councillors wearing yellow jackets with three councillors minimum as a group to monitor individuals walking their dogs on the Groe. Cllr P. McNiffe suggested approaching the community police for assistance. It was suggested that the working group be formed, including Mike Price to meet and discuss new ideas to bring back to Town Council.

Proposed. Cllr D. Ronicle, Seconded Cllr P. McNiffe.Unanimous

There then followed a vote on County Cllr J. Pugh's suggestion for no dogs allowed signs for the children's play area.

Proposed. Cllr P. McNiffe, Seconded Cllr A. Powell. Unanimous

There then followed a vote on County Cllr J. Pugh's suggestion to investigate a Bylaw enforcing dogs to be kept on leads on the Groe.

Proposed. Cllr P. McNiffe, Seconded Cllr A. Powell. 2 Abstentions.

- c) Cllr A. Powell highlighted the state of the Princess Diana Tree. It was suggested that the Town Council approach County Cllr J. Pugh to involve Powys County Council in carrying out remedial works to the tree.

BW/024/18 Reports :

- a) Builth Wells Primary School update – Cllr A. Powell reported that the last governing body meeting was cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.
- b) Cllr R. Price reported on the Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Roadshow he attended – See addendum 1 attached.
- c) Tri Towns Meeting – held in the Strand Hall on 13th December 2017. Cllrs M. Prynne and A. Jones attended. The meeting was addressed by PCC Head of Procurement and focused on building contracts for local contractors. Future meetings will concentrate on the development of links between Rhayader, Llandrindod and Builth towns.
- d) Riverside Community Centre - Cllr A. Jones reported that he has retrieved copies of archived Town Council minutes from Powys Archives and is compiling a file of documents to forward to Sidney G Thomas, solicitors. This is in relation to confirming the Town Council ownership of the Riverside Centre building as requested by Sidney G. Thomas, solicitors.

BW/025/18 Chairman's Reports/Diary – See addendum 2 attached.

BW/026/18 Date of next meeting 13th February 2018

Meeting Closed 21.35

Signed.....

13th February 2018