



## **BUILTH WELLS TOWN COUNCIL**

### **YNGOR TREF LLANFAIR-YM-MUALLT**

**Minutes of a Meeting of Builth Wells Town Council on 10th November 2015  
commencing at 7.00pm in The Strand Hall, Builth Wells.**

**Present: Councillors:** B.Reardon(Mayor), J. Price.(Deputy)J.Richards;  
B.Chard,M.Prynne,B.Watkins;A.Jones. L.Jones.D.Jones;A.Richards

**Apologies for Absence** Cllr T.Layton

**Others:**County Councillor A.York

**Declaration of Interest:**None

#### **Minutes**

##### **BW/174/15 Minutes**

- a) To authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 13th October 2015 as a correct record.  
Proposed Cllrs D.Jones/M.Prynne Unaminious
- b) To authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the 23rd October 2015 as a correct record.  
Proposed Cllrs B.Chard/B.Watkins Unaminious
- c) Clerks report from Minutes
  - VAT-Hanging Baskets. Advise from an expert has been received that Builth Town Council cannot use its exemption to reclaim the VAT eliment. Cllr A.Richards asked whether it was appropriate to seek further opinion. It was support by members and County Councillor A.York thought she could approach the accountant at the Wyeside for an opinion.
  - VAT on the Strand Hall refurbishment. Further questions/answers required from the expert, this is being undertaken.
  - Loss of mural on the Old Post Wall, County Councillor A.York was informed and spoke at the meeting' that it was ten years old and its life span was not forever'. Local history society has been informed.
  - Review of the Code of Conduct employees, matters still being examined by P,R&F Committee.

- Instructions to solicitors re contracts for Groe Toilets. Solicitors have been instructed, their first advice on letters to companies being complied with now further advice expected later.

### **BW/175/15 County Councillors Report**

- There is no further news relating to Builth High School  
An Estyn inspection has now been carried out. There is expected a drop in numbers in the Builth Primary School expected in the future
- There has been a drop in numbers in the Builth Junior School which will require a revision of the numbers of employed staff.
- Cllr M.Prynne reported that she is being approached relating to bus services and their routes. That private enterprise has stepped in to fill the void, one of those being SP Cars from Rhayader CC York reported that these private companies do so without the aid of a grant/subsidy from Powys County Council.  
Cllr D.Jones stated that he was being approached with questions relating to the involvement of the Town Councillor. CC York stated that she is and Town Council representatives are meeting with other groups in the 'Public Transport, Builth & Rural Communities'.
- CC York reported on the important work and facilities now available at Glan Irfon. With the site now two years old, perhaps not enough is now about these facilities and she hopes that an open day could be arranged.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner had written to the Town Council informing them he was waiting for a response from PCC in using PCSO's to enforce laws relating to dog fouling in public places. The three surrounding counties have stated they would not authorise such a use and therefore PCC cannot therefore support the application alone.

### **BW/176/15 Planning**

None

### **BW/177/15 Dog Fouling Groe Area. Cllr Prynne**

Waiting for the conclusion and recommendations of the Community Project questionnaire, this item will be deferred till 8<sup>th</sup> December.

### **BW/178/15 Builth Wells Town Projects.**

Waiting for the conclusion and recommendations of the Community Project questionnaire, this item will be deferred till 8<sup>th</sup> December.

### **BW/179/15 Groe Public Toilets**

Cllr B.Chard reported that contractual matters are still ongoing. That continued negotiations with Powys County Council and the Welsh Government are ongoing. The Council will be taking advice relating to the complete refurbishment and facilities for personal care.

**BW/180/15 Builth Wells High School**

No updates available to Council.

**BW/181/15 Highways Store, Smithfield Market: Cllr A Jones**

The Clerk informed the Council that correspondence had been received that the Powys County Council storage sites situated within the Smithfield Market will have to be vacated in January 2016. Builth Council has for many years used the facilities for the storage of the Christmas light and a place to repair and refurbish. It was also an area used for the storing of equipment connected with the 100 and more flower baskets that are displayed in the town and the equipment to water them. Cllr Jones informed that there were no other facilities known to him that we could use in a short time frame to provide a more permanent solution. He recommended to Council that we approach Powys County Council for an 'asset transfer' or 'lease' transfer of that shed or the attached 'Old Fire Station'. Council agreed to this.

Clerk to write to Powys County Council.

**BW/182/15 Builth Wells Festival 2016**

The Clerk reminded Council that in 2014 Cllr Prynne organised the representation of the Council with a theme of 'Dog Mess in the Groe'. 2015 did not have full Council participation. It was agreed this item remains on the Council agenda to gain from the Council their preferred community involvement in 2016.

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**BW/183/15 Grant Applications**

**Builth Memorial Garden Committee.** This matter is not for the financial year 2015-16. However, Council agreed to accept the application on the basis that future budgetary needs (2016-17) would be helpful.

**Proposed Cllrs B.Watkins/J.Price** to award £300 to be released from 1/4/2016. Unanimous

**BW/184/15 Builth & Llanwrtyd Medical Practice Cllr L.Jones**

It has been reported to Cllr L Jones of the difficulty in seeing a GP mainly for non-urgent matters, in under three weeks. Other Councillors could identify instances when a more urgent need to see a GP, placed the elderly in particular, under a stress they were uncomfortable with that they would not say it was urgent. Council were reminded that at an initial open meeting with the Doctor's and staff, with the introduction of the appointment system there would be a review period.

Councillors have been monitoring of the publication of wasted appointment times which average out at 3 times a day plus nurse appointments. Cllr L.Jones recommends the Council writes to the practice recommending an alternative system like, morning open surgery with appointment afternoon and evening.

Clerk to write to Builth and Llanwrtyd Medical Practice

**BW/185/15 Glan Irfon Dental Practice Cllr L.Jones**

Cllr L.Jones reported that over a long period of time, appointments were being cancelled by the dental practice because of a loss of a dental surgeon. On

many occasions thus reducing their capacity to one surgeon over a long period of time. This was not an acceptable standard from the National Health Service, nor from a company that insisted on having three practice rooms during the building stage. At present there appears to be one permanent surgeon and one on a temporary contract of 6 months.

Other Councillors report similar experiences by the community. It was recommended that the Clerk write to the company 'MyDentist' to seek an explanation of the business plan for now and the future.

**BW/186/15 Vacancy for Town Councillor**

No applications or interest shown. Clerk to re advertise.

**BW/187/15 Public Transport, Built and Rural Communities.**

Cllr J.Price reported that matters were moving forward and that County Councillor A York had a meeting at the Strand Hall on 23<sup>rd</sup> October and further meetings were to be scheduled.

**BW/188/15 Finance**

**a) Accounts to be paid from the Current A/C \*VAT to be recovered:**

**DD=Direct Debit**

**b) Strand Hall Borrowing Approval. Cllr A Jones**

Proposed Cllrs D.Jones/B.Chard the matter should be taken forward, as per **BW/33/15 Unanimous**

**c) Proposal to re-start building refurbishment in the Strand Hall; Cllr A Jones**

Cllr Jones outlined necessary preparation work with architect, gas and other matters Cllr L.Jones and M Prynne said this should be subject to loan approval and this view was unanimous in the Council.

PCC Chq:2117	Christmas lights licence	£56	<b>approved</b>
Mr M Davies Chq:2118	Watering hanging baskets	£420.00	<b>approved</b>
Gala Lights Chq:2121	Christmas Lights Fittings	£57.00	<b>approved</b>
One Voice Wales Chq:2122	Training of Cllrs	£105	<b>approved</b>
BT Chq:2123	a/c 8574	£144.80	<b>approved</b>
BT	a/c 8572	£86.39	<b>DD</b>
BT	a/c 8571	£86.48	<b>DD</b>
Hawthorns Chq:2129	Walking for Britain Flags.	£50.00	<b>approved</b>
British Legion Chq:2119	Memorial Council wreath	£50	<b>approved</b>
Irfon Judo Club Chq:2120	Grant towards new equipment	£500	<b>approved</b>
Zurich Groe Toilets Insurance Chq:2125	Additional Insurance cost	£84.98	<b>approved</b>

Mr G Evans Chq:2126	Wages-Oct	£383.18	<b>approved</b>
Mr B Reardon Chq:2127	Mileage to OVW conference	£53.10	<b>approved</b>
PCC Chq:2128	Increase charge on Christmas license	£46	<b>approved</b>
Mr G Evans Chq:2129	Mileage=67.95 Printer=119.99 Stationary=13.99 Builth Walking=50 Hawthorns=50 Ink=79.98	£381.91	<b>approved</b>

**BW/189/15 Correspondence**

- a) **Letter of thanks from the Lord-Lieutenant for Powys.** Noted
- b) **Letter of thanks from Irfon Judo Club re grant.** Noted
- c) **Bronllys Well Being Park:** Letter and flow chart giving outline proposals to new facilities to our communities and an invitation to give 10 mins' presentation to Council. Clerk to contact steering group.

**BW/190/BW Saturday Council Surgeries'**

Cllr Reardon stated that this will be on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2015 1030-12 noon. Councillors are invited to assist.

**BW/191/15 Reports**

- **Christmas lights**  
Cllr J.Price reported that the date to put up the decorations will be Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 4am,

**BW/192/15 P,R&F Committee (Groe Public toilets) Tendering**

Legal advice has been obtained and the Council will proceed with those instructions.

**BW/193/15 Appeals Committee**

Substitution made, now: Cllr T.Layton  
Cllr D.Jones  
Cllr A.Richards

**BW/194/15 Local Authority Ombudsman. Chairman**

Cllr B.Reardon(Chairman) published a resume and report from the Public Services Ombudsman, attached.

**BW/195/15 Tasking & Finishing Group: Monthly Report.**

Cllr J.Price reported that matters were moving forward. Interviews with relevant persons had/are taking place and it is still expected that the final report will be completed in December.

**BW/196/15 Matters for next meeting 8<sup>th</sup> December**

Meeting closed at 2130hrs

**Council Offices  
Strand Hall  
Builth Wells  
Powys LD2 3AA**

**Tel No:01982 551568**

**Signed.....**

**8<sup>th</sup> December 2015**