

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7PM,  
WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2020, 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 L Elston-Reeves,  
Cllr A Lord, Cllr T McClatchey, Cllr R Reid, Cllr S Thomas, Cllr C Voyle

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Z Argent

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs Freya Morgan, Brecon – Hay Railway Cycle Path group  
Mrs Josephine Rumsey - Town Clerk

**20/21 VISIT BY FREYA MORGAN RE BRECON – HAY RAILWAY CYCLE PATH –**

Cllr W Powell, Mayor, welcomed Mrs Freya Morgan, to the meeting.  
She had forwarded, in advance of the meeting some of the most up to date information regarding the project, which included some of the maps from the feasibility report that cover the areas, which formed the discussion.  
Received minutes from the meeting held at Talgarth Town Hall on 17 Jan and also some correspondence from Hay Town Council following the 17 Jan meeting.  
Note the group will next be meeting at 8pm on Wed 19 Feb in the Town Hall to include elections of six committee roles – and to contact the group if anyone wishes to stand.  
Mrs Morgan thanked the Town Council for their ongoing support.

**20/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –** There were no declarations of interest.

**20/23 MINUTES:** The minutes of the Town Council meetings held on the 8 January and the Precept meeting on 13 January, had previously been circulated to the Council Members.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 8 January and 13 January, be adopted and accepted as true records.

**20/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM 13 JAN 2020 MINUTES –**

**Vision ICT - upgrade information re Talgarth Town Council website –** Information previously received and agreed re our current website updating, in line with the new accessibility regulations which are to be implemented by Sept 2020 at the quoted the cost of £970.00 + VAT - this upgrade to a responsive and accessible site which will involve building a completely new website and redesign, would be and will include:

- Designing and building a brand new, accessible, website
- Writing an accessibility statement and adding to the site
- Transferring all current data to the new website
- No change to the annual charges

Noted OVW confirmed this is a necessary requirement and forwarded a copy of the relevant documentation - L09-18 – The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No2) Accessibility Regs 2018 and included in the Precept figures 2020/2021.

**RESOLVED:** To arrange for this upgrade work to be undertaken by Vision ICT at the quoted sum of £970 + VAT.

**Handyman Job – RESOLVED:** To progress the handyman job as soon as possible and for a working group to pursue this matter and report back to the main meeting.

**20/25 BBNPA – PLANNING APPLICATIONS -**

- 1. Reconsultation - Planning Application 19/18146/FUL - Proposal: “Proposed garage extension and first floor extension.” - Address: Maesgoch, Tredustan, Brecon LD3 0PN –** Noted the only change from the original Planning Application is that the ‘Demolition of the Chimney’ had been omitted.  
**RESOLVED:** To reiterate the previous comments agreed at 8 Jan meeting ie To support this planning application with the proviso that the new windows on the front of the

property are of the same shape and type as existing and that the cladding is removed and the wall rendered to match the existing front of the property.

- 2. Reconsultation – Planning Application 19/17865/FUL - Proposal: “To demolish the existing adjacent structure and to replace with a new "home-work" studio” – Address: Castell Dinas, Talgarth, LD3 0EN** – Noted that the changes from the original Planning Application, is that the Conservation Officer has insisted that this new studio is finished in stone not timber cladding and less windows, also the red line area has increased to include the driveway (this being a technical requirement just to make the application valid).

**RESOLVED:** To support this Planning Application as we did at 6 Nov 2019 meeting.

#### **BBNPA – PLANNING APPLICATION- NOT APPROVED –**

- 1. Planning Application 18070/LBC** “Retrospective amendments to LBC 14/11613/LBC regarding front windows, door and guttering” (Listed Building Consent) at Pentwyn, Talgarth, Brecon, LD3 0EH
- 2. Planning Application 19/18081/FUL** - “The demolition and replacement of Ancillary domestic structures with a new kitchen extension.” Address: Berth Fedw Farm , Talgarth, LD3 0ED
- 3. Planning Application 19/18099/FUL** – Remodelling of exiting single storey to rear of property to replace with two storey extension with balcony and attached single storey extension/ lean to. Relocation of back bedroom window to side of house (same as number 27 and 26) – Address: 28 Westfields, Talgarth LD3 0HG

**BBNPA** – Received Agendas for the meetings:

- **Audit and Scrutiny Committee** – 10am Fri, 31 Jan.
- **Planning, Access and Rights of Way PAROW**- 10am 11 Feb at HQ.
- **BBNPA meeting** – 10am Fri, 24 Jan at 10am

#### **Powys LDP – Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance Consultation Jan 2020 –**

Note the 6-week consultation from 20 Jan – 28 Feb 2020.

**PCC - Planning Application 19/0845/FUL Proposed sand and gravel extraction near Tregunter farm** – Further comments received from Duncan Hawley, resident of Llanfilo.

**RESOLVED:** To respond by suggesting Mr Hawley contacts his own Llanfilo Community Council and Powys County Council Planning Department for any further information.

**20/26 TOWN CLERK’S ANNUAL REVIEW – DUE 1 FEB 2020** - Noted that the Town Clerk left the room when this item was being discussed.

**RESOLVED:** The Town Clerk has performed satisfactorily again this year and to increase her hourly rate - Contract 20 hours per week to newSP21- hourly rate £13.41 per hour from

1 Feb 2020, as per the 2019-2020 NALC National Salary Award.

Noted no new pay scales, for Town/Community Council Clerks, from 1 April 2020, yet received.

Cllr W Powell, Mayor signed up the Schedule 2020-2021 to accompany the Clerk’s Contract.

Cllr W Powell, Mayor thanked the Town Clerk her for her continued dedicated service.

#### **20/27 TALGARTH ISSUES –**

**Town Council LOGO – RESOLVED:** For a working group to take this forward and report back to the main meeting. Also to look at replacing the Notice Board which is breaking down and to look at suitable signage to indicate the Town Hall.

**Public Conveniences – Request Gate key** – Request received from The Bakers’ Table, The Mill, stating that as they have lost their visitor toilet, could they, in the interim, hold a key to the gates of the Public Conveniences, to enable these facilities to be used during evening events.

**RESOLVED:** That the Mayor and two reps of the Town Council meet with Nicola to agree a suitable arrangement to discuss at a full meeting of the Town Council.

**Community Youth Representation – RESOLVED:** To advertise for 2 Youth Representatives.  
**Ashburnham House – 10 year Anniversary – 12 noon- 2pm Wed 4 March** – Invitation received to this event. Several Town Councillors expressed an interest to attend.

**‘On the Verge’** – Noted a meeting was held on 28 Jan in Committee Room, Town Hall.

**Police & Speedwatch Scheme** – Noted a successful site meeting had taken place, earlier today with PS D Joseph, PCSO E Jackson and reps of the Town Council, identifying the entrance to Trefecca Farm, as a suitable location to carry out community speed watch in Trefecca.

It was noted that some of the children have to cross the busy road during a busy period of the day, to get to and from the school bus stop in Trefecca

Cllr A Lord reported that one of the actions from the meeting, was how to register a speeding concern with the GoSafe partnership and he had since tried the system.

Noted a further speedwatch site was identified on the Trefecca Road opposite the former Council houses.

It was observed by PS Joseph that the pedestrian crossing from the Rugby Club across the Abergavenny road was extremely dangerous and requires attention from the Trunk Road Agency. PS Joseph suggested that the Town Council, approach Powys County Council, with regard to any measures which may be available under their ‘Safer Route to School’ scheme.

**Old Post Office, Talgarth** – E-mail update received today, from Richard Hayman, following his site visit on 19 Dec, confirming that he has passed on his advice to Cadw who, in the first instance, would inform the owner on the decision whether or not to list and awaiting a response. Received for information, further correspondence dated 30 Jan on this matter, from Virginia Brown to Fay Jones MP and cc to Kirsty Williams AM and County Councillor W Powell.

**Grow for Talgarth** – Received minutes of meeting held on 13 Jan and agenda for the AGM held on 10 Feb in the Usk & Wye Offices, at which both Cllr M Dodds and Cllr S Thomas attended. Note next meeting Mon 9 Mar at Wye & Usk Foundation Offices.

**Former Youth and Community centre** – Request received from Jed Needs to attend the 11 Mar meeting as his group is making some progress in their deliberations with PCC and he would like to update the Town Council on their progress to date.

**King George V Playing Fields, Pavilion etc** –

**Children’s Play area** – It was reported that the playground surface is in need of some repair work. Noted Clerk to enquire from Steve Butcher, PCC, of a suitable company for this work. Received a letter dated 31 Jan and booking form from PCC, regarding this year’s Annual Play Inspection – cost £72 – note to be completed and returned to PCC by 9 Apr.

**RESOLVED:** To forward this information to TADSCA.

**TADSCA meeting** – Noted that a meeting had taken place on 14 Jan at the Pavilion and the next TADSCA meeting is to be held on Tues 25 Feb.

**Bowling Club** – Cllr M Dodds reported the following from the Bowling Club meeting on 11 Feb:

- that the Bowling Club had signed up the Deed of Variation to the current Lease – PCC to the Bowling Club, which ends April 2021, to include that the Bowling Club is liable for all outgoing inside and outside the Bowling Club. Noted that this needed to be done before PCC transfer of the Bowling Club Community Asset to the Town Council.
- that the Bowling Club had been awarded £1,000 grant and has joined with ‘Grow for Talgarth’
- that the Bowling Club will celebrate 100 years in 2021

**Twinning- Damak Municipality of Nepal** – Cllr M Dodds reported that he had been in discussion with Major Khusiman Gurung, who confirmed that, at the moment, emphasis is being concentrated on the developing twinning with Brecon as county town, where Talgarth could play a role in the first instance.

**Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary for Refugees** – Received Minutes of the AGM and monthly meeting held on 15 Jan, attended by Cllr William Powell.

**Black Mountains College Proposal** – Noted that Amanda Page has now joined the Black Mountains College group and is the Co-ordinator of NVQs.

**RESOLVED: To move Standing Orders to 9.15pm**

**20/28 HEALTH ISSUES-**

**Bronllys Well Being Park** – Noted a Public meeting had been held on 20 Jan at the Concert Hall, Bronllys Hospital and the Jan Newsletter received.

**Powys CHC** - Request received from Powys CHC to receive future Newsletters, Information on meetings/events. Noted Clerk had agreed to receive these items on behalf of the Town Council.

**20/29 GROUP UPDATES –**

**OVW – Annual Subscription 1/4/2020 – 31/3/2021 –**

**RESOLVED:** To pay subscription £269.00 due on 1/4/2020.

**OVW Brecon & Radnor Area Committee meeting** - 7pm Fri 21 Feb at the Market Hall, Erwood

**Festival Group** – Next meeting – 7pm Mon 17 Feb at the Town Hall.

**Talgarth & District Regeneration Group (TDRG) –**

**PAVO – Comic Relief bid re Talgarth Library** – Cllr W Powell, Mayor, reported that it had been announced that this bid for £9,500, submitted by the TIRC, in conjunction with the TDRG and the newly formed Talgarth Library Friends group, had been successful.

Noted that the Town Council had included the contribution of £1,000 in 2020/21 financial year, as a demonstration of its commitment to the project and as match funding towards the delivery of its objectives.

**Talgarth Allotments Association** – Cllr W Powell reported that the Association had held a successful AGM earlier in the month. Mike Tovey had been re-elected Chair, with Anthony (Scoby) Morris as Deputy Chair and Mrs Susan Sherwood as Secretary.

**Ysgol y Mynydd Du –**

**Vacancy for a School Governor** – Due to the resignation of the representative from Bronllys Community Council, a request has been received for Talgarth Town Council to appoint a Town Councillor to the governing body of Ysgol Y Mynydd Du, for a term of 4 years.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr T McClatchey be appointed to this vacant position.

Noted that Cllr S Thomas stated is prepared to support the wider activities of the school.

**Estyn Inspection** – It was noted that the Inspection is due to take place week commencing 24 Feb for approx. 3 days. It was also reported that Mrs Tara Morgan, Acting Headteacher, is coping well in the absence of Ms Sam Toone, Headteacher.

**Request from a parent and volunteer football coach, Derek Frew of Ysgol y Mynydd Du -**

Request received from a parent and volunteer football coach, Derek Frew, for support with small capital items to enable himself and colleagues to continue running the ‘After School Football’ activities for girls and boys at Ysgol y Mynydd Du. Noted the Chair is minded to support this request approx. £150 from the Mayor’s allowance. Cllr M Dodds, as Chair of Community and Premises Committee, is supportive of this and advice received from OVW confirms this is in order, as the items requested are ‘After School’ enrichment activities not provided for in the budget allocated by PCC. This request is also consistent with the provisions of the Well-being Act 2000.

**RESOLVED:** To support the Club with essential items, as per the request, up to the value of £150.00, and for the items to be the property of the School which will be to provide greater independence for the Club’s development, following the kind loan of balls, etc by Talgarth Town FC in the initial period.

**RESOLVED: To move Standing Orders to 9.45pm**

**Walkers are Welcome Group** – Cllr M Dodds gave a brief update from the last meeting –

- 1. National Walkers are Welcome Litter Pick: 23 – 29 March 2020.** Cllr Dodds notified the Town Council of this event which has also been shared with ‘Grow for Talgarth’ and other local organisations. Noted we may need to purchase some litter pick-up equipment to assist with this event and to look into costs etc.

2. Received Agenda for 22 Jan 7pm and draft Minutes of 17 Dec meeting. Noted that a pdf of the 2020 TWF Programme is on the website and that online and postal bookings are now open. The Programme and Leaflet have also been printed and are available for collection and distribution from Talgarth Library. Noted next WAW meeting will be 7pm 24 Mar.
3. Also received WAW Constitution, which was originally adopted in May 2012 and certain aspects of it now require review. WAW state that any formal amendments would require agreement at the May 2020 AGM so WAW would appreciate any observations from WAW committee members or recommendations by 29 Feb 2020.

**Tourist Information & Resource Centre (TIRC)** – Noted that Cllr Z Argent had been taken ill recently and under-gone an operation and that the Town Clerk had forwarded her a ‘Get Well’ card, from the Town Council.

Cllr W Powell, Mayor, in Cllr Z Argent’s absence, reported that the TIRC had met on Fri 7 Feb and suggested that Town Councillors should call into the re-sized premises, which are proving to be working well.

## 20/30 TOWN HALL –

**Town Hall Licence** – Noted that Cllr A Bufton had met Martin Phillips PCC on the 27 Jan to carry out a Licensing Inspection and everything was found to be satisfactory. Noted that the Clerk had since forwarded to PCC the 2 current Electrical Certificates relating to the 5-year test:

- The Installation Condition Report – Test carried out 31/1/2019
- Minor Electrical Installations Multiple Works – work done 26/7/2019 SATISFACTORY.

**Town Hall** – Received Certificates and invoice £140 + £28 VAT - £168 for the tender sum for Annual Fire alarm test & Emergency lighting inspections undertaken on 10 Jan.

**RESOLVED:** To pay Skyrme Electrical invoice £168.

**PRS/PPL Music Licence Review - Town Hall** – Received our Annual Review form and noted that the Clerk had submitted the necessary information. Invoice received – Community Building – PRS £52, PPL £52 = £104 + £20 80 VAT – Total £124.80 – 6 Mar 2020 – 5 Mar 2021.

**RESOLVED:** To pay PRS/PPL Invoice £124.80.

**Tender for the Town Hall heating and hot water system to be upgraded** – Noted that the Clerk had invited Tenders from 6 companies and several expressed interest but only 1 completed Tender from Alun Walters, Gas Engineer in the sum of £19,125.00 received.

**RESOLVED:** Due to the urgency of this heating upgrade and bearing in mind this is the second time to go out to Tender, as only one Tender received from Alun Walters, Gas Engineer, to accept the tender sum of £15,937.00 for labour costs and materials. It was agreed to enquire if the Town Council could purchase the boilers and materials etc. Cllr A Bufton to liaise with Alun Walters re time scales, payments etc in respect of finally confirming the Tender.

**Town Hall – Stage Curtains Infrastructure & Stage Curtains** – **RESOLVED:** For a working group to pursue this matter and report back to the main meeting.

## 20/31 POWYS COUNTY COUNCILLOR - Received Cllr W Powell’s monthly update, stating:-

- As previously mentioned, the main business preoccupying the County Council at present is delivering a balanced budget for 2020/2021 and an acceptable level of Council Tax for the ensuing year. A busy programme of committee scrutiny sessions continues, and the final numbers will be determined by Full Council on 28 Feb, with the Council Tax due for confirmation 5 Mar. Colleagues are working to ensure that the final figure is well under the 5% increase that has been mooted by the Conservative/Independent Cabinet and the Welsh Liberal Democrat/Green Group, which leads the opposition, is working on its own alternative budget to this end.
- Other statistics that will be relevant for Talgarth residents include the increase in Council House rents of 2.7% that has been agreed by PCC Cabinet. Also, last Friday, the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Panel approved the 4.8% increase in Police Precept that was requested by our Police and Crime Commissioner, Dafydd Llywelyn. This equates to

£260.56 on an average B and D property. Whilst this will be seen, by some, as a hefty increase of £12 per year, it is still the lowest amongst the four Welsh Police Forces.

- He updated colleagues on a range of matters during the meeting, as per the Agenda, but a couple of important pieces of news he wished to flag up. Firstly, the bus stop on Bronllys Road, adjacent to the War Memorial, is to be equipped with an electronic Real Time Information (RTI) display screen, as part of a roll out at key locations across the county. This will serve to reassure passengers of the running time of the bus, especially useful for occasional passengers, and for those whose journeys are time sensitive. And secondly, in a major boost for many bus users in Talgarth, we have news of a significant investment for passengers. Following a lengthy campaign, in partnership with Town Council, we will soon have a brand new bus shelter on Hay Road, to the south of Kings Drive, which has been a popular halt for many years, which will also benefit from an RTI digital display and will be fully DDA compliant. This investment should be of real benefit to all bus users locally.
- Secondly, the old Victorian School, adjacent to St Gwendoline's Church, has now moved from PCC Corporate Property to the control of PCC Housing. This is to be welcomed, as it will enable the Town Council and wider community to engage more actively in the debate about future use of this historic asset, than would otherwise have been the case and he looks forward to playing my part, alongside colleagues, in this matter.
- He has had a fairly busy period of case work referrals and site visits. The Powys Highways teams in particular have had a challenging time recently, especially in the wake of Storm Ciara, with Storm Dennis also forecast for the coming weekend.

## 20/32 PCC & TRUNK ROAD ISSUES

The following 3 highway issues were reported to the meeting by Cllr R Reid -

- some subsistence has occurred in the location above 1 & 2 Gwernllwyd Cottages, Talgarth LD3 0DP
- some tree cuttings/green material on the verge at the junction between Ffostill Road and back road to former Mid Wales Hospital need removal
- a collection of wet soil and debris on the road at the entrance to the Park Woods

**RESOLVED:** To report these issues to PCC Highways, Boughrood depot.

Noted that the Town Council was copied into correspondence between Cllr W Powell and PCC -

1. A drain on lower Penbont Road was blocked and enquiry why the hedges were not cut last year. Noted Cllr W Powell, Mayor dealt direct with PCC Highways.
2. Complaint re state of Single track lane from A479 at Waun Fach to Llangors .Noted Cllr W Powell had dealt with this matter and the work is in hand.

**Highway concerns** - Further communication dated 25 Jan received from Mr Williams, Old Paper Shop - stating that he has reviewed previous emails and the Town Council appears to have been copied in on all relevant correspondence including to and from the traffic police and the local authority but if, however, any of the Town Councillors are unfamiliar with the issues or have forgotten them, to let him know and he will forward anything they may need to read.

**RESOLVED:** To respond to Mr Williams, that the Town Council feels his questions have been addressed but to offer clarity over potential next steps for him, should he wish to pursue the issue.

**Bollards – Heol las lane – RESOLVED:** To undertake a site visit as soon as possible.

## 20/33 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED –

**Town Council Accounts – 2019 - 2020 – Internal Budget Audit Report** – Received satisfactory 3rd Internal Budget Audit Report - Sept – Dec 2019, & previously received

satisfactory Internal Budget Audit Reports - 01 04 2019 – 30 06 2019 and 01 07 2019 30 09 2019 by S Drury, Internal Auditor – on circulation.

**Talgarth Town Council – Welsh Audit Office 2018/19** – Invoice for audit work received £280.75. **RESOLVED:** Payment of £280.75 be made to Welsh Audit Office.

**Town Council Loan** – Note balance owing £34,390.97 after payment on 8 Sept2019 and next payment due on 8 March 2020 - Principal £4,141.92, Interest £364.54 – Total £4,506.46.

**PCC re Transforming Education in Powys** – Information received - Note response by 24 Feb.

**PAVO - January E-bulletin** on circulation

**Requests for Financial Assistance** – received from the following - to be considered at 11 Mar meeting: St David’s Hospice, Cancer Research Wales, Wales Air Ambulance, Hay Dial a ride, Brecon Advice Centre

**Clerks & Councils Direct** - January 2020 Issue 127 – On circulation

**Invitation to Ann Seymour’s exhibition Charlie’s Year - in the Andrew Lamont Gallery, Theatr Brycheiniog, Brecon - Fri 31 Jan** – Received invitation to the exhibition which runs from 1 Feb to 1Mar 2020.

**20/34 ST GWENDOLINE’S CHURCHYARD – Site Inspection Meeting** – 5pm Wed 1 April 2020.

**20/35 AMOUNTS RECEIVED –**

Hall Hire – Marisa – Hat filming – 1 Feb	£40.00
Hall Hire – Table tennis – 6 sessions	£30.00
Hall Hire – Funeral tea DEL dec’d	£40.00
Hall Hire – Country & Western Club 3/1 & 25/1 £40 x 2 + £5 x 2 Licence fee	£90.00
Hall Hire – Brecon-Hay Cycle route group 17/1 £9	
Hall Hire- Co-op 21/11/19	£9.00
Hall Hire- Child’s Birthday Party- HF – 22/2/20	£22.00
Castle, Funeral Director – Interment of Ashes LL dec’d	£80.00
Talgarth Luncheon Club – 50% Donation Eurobin Hire	£70.20
C C James, Funeral Director, Plot DEL dec’d	£140.00
A V Griffiths & Son, Funeral Director – Plot SW dec’d	£140.00
R W Evans & Son – Mem Stone LG dec’d £115, 2 <sup>nd</sup> inscription SP dec’d £35	£150.00

**20/36 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

J Rumsey, Clerk – Increase Feb Salary £1,162.20, Less Tax £232.40 = £929.80,	
Tel Rent £19.99, B’band/Calls £24.00, Post £10.12, Home Office £35,	
Travel £2.25	£1,021.16
Card Factory – Get-well card	£0.79
V W Cleaning Services – Jan - Town Hall Cleaning £140.40, Gates £64028	£204.68
PCC - Town Hall – Eurobin hire1/10 – 1/12/19	£140.40
Wales Audit Office – External Audit fees 2018/2019	£280.74
PPL/PRS – Town Hall Music Licence – PPL £52, PRS £52 + £20.80 VAT	£124.80
Skyrme Electrical – Town Hall – Annual Fire Alarm & Emerg Light test – 10 Jan 2020 - £140 + £28 VAT	£168.00
Shaw & Sons – New Minute Book cover- £78+ £15.60 VAT	£93.60
PAVO – Payroll fee – Town Clerk - Sept – Dec 2019	£30.00
Border Office Supplies – Town Hall – Toilet Rolls - £25.68 + £5.14 VAT	£30.82
Dwr Cymru – Town Hall Water rates – 30/8/19 – 11/02/2020	£285.57
Dwr Cymru – Public Conveniences - 30/8/19 – 11/02/2020	£503.36

**20/37 FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

Current Account -	£1,960.82
High Interest Account -	£62,670.69

**20/38 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS:**

7:00pm Wed 11 Mar 2020 – Monthly meeting

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**SIGNED:** .....

**DATE:** .....

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