

**MINUTES OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7PM, WEDNESDAY,  
14 OCTOBER 2020, HELD REMOTELY**

**MEMBERS PRESENT BY VIDEO LINK:** Cllr P Lewis (Mayor) (In the Chair), Cllr L Elston-Reeves (Deputy Mayor), Cllr A Bufton, Cllr M Dodds, Cllr G Jones, Cllr A Lord, Cllr T McClatchey, Cllr R Parry, Cllr W Powell (Town & Powys County Councillor), Cllr R Reid, Cllr S Thomas

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr C Voyle

**IN ATTENDANCE BY VIDEO LINK:** Josephine Rumsey (Town Clerk)

**WELCOME:** Cllr P Lewis, Mayor, welcomed members to the sixth virtual meeting of Talgarth Town Council by Skype.

**20/132 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Declaration of interest received from Cllr A Bufton in respect of Agenda item 4 – Matters arising - Minute 20/84 - Haygarth Doctors' Proposals for curtailed opening hours at Hay & Talgarth sites.

**20/133 MINUTES:** The minutes of the Town Council meetings held on the 7 September & AGM 16 September 2020, had previously been circulated to Town Councillors.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 7 September & AGM 16 September 2020, be adopted and accepted as true records.

**20/134 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

**20/103 - Town Council – Youth Representatives** – Noted Clerk had re-circulated the previous OVW Advice on Working with Young People.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr W Powell, LEA Governor of Gwernyfed High School to take forward and lead on the matter with the assistance of Cllr R Parry.

**20/103 - Haygarth GP Practice – Proposal to reduce surgery hours from 01 10 2020** – Noted Cllr A Bufton left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or decision making.

Update received from Katie Blackburn, Chief Officer, CHC, together with the minutes of their Executive Committee meeting held on 22 Sept and a copy of the paper that was presented, which had since been electronically agreed by Executive Committee members.

Letter dated 9 Oct received from Haygarth Doctors confirming that the practice has reduced their opening hours, as proposed, and state that they will continue to provide the same level of service from both sites and the telephones will remain fully operational, also that the dispensary hatch will be open for patients to collect prescriptions until 5.15pm on the closed site. They confirmed that the Total Triage Service reports and outcomes of this service are available on the Red Kite website, under services/Total Triage - link <https://www.redkiteltd.co.uk>.

**RESOLVED:** To request an urgent update from the CHC, on their intended actions, in view of their Executive Committee meeting on 22 Sept and following the reduction in surgery hours at both sites of the Haygarth Practice, now implemented, without full and meaningful consultation and engagement having taken place. Also to ask at what point they will refer the matter to the WG Minister for Health?

**20/103 - PCC – Bid for Covid-19 Environmental work around the Town** – Cllr W Powell reported that David Kingston PCC had confirmed that a positive update would be received by the end of the week.

**RESOLVED:** Town Council to submit the PCC bid – a partnership project with input from GfT, to be forwarded by closing date 30 Nov 2020.

**20/105 – One Voice Wales** – Received Oct list of on-line training dates.

**Training & Planning Aid Wales (PAW)** – Noted the PAW online training platform is a subscription service for up to 20 Councillors, at a cost of £150 per annum. Noted that this portal replaces their 'Introduction to Planning Training' that they used to deliver face to face, a few times a year. This portal is accessible to users 24/7 and can be used for new or as a refresher course. They are hoping to add to it early next year with 'Getting Ready for Place Plans'.

**RESOLVED:** To subscribe to this service - £150 per year.

**20/106 - Talgarth Library/TIRC – Project Co-ordinator** – Received TIRC AGM minutes of meeting 14 Sept - Noted new Officers: Anna Weston, Chairperson, Brian Summerfield, Treasurer, Heather Summerfield, Secretary and received further meeting minutes of 5 Oct. Received an invoice for the £1000 of which the Town Council had previously agreed to pay, at its meeting on 4 Dec 2019 – PAVO Comic Relief Bid re Talgarth Library – match funding for the Project Co-ordinator position, recently filled by Ann Seymour. Noted that Anna Weston, Chairperson, had forwarded, for information of Town Councillors, an outline of the job description of this Project Co-ordinator post.

**RESOLVED:** To the payment of £1,000 as previously agreed.

**20/110 – Pollution Incident at Afon Llynfi - a tributary of the River Wye /Hundreds of fish killed**– Update received on 6 Oct from NRW, confirming that the investigation into the pollution incident is currently still ongoing and that it is therefore not possible for NRW to provide information on the parties under investigation or the evidence collected, as this could undermine the investigation. Noted that the manner in which the fish died leads NRW to believe that they were affected by an organic pollutant and died of suffocation. NRW officers are currently working with their legal department to pull together their findings and decide on what options they have in the way of an enforcement response.

**RESOLVED:** To await NRW conclusions but to keep on the case.

To request FOI s for previous pollutions.

**20/111 - Grow for Talgarth – The Cultivation Street Community Garden Competition** – It was noted that GfT had won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the all-Wales and Northern Ireland category and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the UK finals.

**RESOLVED:** To forward a letter of Congratulations from the Town Council.

**RHS Wales in Bloom Award Ceremony – Sept 2022** - Request received from GfT, who have been asked by the RHS Wales in Bloom, if Talgarth could host the Wales in Bloom Award Ceremony at the Town Hall in Sept 2022, with the possibility up to 140 people in attendance.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the booking in principle subject to clarifying the total number that could be seated in line with fire safety regulations.

**20/128 - Remembrance Sunday 8 Nov 2020** – Noted that Cllr L Elston-Reeves, had forwarded a revised timetable, for a small event at the War Memorial.

Noted Clerk has ordered a poppy wreath from the Town Council and 8 poppy crosses for the 7 war graves in St Gwendoline's Churchyard and one war grave at the former Mid Wales Hospital. Noted Cllr R Reid agreed to put the flags up on the Town Hall.

**RESOLVED:** To agree to the format of the event in accordance with WG Guidelines at the time.

**20/135 CORONAVIRUS COVID-19** – WG weekly updates received.

**ST GWENDONLINE'S CHURCHYARD - Request for a Burial** – Received a further request for the burial of a third person in an existing grave in Block E, believed to be a double grave.

**RESOLVED:** To a burial of ashes in the existing grave - Block E or to a new grave in Block H.

## **TOWN HALL –**

**Upgrade of Heating/Hot Water** - Noted that this work is nearing completion.

Clerk reported that 4 Sanitiser Units and 10 litres Sanitiser had been ordered and received from Black Mountains Botanical – cost inc VAT £162.80, in readiness for opening up other areas.

**Stage Curtains – RESOLVED:** To pursue the replacement of the stage curtains.

## **MARKET HALL –**

**Sink Tap** - Noted that the electric tap, in this location, had been changed onto the newly upgraded hot water system, as agreed.

**Spinning** – Enquiry received from Jo Lord who proposes to commence sessions in Spring 2021.

## **PUBLIC CONVENIENCES - Hot water in former disabled toilet - current unisex toilet and Ladies' Toilet**

– Noted that the hot water system had now been connected to the tap in the new unisex toilet and to the basin for the ladies' toilet, at the agreed cost of between £900 - £1000. Cllr A Bufton suggested re-opening the one ladies' toilet, as a single cubicle, to alleviate the queuing for toilet facilities, in this area.

**RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed this to be a good idea and for this to be in use ASAP.

Agreed for Cllr A Bufton to prepare a specification for the work to make the changes in this location and other urgent minor works, ie to include the enclosure of the new heating system layout and water tank, in the Committee Room.

Noted the Clerk confirmed there would not be any additional cleaning costs by Healthmatic for this additional facility of the single unit ladies' toilet.

## **Gents' toilet area – existing use –**

**RESOLVED:** That this area remains closed at the moment, due to social distancing issues, and to again consider other possible use, as previously discussed.

**SEATS AROUND THE TOWN** – Clerk reported that we needed to purchase wood preservative to treat the community seats/benches around the town and churchyard.

**RESOLVED:** To purchase the wood preservative and to thank Cllr R Reid for his time in undertaking this work.

**BOWLING GREEN/CLUB HOUSE** - Request received for permission to renew the 'ditch-liner', at the expense of the Bowling Club.

**RESOLVED:** For permission to be granted for this renewal.

**KING GEORGE V Playing fields/Pavilion/Children's Play area** – Noted that the Football Club had held its AGM – new Officers: Gareth Davies Chair, Clare Mills-Brown Secretary, Les Gwynne Treasurer, also that the CCTV at the Pavilion is being looked into for future use.

Noted that the Senior Football Club is meeting with TADSCA at 6pm 15 Oct.

It was reported that the clock on the front of the Pavilion is not in working order.

**RESOLVED:** To consider repair/replacement of the clock on the Pavilion when funds allow.

**POLICE/SPEEDWATCH** –Speeding through Trefecca – Concerns received from Helen Jones & Victoria Jones, residents, to Cllr W Powell which he had forwarded to PCSO Emma Jackson. Noted that PCSO Hazel Jones is the new PCSO, who will be working with PCSO Emma Jackson.

**Speedwatch** - Noted that the Clerk had received information from Gemma Phillips, Admin, Dyfed-Powys Police, confirming that the Speedwatch had re-commenced and Trefecca was one of the first places for this to take place. It was noted that that some of our current Speedwatch team need to renew their vetting forms – Noted the Clerk has forwarded them to the relevant people, for completion and return.

**WG – TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCILS - Loss of Funding due to COVID 19 – Claims for period 1 April 2020-30 June 2020** – Noted our Town Council’s application has been successful and the total sum claimed of £954.77 has been granted and will be paid to PCC who will transfer the funds to our Town Council’s account.

**RESOLVED:** Thanks were expressed to the Town Clerk for the work involved in obtaining this reimbursement.

**20/136 TOWN COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON TOWN COUNCIL SUB-GROUPS/ OTHER ORGANISATIONS FOR 2020/2021 –**

**RESOLVED:** That Town Councillors contact the Clerk regarding groups they wish to be on.

**20/137 TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT 2020/2021 –**

Talgarth Town Council Risk Assessment – Draft document previously circulated.

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the draft document with the inclusion of – Under ‘Loss of Money/ Business Interruption/Insured – Loss, *To add:* Compensation, Grants.

**20/138 FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

**Payments made since last meeting - for ratification:**

Date	To	Item	Net	VAT	Total
21.09.20	V W Cleaning Services	Opening/Closing Public Conveniences Gates 1 – 12 July then just closing gates 14 July – 30 Sept (as Healthmatic open in the mornings since 13 July)			£153.45
22.09.20	HMRC	July, Aug, Sept Clerk’s Income Tax & Employee NI			£940.32
22.09.20	The Head Store	Headphones for the Mayor for remote meetings	£39.99 + £6.95 p/p	£9.39	£56.33
22.09.20	Town Clerk	Sept Salary & Expenses			£1,163.74
07.10.20	Alun Walters Heating Eng	On Account of Tender work – Town Hall Heating upgrade			£5,000.00
08.10.20	JDS Building Ltd	2 x 5 litres Wood Treatment	£35.30	£7.06	£42.36
09.10.20	Black Mountains Botanicals	4 x Sanitiser Units & 10 litres Sanitiser for Town Hall	£219.00	£43.80	£262.80
09.10.20	Healthmatic Ltd	Public Conveniences – One per day cleaning contract – 1/10/20 – 31/12/20	£1,687.50	£337.50	£2,025.00
09.10.20	Healthmatic Ltd	Public Conveniences – 2 <sup>nd</sup> clean per day due to COVID-19 – 01/10/20 – 31/12/20 – 1 month refunded due to 1 month FOC	£960.00	£192.00	£1,152.00

**RESOLVED:** Approval of payments above made since 7 Sept 2020.

**Amounts received since 7 Sept 2020 meeting:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
11.08.20	Western Power	Wayleave Agreement – St Gwendoline’s C’yard	£53.60
17.09.20	Josh Davies	Cremation Tablet fee DJAP dec’d £80, RP dec’d £80, Memorial Stone fee WLL dec’d £115	£275.00
22.09.20	T Weale	Fee - Burial of Ashes OPW dec’d £80, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Inscription £35.	£115.00
16.09.20	War Graves Commission	Annual fee for War Graves maintenance	£70.00

**Bank Balances – Business Reserve Account - £50,212.55 Current Account - £1,744.06**

**20/139 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED –**

**PCC and Town and Community Councils Remote Meeting - 15 Oct 6-7.30pm** – Agenda received and noted that Cllr P Lewis, Mayor and Town Clerk will participate in the meeting.

**PCC - Consultation on Updated Licensing Act Policy** – Received a revised Licensing Act 2003 Policy, go to PCC full Council for approval in late Nov so that it is in place for Jan 2021 as per statutory requirements. Any comments by 23 Oct 2020.

**PCC – Public Rights of Way** - Received a response from PCC, relating to Ms Rita de Faria Dean’s complaint of a public footpath that is obstructed by crops in the Tredustan area. Response forwarded to Ms Rita de Faria, which confirmed that it is an offence under the Highways Act 1980, to grow crops such as this on public paths. Offences of this type are enforced by the Countryside Access and Recreation team but, as previously advised the Service is operating under COVID-19 restrictions and prioritising reports accordingly. The Rights of Way and Enforcement Officer has been in contact with the landowner and is agreeing a solution to the obstructed path and ensuring this does not happen again in future years.

**BBNPA Planning, Access and Rights of Way Committee Agenda – 10am 20 Oct.**

**BBNPA National Park Authority Agenda – 10am 22 Oct.**

**OVW - Fly-tipping Action Wales** – For communities affected by fly-tipping - free printable awareness raising posters, leaflets and signs freely available.

**PAVO – Connect Wales 2020 – 29 Sept** – Invitation and Agenda received, for people in Community Connector/Social Prescribing/Local Area Coordinator type roles.

**PAVO Conference and AGM on Fri 20 Nov, inviting nominations.**

**PAVO September 2020 - E-bulletin**

**Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Draft Annual Report Consultation Feb 2021**  
Noted the Independent Remuneration Panel draft Annual Report 2021/22 has now been published for consultation and is available on its website. It is noted that Section 13 relates specifically to Community and Town Councils. Comments on the draft by 23 Nov 2020.

Noted Clerk had forwarded the annual return in respect of Talgarth Town Council – ‘Payments to Members of Talgarth Town Council for 2019-2020’ to the IRP, as requested by 30 Sept 2020 and published this on the Talgarth Town Council website.

**Brecon Advice Centre** – Noted that the centre has reopened for face to face advice for two mornings a week by appointment only.

**Bronllys Well Being Park -**

- Public meeting Mon 21 of Sept at 7pm by zoom – Noted Cllr M Dodds participated.
- The Connected Generation Project – Received some information and Zoom access links to a series of free online workshops made possible by The Connected Generation Project.

**Powys Teaching Health Board Annual General Meeting – 2pm – 3pm Thurs 22 Oct** – Received invitation for Town Councillors, to take part, virtually via by Microsoft Teams.

**Powys CHC - 'Have you had to access advice or services from your GP during the COVID-19 pandemic'** – Noted an on-line and hard copies questionnaire for submission by 30 Sept.  
**Parking Ticket Scam** – Received from PCSO Emma Jackson, details of a scam which has been targeting Powys residents - and to report any incidents to <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>  
**Town Council Defibrillator Appeal** – Received information from the project manager at Welsh Hearts Charity (Charity Number 1154109) – on circulation.

**20/140 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

7pm Monday ,2 November 2020

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.02 pm.

**SIGNED:** .....

**DATE:** .....