



BUILTH WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF LLANFAIR-YM-MUALLT

Minutes of a Meeting of Builth Wells Town Council on 10th March 2015 commencing at 7.30pm in The Strand Hall, Builth Wells.

Present: Councillors: A.Jones(Mayor), B.Reardon, J. Price. T.Layton, B.Watkins, J.Richards; L.Jones; A.Richards

Others: County Councillor A.York;

Apologies: Cllr D.Wellstead; Cllr M.Prynne; Cllr D.Jones

Absent: None

Declarations of Interest: None

BW/041/15 Minutes

To authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting 10th February 2015 as a correct record. Proposed Cllrs T.Layton/Watkins Carried

BW/042/15 Information from Minutes

James Dean estate agents had responded to the Council's letter regarding the land owned by Framewise. However in the intervening time, Framewise has gone into administration .

The Trunk Road Agency do have the trees lining Garth Road on their schedule of maintenance although no dates are available

BW/043/15 County Councillors Report.

County Councillor Avril York had no immediate updates for the Council but took questions. Cllrs L.Jones and Reardon acknowledged the good work being conducted by the County Council's refuse collectors; they were however leaving behind themselves a trail of, primarily plastic rubbish whilst driving in the recycling transport to the various locations with the doors open.

Cllr A.Jones stated that outside Barclays Bank following rain there were large amounts of standing water, owing to the gullies being blocked. This resulted in pedestrians being splashed by the vehicles driving through. Both matters the County Councillor would attend to.

BW/044/15 Planning

Nil

BW/045/15 Summer Flower Baskets

Cllr D.Jones sent a written report to Council outlining that the purchase cost of the flower baskets remains the same as 2014. That Mr M.Davies will agree to the same watering charges also as 2014.

The Council queried why the Council contribution was higher for the 2014 season. The RFO reported that the unusually long summer and the high quality of the flower baskets meant they remained hanging for extra weeks and thus the higher watering costs.

The following was **proposed** by Cllrs Reardon/A.Jones that the rental costs of the baskets which will still prove to be excellent value, rise by £2.00 for the 2015 season. Carried.

BW/046/15 Dog Waste in the Groe

Cllr M.Prynne sent a written report of further complaints being received by her relating to the ongoing problem of dog faeces particularly surrounding the rugby pitch and on the pitch at The Groe.

The Councillors discussed a wide range of options and were informed that Powys County Council was having discussions with the Dyfed Powys Police in permitting the PCSO's to issue fixed penalty tickets for this offensive behaviour together with the County Councils traffic wardens. This course of action would receive this Councils full support.

In the meantime, Councillors felt that they needed to take further action in addition to supplying dog owners free dog bags in the Groe. The Council will undertake another publicity drive and Councillors will use biodegradable high viz spray to circle the offending mess to bring these to the attention of the irresponsible dog owners.

BW/047/15 War Memorial

A letter was presented from the Builth Wells Branch of the Royal British Legion to Council. It outlined the continual problem of maintenance of the three gardens and grass area around the memorial. Also supplied was a costing for the plants needed both perennial and annuals.

It was **Proposed** Cllrs B.Reardon/B.Watkins that the Town Council donate £350 towards the costs of flowers for the War Memorial Gardens. Carried.

BW/048/15 Builth Wells Town Projects

Cllr A.Jones produced a schedule of the Town Council Project Proposals 2015/16 (attached at the rear) (raised at BW/119/14) and requested that Councillors return on the 14th April with their further proposals.

BW/049/15 Powys County Council High School Closure Review.

Cllr A.Jones raised his concerns and those who had brought the matter to him that there was a real possibility that Builth Wells may lose the High School, that decisions and reports were being made in Cabinet of the PCC without the proper consultation with parents and elected representatives. Cllr A.Richards informed Council that the Cabinet was to disclose to the public on the 24th March where their secondary school review will begin. That there is also a legal requirement to consult on any closure.

Discussion took place on limited information, Cllr L.Jones highlighted that if the High School were to close, it was not just a matter for Builth children to travel to Llandrindod but many children who travel in from Llanwrtyd a further 12 miles away. Cllr A. Jones felt that

the Council needed to 'place a marker' with PCC that this Council was a proper group of consultees. It therefore **proposed** Cllr A.Jones/L.Jones a letter be sent to PCC outlining their concerns and stating that Builth Wells towns people and district would not countenance the closure of Builth High school in any circumstances and asked to be consulted in any future discussions relating to Builth Wells High School.

BW/050/15 Grant Applications

a) Wyeside Arts Centre

The Council having discussed the grant application form, Wyeside Trustee report and their accounts, awarded £7500 grant which was to include £2500 grant for new railings to assist and accommodate wheel chair users.

Cllr B.Reardon asked that the Trustees be informed that whilst the Council acknowledged the very difficult financial times ahead for the Wyeside, the Council will also be under great financial pressures 2015/16 with the devolution of facilities to the Council.

Proposed Cllrs L.Jones/A.Richards Carried

b) Builth Festival

The Council having discussed the grant application and their accounts, were pleased to award the sum of £500 towards the 2015 festival. **Proposed** Cllrs L.Jones/A.Richards Carried

BW/051/15 Correspondence

a) Letter from Builth & Llanwrtyd Medical Practice

The Council noted the letter of thanks in their support to retain the Llanwrtyd medical practice and wished them well in any future discussions with the LHB.

BW/052/15 Finance

Accounts to be paid from the Current A/C *VAT to be recovered: DD=Direct Debit

Mr G Evans Chq:2648	Wages (Feb)	£383.18	approved
Welsh Water Chq:2649	Water charges to Strand Toilets	£92.71	approved
Welsh Water Chq:2650	Water charges to Strand Hall	£194.80	approved
Howlta Chq:2651	Heart of Wales membership	£12	approved
SWALEC Chq:2652	Christmas Lights electricity charges	£369.75*	approved
BT a/c 7677	Broadband	£129.12*	DD
Fire Matters Chq:2653	Fire Extinguishers annual check.	£45.00	approved
Mr G Evans Chq:2654	Cleaning materials and Cluster meeting, stamps	£28.24	approved
Mr A.Jones Chq:2655	Mayors Annual Allowance ¹	£1400*	approved

¹ Local Government Act 1972 ss15(5)& ss34(5)

BW/053/15 Reports

a) Cluster Group –verbal update

The Cluster meeting was held at the Strand Hall on 24th February with a further meeting scheduled for 20th April.

b) Access Group-verbal update

Cllr M Prynne to give an update 14/4/15

BW/054/15 Mayors Diary

Council meetings and correspondence.

BW/055/15 Matters for 14th April 2015

Tree statue in the Groe. Cllr Reardon

Meeting Concluded at 2110

Signed.....Mayor

14th April 2015