

**MINUTES OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7PM, MONDAY,
7 SEPTEMBER 2020, HELD REMOTELY**

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

APOLOGIES: No apologies

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

WELCOME: Cllr W Powell, Mayor, welcomed members to the fourth virtual meeting of Talgarth Town Council by Skype.

20/100 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.

20/101 BBNPA – PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Planning Applications received for consideration, having viewed them online prior to the meeting: -

(a) **Planning Application 20/18935/FUL** - Proposal: “The extension of the host dwelling to provide a home office and hobby studio which also links the house to an existing ancillary domestic store.” - Address: Berth Fedw Farm, Talgarth, Powys LD3 0ED.

RESOLVED: To support this Planning Application.

(b) **Planning Application 20/18922/FUL** - Proposal: “Proposed non-permanent holiday accommodation site, with associated installation of sewage treatment” Address: Glannant , Talgarth, Brecon LD3 0ER.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council has no objection to the actual Planning Application but felt that it is vital that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) be consulted before the Planning Application is considered by the BBNPA, due to the proposed sewage disposal into the watercourse, as mentioned in the supporting Statement.

(c) **Planning Application 20/18982/FUL** - Proposal: “Insertion of glazed door and windows in existing double door opening, and change existing window to door opening, to enable creation of serviced holiday apartment within the hotel, replacing redundant function room.” - Address: Tower Hotel, Hay Road, Talgarth LD3 0BW

RESOLVED: To support this Planning Application.

20/102 MINUTES: The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 29 July 2020, had previously been circulated to Town Councillors.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 29 July 2020, be adopted and accepted as a true record.

20/103 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

20/72 -Town Council – Youth Representatives - RESOLVED: Clerk to circulate to Town Councillors, the previous guidance information received from OVW on recruiting Youth Representation to Town/Community Councils, in order to agree the way forward at a future meeting of the Town Council.

20/86 - BT Payphone Consultation 2020 - Email 27 Aug received from Bob Doak, Clerk, Cwmdru CC, offering their support for the retention of the Phone Box 01874730268 at Pont Waun-Fach, Cwmdru. Noted that County Cllr Kathryn Silk, Bwlch Ward, had already forwarded her support to PCC for the retention of this phone box.

RESOLVED: To accept Cwmdy CC's offer re support of the retention of the Phone Box 01874730268 at Pont Waun-Fach, Cwmdy.

20/84 - Haygarth Doctors' Proposals for curtailed opening hours at Hay & Talgarth sites – Noted Cllr Bufton, who had declared an interest, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or decision making in respect of this matter.

Received a response dated 28 Aug from the CHC, to the Town Council's initial letter of concern dated 17 July regarding the Haygarth Doctors' proposals for curtailed opening hours at Hay and Talgarth sites. Noted that the CHC agreed with the contents of our letter and that they have now had the opportunity to consider the various documentation and concerns re the Haygarth Doctors' proposals and the response from the PtHB to the Haygarth practice.

Also received from the CHC, a copy of their letter dated 27 Aug to the PtHB and a copy of the PtHB's response dated 4 Sept.

RESOLVED: To respond to the Haygarth Doctors' email dated 13 July, in which they enclosed a copy of their letter dated 9 July to the CHC, regarding the Haygarth Doctors's Proposals for curtailed opening hours at both their sites, as discussed at the meeting, with the Town Council's concerns and requesting that they fully consult with all their practice population prior to revisiting their decision.

20/93 - PCC – Bid for Covid-19 Environmental work around the Town - Noted Cllr W Powell, Mayor, Rosie Williams & Gaynor Weavers, Grow for Talgarth, had met with David Kingston PCC, on Fri 14 Aug, to discuss the potential bid in closer detail. Noted this bid to be submitted by 30 Nov and there would be no cost to the Town Council.

Received an update from David Kingston PCC, today, as follows:-

Works in the car park - Vincent Goodwin PCC does not think that this can be included in the Covid 19 budget but suggests that there could be other funds which could be allocated to this.

Works outside the Co-op - The proposals are appropriate for the Covid 19 budget but there has been some discussion about the legality of moving the disabled parking space, which I will investigate further.

Landscaping works next to the Chinese Restaurant - The proposals will probably qualify for the Covid 19 budget provided that they are presented in a suitable manner e.g. provision of seating for eating takeaway food.

David Kingston will now investigate the next stage of the process and take the appropriate action.

20/104 TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF A TALGARTH TOWN COUNCILLOR – Received an application for this vacancy from local resident Rachel Parry.

RESOLVED: To co-opt Rachel Parry as a Talgarth Town Councillor.

20/105 CORONAVIRUS COVID 19 – Noted the Town Council receives weekly updates regarding this matter, from WG and regular updates from PCC.

Update on Town Council Current Procedures –

- **St Gwendoline's Churchyard** - Cllr A Bufton reported that we are currently awaiting further guidelines from both the WG and Church in Wales.
Cllr W Powell, Mayor, thanked Cllr A Bufton for his work in dealing with bereaved relatives at this difficult time.

RESOLVED: A Site Inspection meeting will take place when time allows.

- **Town Hall – Guidance to Councils on holding meetings on a physical basis –** Noted WG guidance received on opening up Town/Community Halls.

Upgrade of the Hot Water and Central Heating system - Noted that the work on the upgrade of the central heating and hot water system is well in hand and should be complete in the next couple of weeks.

- **Public Conveniences** – Some concerns were received regarding the water pressure and flush handle in the current unisex toilet area. Noted these issues are being addressed.
- **Bowling Green/Club house - Grass snakes/slow worms** – Noted that Audrey Micklewright, Secretary, Bowls Club, has received confirmation from Stephanie Coates, South & West Wales Wildlife Trust, that they can now go ahead and remove the grass cuttings from the grass pit. Audrey confirmed that none of the green keepers have seen any evidence of them in recent months and it is now well past the breeding season. She assured us that they will carefully inspect the contents of the pit before removal.
Proposed Extension of the Club House – Request received from the Bowling Club, for Town Council support to the Club's proposal to extend the Club House, to enable more internal space to host visiting clubs and that they will be applying to Cymru Activ (Bowls Wales) for funding.
RESOLVED: That the Town Council is broadly in support of the Bowls Club's proposals to extend the Clubhouse, subject to the submission of additional detail of what is proposed.
Small patch of ground adjoining the Bowls Club – Cllr M Dodds asked the Town Council for permission to erect and plant up a flower box in this proposed area of ground, as part of the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Talgarth Bowls Club in 2021.
RESOLVED: That the Town Council seek to establish the ownership of this proposed piece of land.
- **King George V Playing fields/Pavilion/Children's Play area** – Received copy signage from Chris Voyle, Chair, TADSCA, in order to close this area until WG allows unrestricted use, as reported at our 29 July meeting. However, due to opposition by some local parents/users of the area, an urgent meeting was called by TADSCA on 6 Aug, when it was agreed to re-open the Children's Play area and a risk assessment dated 11 Aug received and notices for all entrances to re-open the Play area were received by the Town Council. It was noted that some new members of the community had come forward and formed a Children's Play Area group, as part of TADSCA.
RESOLVED: To thank Cllr S Thomas for his assistance with the Children's Play area.
Pavilion - Received from Chris Voyle, Chair, Talgarth Town Football Club, for the Town Council records a copy record of the Pavilion Line Clean/flushing and Legionnaires weekly flushing - 17/3 to 2/8/20 and a risk assessment for the event at the Clubhouse on 29 Aug.
- **One Voice Wales – Training & Quarterly Meetings** - Information received that training is commencing from Sept by via StarLeaf video conferencing and meetings remotely.
- **Town & Community Councils – Loss of Funding due to COVID 19 – WG Claims for period 1 April 2020-30 June 2020 by 18 Sept** – Received Application form for claims in respect of loss of income for the first quarter period. Noted claims to be submitted by 18 Sept.
RESOLVED: Clerk to make a claim re Town Hall income loss, due to cancellation of hall hirings during this period.

20/106 TALGARTH LIBRARY/TIRC – PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR – It was reported by Cllr L Elston-Reeves that Ann Seymour had been appointed to this post from 7 Sept 2020. Cllr W Powell, Mayor, reported that he would be meeting with PCC Library Services regarding this post and thanked Cllr L Elston-Reeves, alongside TiRC colleagues for overseeing the shortlisting and interviewing of the post. Noted that the Town Council had previously committed £1,000 for this 1year position for the town.

20/107 FINANCIAL UPDATE:**Amounts received since 29 July 2020 meeting:**

Date	From	Item	Amount
11.08.20	C C James, Funeral Director	Burial Plot – GIJ dec'd	£140.00
14.08.20	R W Evans & Son	2 nd Inscription – MK dec'd	£35.00
19.08.20	S Parker	Burial of Ashes MK dec'd	£80.00
31.08.20	PCC	One third Precept	£18,000

Accounts for Approval of Payment since 29 July 2020 meeting:

Date	To	Item	Net	VAT	Total
02.08.20	Martin Leighton	C'yard Maintenance– 4 th cut of 14			£420.00
02.08.201	Lady Haig's Poppy Factory	Poppy wreath for VJ Day 15/8/20 £25.83 + Delivery £5.	£30.83	£5.17	£36.00
19.08.20	Smith of Derby	Annual maintenance – Town Clock	£222.00	£44.40	£266.40
20.08.20	Town Clerk	Aug Salary & Expenses			£1,007.88
26.08.20	Welsh Water	Public Conveniences water rates – 12/2/20 – 19/8/20	£296.40		£296.40
26.08.20	Welsh Water	Town Hall water rates – 12/2/20 – 19/8/20	£136.03		£136.03
30.08.20	The Safety Centre	Panic Bolt tubes x 20 for lock – Market Hall – Mill Yard - £22.95 + £5.95 delivery	£28.90	£5.78	£34.68
30.08.20	Farr & Harris	Materials re Town Hall heating upgrade	£115.01	£23.00	£138.01
30.08.20	Farr & Harris	Materials re Town Hall heating upgrade	£619.19	£123.84	£743.03
30.08.2020	Healthmatic	Public Conveniences cleaning- July, Aug, Sept 2020 – normal contract	£1,675.50	£337.50	£2,025.00
30.08.2020	Healthmatic	Public Conveniences cleaning – 13 July, Aug, Sept – 80 days at additional clean £16 per day	£1,280.00	£256.00	£1,536.00
03 09 2020	Public Wales Loan Board	Half-year repayment due 8/9/20 of £4,506.46 (incl interest)	£4,506.46		£4,506.46

Town Council Loan – Received PWLB Repayment Notice of £4,506.46 due on 8 Sept 2020.

Noted the principal balance outstanding following this repayment will be £26,063.23.

Noted the maturity date for this loan is 8 September 2023.

Town Hall Clock – Noted the annual service of the clock took place by Smith of Derby, on 10 Aug, in the presence of Cllr A Bufton. The Engineer made some suggestions, on circulation, for the clock, in the future – to be discussed at a future meeting. Invoice for the service received £222.00 + £44.40 VAT – Total 266.40.

RESOLVED: Approval of payments above made since 29 July 2020.

Bank Balances – Business Reserve Account - £62,212.00 Current Account - £1,987.19

Clerks' National Salary Award - 2020-21 – Received confirmation of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) new pay scales for 2020-21 to be implemented from 1 April 2020. Town Clerk currently on SCP 21 £13.41 per hour to increase to £13.78 per hour – increase of 37p per hour.

RESOLVED: To Town Clerk's increase to £13.78 per hour from 1 April 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE DISCUSSED:

20/108 75th year anniversary of VJ Day – Commemoration – 11am 15 Aug at the War

Memorial – Noted this small event, took place with the Mayor and reps of the Town Council present, Canon Rowland Edwards conducting the service, Cpl John Finney laying the wreath and members of the community present, including War Veteran John Gwynne, now 99 years of age. Cllr W Powell, Mayor, on behalf of the Town Council, officially handed over the recently purchased 1939 - 1945 commemorative seat to the people of Talgarth.

Cllr W Powell, Mayor thanked Cllr L Elston-Reeves for organising this event and to local residents David & Rachel Parry for directing the traffic whilst the event took place and to Cllr R Reid for putting up the flags on the Town Hall

RESOLVED:

- To pay Lady Haig's Poppy Factory – Poppy Wreath/delivery - £36.
- To thank Cpl John Finney for laying the VJ Remembrance Day Poppy Wreath, on behalf of the Town Council.
- To forward a letter of thanks to Brian Evans for again planting up the War Memorial walls for the Summer season and for kindly donating the beautiful begonia flower plants.

20/109 Merchant Navy Day - 3 Sept 2020 – Clerk reported that she has registered, again this year, for Talgarth Town Council to be included in the 'Roll of Honour' on the Seafarers UK Merchant Navy Day website. Cllr W Powell, Mayor, thanked Cllr R Reid for putting up the flag.

20/110 Hundreds of fish killed in Afon Llynfi pollution spill – Town Councillors had received the BBC News announcement of this disturbing report.

Noted the Town Council's serious concerns were reported to NRW on 15 Aug and we are awaiting a full response from them.

Noted that the Clerk had circulated an update, on 17 Aug, from the NRW website.

20/111 GROW FOR TALGARTH (GFT) – It was noted that GfT has been shortlisted for the Community Garden of the Year within the region Wales and Northern Ireland and that the regional and overall winners of this category would be announced in The Sunday Mirror on 13 Sept.

20/112 XMAS LIGHTS GROUP – Update received from Martin Draper, Chair, on behalf of the Lights Group re their proposals for the 2020 Xmas lights, which will again be reviewed, prior to the Xmas lights being erected, in line with Covid 19 working practices.

Cllr R Reid reported that there would not be a 'Switch on' evening this year and explained briefly the proposals for this year's Xmas lights display.

Cllr P Lewis, Deputy Mayor, suggested we offer any Town Council help that we could give.

RESOLVED: To offer any help that the Town Council can give and to purchase the PPE items requested to ensure a safe working environment for volunteers.

20/113 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED –

PCC & Town & Community Councils – Virtual meeting Covid-19 Recovery Meeting –

15 July 2020 – Received the slides and links, that formed part of the PCC Officers' presentations at the virtual meeting, at which both Cllr W Powell, Mayor and Josephine, Town Clerk took part. Noted the next PCC & Town & Community Councils virtual meeting will be held on 15 Oct - 6pm - 7.30pm for Chairs/Town Clerks.

PCC - Declaration of Interest forms – Revised Declaration of Interest forms received and circulated to Town Councillors, for future use.

PCC – Public Footpath – Tredustan- Court to Tregunter Farm – Received email exchanges between Rita de Faria Dean and PCC, regarding a footpath which has been planted over with sweet corn and the farmer had not marked the footpath, the route from Tredustan Court to Tregunter Farm, the section from Tredustan Court to the stream.

Noted the Clerk has forwarded the correspondence to Melanie Hardwick PCC to pass onto the relevant Cabinet Member, for their earliest attention.

BBNPA – Planning Application 20/18813/FUL - Proposal: “Proposed change of use from disused Library to proposed Christian Meeting Room – Noted it had been reported to BBNPA that there has been no site notice put up for this application.

BBNPA - Planning Application 20/18444/FUL - Proposal: “Installation of a biomethane upgrading facility, ancillary infrastructure and equipment, access and landscaping” - Land At Great Porthamel , Talgarth – Noted that Cllr T McClatchey, had circulated copy of his letter dated 12 Aug, sent to GP Services in response to GP Services’ personal letter to him, dated 30 June, as a consultee.

BBNPA – PERMISSION FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. **Planning Application 20/18760/FUL** Proposal: “Footpath management works including newsurfacing and steps” Address: Pwll Y Wrach Nature Reserve, Talgarth, Powys LD3 0EE
2. **Planning Application 20/ 20/18687/FUL** “Demolition and rebuild of detached prefab garage on rocket socket piled RC slab”- Journeys End, Heol Las,Talgarth, LD3 0PH

BBNPA – Received Agenda for BBNPA meetings, 7 Aug and 11 Sept 2020 at 10 am

BBNPA - Change of date for BBNPA meeting 22 Sept at 1pm – Noted the scheduled date of the BBNPA meeting for 22 Sept, 1pm has been changed to 25 Sept, 10am at Conference Room, Plas y Ffynnon, Cambrian Way, Brecon LD3 7HP, due to the amount of applications that are expected at the PAROW committee on the 22 Sept.

BBNPA - Meeting 2 Oct, 10am has been cancelled. This was a provisional date which has now been used for a Policy Forum.

BBNPA -Received weekly Planning Register 7, 14, 21, 28 Aug.

OVW - Fake Emails circulating– Noted fake emails – supposedly received from Cllr William Powell to current - and some former - Town Councillors, had been received.

Noted that OVW has since reported that these fake emails are happening in other T&CCs and the matter has been reported to Dyfed-Powys Police.

PAVO – Covid 19 Bulletin – Updates received

Powys Regional Partnership Board - Improving people's health and well-being across Powys.

News from the Black Mountains College - update received.

Bronllys Well Being Park - Update and Invitation to Public Meeting 7pm 21 Sept via Zoom.

Police and Crime Panel - Annual Report for 2019-2020 received.

A479 Closure South of Talgarth – Impact upon surrounding roads – Follow-up letter 30 July from Fay Jones MP to Ken Skates MS and his reply 7 Aug, received for information.

Talgarth Indoor Bowls – Noted that this group wished to liaise with TADSCA, for information. Noted the Clerk had forwarded TADSCA contact details to Jill Evans, Secretary of the Club.

20/114 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

7pm AGM Wed 16 September 2020

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.29 pm.

SIGNED:

DATE: