

LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2017 in Committee Room A, County Hall

Present: Cllr J Williams, E Worgan, S Meredudd, C Rouse, S Dorkenoo, P Hill, C Carmichael, B Makusha, W Francis, B Williams, R Houghton, J Green

Apologies: Cllr G Price, Cllr S Millington

Absent: Cllr S Burgoyne

TC 01/17 Declarations

The following declarations were made:

Cllr C Rouse – 6a

Cllr C Carmichael – 6a

Cllr S Dorkenoo – 6b

Cllr J Green – 6e

TC 02/17 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20th December 2016 were confirmed and signed.

TC 03/17 Clerk's Report/Information from Meeting:

The Clerk had no information to report.

P/2016/1004 - Replacement of windows (retrospective) at Hazeldene, 5 Cambrian Terrace Wellington Road. Cllr Rouse reported that both planning applications for replacement windows discussed at the last meeting had been refused. As the above application was retrospective the owner has been ordered to remove the windows.

TC 04/17 Chairman's Announcements.

13th December- Youth Restorative Justice Meeting.

Along with the Clerk, we attended another youth restorative justice meeting with the next young offender who had damaged the public toilets. The meeting was much the same as the others with both side putting their views on what happened and who was effected. Only time will tell if this will have a positive effect on the young person, I really hope it does.

13th December- Spa Town Trust AGM.

I was invited to attend the AGM to hear what has been happening with the trust and future ways in which we can be involved. It is great to hear about the much-needed work to the Rock Park Spa canopy and I look forward to seeing it when it is completed early in the new year. Well done to the small dedicated team of volunteers who do such a great job.

13th December- Llandrindod High School Prize Giving evening.

I was asked to be the guest speaker and hand out the prizes awarded. What a

fantastic evening, we are so lucky to have such a wide and varied skill set within our high school. The prizes covered a whole host of skills and abilities both academic and vocational. It was very satisfying to see many familiar faces, although older now, from my days as a governor in primary school, doing so well in their progression through the education system. Credit must also be paid to our teaching staff who, although under extreme pressure about the future of secondary education within our town, continue to give their all to the pupils and school.

16th December- Town Council Christmas dinner.

A lovely evening, at the Golf Club, with great company that was enjoyed by all those who attended.

20th December- Town Council meeting

We welcomed our new Town Councillor Cllr Brian Makusha.

21st December- The Albert Hall Christmas Singalong.

A great community evening at the hall with singers, mince pies, mulled wine and Christmas carols being sung by everybody. We also announced the winners of the Christmas shop window competitions and children's treasure hunt competition. Well done to all of the shop keepers, your windows were fantastic. We also did the nativity story with chocolate which really went down well, especially those who got the chocolate! The hall was pleased to be able to show off their new curtains and stage area, which has been a big project for them this year.

22nd December- Youth Market Middleton Street.

Well I should say mini youth market, after the sad cancellation of their planned market due to the weather, the enterprising youth marketers joined forces with the local traders and set up for the last late night shopping evening. This was well received with locals and some very impressed visitors who stopped to chat with a very cold Mayor. Great job everyone, real community spirit shining through.

6th January- Grotto clean up.

Jane and myself removed the Christmas decorations from the grotto and took down the Fairybell tree. Even whilst we were doing this people were still stopping to say what a fantastic job was done this year around town with the Christmas lights and decorations.

6th January- Golden Celebration Buffet for Jess Sims.

Attended the outdoor bowling club to celebrate the fantastic achievement by local Jess Sims and her bowling partner Laura Daniels who just before Christmas won the World Bowls Ladies Pairs title in New Zealand. This also helped Wales to win the team silver medal out of 32 Countries competing. Well done ladies. We are so lucky to have such an outstanding facility as this in our town and it continues to produce such world class bowlers.

7th January- Supervised the removal of the Christmas lights by the contractors. Not everything went to plan but the job was completed safely. Again, the contractors were taken aback by the many compliments they received from passers-by about the Christmas lights this year. So well done everyone for a job well done.

TC 05/17

Correspondence

a) Powys County Council – Tremont Road/Ridgebourne Car Parks

Email from Tony Caine as follows:

“The Cabinet Executive agreed on the 20 Dec 2016 to implement the charges on the car park consulted upon which include the Ridgebourne and Tremont Road car parks.

As part of the decision I was asked to contact the Town Councils and ask them to confirm or otherwise whether they would be willing to cover the income instead of charging individual users. Cabinet imposed a deadline for Town Councils to advise this Authority of their intentions by the 31 January 2017.

The proposal would be to make the traffic order and should your Council decide to cover the income we would not implement the charges. if you do decide to cover the charges it would be from April 2017 and between now and then no charges would be implemented.”

The Clerk had obtained the following information via email:

“Following the decision of Cabinet, the traffic order will be made on the car parks as soon as practical. Charges would therefore be implemented as soon as the Order comes into force. We are currently working on the tender for the procurement of the pay and display machines for the car parks requiring them and this will determine when the Order will be made and come into force. This could be prior to April 1st.

If the Town Council decide the car parks should remain free to users we will still add the car park to the order as this gives us some control over improper use which currently does not exist but we would not implement the charges. to achieve this the Town Council would need to agree to funding the potential annual income of £1,170 for the Ridgebourne car park and £2,470 from April 2017 for 2 years.”

“In reference to the previous email, it was originally intended for the agreement to be for 3 years from April 16 however due to the delays this has now moved to April 17. I referred to a 2 year agreement below which would have kept the same end date of Mar 19 however following representations from another Town Council, it is now agreed it should be for the 3 years as originally proposed and thus the end will be 31 March 2017.”

Cllr Chris Rouse and Cllr Chris Carmichael declared an interest in this item. Their dispensation issued by PCC Standards permits them to make an individual address to the Council and subsequently leave the meeting whilst discussions take place.

Cllr Rouse felt there was no new information to report other than local residents are extremely concerned over this issue and continue to ask her what is happening. Cllr Carmichael echoed these comments.

Cllr Rouse and Cllr Carmichael left the room for the remainder of this item.

Cllr Francis is against supporting this as he felt that all residents of the town would be subsidising a few residents parking. He also felt that Kaleidoscope should pay a contribution towards the Ridgebourne Car Park.

Cllr Hill felt that Council should support this item as the town depends on its residents.

Cllr Ben Williams supported Cllr Hill's comments and felt that the Tremont Road car park was the only source of car parking for the residents of that area due to the double yellow lines.

Cllr Makusha felt that to support this matter would be dangerous and could set a precedent for other residents to approach the Council for funding of their car parking. He felt that Welsh Government should offer some solution to this problem.

The Chairman provided some background information and stated that PCC is good at approaching "soft targets" first. This is the first of 12 car parks being targeted. He felt the Town Council had been approached as it had been the first to take on public toilets and other services and felt that PCC view it as an easy target.

The report to the Cabinet provided an estimated income of £2548, however the Town Council is being asked for £3640. Why? He agrees that residents should not have to pay for car parking but feels that it is not up to the Town Council to fund this. He is aware that annual permits within other areas of the town are being reduced from £365 per annum to £65 in line with the Tremont Road and Ridgebourne car parks. He is also concerned that the residents using those car parks will have some recourse to the Town Council if this proposal is agreed.

Initially the suggestion of the implementation of charges was to take place in August 2016, which was not done. The Town Council agreed to look at this matter in April 2017, and once again pressure is being placed to make a decision before the end of January. The Chair felt that this is bullying by PCC.

Cllr Green and Cllr Houghton have sympathy for residents but agreed with the Chair.

Cllr Dorkenoo stated that she was aware of the difficulties pertaining to car-park space /parking in the Tremont Road area , and that she did not believe that the same issues would not apply to the Ridgebourne area also.

She was concerned for those members of the public whom had purchased their homes, believing that the car park facilities would continue to be utilised - for the lifetime of their dwelling of their property.

She stated the issue that property would become less attractive if parking was not freely available. A number of properties stood to be affected.

Cllr Dorkenoo mentioned the problems she has encountered with people parking across her drive, due to the recent yellow-lines outside of the Hospital. That parking is not available on the trunk road - with particular concern for the elderly, frail and disabled members of our town.

She concluded that In her opinion the Town Council should take on the payments, as the Town Council had monies to do so,

Cllr Meredudd felt that PCC should offer some preferential treatment to those mentioned by Cllr Dorkenoo.

The Chairman stated that it was time for the Town Council to make a decision on this matter.

Resolved: the Council agreed not to pay PCC for the lost revenue for these car parks (votes 3 in favour of paying for service, 7 against paying for service.)

b) Llandrindod Twinning Association – Thanks

Cllr Dorkenoo declared an interest in this application however did not leave the room as the letter was for information only.

Letter of thanks for the grant for 2017/18

c) Powys County Council – Public Toilets Business Rates

Confirmation that a full Business Rates exemption will be given to toilet buildings for the financial year 2017/2018. As previous years, a demand notice will be received but the balance will be offset by the grant.

d) Powys County Council – Review of Local Authority Boundary Changes - Invitation

Invitation for Chair or member to attend a presentation on 7th March at County Hall on the reorganization of 22 districts.

Resolved: Cllr Meredudd will attend.

e) Powys County Council – Street Naming

Cllr Green declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

The following email had been received from Rebecca Witcombe:

“Following your email, please find attached a copy of our Street Naming & Numbering Guidance Notes.

After discussing the proposed street name with my Service Manager, we would require a supporting case from yourselves fully explaining why the street should be named after Cllr Ken Richards. We will then make our final decision following this. You may also wish to consider submitting a suitable alternative name for the street.”

The Clerk reported to members that a large advertisement for this site had been published in the Brecon & Radnor Express on 4th January announcing the site as “Pentrosfa Leys.” However the email above indicates that the naming has not yet been agreed.

Members were annoyed with this response and felt that if Guidance Notes or changes to policy are made, these should be issued to Town & Community Councils in advance.

Cllr Hill felt that this is a snub to a former Mayor and Town Councillor and his family. Members agreed that both Ken and Sheila had done a lot for the community of Llandrindod Wells and it was only right that this should be marked.

Resolved: not to put forward any alternative suggestions and notify PCC of the Council’s anger over this matter. It was also agreed to send a copy of the press advertisement for PCC’s information and suggest that they issue the Guidance Notes to all Town and Community Councils.

TC 06/17 **Applications for Financial Assistance**

None.

TC 07/17 **Representatives Reports**

None.

TC 08/17 **Planning Applications**

- a) **P/2016/1165** Creation of first floor extension over existing converted garage at 25 Brynteg Llandrindod Wells Powys. **No objection.**
- b) **DEM/2017/ 0002**, Demolition notification: Demolition of 4 storey building at , Southfields House County Hall.
Resolved: To object to the demolition of this building due to its age, character and architectural features. Members felt it would be tragedy to lose such an old building which is part of the legacy of Llandrindod Wells.
- c) **P/2016/1305** Listed Building Consent: Lowering of ATM and associated internal and external works at Midland Bank Middleton Street. **No objection.**
- d) **P/2017/0031** Lowering of ATM machine and associated internal and external works at Midland Bank Middleton Street. **No objection.**

TC 09/17 **Accounts**

The accounts for December 2016 were approved and signed.

TC 10/17 **Town CCTV**

The Chair had been approached by some local business owners with regard to the installation of Town CCTV. Over the Christmas period there have been incidences of vandalism and some of the businesses wish to consider installation of some CCTV.

Members discussed this at length, some members felt that Town CCTV could be intrusive, others felt it was a good idea.

Resolved: to support the local traders on this matter and agree to enter into discussions regarding this. The Chair will liaise with the traders.

TC 11/17 **Meeting Attendance 2016**

A breakdown of meeting attendance was presented to members.

The Chairman reminded members that they are “summoned” to attend Council meetings under the Local Government Act 1972. The Chair was disappointed at the low attendance of some members.

Full Council Meetings	Meetings Held	Attended	Absent	Apologies	% Attend
A Bridgman	8	3	3	2	37.5
S Burgoyne	4	3	1	0	75
C Carmichael	11	11	0	0	100
R Coleman	7	4	2	1	57
S Dorkenoo	11	7	1	3	63
W Francis	11	9	0	2	82
J Green	11	8	0	3	73
P Hill	11	8	1	2	73
R Houghton	11	10	1	0	91
B Makusha	1	1	0	0	100
S Meredudd	11	10	0	1	91
S Millington	11	6	3	2	55
G Price	11	10	0	1	91
C Rouse	11	10	0	1	91
B Williams	1	1	0	0	100
J Williams	11	11	0	0	100
E Worgan	11	11	0	0	100

Business Development Meetings	Meetings Held	Attended	Absent	Apologies	% Attend
A Bridgman	3	1	2	0	33
S Burgoyne	2	1	1	0	50
C Carmichael	5	3	1	1	60
R Coleman	3	1	1	1	33

S Dorkenoo	5	4	0	1	80
W Francis	5	4	0	1	80
J Green	5	3	1	1	60
P Hill	5	3	1	1	60
R Houghton	5	3	1	1	60
B Makusha	0	0	0	0	80
S Meredudd	5	4	0	1	80
S Millington	5	1	1	3	20
G Price	5	2	1	2	40
C Rouse	5	5	0	0	100
B Williams	1	1	0	0	100
J Williams	5	5	0	0	100
E Worgan	5	4	0	1	80