

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7PM,  
WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY 2019, IN THE TOWN HALL, TALGARTH**

**PRESENT:** Cllr W Powell (Town & Powys County Councillor), Mayor (In the Chair), Cllr P Lewis (Deputy Mayor), Cllr Z Argent, Cllr A Bufton, Cllr M Dodds, Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Cllr G Jones, Cllr J Lilly, Cllr A Lord, Cllr R Reid, Cllr C Voyle, Ms Amy Argent – Youth Member

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Pip Turner (Deputy Mayor)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Josephine Rumsey - Town Clerk

**19/06 WELCOME** – Cllr W Powell, Mayor, welcomed Cllr C Voyle to his first meeting of the Town Council.

**19/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – There were no Declarations of Interest.

**19/08 VISIT BY JED NEEDS RE TALGARTH & DISTRICT ENERGY COOPERATIVE** – Noted this visit postponed until 7pm Wed 13 Feb meeting.

**19/09 PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING ISSUES** –

- (a) **BBNPA - 18/16918/FUL** - Application for a single storey extension connecting two converted barns - Lower Genffordd Bach Talgarth LD3 0EG – Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, to support this application.
- (b) **PCC - 18/0830/FUL** - Change of use, extension and conversion of double garage to create a 2 storey annexe - Maesgwyn Trefecca Brecon Powys LD3 0PW - Proposed by Cllr R Reid and seconded by Cllr Z Argent, all in favour, to support this application.

**BBNPA – PLANNING APPLICATION APPROVED** –

**18/16785/LBC** – Installation of demountable flood defence barriers to riverside side doors (2 no) and window (1 no) – Address: 1 & 2 Bridge House, Bridge Cottages, Swan Path, High Street, Talgarth

**PCC - Adopted Powys LDP 2011- 2026: Supplementary Planning Guidance Public Consultation** – Powys Local Development Plan 2011-2026 (LDP) was adopted by PCC on the 17th Apr 2018. Noted Appendix 2 of the LDP outlines a programme of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) that PCC intends to produce to support the LDP's policies. PCC is holding a 6 week public consultation from Mon 14th Jan – Sun 24th Feb 2019.

**19/10 MINUTES:** Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 main and confidential meetings and the 9 Jan 2019 Precept meeting - Previously circulated, Cllr W Powell, Mayor, sought adoption. Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 be signed as a correct record.  
Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr J Lilly, all in favour, that the minutes of the confidential meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 be signed as a correct record.  
Proposed by Cllr R Reid and seconded by Cllr Z Argent, all in favour, that the minutes of the Precept meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019 be signed as a correct record.

**19/11 PRECEPT 2019/2020** - Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr A Lord, all in favour to request the £54,000 Precept for 2019/2020 as recommended at the 9th Jan Precept meeting. Clerk to forward completed Precept Request form to PCC by 25th Jan.  
The matter of taking action to reduce the reserves was discussed. It was agreed that capital items of non-recurring expenditure be met from reserves and that all steps should be taken to prevent further accrual.

It was noted that PAVO had circulated, on 10th Jan, a briefing paper regarding Powys County Council's possible budget cuts and their implications for third sector organisations. The items covered had obvious financial implications which was a cause of some concern to Town Councillors. Agreed, in the circumstances, that it would be prudent to retain some of our reserves to meet these future challenges.

**19/12 TOWN COUNCIL – CAPACITY BUILDING AND SUPPORT –**

**Agreed** that all members of the Town Council be invited to a meeting to discuss this matter further, date to be advised.

Amy Argent, Youth Member expressed a wish to be involved with the social media side of the Town Council and also to be again involved with the production of the Town Council Newsletter.

Clerk to re-share Amy's current job description and to seek OVW advice re including social media into her job description.

It was noted that the draft Social Media Policy, previously circulated, would be required to be adopted by the Town Council.

**19/13 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED –**

**Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) – Renewal of Membership 2019-2020 –**

Proposed by Cllr A Bufton and seconded by Cllr A Lord, all in favour to renew annual subscription of £156 for 2019-2020. Received The Clerk Magazine – Jan 2019.

**Black Mountains Lions Charter Lunch** – Invitation received for Cllr W Powell, Mayor to attend the Black Mountains Lions 46th Charter Anniversary lunch on Sun 10th Mar.

**Black Mountains Classic Car Tour** – Information received that Brecon Motor Club are again running the Black Mountains Classic Car Tour based from the Rugby club on Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Jun and inviting Cllr W Powell to be present to greet the cars on their return to Talgarth.

**19/14 POWYS COUNTY COUNCILLOR -** Cllr W Powell reported his monthly update:

- PCC had had a challenging start to the New Year, with a sobering assessment by Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) of the Authority's efforts to improve the performance of Children's Services, following the July 2017 report, which identified serious concerns and which he had previously reported upon to Talgarth Town Council.

The priority areas for development in the immediate future included:

- Ensure a clear strategic vision to deliver a seamless service and further develop collaborative working with health, education and the third sector to benefit children and families
- Develop better commissioning arrangements to ensure appropriate placements for looked after children. This included improving choice of placements, reducing the numbers of children placed in an emergency and placed without agreed educational provision.
- Ensure early multi agency involvement in safeguarding and an immediate response to children at risk of sexual exploitation.
- Ensure investigation of complaints are thorough and in accordance with Welsh Government guidelines.

CIW would continue to actively monitor the quality of services on a quarterly basis and consider a further inspection of Children's Services in 12/18 months

- Colleagues were aware of the severe financial challenges that faced PCC, to an extent that all local authorities in Wales were similarly affected, in terms of their funding allocations from central government. However, Powys' extreme rurality, combined with the demographic profile of our population made this all the more acute.

The 2019/2020 budget round was well under way, and PCC Communications department, and recent PAVO briefing circulated amongst colleagues and reports in the local press had already highlighted potential funding reductions to come, involving: highways, waste and environmental services, together with a threat to reduce the street lighting budget dramatically. It was still unclear what the final package would look like, but, along with Cllr Powell's colleagues in the Welsh Liberal Democrat/Green Group on PCC, Cllr Powell would be looking to safeguard the interests of more marginalised and vulnerable residents in assessing any proposed savings and their impact on our communities.

- Cllr W Powell had been involved in hosting a successful visit the previous week to Ysgol y Mynydd Du by Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner, Dafydd Llywelyn, along with officers from the Breconshire Roads Policing team and the Go Safe Partnership. It provided a valuable opportunity for the Commissioner and Officers to engage with pupils, parents and governors at Ysgol y Mynydd Du. Later in the evening, Talgarth Town Council had also co-hosted a special Highways and Road Safety session, involving the Police and Crime Commissioner, senior police officers and PCC/WAG highways officials, convened by OVW. Both events were highly productive.

In readiness for the OVW meeting, Cllr Powell had contacted Tony Caine of PCC Highways, regarding several highways issues previously reported to him and where improvements could improve public safety. It was noted that Tony Caine had made observations at the (Three Cocks) junction and had already instructed the PCC design team to look at an improvement at the junction for inclusion within the capital programme. Cllr Powell confirmed that when he heard from Helen Shayle or Sgt Dillon as to the details of the collisions, in this location and whether there had been any injuries, he would raise the concerns with WAG to see if they will consider additional traffic management at the junction due to the effects of the closure of the (A479) trunk road.

Town Councillors expressed concern regarding this dangerous junction, especially during the diversion with the Bronllys Road closure.

- Tony Caine PCC agreed to the request for provision of a kerb to protect the verge, opposite Ysgol y Mynydd Du.

- **Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan Review - Invitation to Submit Candidate Sites (Stage 1 Initial Call for Candidate Sites** – Noted, as requested by the Town Council at an earlier meeting, Cllr Powell had worked with the Town Clerk to ensure that a comprehensive set of Candidate Site Submissions for PCC owned sites in Talgarth were made to the BBNPA LDP Review by the deadline of 7th Jan. as follows:

1. De-commissioned Talgarth CP School site (1976 – 2018)
2. De-commissioned Talgarth Youth & Community Centre – former Talgarth Victorian Primary School
3. Talgarth School Field site
4. 4 & 5 De-commissioned PCC Highway depot

Cllr Powell reported that this was a very substantial piece of work for both and he expressed gratitude to Josephine, as well as Talgarth residents Chris Green and Neil Morris, who had provided support with the mapping requirements associated with the Town Council's submissions. The associated documentation had been circulated amongst Town Councillors and had been both acknowledged by BBNPA and shared within their Strategy Team who would advise on next steps.

Agreed to forward a letter of thanks and appreciation to both Talgarth residents Chris Green and Neil Morris for their assistance and support with the mapping requirements associated with our submissions.

## **19/15 TALGARTH ISSUES –**

- **WALES IN BLOOM** – Meeting held on 14 Jan 7pm at Usk & Wye Offices - Noted Cllr M Dodds and Cllr C Voyle attended the meeting.

Cllr M Dodds reported that this newly formed group, is planning on entering part of the 'Britain in Bloom' event in the Summer. Noted the group was holding its AGM on 22 Jan at 7pm at the Usk & Wye Offices and also has a fund-raising event at the Gurkha Inn on 23 Jan.

Noted that the group would be happy to maintain the gardens around the Town Hall and also wish to be involved with the WAW group.

**TALGARTH SPEEDWATCH SCHEME** – Agreed to chase PCSO Helen Scott regarding the commencement of the scheme in Talgarth.

**WELSH WATER – BRONLLYS ROAD WORKS** - Update received 15 Jan from Welsh Water on the progress. It is noted that they have increased number of workers on site, and working weekends, to ensure that the project is completed on time.

**BOWLING CLUB** – Noted Steve Butcher PCC informed the Town Council that the financial award as part of the transfer agreement that was offered by PCC to all fine turf sports clubs (Bowls & Cricket Clubs) over a three-year period to enable them to move away from a PCC run facility to an independent club. Due to the lease negotiations associated with Talgarth Bowls Club, this offer was extended and the transfer holder changed to Talgarth Town Council as the new transfer owner.

The award is to be paid to Talgarth Town Council, with the idea that the money will be used to help maintain Talgarth Bowls Club and Pavilion in a good condition. But it is up to Talgarth Town Council on how this money is distributed and/or allocated. The money could be handed over to the club as a whole or potentially offered over as an annual grant and will be at the discretion of Talgarth Town Council.

Steve Butcher had, earlier, informed the Bowls Club Secretary that there was some essential work required at the Bowls Pavilion needing to be programmed in for the subsequent week. Agenda received for next Bowling Club meeting on Mon 21 Jan at 7pm. Minutes 23 Nov received and on circulation.

**KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELDS –**

**Annual Fire Alarm & Emergency Light Testing – Pavilion** - Noted the Town Council had arranged for the Annual Fire Alarm & Emergency Light Testing to be undertaken by Skyrme Electrical Solutions. Received report sheets with some failures and Invoice £140 + VAT received. This information had been forwarded to TADSCA for action. Agreed to contact TADSCA and request an urgent meeting

**King George V Children's Play area** – Received 2018 RoSPA report for this area.

**GP BIOTEC - Reinstatement of the Foot-bridge, down-stream from Bronllys Castle across the River Llynfi** – Received communication 19 th Dec from Lucy Warry, confirming that they were happy to continue sending the spreading notifications to the Town Council but there will not be any between Nov and Jan as this is the closed season for spreading. She also attached copy of the letter that GP Biotec had sent to the BBNPA to support the reinstatement of the Footbridge. Noted Town Council had previously agreed to support this request.

**19/16 TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS** – Cllr M Dodds asked to move Standing Orders at 9pm from 2 hours to 2.15 hours for this meeting.

**19/17 TOWN HALL & MARKET HALL**

**Town Hall -**

**Zurich - Talgarth Town Council Insurance** – Noted that the Town Council Insurance Company had informed us that all formed clubs, groups, associations, constitutions, separate entities in their own right, should have their own public liability insurance, when organizing their own events in the Town Hall, Talgarth.

Clerk reported that Talgarth Town Council was awaiting the advice of OVW on adapting the current Hiring Agreement to include this point.

Noted that the Clerk had added hirers liability to our Zurich Insurance Policy and noted that the hirers liability provides cover against damage to other party property and compensation for injury to 3rd parties where they are at fault. This cover comes in useful where hiring out our building to organisations without public liability for one-off events, such as wedding receptions, birthday parties, private family gatherings and the like. Noted there was no cost to add this hirers liability up to next renewal date 1 June 2019 and the additional annual cost of £32.58 plus tax will apply at renewal for 1 June 2019 – 31 May 2020.

**Piano** – Noted the annual piano tuning by David Day - cost £50, - had been undertaken on 23 Nov and the Talgarth Community Choir had donated £25 - 50% of the cost.

**V W Cleaning Services** – **Agreed** to Dec invoice - Gates Open/Close £70.47, Town Hall cleaning £164.70=- £235.17

#### **Town Hall - Tenders -**

**5 year Electrical Installation Inspection Report** – 2 Tenders received:

Skyrme Electrical Solutions	-	£150 + £30 VAT	=	£180.00
-----------------------------	---	----------------	---	---------

Stuart Price Electrician	-	£400 – No VAT	=	£400.00
--------------------------	---	---------------	---	---------

Proposed by Cllr R Reid and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, to accept the lowest quote of Skyrme Electrical Solutions.

**Additional lighting - food preparation area – 2 florescent led lights** – 2 Tenders received.

Skyrme Electrical Solutions	-	£105 + VAT		
-----------------------------	---	------------	--	--

Stuart Price Electrician	-	£190 – NO VAT		
--------------------------	---	---------------	--	--

Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr R Reid, all in favour, to accept the lowest quote of Skyrme Electrical Solutions.

**Electrical Trunking in Main Hall** - 2 Tenders received

Skyrme Electrical Solutions	-	£210 + VAT		
-----------------------------	---	------------	--	--

Stuart Price Electrician	-	£296 – No VAT		
--------------------------	---	---------------	--	--

Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, to accept the lowest quote of Skyrme Electrical Solutions.

**Replace 7 Emergency Lights** - 2 Tenders received

Skyrme Electrical Solutions	-	£258.00 + £51.60 VAT	=	£309.60
-----------------------------	---	----------------------	---	---------

Stuart Price Electrician	-	£272 – No VAT	=	£272.00
--------------------------	---	---------------	---	---------

Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr J Lilly, all in favour, to accept the lowest quote of Skyrme Electrical Solutions.

**New Floor covering etc**

Black Mountain Interiors	-	£130 + VAT		
--------------------------	---	------------	--	--

Proposed by Cllr Z Argent and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, to accept this quote and to request the work be completed by 13<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**Market Hall – Tender - Minor Works** - 2 Tenders received

Smith Builders Ltd	-	£1,020.58 + £204.12 VAT		£1,224.70
--------------------	---	-------------------------	--	-----------

Tony McNamara	-	£520.00 – NO VAT		£520.00
---------------	---	------------------	--	---------

Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, to accept the lowest quote of Tony McNamara.

Cllr R Reid reported that Smiths Builders have completed all the minor works currently quoted for. Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, to pay Invoice for Tender sum £2,012.37 + £402.48 VAT – Total £2,414.85.

#### **19/18 GROUP UPDATES –**

**ONE VOICE WALES ( OVW) –**

**Brecon and Radnor Road Safety Meeting 7pm 11th Jan 2019 in the Town Hall, Talgarth**

Agenda received for this meeting to be hosted by the Town Council.

Noted the panel will comprise of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Mid and West Wales Dafydd Llywelyn and representatives of the Mid and North Wales Trunk Roads Agency, Powys County Council and the local police.

It was noted that Mel abOwain, OVW, would be circulating minutes of the meeting and contact details for the Police, PCC officers etc.

Noted that the Town Council had provided the refreshments - cost £135 from Gaynor's Catering and noted that a contribution of £65 had been received from OVW.

**Brecon and Radnor Quarterly Meeting - 7pm 18th Jan 2019** – Noted this meeting will be held on 18th Jan in Cwmdauddwr Community Centre, Rhayader Noted no one can attend.

**TALGARTH INFORMATION & RESOURCE CENTRE (TIRC)** – Cllr Z Argent reported that the TIRC is currently making a grant application for funding, in readiness for when the Lease on Tower shop ends with PCC in Aug 19.

**YS GOL Y MYNYDD DU** –

**Tables - Agreed** Cllr M Dodds, Chair of the Premises Committee, liaise with the school to check if adequate tables are in place.

**Dangerous for crossing opposite the Castle Hotel, from Trefecca Road/Town side for children, to school – Agreed** to write to PCC/Trunk Road Agency and cc Kirsty Williams AM, again expressing concern of the danger for children crossing in this location, to school – these concerns previously expressed when the new school plans were first discussed.

Also felt to be a danger to adults crossing in this location to the Medical Centre.

It was felt there should be an additional crossing opposite the Castle Hotel.

**FESTIVAL GROUP** – Noted the Festival AGM was held on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov. Attended by Cllr R Reid. Sue Lewis – Chair, Clare Mill-Brown – Secretary, Julie Evans – Treasurer.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS GROUP** – Noted the Lights Group AGM was held on Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Jan and attended by Cllr R Reid and Cllr C Voyle.

Noted Martin Draper – Chair/Secretary, Doris James – Treasurer.

**TALGARTH & DISTRICT REGENERATION GROUP** – Noted the next meeting of the TDRG is due to be held at 7pm Thurs 19 Feb in the Town Hall Committee Room.

**WALKERS ARE WELCOME GROUP**–Noted WAW meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> Jan – attended by Cllr M Dodds and Cllr C Voyle. Received Agenda for the meeting and draft minutes of 4th Dec meeting. Noted the draft Programme 2019 was well underway.

Date of next WAW meeting Tues 5 Feb 7pm .

#### **19/19 BURIAL GROUND - TENDER – ST GWENDOLINE’S CHURCHYARD**

**Out of Season works** – 3 Tenders received

Highground Maintenance Ltd	-	£683.21 + VAT		
Highground Maintenance Ltd	- 10A	-	£83.17 + VAT	
OTM	-	£920.00 + £184 VAT	£1,104.00	
OTM	- 10A	-	£65.00 +£13 VAT	£78.00
Martin Leighton	-	£920.00 – NO VAT		
Martin Leighton	- 10A	-	£80.00 – NO VAT	

Proposed by Cllr P Lewis and seconded by Cllr J Lilly, all in favour, to accept the lowest quote of Highground Maintenance Ltd.

#### **19/20 CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH**

**PCC** – Powys Newslines

**BBNPA** - Agenda for BBNPA Local Access Forum, Thurs, 10th Jan at 2pm

**BBNPA** - Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan

**PAVO** - Members ebriefing - January 2019

**OVW - SUDS Implementation 7 Jan 2019** – Information received and on circulation.

<https://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/epq/flooding/drainage/?lang=en>

**Arwain – The Generator**

#### **19/21 AMOUNTS RECEIVED**

Hall Hire – DB - 29/12	£10.00
Hall Hire – Welsh Blood Group- 3/12	£55.00
Hall Hire – Black Mountains Friends Group – 4/1/19	£6.00
Hall Hire – Talgarth Community Choir	£92.00
Hall Hire – Child’s Party 12/1 –SJ	£22.00
Hall Hire – Child’s Party 23/2 –HF	£22.00
Hall Hire – Child’s Party 9/3 – SC	£22.00
Hall Hire – PCC – Election 13/12/2018	£250.00
Talgarth Community Choir – 50% donation to piano tuning	£25.00

Mel abOwain – Contribution to OVW meeting refreshments 11/1	£65.00
R W Evans & Son – Memorial Stone – GP parents	£115.00
R W Evans & Son – Wedge Tablet – BW dec'd	£115.00
R W Evans & Son – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Inscription – MW dec'd	£35.00
C C James – Burial HC dec'd	£140.00
PCC One third Precept 31/12/18	£18,000.00

**19/22 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

J Rumsey, Clerk – Dec Salary £1,110.63, Less Tax £222.20 = £888.43,	
Tel Rent £18.32 Broadband/Calls £24.00, Home Office £35, Travel £2.25,	
Postage 5.36, stationery 99p	£ 977.95
Xmas decorations – Town Hall - Amazon & Garden Centre	£29.99
Border Office Supplies – Toilet Rolls - £16.99 + £3.40 VAT	£20.39
Border Office Supplies - 10 reams A4 Paper - £28.58 + £5.72 VAT	£34.30
Skyrme Electrical – Town Hall – Annual Fire Alarm & Emergency	
Light testing 6/12 £140.00 + £28.00 VAT	£168.00
V W Cleaning Services – Dec - Gates Open/Close £70.47,	
Town Hall cleaning £164.70	£235.17
Smith Builders Ltd – Inv 0172 – Market Hall – Tender work £2012.37 +	
£402.48 VAT	£2,414.85
Gaynor's Catering – OVW meeting 11/1 refreshments – Noted OVW	
Contributing £65.00.	£135.00
Healthmatic Ltd – Public Conveniences – Cleaning 11/1 – 31/3/19	
£1,687.50 + £337.50 VAT	£2,025.00
PAVO – Payroll fee – Oct – Dec 18	£30.00
SLCC – Annual Subscription 1 Feb 19 – 31 Jan 20	£156.00
OTM – Churchyard Maintenance Dec - £287.50 + £57.50 VAT	£345.00

**19/23 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

- Current Account £1,906.65
  - High Interest Account £63,065.38
- 

**19/24 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

7:00 pm Wed 13 February 2019

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**SIGNED:** .....

**DATE:** .....

---