

BUILTTH WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF LLANFAIR-YM-MUALLT



Minutes of the Meeting of Builth Wells Town Council held on Tuesday 14th March 2017 commencing at 7.30 pm in The Strand Hall, Builth Wells.

Present : Cllrs M.Pryme (Mayor), A.Powell (Deputy Mayor), A.Jones, D.Ronicle, D.Jones, B.Watkins, B.Reardon, A.Offa, P.McNiffe

Apologies for Absence : Cllr G.Thomas

In Attendance: Karen Compton (Press)

BW/33/17 Declarations of Interest:

None

BW/34/17 Minutes:

a) To authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th February 2017 as a true record.

Proposed Cllr D.Jones. Seconded / Cllr B.Reardon. Unanimous

b) To receive the minutes of The Policy, Resource and Finance Committee held on February 7th 2017 as a true record. One amendment, Cllr Offa is not a member of the Policy, Resource and Finance Committee.

Proposed Cllr B.Reardon. Seconded Cllr D.Jones. Unanimous

c) To receive the minutes of the Strand Hall Marketing Committee held on 15th February as a true record.

Proposed Cllr Powell. Seconded Cllr A.Jones

BW/35/17 Clerk's Report:

- Andrew Mills has completed the work on Three Bridges Walk. Cllr Reardon drew attention to the mud on the pathway because of truck usage. The soil needs putting back onto the verge.
- Riverside Community Centre – letter received from David Moisson asking for further clarification about the history of the building. Cllr Jones replied in writing and consequently had a brief response acknowledging the Council's right to ownership of the building.

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Cheque No	Payee	Purpose	Cheque Total £	VAT to be reclaimed	Budget Expenditure
2851	Select Security	CCTV Maintenance	130.80	21.80	109.00
2852	Charlie Bass	Honorarium	75.00		75.00
2853	Direct 365	Baby Changer – Groe T	182.70	30.45	152.25
2854	V A Lymer	Salary (February)	772.68	-	772.68
2855	Petty Cash	Petty Cash	100.00	-	100.00

b. Schedule of Cheques and Direct Debits to be paid from Current A/C No 05202906 and Strand Hall Account No 12544930

- a. Account balances – before the following schedule of payments
- Balance of Current A/C: £ 45,333.56
 - Balance of Business Reserve A/C: £ 37,839.22
 - Balance of Groe Toilet A/C : £ 544.30
 - Balance of Strand Hall Account: £181,047.50

Cllr Pryme queried why we had so many printer inks. It was explained that we needed inks urgently and ordered locally and also found a lower price online with quick delivery.

BW/37/17 Finance:

- a) Standing Orders were approved. **Proposed** Cllr Reardon. Seconded Cllr McNiffe. Unanimous
- b) Financial Regulations were approved with the recommendation that banking procedures and on-line banking facilities be assessed after the election on May 2017. **Proposed** Cllr Reardon. Seconded Cllr Powell. Unanimous
- c) Risk Assessment Schedule was approved. **Proposed** Cllr D Jones. Seconded Cllr Watkins. Unanimous
- d) Fidelity Insurance. The level of the insurance was approved. **Proposed** Cllr Offa. Seconded Cllr Reardon. Unanimous

BW/36/17 Policy, Resources and Finance Committee Meeting:

- The Clerk informed the meeting that she had collected the records of Llandewi'r Cwm parish Council and they would be available in the office for any Councillor wishing to look through them.
- The Council were informed that a letter had been sent to Jim Price stating that because of his 6 month absence from Council Meetings he could no longer serve as a Councillor.



Cllr Jones went through some of the budget heading highlighting under and overspends. Some of this relates to Groe Toilets, receiving a grant in one year and beginning work

Proposed Cllr Reardon. Seconded Cllr Powell. Unanimous

It was proposed to accept the accounts.

Cllr Pryne explained why Charlie Bass receives an honorarium.

2856	Office Solutions	Printer Inks	154.64	25.77	128.87	
2857	TC Cleaning Services	Sundries Groe Toilets	43.18	7.20	35.98	
2858	TC Cleaning Services	Cleaning Groe Toilets	1464.24	244.04	1220.20	
2859	HOWLTA	Membership	12.00	-	12.00	
2860	SWALEC	Gas for Strand Hall	21.27	3.69	17.58	
2861	Fire Matters	Extinguisher Service	45.00	-	45.00	
2862	SWALEC	Electricity Strand Toilets	22.18	3.69	18.49	
2863	SWALEC	Electricity Strand Hall	814.42	135.73	678.69	
2864	Viking Direct	Printer Inks	76.19	12.70	63.49	
2865	Valerie Lymor	Salary (March)	522.58	-	522.58	
		Current A/C Sub Total	£4,436.88	£485.07	£3951.81	
0002	Rhayader Skip Hire	Skip	264.00	44.00	220.00	
0003	Bowen Consultants	QS & CDM for Strand	2376.00	396.00	1980.00	
0004	Powys CC	Planning, Building Regs	294.12	49.02	245.10	
0005	Wales & West	New Gas Main	1696.51	282.75	1413.76	
0006	Bowen Consultants	2 x Building Contracts	119.76	19.96	99.80	
		Strand A/C Sub Total	£4750.39	£791.73	£3958.66	
	Direct Debit	British Gas	Groe Toilets	333.35	15.87	317.48
		Direct Debits Sub Total	£9,520.62	£1,664.98	£8227.95	



BW/39/17

Strand Hall Update

- a) Work started on 6th March and is due to finish on 18th August but it is hoped to finish earlier. There are 20 doors to install. The gas main has been excavated and will be installed w/c 20th March. The plumber and the decorating will take a total of two weeks. Eric Neville from Welshpool has quoted for the kitchen. Rhayader Building Supplies are coming on the 16th March.
- b) The Asbestos Survey was conducted last week.
- c) Website for marketing the Strand is needed. Cllr Reardon suggested getting a job description from Theatre Brecheiniog. Vision ICT were approached and could offer a third party booking system. Elwyn Davies is interested in building a website and quoted £1500 to update the existing site. It was agreed to ask Mr Davies to attend the next Council meeting to discuss websites. Cllr Offa suggested the Council also approach "Digital Android"

BW/38/17

Correspondence:

- a) Letter from Elaine Worgan, accepting the role of internal auditor.
- b) Riverside Community Centre – discussed under Clerk's report
- c) Powys County Council. Notice of four day bin collections and reduced opening hours at the recycling centres. Discussion followed about recycling and Cllr Offa asked if recycling was something that the Town Council could get involved in.
- d) Nicky Grist Rally. The Rally wants to have a ceremonial start and finish in Bulth rather than on The Showground. They are going to request the closure of Strand Street on 8th and 9th July 2017. The presence of the Mayor will be required on both days.
- e) Air Ambulance – request for a donation. Cllrs stated that the Council does not give to organisations outside the community.
- f) Mid Powys Youth Theatre. MPYT applied for a grant back in December and a decision was deferred. It was felt that because their bank balance was so healthy it was not appropriate to award a grant and there was also a question around some of the grant going to pay wages.
- g) Pension Regulator. There is a requirement for the Council to pay a staff pension if criteria are met.
- h) Sprytor are a company specialising in outdoor events. Cllr Powell took the flyer and said she would look into them.
- i) One Voice Wales training dates
- j) Planning – planning permission submitted for dwelling and vehicular access at Plot 1 Nant-yr-Artian Cottages

in the next. There was an underspend when awarding grants because the Council did not receive many applications. There was also an underspend in the staff budget because there was no clerk for 3 months.

Cllr A. Jones gave an account of the Cabinet Meeting at which they voted to close Buith Wells High School and Llandrindod Wells High School in August 2018 and reopen as one school. There were a combined total of 1800 objections that were ignored. There were 1300 objections against the closure of the Welsh Medium

BW/42/17 High School Reorganisation:

Proposed Cllr Reardon. Seconded Cllr Watkins. Unanimous.

- d) Grass Cutting – Cllr A Jones declared an interest and left the room. The quote from Powys County Council is £1084. Cllr Pryme stated that last year Terry Conti quoted £1150 and this year has quoted £1200 but this quote will include cutting back vegetation which Powys County Council do not do. It was proposed to accept Terry Conti's quote and ask to see a copy of his insurance.
- c) There have been problems with the toilet flushing. There have also been problems with the CCTV because of lorries parking and obstructing the camera. The Police recently came to the office to look at the CCTV. The Groe Toilets are doing very well. They close each evening at 7.30pm.
- b) Cllr Pryme informed the Council that two concrete picnic tables had been ordered and that Powys County Council will do the hard standing for the table that will overlook the bridge. It was suggested that they grind the David Williams stump when they grind the stump for the table. One of the tables will be paid for from the Mayor's honorarium.

Proposed Cllr Reardon. Seconded Cllr Ronicle. Unanimous.

- a) Dog Bins. Cllr Reardon stated that the most used bin is in The Groe carpark. He also stated that he had completed the survey for Glasdon – the company that supplies the dog bags and that we need to order more. Cllr A. Jones provided bag samples from another company but they would need new dispensers. It was proposed that the council change supplier and order bags and their dispensers.

BW/41/17 The Groe:

A quote for the baskets has been received from Midway Nurseries and it will mean a 50p increase per basket for those participating. Mike Davies is still willing to undertake the watering of the baskets using the bowser which is still in good order. Mr Davies takes water from the toilets to water the baskets and as the season runs from 21st May until mid-September it is hoped this can continue but there may need to be contingency plans initially.

BW/40/17 Hanging Baskets:

Caretaker/manager role. It needs a professional attitude because there will be weekly and monthly tests to comply with statutory testing requirements. It cannot be run on an amateur basis. A job description needs to be drawn up.

BW/48/17

Mayor's Report:

Cllr Reardon gave a brief account of the Boundary Commission Review Meeting. It is proposed to alter The County Councillor Boundaries so that each Councillor represents 1600 constituents. This will reduce the number of County Councillors from 73 down to 66.

Builth Access Report. It was stated that the pavements in Builth were due to be inspected on Tuesday 14th March by Welsh Government.

BW/47/17

Reports:

No residents attended the surgery on Saturday 25th February.

BW/46/17

Town Council Surgery:

There have been complaints about the road surface and as yet there are no plans for the Trunk Road Agency to resurface the road. It was stated that a strongly worded letter needs to go to Powys County Council to remind them that the road had been scheduled for resurfacing and it had not happened.

BW/45/17

High Street and Broad Street Resurfacing:

The Clerk informed the Council that those wishing to stand for re-election must submit their papers between 20th March and 4th April. This year papers must be hand delivered to the Election Officers at County Hall by appointment. The Clerk stated that she was willing to make an appointment to take the Councillor's Nomination Forms to County Hall on Wednesday 29th March.

BW/44/17

Election Process:

There will be a meeting on Thursday 16th so at the moment there was nothing to report.

BW/43/17

Builth Primary School Inspection:

Stream at Brecon which will now be moved to Builth, Wells. Cllr A Jones felt that the process was not democratic and Cllr Reardon stated that the democratic process according to Powys County Council was only to ask for views. Cllr Pryme drew the Council's attention to the request from Amanda Rees for fundraising to pay for legal costs to challenge the decision. The Council cannot give money towards this. Mrs Compton informed the Council that a solicitor's letter had been sent to Powys County Council on the grounds of incorrect decision making and if Powys County Council do not respond judicial proceedings will begin. Cllr Ronicle stated that there are opportunities for closer working between the two schools rather than the integration for the two schools. Cllr Ronicle asked if the Council could write to Powys County Council.

Cllr Pryme reported on the volunteer clean up she attended on The Groe organised by Rachel Palmer. They collected 16 bags of rubbish over two days. Powys County Council only pay for cleaning up at the laybys. Cllr Pryme, said that Jack Parry had been grateful and would be grateful in the future for any help with litter picking.
Discussion followed around dog fouling as Cllr Pryme had been shocked by the dog fouling she had seen on The Groe.

Meeting Closed 9.25pm

Signed.....

Date 11 April 2017