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**Minutes of the meeting of Builth Wells Town Council held on  
Tuesday 13th June 2023 at 7.00 pm  
in The Strand Hall, Builth Wells.**

**Present:** Cllr's M Hammond, G.Davies, A.Lewis, L.Hopkins, G.Goodwin, L.Pugh, A.Waller.

**Town Council Officer/s present:** Louise Hammond (Clerk).

**Others present:** C.Cllr Pugh, Karen Compton (Press), Anthony Bujok (Co-option).

**Apologies for Absence:** None.

**Non Attendance:** None.

Prior to meeting taking place we had a visit from Aled Jones and his colleague Rachel, from the RWS. They wanted to introduce themselves to the Council, and inform Council about the various issues they are facing at the show, owing to the current economic climate, as well as the post-Covid period. They would like to continue their close relationship with the Town Council, and work together to make a better future for the Community.

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**BW/052/23: DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Cllr Hopkins - Agenda item 9(e): Forms filled in – Didn't vote.

**BW/053/23: MINUTES:**

To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes from the meeting held on **16<sup>th</sup> May** as being a correct record.

**Resolved** minutes were correct.

**BW/054/23: C.CLLR PUGH:**

- a) Has spoken to Powys again about the Rubbish bins and state of streets. Town Council has also made representations to Powys on this matter.
- b) It has been alleged that the lorry drivers on the Groe are throwing their urine onto the green area, which is causing hygiene problems for the stall holders on the Friday markets. It has been requested that CCTV be placed there so it can be established who is doing this and then dealt with. Town Council will look at feasibility of installing an additional camera.
- c) Discussed the recent hike in parking fees in the Groe Carpark (Powys County Council responsibility). Various options put forward in respect of this, as well as a discussion around Campervans. Cllr Hammond will send a letter to C. Cllr Pugh in support.

**BW/055/23: CO-OPTION:**

Declaration was read and signed by Mr Anthony Bujok & declaration witnessed by Clerk.

**BW/056/23: MAYORS REPORT:**

- a) Congratulations to Clerk for completing National Clerk Qualification (CiLCA).
- b) Resignation letter: Cllr Lowe
- c) Premises licence: Some minor changes but no additional problems, should be completed in the next few days.
- d) Croeso Site: Vaughan & Vaughan are in the process of coordinating the signing over of the lease to the Town Council.
- e) Twinning/Friendship agreement with Blaubeuren (Southern Germany): Welsh Government are looking to reinvigorate Twinning arrangements across the Country, with a particular focus on young people. Potential funding streams may be available in near future.
- f) High Sheriff meeting recently: High Sheriff is keen to meet unsung Community heroes and not only officially thank them for what they have done, but also to be considered as potential candidates for High Sheriff Awards. Being co-ordinated by Town Clerk and Cllr Hammond.

**BW/056/23: FINANCE:**

- a) Counting machine – **Resolved**.
- b) Notice of Electors Rights – **Resolved**: Clerk to publish notice and send Year end to Welsh Audit office.
- c) Request for Financial Assistance – See Agenda item 9
- d) Survey Monkey – **Resolved** – Council to close this survey down now. Results 416 people took part – 80 % do not want Wind farms.
- e) Xmas Lights Working Group equipment request of £100 – **Resolved** – Agreed.
- f) Honesty Boxes - NFA
- g) Christmas Lights Boxes - NFA
- h) Payment Summary – **Resolved** – accepted
- i) Accounts reconcilled- **Resolved** – Accepted
- j) CiLCA – Pay rise to be discussed with staffing committee.

**BW/057/23: CLERKS REPORT:**

- a) Memorial grant – Council will apply again later in the year.
- b) Powys County Council standards sub-committee nomination form – **Resolved** – Clerk to advise Powys of Councils choice.
- c) NHS 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards Nominations – **Resolved** - Unanimous – District Nurses. Cllr Pugh to make contact.
- d) Wyeside representative – Vacant – Cllr Hammond will make contact.
- e) Builth Fest Judge – Cllr M. Hammond (Chair)
- f) Builth Fest stewards – Council advised.
- g) Mail Drop – Article to be taken put in “Around and about Builth”. This will give the Council an opportunity to advise the community what it actually does. Cllr Hammond taking the lead.
- h) Groe Bins – Discussed in items 3.
- i) Lorries – Discussed in Item 3.
- j) Standing orders – **Resolved** – accepted.
- k) Invitation to Go to Blaubeuren – All Councillor’s showed an interest in this. Cllr Hammond taking the lead, as he has been main point on contact. To be discussed in Annual Meeting in May 2024.

- l) Croeso Site – Mayor’s report item 5.

**BW/058/23: WASTE BAG DISPENSER/PLANTS FOR TUNS AND TROUGHS: CLLR HAMMOND.**

- a) Post which houses one of our Dog waste Bags has fallen over – Clerk to contact Powys as this is their post.
- b) Plants have now been purchased for Tub and troughs and they have all now been planted by Cllr Hammond and Mr Williams.

**BW/059/23 GRANTS:**

Council had in in-depth discussion with regards to grants, due to the fact that there have been a number of requests. The process of allocation was voted on and a majority decision made that any organisation who had already submitted a grant within a 12-month period (rolling) would not be able to resubmit unless it is judged to be an urgent matter and time-critical.

- a) Wyeside – **Resolved** - awarded £2100.00.
- b) Community Support – Declined – asked to reapply in December for January’s awards.
- c) Christmas Tree Festival – **Resolved** - awarded £200.00.
- d) Helping our Homeless – declined – asked to reapply in December for Januarys awards.
- e) Builth Fest – **Resolved** - awarded £1000.00.
- f) Builth Wells Junior Football Club – resolved – awarded £1000.00.
- g) Heritage Society – **Resolved** - awarded £1500.00.
- h) Sunday Club – (Clerical error meant application not put to Council on time) Council **resolved** to allow this grant to be considered – **Resolved** - awarded £450.00.
- i) Builth Wells Primary School Festival – **Resolved** - awarded £500.00.

**BW/060/23: EVENTS: CLLR DAVIES:**

Advised Council needs to start working on the arrangements for the “Fun day” it was **resolved** that Cllr Davies takes the lead.

**BW/061/23: PYLONS AND TURBINES: CLLR HAMMOND**

Cllr Hammond advised council about a recent meeting with “RETHINK - Don’t break the heart of Wales” group who are co-ordinating a loose alliance of other campaign groups in respect pf the proposed pylons and wind turbines. RETHINK have noted that Builth does not have its own action group, and they would be able to assist the community if anyone would like to form such an action group. After a passionate and in-depth discussion, the Council took a vote on how they feel about this - **Majority** voted against both the pylons and wind turbines. It was resolved that Council will put a relevant post out on Facebook, advising the community of this as well as that RETHINK can help set up an action group. To support the community, it was **resolved** that the Strand Hall would be offered as a meeting venue for this purpose. It was also noted that whereas the Town Council as a corporate body could not co-ordinate or run the action group, if formed, individual Councillors, acting as members of the community could become involved if they so wished.

**BW/061/23: LEISURE CENTRE: CLLR HAMMOND:**

Deferred for a future meeting.

**BW/062/23: GROE TOILETS:**

Chair authorised meeting to be extended to cover this issue - **Unanimous agreement** to do so. An in-depth discussion surrounding the tender of the toilets took place: Council resolved that they would need to make some changes within the tender process. It was resolved that money would be taken from council reserves (Virement to Groe Toilets) to purchase automatic locking doors. Cllr Waller to get a quote from “Door Technik” and Clerk to contact “Health Matic”. Strand Street toilets would be temporarily closed until tender process is complete. Busy Bee’s would be asked to submit their tender and carry on with the cleaning of the toilets until tender is complete (3 Hours per day). Clerk to readvertise the tender, which will need to consist of two cleans per day – one at lunchtime and one before closing at 7pm. Voted on by Councillors – **Unanimous agreement.**

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 9.10pm**

**Signed on behalf of the Town  
Council.....**

**Name.....**  
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**Date.....**  
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