LLANDRINDOD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual meeting held at 7pm on Tuesday, 20th May 2014 in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells.

Present: Cllr J Green, E Worgan, G Price, H Macaulay, C Bailey, S Dorkenoo, P Hill, C Rouse, J Williams, A Bridgman, W Francis, R Houghton, R Coleman, S Meredudd

Apologies: Cllr S Millington

The Chairman welcomed all members to the first meeting of the new Llandrindod Wells Town Council.

AGM 01/14 Chairman’s Report

Once again I would like to thank you all for your commitment to the town and your support to continually improve and benefit the lives of our residents. Whilst much of the successes last year involved creating a higher profile for the town council and our willingness to engage with the people, this years results has been more about protecting our amenities and facilities and establishing new initiatives to bring long term prosperity to the town. I believe that if we continue to work together for the benefit of Llandrindod Wells, we will see a positive change that will create a thriving vibrant town we all long to see.

Highlights and events of the year

6th June - Europa Fest
We were honoured to be invited to join Bad Rappenau & Contrexeville in celebrating their 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Elysee Treaty – a peace treaty between France and Germany. 1,200 people from seven countries attended Europa Fest 2013 in Bad Rappenau, Germany on 6 Jun 2013. For several days, Welsh accents joined with those from England, France, Italy, Poland, Hungary, Sweden and other parts of Germany. The twinning idea was one of the products of the post-World War II peace treaty. 25 local people from Llandrindod Wells, were invited into people’s homes and integrated with the German community for seven days.

14th June - Dog fouling Initiative
Super duper pooper scooper day !

27-28th June - Welsh2Day
Once again, I was honoured to start the Welsh2Day and present the awards the following evening.

3rd July - Nick Waller play centre
Meeting on new initiative by Powys Futures to create a play day with BBQ for local kids at the Youth Club. Sadly, we lost Nick in December and in doing so, we lost a great advocate of children’s outdoor play and a friend of the town.

5th July - Kaleidoscope Recovery Awards Event at New Life Church
New Initiative by Kaleidoscope to celebrate the success of those who have made significant progress in their recovery programmes

6th July - Llandrindod Wells Carnival
Shared the judging with Justin Baird-Murray, MD of Metropole and head of Business Group and the crowning of Miss. & Mr. Llandrindod Wells

10th July - One Voice Wales talk in Builth Wells
Elaine and I attended the One Voice Wales talk and presented the questionnaire and went to a training session in the evening

13th July - Youth Centre
Opening of the new ‘doughnut’ in the outside play area of the Youth Club for kids to play in and around.

14th July - Civic Service
Attended civic service of Chairman of Powys, John Brunt in Knighton

18th July - Judging business projects at High School
Invited by Andrew Gentle to judge Year 11 business product development projects at the High School

19th July - Opening of Kaleidoscope
Attended the opening of the new Kaleidoscope premises in the old Grosvenor Bakery with Bishop John of Brecon

20th July - Rhayader Carnival
It was a privilege to be involved again with the Rhayader carnival

23rd July - Funeral of former mayor Tony Philips

24th July - Visit to opening of Knighton Skate park
Attended the grand opening of Knighton skate park. It was good to see a new skatepark being built and how excited the kids were to finally be able to enjoy spending time there.

29th July - Contrexeville trip
School children trip from Contrexeville stayed eight days in Llandrindod Wells and enjoyed cooking, raftbuilding, joint trips with Germans, trip to the beach, St. Fagan’s and shopping

30th July - Festive Lights Meeting

31st July - German football team with Twinning
Llandrindod Wells Football Club played the German team organised by myself and the twinning. Medals were presented to our German friends who won.

2nd August - Bad Rappenau V’s Llandrindod Wells under 15’s football

7th August - Civic Service in Llanwrtyd Wells

17th August - Victorian Festival
Once again, a fun filled and intense 9 days of activities

19th-21st August - Australia & New Zealand V’s Wales
Used as a warm-up for the Commonwealth Games in 2014

14th September - Junior Internationals bowling
Speech and opening of bowling 3 day international tournament

27th September - World’s Biggest Coffee Morning at Kaleidoscope

29th September - Bracken Trust Bike Ride around lake

October - Powys toilets
As I’m sure all of you will remember, October was the start of the intended handover of the toilets. This issue took up a lot of time, effort and meetings only to be back in the hands of PCC as directed by WAG.

2nd October - Mayor of Bad Rappenau, Heribert & Micah and six other Germans for Mayoral visit, rally driving, off-roading, horse riding and on the 5th planted the tree presented to the town earlier in the year in Bad Rappenau.

4th October - Mayors dinner
All Llandrindod Wells Mayors over last 20 years were invited for a special dinner with Twinning, Heribert and his team. Most of them managed to attend and a great time was had by all.

31st October - Llandrindod Wells Food Bank
Official opening of the Food Bank to provide emergency supplies to families in need

1st November - Fireworks at Brecon barracks
First ever invite by the Army to their barracks in Brecon to celebrate 5th November

2nd November - British Legion judging of poppy queen
Evening of music and entertainment leading up to the selection of the poppy queen for Remembrance

10th November - Remembrance Sunday
Parade and two wreaths – one at the cenotaph and one at the hospital

11th November - Armistice Day
Laid a wreath at the Cenotaph

22nd November - Contrexeville visit and trip to Ludlow Medieval Fair
Second visit of French group and joined tour to the Medieval Fair

4th December - Lions Lunch

6th December - Carol Service at Holy Trinity

10th December - Welsh carol service at Presbyterian Church

18th December - Judging of Christmas lights
This year we held a residents competition and two hampers were offered as 1st & 2nd prizes. I’d like to thank the Round Table for their assistance in judging as they spent days riding around in their sleigh.

22nd December - Mayoral Initiative European Christmas Market

7th January - One Voice Wales meeting
Mayors presentation from One Voice Wales to identify the problems in different communities for their letter regarding the amenities.

3rd February - 1st Commonwealth meeting with Powys

11th February - Analysis of Christmas lights

14th February - Powys Regeneration meeting in Pavilion

26th February - Meeting with Police Commissioner Christopher Salmon and Homewatch team

28th February - Mayoral gathering organised by Chairman of Powys Cllr. John Brunt
Fantastic opportunity initiated by Cllr. John Brunt to meet with Powys wide mayors and consorts to network and build better relationships across the towns.
7th March - Riversimple Hydrogen powered cars. A chance to welcome a new business to the town with a guided walk, town talk and lunch at the Metropole
7th March - Powys Sports Awards

2nd April - Visiting the Army Cadets
A fascinating evening visiting the cadets and inspecting the facilities of the unit initiated by Cllr. John Brunt. A fantastic group of young men and women who are a credit to our town.
13th April - Rhayader Civic service
27th April - Receiving salute from Radnorshire scouts

4th May - Food & Beer Festival
5th May - Transition May Fair
10th May - Folk Festival
An excellent day of folk and blues music held at the Llanerch with the added benefit of being able to meet and greet the Mayor of Llanelli, Cllr. Roger Price. We welcomed musicians from Llanelli, Clun, Bishops Castle and Ludlow to the town
11th May - Civic Service Builth Wells
18th May - Bracken Trust 10km run at the rugby club
19th May - One Voice Wales training meeting
20th May - Final Commonwealth baton relay meeting

This years New initiatives & Awards

European Christmas Market
An idea borrowed from Germany that proved to be extremely successful not only for the market traders and residents, but for our local retailers.

Food & Beer Festival
A superb day to show off our local produce and retailers attended by over 30 stallholders and almost 1,000 people. My sincere thanks and the thanks of the town council goes to our town clerk Jane Johnston for all her efforts in the planning of this event.

Twinning Mayoral Challenge Cup
A new golfing trophy for this annual competition is about to be contested between our three twinned towns.

Welsh2Day Best Local Clubman Mayoral Award
A Mayoral Trophy has been added to the impressive range of awards presented by the Welsh2 Day committee.

Scouts Twinning Trip to Bad Rappenau
I am pleased to announce the up and coming first trip of the scouts to Bad Rappenau in July 2014 for a week.

Repainting of railings and chains outside Town Council offices. These have been in need of re painting for a while now so I have used £500 from my Mayoral allowance to smarten up the area outside our office and the most viewed part of
our town. I hope that this along with the replanting of the flower beds and other “soon to be announced” initiatives will start to bring the town back to its best once again.

As well as these events regular meetings go on throughout the year. I have attended many other meetings to do with the Skate park, Commonwealth, Regeneration, Twinning, Allotments, and Business development.

I have been very proud to represent Llandrindod Wells Town Council during this busy year, and I have endeavoured to be a town champion to anyone who would stand still long enough to listen. In order to serve the people properly, we need to believe in ourselves, in our combined skills and abilities to make things happen and to see the opportunities with fresh eyes. We need to continually improve and by identifying who will work with us on various projects. We will be able to bring about the changes needed and as we have seen from the recent success of the Food & Beer Festival & European Christmas Market, if we can just meet with others, respect what they can contribute, and build relationships. When we do this we can look forward to many great years ahead for our town.

Cllr Macaulay commented that Cllr Green had done a good job as Chairman and had introduced new things and had brought the profile of the Town Council up.

Cllr Green thanked the members for their support during the past 2 years.

AGM 02/14 Election of Chairman/Mayor 2014/15
Cllr Elaine Worgan was nominated for the office of Chairman, this was agreed unanimously. Cllr Worgan signed her declaration of acceptance form and took over the Chair.

She thanked Cllr Green for the energy and enthusiasm he had given to the role over the last 2 years. She also thanked members for all the encouragement and support given to her during her time on the Council and promised to serve the Council and the town to the best of her abilities with the commitment of her supportive team.

AGM 03/14 Election of Vice Chairman/Deputy Mayor 2014/15
Cllr C Rouse was nominated for the office of Vice Chairman, this was agreed unanimously. Cllr Rouse signed her declaration of acceptance form and thanked members for their support.

AGM 04/14 To appoint members to serve on Council Committees:
Members were appointed as per the attached list.

AGM 05/14 Cheque Signatories
Resolved: Signatories to be Cllrs J Green, P Hill, S Meredudd, G Price, S Millington, H Macaulay, E Worgan & C Rouse. Clerk to complete relevant mandate forms for submission to bank.
AGM 06/14  **Annual Accounts 2013/14**
The Clerk went through the Accounts which were agreed and confirmed by members and signed by the Chairman in the presence of the Clerk. She reminded members that she is happy to answer any questions from members and go through internal processes when required.

AGM 07/14  **Annual Audit Return**
The Clerk ran through Section 1 & 2 of the Audit form which were agreed and confirmed by members and signed by the Chairman in the presence of the Clerk

Chairman  ........................................................................................................ Date ..................................................