



BUILTH WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

YNGOR TREF LLANFAIR-YM-MUALLT

Minutes of a Meeting of Builth Wells Town Council on 14th July 2015 commencing at 7.30pm in The Strand Hall, Builth Wells.

Present: Councillors:B.Reardon(Mayor), J. Price.(Deputy)J.Richards;
B.Chard,M.Pryne,B.Watkins;T.Layton;D.Wellstead;A.Jones.
L.Jones.D.Jones

Apologies for Absence:Cllr A.Richards

Others: County Councillor A.York;

Declaration of Interest:Cllr B.Reardon BW/116/15 (2), applicant

Cllr J.Richards BW/126/15 (b), personnel

Minutes

BW/113/15 Minutes

- a) To authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting 9th June 2015 as a correct record. **Proposed/Seconded/Carried** Cllrs M.Pryne/J.Richards
Unanimous

BW/0114/15 Clerks report from Minutes

No outstanding matters not included in the agenda

BW/115/15 County Councillors Report

- Glan Irfon will have been open for two years this September, in order to promote the facilities available to the community, information booklets have been produced and Councillors were asked to circulate these.
- Powys County Council held a planning information evening at County Hall. The Clerk represented the Council and heard from heads of departments and received briefings on the new Planning Bill, new Building Regulations, and they also took questions from those present on many topics. *(Copy of information on PowerPoint circulated)*
- The bus service budget has been reduced by ½ million pounds to £1.9 for Powys. Following a lengthy public consultation, amongst the many cuts to services across Powys, the town bus number 45 will stop

in October 2015. CC York expressed her concerns on the very rural communities without transport and acknowledging the important work conducted by the Builth Wells Community shop. After much discussion and agreement, the matter of Community Transport will be put on the September agenda.

- Builth Wells High School. It was anticipated that the report of Secondary schools would be published this July. However, the closing date for consultation on 'Welsh Medium' schools does not conclude until the end of July. It was felt that to reach any decision prior to that consultation would be wrong.
- CC York produced the documentation requested by Cllr Price on the calculation method and projected figures for pupils at schools in Powys.
- Cllr B.Reardon reported his satisfaction of the standard of grass cutting in the Groe now, and queried why this standard could not be maintained all year round.

BW/116/15 Planning

1. 9 West Street, Builth Wells, Nat West Bank, new illuminated sign over front door.
2. Alpha Presbyterian Church, Builth Wells, replacing eroded stone window surrounds and traceries.

(Cllr Reardon left the room at 1955 return 2000)

It was **Resolved** that the council did not object to either application subject to the opinions of local residents.

Proposed Cllr B.Chard/B.Watkins. Unanimous

3. **Planning replies between 15/7/& 19/8/2015, delegated powers.**

It was **Resolved** that the following Cllrs would be informed by email to comment on any application.

Cllrs:Reardon/Price/Wellstead/A.Jones/L.Jones/T.Layton/

M.Pryne/B.Chard/A.Richards. Their replies will be forwarded to the Chairman or his deputy in absence, who will inform the Clerk of the majority view.

Proposed Cllr B.Watkins/M.Pryne Unanimous.

BW/117/15 Dog Fouling Groe Area. Cllr Pryne

In view of the reply from the Police & Crime Commissioner, under correspondence (attached to the minutes) and the Community Project questionnaire, this item will be deferred till 8th September.

BW/118/15 Builth Wells Town Projects.

Another matter that has been superseded in part by the Community Questionnaire and this item will await their outcome.

BW/119/15 Groe Public Toilets

- Cllr A.Jones gave a full update. Powys County Council have communicated their intentions for the Town Council to take over the running/cleaning from the 1st August.
- The Welsh Assembly Government have proposed an offer of assistance amounting to £37,000 one off payment for capital expenditure, and £13,000 pa, for running costs for three years. This has not yet been finalised and PCC are being kept fully apprised of this.
- The Clerk informed the Council that under their Financial Regulations they could not possibly complete the tendering requirements in 18 days for a cleaning company.

Following lengthy discussion it was **Resolved** that; a letter outlining the legal difficulties of a tender before 1/8/15.

WAG are still conducting 'due diligence' and no formal undertaking has been received and the Council could not afford to proceed without their support.

Builth Wells Town Council ask that the handover date to be 1st November 2015.

Clerk to forward letter drafted by Cllr B.Chard

Proposed Cllr J.Price/L.Jones Unanimous

BW/120/15 Contracts/Policy/Procedure Review

- a) Swingy Bridge – Irfon Bridge Powys County Council grass cutting. Records show this to be a long-standing agreement dating prior to 2007. The records contain no specifications. A request has been made twice for the specifications against the quoted price for 2015/16 as yet no reply.
- b) Strand Hall Toilets – Contract and specifications known from 2007. No annual update of quote recorded.
- c) Watering of Flower Baskets – Has become part of the contract for item b. No annual price agreement recorded.

Following a short discussion, these matters are to be referred to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee for recommendations.

BW/121/15 Recommendations for changes/Additions to 'Standing Orders'.

Cllr B.Reardon and J.Price submitted 16 suggestions to improve the efficiency of meetings, monitoring of decisions, recording of votes, specifically tailored financial reports. Following discussion, the matter will be deferred to September for the Clerk to draw up those proposals.

BW/122/15 Builth Wells High School

Official report delayed as per County Councillors earlier report.(BW/115/15)

BW/123/15 Grant Applications

a) Builth Wells Playscheme.

Councillors were supplied with the application and financial records and **Resolved** a grant of £500¹ would be awarded.

Proposed Cllrs D.Jones/B.Watkins Unanimous

b) Builth Bike Bash

Councillors were supplied with the application and financial records and **Resolved** a grant of £450¹ would be awarded.

Proposed Cllrs J.Price/L.Jones Unanimous

BW/124/15 Builth Wells Football Club

Cllr A.Jones outlined the effects to four of the Town's residents following a car crash. In order that they would not be excluded from the facilities they used prior to the accident, the football club are going to modify the toilet areas and entrance to their building. Cllr Jones thought it appropriate for the Council to be involved perhaps by way of a donation as the improvements would benefit many with disabilities within our community.

Following a discussion, it was felt appropriate that the Council would best become involved by way of a grant application targeted to a specific cost. Clerk to write to the football club.

BW/125/15 Finance

- a) Proposed Cllrs B.Watkins/B.Chard to be paid from the current a/c. Unanimous

Mr G Evans Chq:2081	Wages (June)	£400.83	approved
SSE Gas Chq:2076	Meter rental	22.17p*	approved
Mr G Evans Chq:2082	Expenses:Stamps,copy toner, stationary	£57.28	approved
Mr A Jones ² Chq:2080	Gazebo for Builth Fest	£64.99*	approved
Office Solutions Chq:2079	Stationary	£77.11*	approved
Midway Plants Chq:2077	Hanging Baskets	£1910.98* (recoverable)	approved
Midway Plants ³ Chq:2078	Town Council Flower Tubs	£247.99*	approved
Mr M Davies Chq:2083	Watering of hanging baskets	£532.00 (recoverable)	approved
Midway Plants Chq:2084	Additional Hanging Baskets	£50.54* (recoverable)	approved
HMRC Chq:2085	Income Tax	£204.20	approved

¹ Section 2 Local Government(Wales) Measure 2011

² Authority given BW/105/15

³ Recoverable from Builth Wells Gardening Club

Brecon Fire & Security	Further wiring to the Strand Hall refurbishment project	£3119.00	Deferred ⁴
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b) Report from Cllr A.Jones/J.Price on new accounts package from RBS.

Cllrs reported that their review could not find a package to surpass the RBS specific Community/Town council accounts package for this council. **Resolved** that the RFO can purchase the accounts package from RBS. Proposed Cllrs J.Price/L.Jones
Unanimous

c) Withdrawn

d) Report on Councils 1/4/year accounts.

The Responsible Finance Officer produced the ¼ year accounts and took questions. It was **Resolved** that the Income and Expenditure were monitored against the budget set for the financial year ending 31st March, 2016 and councillors agreed that the Town Council's finances are in a satisfactory position vis-a-vis the budget. **Proposed Cllrs L.Jones/T.Layton Unanimous.**

BW/126/15 Correspondence

a). **Welsh Government;** Public Health(Wales)Bill-Provision of toilets available for use by the public..Noted

b). **Mr J. Richards;** Local Development Plan 2015, seeking Council support. For the plot of land adj to Tai-ar-Bryn, Hospital Road Site ref No: 579 to be included as suitable for housing in the Local Development Plan.

(Cllr J.Richards left the room 2120 and returned 2130)

The Clerk read from the minutes dated 4th June 2013 relating to their previous decision. Cllr J.Price from his research on housing in Builth Wells made reference to the Welsh Assembly Document on housing in Builth Wells (*WAG statistics site, Deprivation Index, Builth 2 Area.*). **Resolved,** that a letter be sent to Mr J.Richards stating that they have no objections to this site being put forward for consideration as an allocation in the LDP.

Proposed Cllrs D.Wellstead/D.Jones..Unanimous

- c). Letter of thanks from Builth Community Support . Noted
- d). Letter from Welsh Assembly re Groe toilets funding Noted.
- e). Letter from PCC re ‘Smoke Free Playgrounds’ Noted
- f). Letter from PCC re suggested name for road in old Hospital site. Noted
- f). Public Services Ombudsman, annual report. Clerk’s Office Noted
- g). Reply from Police & Crime Commissioner re ‘dog fouling’. Clerk to write to PCC seeking their support as requested by the Police & Crime Commissioner.

⁴ Procedural matters raised by Finance Officer, to be heard 7/8/15 extraordinary meeting.

- f) Letter from R.O.Evans, TD Niblett & Co, on parking matters. Clerk to reply.

BW/127/15 Reports

- a) **Policy, Resource and Finance Committee: Chairman**
Cllr B.Chard reported briefly on the setting of standard procedures for overall examination of the Council Policies and Procedures and Finance.
- b) **Strand Hall Marketing Committee: Chairman.No reports**
- c) **Christmas Lights Committee: Chairman**
Cllr J.Price reported that provisions were under way for 2015/6. Faults were being identified and fixed.
There was a near need for 4 new framed lights but there was no funds available. It was suggested that companies be approached for sponsorship. This was thought to be a good way forward and that committee should explore the finer details.

BW/112/15 Matters for next meeting 8th September

Community Transport

Meeting closed at 2200hrs

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

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Signed.....

7th August 2015