

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE GUILDHALL, BRECON ON MONDAY 27 JULY AT 7.00 P.M.**

**177/15 PRESENT**

Councillor D Meredith (Mayor in the Chair)  
Councillor A M Morgan  
Councillor Mrs R Evans  
Councillor C Walsh  
Councillor I Williams  
Councillor P Ashton  
Councillor K Wilbud  
Councillor M Dorrance  
Councillor R Lewis  
Councillor N Sandford  
Councillor S Bennett  
Councillor E Trailor

**In Attendance:** Mrs Fiona Williams (Town Clerk)  
Mrs Alison Jones (Assistant Town Clerk)

**178/15 PRESENTATION – BRECON CREDIT UNION**

Representatives of the Brecon Credit Union were present to provide Members with more information in relation to the Financial Literacy in Schools Project and to confirm which schools in Brecon were taking part in the project. The Representatives gave a detailed presentation on the aims and objectives of the Project and the importance of encouraging children to start saving as early as possible. Members were invited to put their questions and queries to the Credit Union and these were answered fully. Members agreed that it was a very worthwhile project which they supported. The Mayor thanked the Representatives from the Credit Union for attending and for the information provided and wished them well with the project.

**179/15 DECLARATION OF OFFICE – COUNCILLOR E TRAILOR**

The Mayor extended a warm welcome to the newly elected Member for St John's Ward West Councillor E Trailor and invited him to swear his Declaration of Office. Members congratulated Councillor Trailor on his election and wished him well.

**180/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs M Phillips, Mrs E Pritchard and A M C Weale.

**181/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor P Ashton declared an interest in Agenda item 14 inasmuch as he is an appointed member of the Brecon Dementia Friendly Community.  
Councillor Dorrance declared an interest in Agenda item 10 inasmuch as he is a member of Brecon Credit Union.

#### **182/15 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor listed the events he had attended since the last meeting of the Council which included a Charity Fundraising Garden Party and he thanked Councillor Mrs R Evans for her support at this event. He also attended an evening reception at the Barracks in support of Usk House, Christ College Prize Day, Mount Street Junior School Production, he opened the Brecknock Art Society Exhibition, Col Dawson bike ride reception at the Wellington for the Welsh Guards, the Gouesnou Twinning Association BBQ, the Civic Sunday Service of the Mayor of Knighton, a Concert at Plough Chapel, Prize day at Penmaes, and a funding raising event to raise money for an elderly couple in Nepal at Bishop Bevan Hall.

#### **183/15 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Clerk advised that she had received notification that the Brecon Beast Mountain Bike Event was taking place in Brecon on the 13<sup>th</sup> September. The Town Clerk further advised that she had received notification that the theatre seating was due for an inspection and Members agreed that this needed to be carried out.

#### **SECTION A**

#### **184/15 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22 June 2015 (pages 31 to 39) (copies of which had been previously circulated)

#### **IT WAS RESOLVED THAT**

**The Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed.**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **185/15 NEW PARK BENCH**

Submitted email from Mr Turell of Western Power congratulating the Council on their commissioning of the new Park Bench. – a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(A)(1)**.

**Members welcomed the comments and the email was received.**

**RESOLVED**

**186/15 LETTER OF THANKS – BRECON WALES NEPALESE SOCIETY**

Submitted a letter of thanks from Mr Raju Gurung on behalf of the Brecon Wales Nepalese Welfare Society – a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(A)(2)**

**THIS letter was received and the comments noted.**

**187/15 PLANNING MEETING – 6 JULY 2015**

Submitted – Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 6 July 2015 (pages 43 to 45) (copies of which had been previously circulated).

Arising from the Minutes

**188/5 THE GUILDHALL – MEANS OF ESCAPE (MINUTE 132/15)**

The Town Clerk advised that the Fire Officer had conducted a further inspection concerning the means of escape from the upstairs changing room and remained happy with the situation, subject to clarification of whether there was a fire wall break under the stage as this was something that should be in place. The Town Clerk advised that this area needed clearing out before any investigation could take place and this was being arranged.

**THESE comments were noted**

**Subject to the foregoing it was**

**RESOLVED**

**THAT, the Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 6 July 2015 be taken as read, approved as a true record and signed.**

**189/15 CIVIC MEETING – 6 JULY 2015**

Submitted – Minutes of the Meeting of the Civic Committee held on 6 July 2015 (pages 48 to 53) (copies of which had been previously circulated).

Arising from the Minutes

**190/15 DEPUTY MAYOR'S CHAIN**

The Town Clerk advised that she had taken both Chains to the Jewellers who confirmed that the Deputy Mayoress' Chain was silver with a gold pendant.

Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the Deputy Mayoress' Chain be dipped in gold so that all the chains were the same colour. Also if possible to have the chain stitched onto velvet.**

Subject to the foregoing,

**IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT, the Minutes of the Civic Meeting held on the 6 July 2015 be taken as read, approved as a true record and signed.**

**191/15 FISHING COMMITTEE MEETING 6 JULY 2015**

Submitted – Minutes of the Meeting of the Fishing Committee held on 6 July 2015 (pages 55 to 58) (copies of which had been previously circulated).

**RESOLVED**

**THAT, the Minutes of the Fishing Committee Meeting held on the 6 July 2015 be taken as read, approved as a true record and signed.**

**192/15 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 15 JULY 2015**

Submitted – Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Full Council held on 15 July 2015 (pages 60 to 613) (copies of which had been previously circulated).

**RESOLVED**

**THAT, the Minutes of the Special Meeting Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 be taken as read, approved as a true record and signed.**

**193/15 APPLICATION FOR FINANCE – BRECON CREDIT UNION**

Further to the meeting of Full Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> June to again consider an Application for Finance from Brecon Credit Union and following the earlier presentation from representatives Members discussed the application and were happy to support it but did request that the grant be returned if the project did not go ahead.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT a grant of £1,200 be awarded to Brecon Credit Union to support the Financial Literacy in Schools Project. If the project does not go ahead the grant be returned.**

**194/15 CCTV – AGREEMENT**

Members were requested to agree to a slight amendment to the wording of the agreement in relation to the CCTV which was agreed at the Special

Meeting of the Council on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

Following clarification from the Town Clerk concerning the slight amendment

**IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT that the amendment be agreed.**

#### **195/15 BANK ACCOUNT - CCTV**

The Town Clerk advised that the Police have requested that the Town Council open up a bank account to hold monies collected from businesses in the town to support costs of maintaining the CCTV system. The Police would fully administer the scheme but required the Town Council to hold the monies on account.

Following discussion

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT**

**The Town Clerk to set up an account to hold the monies and the issue of signatories to possibly include a member of the Police be agreed thereafter.**

#### **1961/5 HOGWEED - MAENDU WELL SITE**

The Town Clerk advised that she had received a report of suspected Giant Hogweed at the Maendu Well Site. She had been up to look at the site and two operatives from Powys County Council had been to inspect also. It was believed that the hogweed present was not the dangerous species but the Town Clerk asked whether Members would like an expert opinion in order to protect the Council.

Following consideration

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT**

**The Town Clerk contact either the Environment Agency or the Wye and Usk Foundation both of whom have expert knowledge concerning Hogweed to ascertain whether the hogweed present was dangerous.**

#### **197/15 BRECON DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY**

Members were invited to register a commitment to making Brecon a Dementia Friendly Community. The Town Clerk advised that the Council were supportive of this and already fulfilled the majority of the criteria. To commit fully the Council should agree to having an annual training event.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT Brecon Town Council agree to registering a commitment to making Brecon a Dementia Friendly Community.**

#### **198/15 CIVIC PROTOCOL AT COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Councillor I Williams reported that he has become increasingly aware that the historical customs and procedures when addressing the Mayor in Council Meetings were not always practiced and he felt it important that these traditions remained in place. He believed that Members should always stand when addressing the Mayor and the Mayor should be referred to as 'Mr Mayor' or 'Madam Mayor'.

Following further discussion

#### **IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT the historical traditions of standing to address the Mayor remain and an 'aide memoir' be produced and attached to the Council Agenda for the information of all Members.**

#### **199/15 ELECTRICAL SUPPLY – GUILDHALL**

Members were invited to agree to the connection of an external electrical supply at the Guildhall via an electrical contractor during the Brecon Jazz if required. The Town Clerk advised that that this request had arisen due a local business person requesting that he able to link into the electrical supply at the Guildhall during the Jazz Festival. The Town Clerk advised that the Planning Committee had requested that she liaise with the Electrical Contractor to discuss the possibilities. The Town Clerk reported that she had been advised that this could be done on a permanent basis which could provide on ongoing service if required, which could also be metered if required.

#### **RESOLVED**

**THE request was agreed subject to it being at no cost to this Council.**

#### **200/15 REQUEST FOR BANNER – GUILDHALL**

The Town Clerk advised that she had received a request by the Gurkha Community to attach a banner advertising the Gurkha Parade to the Guildhall if required. Members discussed whether this would block any view of the newly installed CCTV system.

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT there were no objections to the banner being erected at the Guildhall but if it was attached that the police be contacted to see whether it obscured the CCTV in any way.**

## **201/15 WALKING WITH THE WOUNDED RECEPTION**

Members were asked to consider putting on a reception for the 'Walking with the Wounded' Charity Team who were passing through Brecon on the 24<sup>th</sup> September.

After further consideration

**IT WAS RESOLVED that the Town Council agree to host a reception at the Guildhall to welcome the 'Team' for approximately 50 people.**

## **202/15 LLANFAES PARK – IVY**

The Town Clerk advised that the Park Keeper had advised her that there had been rats seen in the field and they may be gaining access over a wall which was covered in ivy. He had spoken to the landowner who had no objection to the ivy being removed. Members were reluctant to cut back any ivy without knowing the state of the wall as this may potentially cause problems.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the Council would not make any arrangements to remove the ivy but the position regarding the rats should be monitored and the advice of a pest controller sought.**

## **REPORTS OF MEMBERS**

**203/15 Councillor R Lewis** advised Members of the proposed closure of Brecon Law Courts and he was disappointed that the Brecon Town Council was not a statutory consultee. He requested that Members oppose any proposal to close the law courts as it denied local residents access to justice.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the Town Clerk prepare an opposing response.**