

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7PM,
WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2019, IN THE TOWN HALL, TALGARTH**

PRESENT: Cllr W Powell (Town & Powys County Councillor), Mayor (In the Chair),
Cllr P Lewis (Deputy Mayor), Cllr A Bufton, Cllr M Dodds, Cllr G Jones, Cllr A Lord, Cllr R Reid

APOLOGIES: Cllr Z Argent, Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Cllr C Voyle

IN ATTENDANCE: Martin Draper – Visitor for item - ‘On the Verge’
Mrs Josephine Rumsey - Town Clerk

19/186 ‘ON THE VERGE’ – Cllr W Powell, Mayor, welcomed Martin Draper, Leader of ‘On the Verge’ group, to the meeting. Martin thanked the Town Council for the opportunity to update the Town Council on this project and explained their hopes and plans for the group, saying that they will endeavour to preserve our existing wild flower habitats and, where appropriate, create new ones - using specifically native seeds and plants and talked about ambitions to educate, collaborate and motivate locally and further afield. He mentioned their two long term dreams –
1. To create a town wildlife meadow in a potager style, for locals and visitors to enjoy.
2. Establish a social firm, growing and selling its own organic products, employing people with learning difficulties/mental health issues – *information on circulation.*

19/187 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest.

19/188 MINUTES: The minutes of the Town Council meetings held on 9 October and 23 October 2019, had previously been circulated to the Council Members.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 9 October and 23 October 2019 be adopted and accepted as true records.

19/189 BBNPA - Planning Application 19/17865/FUL - Proposal: “The variation of an existing planning permission (p15721) - To demolish the existing adjacent structure and to replace with a new timber framed "home work" studio for Mrs Powell.” Address: Castell Dinas, Talgarth, LD3 0EN. **RESOLVED:** To support this Planning Application.

BBNPA – Withdrawn: Planning Application 19/17794/FUL - Proposal: “Change of use from office/shop to residential holiday let”- The Mill, High Street, Talgarth LD3 0BW

BBNPA – Local Access Forum – Noted to be held at 2pm 13th Nov at the BBNPA HQ.

BBNPA – Received Agenda for National Park Authority – 11.30am 29 Oct and Agenda for Audit and Scrutiny Committee – 10.00am 25 Oct.

19/190 CO-OPTION OF A TALGARTH TOWN COUNCILLOR - Noted one expression of interest received from Dr Terence M McClatchey, Talgarth, to fill the vacancy of a Talgarth Town Councillor, due to the resignation of Councillor U K H Stockhaus-Turner.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed to the Co-option of Dr Terence M McClatchey to this vacancy as a Talgarth Town Councillor.

19/191 TOWN COUNCILLOR VACANCY – Confirmation received from PCC Elections Department that the Notice of Co-option, to fill the vacancy due to the resignation of Councillor J Lilly, could be advertised which the Clerk has done, with a closing date for interested parties of 1 Dec 2019.

19/192 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10th November 2019 -

Remembrance Sunday Service Leaflet - Received from the Tourist & Information Resource Centre - 100 copies of the newly printed Remembrance Sunday leaflet.

RESOLVED to thank Cllr Z Argent for her voluntary work in printing the leaflets.

19/193 TALGARTH ISSUES –

Powys War Memorials Project films - Update received from PCC re: the Powys War Memorials Project films and our involvement in the project in Talgarth. PCC asked us to promote and share the links of the films, in order to celebrate the work of the project and to help to launch the 2019 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

GATE AT ENTRANCE TO FORMER A479 PENGENFORDD ROAD – Received letter of concern from local resident Jack Christopher regarding the chain and lock on the gate in this location- the coded lock has been completely removed and replaced by a chain and key operated lock so no-one can now access it.

RESOLVED: To report to PCC and request a replacement coded lock as previously provided.

WAR MEMORIAL – Maintenance of the War Memorial – Summer & Winter 2019 –

RESOLVED: To thank Bryan Evans, local resident, for supplying, funding and maintaining the fantastic Summer flowers and Winter flowers on the War Memorial wall gardens and supplying the large poppies for Remembrance Sunday, again this year, which are all so enjoyed by local residents and visitors to Talgarth.

HAY, BRECON & TALGARTH SANCTUARY FOR REFUGEES (HBTS4R) -

Received minutes of 9 Oct meeting. Note next meetings – 6.30pm 13 Nov at Gwernyfed RFC and the Public meeting - 7pm 15 Nov at St Mary's Church, Brecon.

GROW FOR TALGARTH –Meeting –7pm 11 Nov at Wye & Usk Foundation Offices.

POLICE & SPEEDWATCH SCHEME –

Speedwatch – Noted Clerk had forwarded information re the local Speedwatch Team to the Clerk/Chair of Bronllys Community Council and to some Bronllys Road residents in an aim to recruit more people to the Local Speedwatch scheme. Noted, awaiting a response from Bronllys Community Council but that Rev Richard Walker had expressed an interest in joining and been given the relevant application form.

Cllr A Lord reported that he and his wife and possibly a couple of other residents in Trefecca would be interested in joining.

BRECON TO HAY CYCLE PATH GROUP – Received Steering Committee Meeting Minutes 2 Oct. Noted Cllr P Lewis to attend the AGM on 7 Nov at Hay Council Offices.

KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELDS, PAVILION ETC –

- **TADSCA AGM - 6.30pm Tues 26 Nov at The Pavilion** – Received Agenda.
- **PAT Testing in Pavilion** – Noted the Senior Football Club equipment had been PAT tested on 9 Oct and report received indicating 4 failed items. Noted the Senior Football Club paid Skyrmes Electrical direct for this work.
- **Bar Area** – Concerns were again reported that, despite permission not having been given to the Senior Football Club, the locked shutters have been removed.
RESOLVED: To act accordingly and request the reinstatement of the shutters as originally provided
- **Shower problem** – Noted Town Clerk had obtained a cost for a replacement button on one of the showers at the Pavilion reported by the Senior Football Club, who now wished to defer this work until after the TADSCA AGM on 26 Nov.

BOWLING CLUB – Update received from Steve Butcher PCC, confirming that the position regarding the transfer of Talgarth Bowling Club, from PCC to Talgarth Town Council, is that he

has contacted the Bowls Club directly seeking their authorisation to vary their current lease with PCC, so that the Bowls Club becomes responsible for the full maintenance and insurance of the Bowling Green, interior and exterior of the Pavilion, all Boundaries, Irrigation System and utility bills until the end of their current lease with PCC which ends in April 2021. When he has confirmation that they are agreeable, he will arrange for the PCC Legal Department to draw up the necessary documentation for their signature. He would then hope that PCC will be in a position to complete this long outstanding matter and release the £10,000 payment to the Town Council.

OLD POST OFFICE, 1 Bell Street, Talgarth, Powys LD3 0DP – No new update.

GP BIOTEC LIAISON GROUP – Noted Cllr A Lord and Cllr R Reid attended the meeting on 23 Oct. Cllr R Reid gave a brief update on the meeting, stating that GP Biotec intends to supply gas directly to the gas main. Minutes of meeting to follow.

VE DAY 75 – 8 MAY 2020 – Information received from OVW re Town and Parish Councils throughout England and Wales taking the lead in the organisation of local celebrations marking the 75th Anniversary of the end of the war in Europe on the 8 - 10 May 2020.

HEALTH ISSUES - Bronllys Well Being Park – Received schedule of meetings for 2020

19/194 TREFECCA ISSUES

Flooding and blocked drains 26 Oct – Received communication from Cllr A Lord regarding the flooding in Trefecca on 26 Oct which was all due to blocked drains. Also that the culvert in Andrew Jones' field overflowed as the trash screen is completely blocked.

Noted the Clerk has forwarded previous correspondence on this matter to Cllr Lord as he felt it was time to resurrect this issue and get something done about it.

RESOLVED: To forward this matter to PCC for attention.

Notice Board – Cllr R Reid reported that the Trefecca Notice Board had been repaired by Colin Lewis Joinery and awaiting invoice.

PCC Big Lottery Countryside - Received information from Mark Stafford-Tolley, Senior Countryside Access Officer and Powys Secretary Powys Local Access Forum, asking if the Town Council would be interested in working collaboratively with the Countryside Services to improve public access in our locality for both the health and well-being of our residents and to increase opportunities for tourism and the local economy. Closing date for interest by 13 Dec.

RESOLVED: Cllr A Lord to take the lead and for the Town Council to collaborate on this project, in particular, the long standing requirement for a foot path between the village of Trefecca and Talgarth.

19/195 GROUP UPDATES –

ONE VOICE WALES (OVW) –

Brecon/Radnor Area Committee Meeting - 7pm Fri 4 Oct at Llanbister – Agenda etc for the meeting received. Noted Cllr W Powell attended the meeting.

OVW Conference and AGM Sat 5 Oct at the Bont Pavilion in Pontrhydfendigaid –

RESOLVED: Noted Cllr W Powell, Mayor, attended the meeting. **Agreed** to pay Invoice of OVW - AGM/Conference Fee £100 and Cllr W Powell travel costs @ 45p per mile.

Community Asset Transfer Research – Paul Egan OVW forwarded details of a survey being undertaken by the Welsh Government in relation to the process for management of asset transfers. He is encouraging our Town Council to consider engaging with the survey as the results will be used to give a better picture of what improvements could be made to the asset transfer process which will have benefit to any member council involved in such transfers in the future.

RESOLVED: Cllr A Lord to complete the survey on behalf of the Town Council.

FESTIVAL GROUP – Cllr R Reid reported the following events :

- 31 Oct – Halloween children’s party evening in the Town Hall had been well supported.
- 22 Nov 7pm – Talgarth Male Voice Choir at St Gwendoline’s Church

XMAS LIGHTS GROUP –

Xmas Lights Switch on 30th Nov – Cllr R Reid reported that the Xmas Lights ‘Switch on’ event is to commence at 4pm Sat 30 Nov with the ‘Switch on’ at 5pm.

TALGARTH & DISTRICT REGENERATION GROUP – Received Agenda for the next meeting - 7.30pm 14 Nov in the Committee Room, Town Hall

WALKERS ARE WELCOME GROUP– Received Agenda and first draft of the 2020 WAW Festival Programme, for meeting 7pm Tues 19 Nov and draft minutes of the meeting of 15 Oct meeting. Noted next meetings: 7pm Tues 17 Dec 2019 and Tues 21 Jan 2020 in the Committee Room, Town Hall.

Noted Vaughan Evans was stepping down as Chairman due to moving from the area.

New officers appointed: Havard Prosser - Chairman and John Gibson, Secretary.

RESOLVED: To write a letter of thanks to Vaughan Evans for leading the Group over the past 7 years and to thank his wife, Merlin for her substantial contribution to the Group during this time and wish them well in their future life.

TOURIST INFORMATION & RESOURCE CENTRE (TIRC) – Cllr W Powell, Mayor, reported that group is now operating in their reduced space. Also that there is fundraising event at 8pm Sat 30 Nov Quiz in the Castle Hotel, Talgarth

RESOLVED: To thank Cllr Z Argent, Chairman TIRC, for her voluntary work, on behalf of the TIRC, for printing the 100 colour copies of the revised Remembrance Service programme. Also thanks and appreciation to Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Cllr M Dodds, Cllr W Powell, Chair and the Town Clerk for their input in producing this revised programme.

YSGOL Y MYNYDD DU - Cllr M Dodds confirmed that Tara Morgan, the Deputy Headmistress, has taken over as Acting Headmistress.

19/196 TOWN HALL –

Works required in Town Hall – Cllr A Bufton agreed to prepare a list of works required in the Town Hall, to include, slipped slates on the roof, to **replace** cracked pane of glass in the entrance door, updating of the heating system and costs for some soundproofing etc.

Eurobin Hire – Received from PCC - Quarterly invoice 1/7/19 – 30/9/19 - £140.40.

RESOLVED: To pay invoice £140.40.

Received from Talgarth Luncheon Club donation of 50% of the cost - £70.20

McMillan Afternoon Tea – 22 Oct – Noted that the Luncheon Club raised £ 1,470.00.

RESOLVED: To forward congratulations to the Luncheon Club on this successful event.

MARKET HALL – Outside Light – RESOLVED: To pay Stuart Price Electrician Invoice, Tender sum of £80 for this work.

19/197 POWYS COUNTY COUNCILLOR - Cllr W Powell forwarded an update in advance of the meeting reporting the following:

In last month’s update of the areas of PCC Cabinet responsibility, as follows:-

- Cllr Rosemarie Harris, Leader
- Cllr Aled Davies, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Countryside and Transport
- Cllr Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder responsible for Adult Social Care and Welsh Language
- Cllr Graham Breeze, Portfolio Holder responsible for Corporate Governance and Engagement
- Cllr Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder responsible for Education and Property
- Cllr James Evans, Portfolio Holder responsible for Economic Development, Housing and

Regulatory Services

- Cllr Heulwen Hulme, Portfolio Holder responsible Environment
- Cllr Rachel Powell, Portfolio Holder responsible for Young People and Culture

Cllr Powell also circulated to Town Councillors, for information, the corresponding chart of senior officers, working under the new Chief Executive Officer - Dr Caroline Turner, to deliver the Cabinet's work programme.

Cllr Powell reported, in other news:

- That both he and Cllr Malcolm Dodds have attended a series of Governing Body meetings at Ysgol y Mynydd, since the last Town Council and they are doing their utmost to support Mrs Tara Morgan, acting Head and the staff team at a demanding time in the School Year.
- Cllr Powell attached, for the interest of colleagues, the Ysgol y Mynydd Du September newsletter which gives a flavour of the main topics in school at the moment, and looks ahead to the coming half term.
- The past month has been a busy one in terms of casework, especially around highways, housing and social care issues, and in some cases, where appropriate, the Town Clerk has been cc'd into email exchanges. Last month, Cllr Powell attended a briefing at the PCC Highways Depot in Boughrood and just yesterday, he was present for a PCC Housing Surgery at the Old Barn Inn, Three Cocks. Both events gave an opportunity to progress a number of casework issues, raised by local residents.

19/198 PCC & TRUNK ROAD ISSUES

Pot hole in highway outside 4 Beacons View, Trefecca – Cllr R Reid reported that there is a dangerous pot hole in centre of the roadway, in this location.

RESOLVED: To report this matter to PCC Highways, for repair.

Street lights out/not working in factories area are: TG 423, TG 424, TG 425, TG 426 – Reported by Cllr P Lewis. Noted that the Development Board for Rural Wales, the owner of this area, had arranged for these lights, to be put in working order.

Concerns Nr Tredustan, Talgarth – Concerns received from a resident re: late night work working causing a nuisance to neighbours and mud on the road from the work, in this location. Noted complaint reported to PCC and the mud on the road was cleared the following day.

Suggested crossing by the Rugby Club - Cllr W Powell reported that Vincent Goodwin, PCC, had arranged a site meeting 10.30am 12 Nov, to meet reps of the Town Council and Gwernyfed Rugby Club, with a view to supporting the Club's Active Lifestyles agenda.

RESOLVED: Cllr W Powell, Mayor, Cllr P Lewis, Deputy Mayor and Cllr R Reid would attend from the Town Council and Vin Stephens from Gwernyfed Rugby Club.

Highway matters in Talgarth – Bronllys Road & Trefecca Road - A479 Double Strips on road Nr Bronllys Castle and Nr Roundabout Rugby Club– Confirmation received from Dean Williams, Trunk Road Agency, stating that the NMWTRA Project Manager is currently carrying out traffic surveys across the trunk road network and he is awaiting for a reply to confirm if a repeat survey will be scheduled due to our concerns expressed, following removal of the current traffic management at Bronllys Castle Bridge. Noted the repair works to the bridge are scheduled for w/c 18 Nov and should only take a few days to carry out the works and the traffic lights will be removed following completion.

19/199 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED –

Welsh Government – 3 Planning Consultations received - comments by 20 Nov 2019.

1.Revisions to the Housing section of Planning Policy Wales and associated advice and guidance

2.Revisions to Planning Policy Wales regarding the use of compulsory purchase powers and updated guidance on the compulsory purchase procedure in Wales

3.Revised planning guidance in relation to flooding and coastal erosion.

PCC ‘Powys County Council is feeling the squeeze!’ - Following on from the recent letter sent by the Leader of PCC, they are inviting us to have our say by taking part in the budget consultation exercise – The Big Squeeze – that runs for a month and closes on 3 Nov - <https://powyscc.budgetsimulator.com> . NB Cllr P Lewis has completed this survey.

PCC Library Service consultation report – Received the report of findings from the consultation with communities and user groups on the future of libraries which has now been completed and translated, and published on the PCC.

<https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/7873/The-future-of-Powys-Libraries>

PCC - Y Gaer - Advert for Expressions of Interest - PCC is asking for organisations, by 24 Oct, interested in partnering with them in operating the new cultural and historic attraction when it opens. PCC has already revealed that it is in discussions with Brecon Beacons College, part of the NPTC Group of Colleges, to potentially expand the range of opportunities delivered from the building, but that no decision has been taken.

PAVO AGM Papers - 19 Nov 2019 – Noted that PAVO’s 2019 AGM will be held prior to their conference. Also that PAVO is inviting nominations from individuals who wish to stand for election to their Board of Trustees at the AGM on 19 Nov.

Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales draft Annual Report Consultation - Feb 2020 – Noted consultation ends 10 Dec - hard copy on circulation.

Hay-on-Wye Dial a Ride - 25th Anniversary – Invitation received to a celebration at 3pm on Sat 2 Nov at Hay School.

Noted Hay Dial a Ride has relocated to 14 Castle Street, Hay-on-Wye HR45DF

Town Council legal duties: workplace pensions re-enrolment – Note that once the re-declaration date arrives in Apr 2020, we need to reassess and make a return to the pensions’ provider. PAVO offering to undertake this work, at a small charge based on their hourly rate of £20, which should only take half an hour to complete.

RESOLVED: PAVO undertakes this work in Apr 2020.

19/200 ST GWENDOLINE’S CHURCHYARD –

Churchyard Maintenance – Cllr A Bufton reported that he would be liaising with Martin Leighton, Garden Services, our Contractor, as we approach the end of the first year.

RESOLVED: To pay Martin Leighton Garden Services £2000 for work from June- Nov.

Tree of Light Service – 4pm Sun 1 Dec –

RESOLVED: To purchase and light 4 Candles in memory of the late – Lord Livsey of Talgarth, Cllr M Mullan, Cllr V Davies and Cllr D Eckley. Candles 4 x £2.50 = £10.

19/201 AMOUNTS RECEIVED –

Hall Hire – Table Tennis – 28/10 £5, 4/11 £5, 25/11 £5	£15.00
Hall Hire – Miriam, Dance Class event - 16/11	£22.00
Hall Hire – Miriam – 6 Adult Dance Classes – 10/9 – 15/10	£82.50
Hall Hire – Maria, Step Aerobics	£77.00
Hall Hire – Black Mountains Proposed College – 9/11	£40.00
Hall Hire – Jo Lord – October Spinning	£250.00
Hall Hire – Powys Dance Classes – 10/9 – 26/11	£99.00
Hall Hire – Claire Lovell – Care event - 22/9	£40.00
Talgarth Luncheon Club – 50% donation to Eurobin hire	£79.20
R W Evans & Son – Memorial Tablet WTH & BMH dec’d	£80.00
C C James – Burial Ashes – CG dec’d	£80.00

19/202 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

J Rumsey, Clerk – Nov Salary £1,140.10, Less Tax £228.00 = £912.10,	
Tel Rent £19.99, Broadband/Calls £24.00, Home Office £35, Travel £2.25.	£993.34
V W Cleaning Services – Nov - Town Hall Cleaning £183.60, Gates £64.28	£247.88
Town Council – Sundries/tea	£2.25
Gwent & Powys Army Cadets – Donation re Remembrance Sunday	£30.00
Powys County Council – Eurobin hire – 1/7/19 – 30/9/19	£140.40
Martin Leighton Garden Services – Churchyard Maintenance Jun – Nov	£2,000.00
Xmas Lights – Maintenance items	£253.69
Remembrance Sunday – Town Hall decorations/catering items	£35.55
One Voice Wales – AGM/Conference 5/10 fee – Mayor attended	£100.00
St Gwendoline’s PCC – 4 Candles @ £2.50 each for Candle Light Service	£10.00

19/203 FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Current Account - £1,287.80
High Interest Account - £53,141.71

19/204 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS:

7:00pm Wed 4 Dec 2019 – Monthly meeting
7:00pm Wed 8 Jan 2020 – Monthly meeting
7:00pm Mon 13 Jan 2020 - Town Council meeting to agree and set the Precept 2020/2021

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

SIGNED:

DATE:

