

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE GUILDHALL, BRECON ON MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.00 P.M.**

**263/15 PRESENT**

Councillor D Meredith (Mayor in the Chair)  
Councillor Mrs R Evans  
Councillor C Walsh  
Councillor I Williams  
Councillor K Wilbud  
Councillor M Dorrance  
Councillor R Lewis  
Councillor S Bennett  
Councillor E Trailor  
Councillor Mrs M Phillips

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

**264/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A M C Weale, P Ashton, N Sandford, A M Morgan and Mrs E Pritchard. The Town Clerk advised members at this stage of the meeting that Councillor Mrs Pritchard had suffered an accident and enquired whether Members wished to authorise a two month absence in light of this. Members resolved to authorise this absence and to wish Councillor Mrs Pritchard a speedy recovery

**265/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor E Trailor declared an interest in Agenda item No. 15 inasmuch as he is involved in a business in similar vein.

**266/15 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor circulated a list of engagements he had carried out since the last meeting of the Council. The Mayor also thanked Members for their condolence messages following the death of his father. Councillor Walsh also thanked members at this stage of the meeting for their messages of condolence following the passing of his mother-in-law.

**267/15 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements by the Town Clerk.

**SECTION A**

**268/15 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27 July 2015 (pages 60 to 67) (copies of which had been previously circulated)

### **Arising from the Meeting**

#### **269/15 HOGWEED – MAENDU WELL SITE (MINUTE NO 196/15)**

Members enquired whether there was any progress in relation to ascertaining whether the hogweed at this site was dangerous. The Town Clerk advised that she had met with a member of the Wye & Usk Foundation who had confirmed that that everything was fine and the hogweed was not dangerous.

**THESE comments were noted**

#### **270/15 LLANFAES PARK – IVY (MINUTE NO 202/15)**

Members enquired whether the pest controller had visited the site. The Town Clerk reported that he had and there was no evidence of rats and nothing needed to be done at the moment.

**THESE comments were noted**

#### **271/15 REPORT**

Subject to the foregoing

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT**

**The Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **272/15 AGINCOURT 600 – LETTER OF THANKS**

Submitted a letter of thanks from the Agincourt 600 for the use of the Guildhall to display the travelling exhibition – a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(A)(1)**.

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

#### **273/15 LETTER OF THANKS – BRECON BEAVERS**

Submitted a letter of thanks from Brecon Beavers in relation to the Gurkha Parade and the celebrations to commemorate the 200 year service to the Crown – a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(A)(2)**

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

#### **274/15 PLANNING MEETING – 7 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Submitted – Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 7 September 2015 (pages 72 to 75) (copies of which had been previously circulated).

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT, the Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 7 September 2015 be taken as read, approved as a true record and signed.**

#### **275/15 ENVIRONMENT MEETING – 7 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Submitted – Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on 7 September 2015 (pages 78 to 83) (copies of which had been previously circulated).

Arising from the Minutes

#### **276/15 TREE IN LLANFAES RIVER (MINUTE 237/15)**

The Mayor advised that he had spoken with the stewards at the Golf Club who were going to make arrangements for the landowners to have a look at the tree.

**THESE comments were noted.**

#### **277/15 BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL BRECON – PLANS 2015 -2016 (MINUTE NO. 241/15)**

The Mayor advised the meeting that the planter referred to was not part of Bright and Beautiful Brecon, but it was donated personally by him in memory of Marilyn Roberts and was moved to Llanfaes Park due to parking in Newmarch Street and he would look into the re-positioning or otherwise of it in due course.

**THESE comments were noted.**

#### **278/15 METAL DETECTING – (MINUTE 244/15)**

Councillor I Williams sought confirmation that any items found should be returned to the land owner.

The Town Clerk confirmed that this was correct, subject to certain items being Crown treasure. She further advised that the Park Keeper was going to monitor the position in relation to holes.

**THESE comments were noted**

Subject to the foregoing,

**IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT, the Minutes of the Environment Meeting held on the 7 September 2015 be taken as read, approved as a true record and signed.**

**279/15 WELSH GOVERNMENT – SHARED FUTURE – DRAFT STATUTORY GUIDANCE OF THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015**

Submitted the Welsh Government: Shared Purpose – Draft Statutory Guidance for the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(B)**.

Members discussed this draft document in detail and agreed that it had the potential to be have a large impact on the Council and the precept.

Members considered the formation of a working group to look at all the aspects surrounding this Act and its implications on Town Councils. Members agreed that it was important to liaise with partners involved and in particular Powys County Council and PAVO.

Following further consideration

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT**

**A working group should be set up to consider this guidance in much greater detail Members on the working group are Councillors C Walsh, Mrs M Phillips, E Traylor, Mrs R Evans and K Wilbud.**

**280/15 WELSH GOVERNMENT DRAFT DIRECTIONS TO LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**

Submitted- notification of the launch of the Welsh Government's Draft Directions to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales – a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(C)**.

**THIS notification was received and noted.**

**281/15 'MEANWHILE USE' IN WALES**

Submitted – summary and guidance relating to 'Meanwhile Use' in Wales a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(D)**

**THIS document was received and noted.**

**282/15 ANNUAL RETURN – YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

Submitted the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2015 – a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(E)**.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the Annual Return be received, approved and accepted.**

**283/15 BANK RECONCILIATION – 31 AUGUST 2015**

Submitted a copy of the Bank Reconciliation to the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015 – a copy of which had previously been circulated – **Appendix C(F)**

**THIS document was received.**

**284/15 PROMOTING THE COUNCIL**

Members were invited to discuss effective ways of promoting the Town Council and the work undertaken by it.

Councillor Dorrance suggested that the Town Council should be on all available social media and thought that media training for staff may be useful.

Members were advised that there was a new editor at the Brecon and Radnor and a meeting should take place with them with a view to more reporting of the work of the Town Council in the newspaper.

Following further discussion

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT**

**A working group be formed to discuss ideas and the best way forward in relation to promoting the work of the Town Council. The working group members are Councillors Mrs R Evans, M Dorrance, C Walsh, R Lewis and K Wilbud. An initial meeting to be arranged as soon as possible.**

**285/15 REFUGEE CRISIS**

The Mayor advised Members that a meeting had been held by a group from Hay, Talgarth and Brecon, to discuss the crisis and co-ordinate a response and Councillor Dorrance was requested to provide the Minutes of this meeting for circulation to members.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the Minutes of the meeting of the Refugee Crisis Group be circulated to members. The matter to be given further**

**consideration when more information had been received.**

**286/15 WEDDING FAYRE – GUILDHALL**

Members were requested to agree to the hosting of a Wedding Fayre to promote the facilities available for weddings at the Guildhall.

Following discussion

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT**

**A wedding Fayre be held at the Guildhall and The Town Clerk make further enquiries in this regard.**

**287/15 SALINE TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

Members were advised that there was a trip planned for October of next year but interest in going was limited. Councillor Dorrance expressed the view that due to the lack of interest this Association should be disbanded and if necessary needed to function as an independent unit outside of Town Council control.

The Town Clerk reiterated the terms of the Constitution which is still in existence and which shows the Mayor as being President and the Town Clerk as Secretary.

Councillor Mrs R Evans advised that this Association had been going for many years and it would be a shame if it was to discontinue.

Following further detailed discussion

**IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT if the Saline Twinning Committee were to continue, then it should be run independently from the Town Council.**

**288/15 CHARITY COMMISSION – REQUIREMENTS**

The Town Clerk advised members of the duty to submit Annual Returns in relation to the Charities and these needed to be slightly amended and requested Members to approve the removal of two former Councillors from the Alderman Thomas Williams Charity and to remove all members other than those who are Trustees on the Brecknock Welfare Trust.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT Members agreed to this alterations.**

**289/15 TOWN CLERK – CILCA TRAINING**

The Town Clerk requested that Members agree to her attending CILCA training as this qualification would become a requirement for all Clerks in the near future.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT members agreed to the Town Clerk attending the training and agreed to the payment of the registration fee.**

**290/15 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – SWITCH ON**

Members were invited to agree to the date and time for the switching on of the Town's Christmas Lights this year and to discuss street entertainment.

Members agreed that a later switch on of the lights would be better as the evening would be darker and 6.00 p.m. would be the most suitable time. The Town Clerk suggested having some street entertainers and music and perhaps asking shops in the town to stay open later all of which would help to make the event enjoyable for everyone.

Following further discussion and by a majority vote with one abstention

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT**

**The Christmas lights would be switched on at 6.00 p.m. on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The Town Clerk would look into hiring street entertainment and music and she would speak with the shop keepers advising them of this and suggesting they may wish to stay open later. It was also agreed that the Lions could use the Guildhall for their Father Christmas fundraiser on the same day.**

**291/15 PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD CONFERENCE**

Members had before them a letter from the Welsh Government advising of a conference to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in relation to preparing for Public Services Boards.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT Councillor C Walsh and the Town Clerk attend this conference on behalf of Brecon Town Council.**

**292/15 BRECON DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY**

Members were invited to consider a request from the Brecon Dementia Friendly Community to mark their presentation of 'runner up' in the 'outstanding contribution' category of the Alzheimer's Society Awards.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT a letter of congratulations be sent to the Brecon Dementia Friendly Community and that the use of the Guildhall be offered free of charge for training and/or fund raising events.**

**293/15 STAFF EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEES**

Submitted – a report from the Town Clerk in relation to the new proposed Committees to deal with staff and employment matters – a copy of which was circulated at the meeting.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT members consider the terms of reference and the matter be brought back to the meeting of the next full Council for further discussion.**

**294/15 SECTION 106 AGREEMENT – LOVELLS**

Members were advised that little progress had been made in relation to the project at the Church and were advised that the Reverend Timothy Williams was no longer the incumbent at St David's Church Llanfaes.

It was agreed that the proposed project should continue if at all possible as the monies had been allocated for a community meeting place at the Church.

Following further discussion

**IT WAS RESOLVED**

**THAT the Town Clerk write to the Bishop to ascertain the present position of the proposed project and request contact details for the person who is to continue the project following the departure of Reverend Williams.**

**295/15 WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION – BRECON**

The Mayor advised that Powys County Council were meeting the following day and further discussions on this matter were to be deferred. Members acknowledged that Brecon Town Council had written in support of the retention of Welsh Medium Education in Brecon but suggested that a further letter should be sent reiterating the Town's Council's opposition to the removal of Welsh Medium Education at Brecon High School.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT a further letter be sent to Powys County Council reiterating the Town Council's previous opposition to the removal of Welsh Medium Education at Brecon High School.**



## **REPORTS OF MEMBERS**

**295/15 Councillor I Williams** submitted the Minutes from the Brecknock Access Group and these were received.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of Any Other Business.