

**MINUTES OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AT 7PM, WEDNESDAY,
9 MARCH 2022, HELD REMOTELY**

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr R Reid – due to illness. Noted Cllr R Reid sent thanks all colleagues for their good wishes and reported that his op on 28 Feb went well.

IN ATTENDANCE : Josephine Rumsey (Town Clerk)

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

22/48 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No Declaration of interests received.

22/49 MINUTES: The minutes of the Town Council meetings held on the 9 February, 21 February and 2 March 2022, had previously been circulated to Town Councillors.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council meetings held on the 9 February, 21 February and 2 March 2022, be accepted as correct records.

22/50 PLANNING MATTERS –

- **BBNPA – Planning Application 22/20765/FUL-** Proposal: “2 No open, covered, shelters responding to Welsh Government encouragement of the provision of spaces in which people can congregate in the open air as a reaction to the pandemic” - Address: Land On And Adjacent To The Square, Talgarth.

RESOLVED: To support this Planning Application.

- **BBNPA –TPO served at Trebowen, Back Lane, Talgarth** – To consider TPO to protect a Yew tree at the property.

RESOLVED: To support this TPO Application on the Yew Tree at Trebowen, Back Lane, Talgarth.

- **BBNPA – PERMISSION GRANTED FOR DEVELOPMENT:
Planning Application 21/20245/FUL -** “A steel framed building to house machinery” (Full Application) at Dinas Farm, Pengeffordd, Talgarth, Brecon Powys

22/51 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- **OVW:**
 - **COVID updates and Training dates** - received and on circulation.
 - **Membership of One Voice Wales 2022-2023 –**
RESOLVED: To renew Membership from 1 Apr 2022 - 31 Mar 2023 – Fee £289.
 - **News Bulletin** – Received and noted includes - New Requirements for Councils; Annual Reports, Training Plans.
- **PAVO – COVID updates and Training dates** - received and on circulation.
- **Afon Llynfi Pollution –**
Draft letter for Town Council endorsement – Noted we are awaiting a further draft letter from Gwernyfed Community Council to WG re this topic, requesting endorsement of Talgarth Town Council, which will be circulated, for consideration, when received.

- **GP Biotec** – Received reports of smells around the town and also concerns of a constant humming noise, noticeably during the night time, causing a further problem.
County Councillor W Powell reported that he has received confirmation, that the PCC Environmental Protection Team, is agreeable to participate in a remote meeting, to discuss how they manage this matter.
It was emphasized that all smells must be reported immediately, to the appropriate people/organisations, so that the source of the complaint can be investigated, at the time.
RESOLVED: Clerk to circulate Cllr Powell’s recent email exchanges with PCC re this matter, to all colleagues and to await a date for the remote meeting.
- **BBNPA Planning Application for the 2 x Gazibos (on & adjacent The Square)** –
Received invoice from Peter Weavers, for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses only that he has incurred when preparing the Planning Application for the Town Council - £131.20 ie £115 application fee and £16.20 cost of a plan.
RESOLVED: To reimburse Peter Weavers Business Services his out-of-pocket fees of £131.20 and to thank him for his work re this matter.
- **PCC Update** – Received County Councillor W Powell’s monthly update report, the contents of which are noted.
Woodlands Community Room - Concern was raised at the longstanding delays over the re-use of this PCC property, with plans afoot for an additional PCC residential unit at ground floor level.
Cllr Powell confirmed that this matter is currently being investigated.
RESOLVED: The Town Council to write to PCC, for an update on this matter.
- **PCC Highway matters** –Noted that the ‘Out-of-order street lights’ in and around the Town, reported initially in Oct 2021 and again on 14 Feb, to both PCC and the Trunk Road agency, have been acknowledged, but no work yet been undertaken..
RESOLVED: The Clerk to chase the current position from both PCC and the Trunk Road Agency, on this matter.

22/52 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – 2021 – 2022 – Noted the Clerk had circulated a report in advance of the meeting, from organisations requesting financial assistance, during the year 2021 – 2022.

RESOLVED: To donate to the following organisations, as follows:–

- Brecon Advice Centre - £25
- Wales Air Ambulance Service - £25
- Tenovus Cancer Care - £25
- Powys Citizens Advice - £25
- Hope House, Oswestry - £20
- Llangollen Eisteddfod 2022 - £20
- Grow for Talgarth – The annual payment to maintain the Town Council Flower box - £20

22/53 POWYS COUNTY COUNCILLOR ELECTIONS/TOWN & COMMUNITY ELECTIONS

Noted Cllr P Lewis, Mayor and Josephine Rumsey, Town Clerk had attending a briefing session, on-line, as part of the preparations for the Town and Community Council elections on 5 May. Noted that copies of the slides and information received from the PCC briefing sessions, had been circulated to all Town Councillors, for information.

Noted the Clerk has handed out a Nomination pack to current Town Councillors who had requested a pack and that she would deliver any completed Nomination forms to the PCC Offices, Brecon, at 10.30am Mon 21 March, should anyone wish her to do so.

22/54 TALGARTH/TREFECCA ISSUES:

- **Talgarth & District Regeneration Group (TDRG) –**
 - **Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – 2 – 5 June 2022 – The £5 Commemorative Coins** - Noted the 107 Coins had been ordered from The Royal Mint – Cost paid £1070 – (£10 each inclusive of VAT) – delivery due approx. 21 Mar 2022.
Noted the next meeting of the Jubilee group – 7pm 17 March at The Castle Hotel.
 - **Eden Project Communities - The Big Jubilee Lunch on-line seminar – 12.30pm 7 Mar** - Noted Cllr Phil Lewis, had attended the on-line seminar, details previously circulated to Town Councillors and to Will Lloyd, Chair TDRG.
Cllr Phil Lewis, Mayor, reported that it was an interesting seminar and he would circulate the slides to colleagues, when received.
 - **Talgarth 1875 Victorian School Flyer** – Cllr W Powell reported that the previous proposed meeting dates had now lapsed but the Project Leaders have two new meeting dates – a lunch time and an evening round table discussion, for Town Councillors and other Stakeholders, early next week at the Castle Hotel.
RESOLVED: Cllr Powell to forward the dates ASAP.
 - **Community Library** – Received from Will Lloyd, Chair TDRG earlier today, and circulated to Town Councillors, a copy of the Agreement between PCC, TDRG and Ysgol y Mynydd Du, for information.
 - **River Bank, Talgarth, on Swan Terrace side** – Noted that County Councillor William Powell had met, on site, with Allun Jones PCC re the future maintenance of this area of river bank and it has been confirmed that PCC has re-adopted this area and it will be trimmed again, as part of PCC regime.
Cllr Powell also reported that GfT has an aspiration of putting a flower/art feature in this location, to celebrate the Queen’s Jubilee and the group will be mentioning this when they meet with the Town Council on 16 Mar 2022.
Cllr P Lewis, Mayor, reminded all, that this is PCC owned ground for any permissions.
- **Grow for Talgarth** – Noted that Rosie & Gaynor, Grow for Talgarth and reps will attend a joint informal, fact finding SKYPE meeting with OTV and Town Councillors at 6pm Wed 16 March. Gaynor to forward some information on her Presentation, for circulation, prior to the meeting.
- **On the Verge** – Noted that Martin, OTV will attend a joint informal, fact finding SKYPE meeting with GfT and Town Councillors at 6pm Wed 16 March. Martin has circulated some information on his Presentation, prior to the meeting.
- **Festival Group** – Received minutes of the meeting held on 18 Jan and noted that a further meeting was held on 15 Feb.
Noted the Festival of the Black Mountains will be held on the 27 & 28 Aug 2022, with music, some street stalls and food stalls in Great House Barns and the Market areas and a Duck Race to take place on Sun 28 Aug.
Noted they have asked the Town Council to arrange a road closure of The Square area.
Noted also that the Festival Group have organized a fundraising Duck Race on Sat 16 April.
- **TIRC meeting** – 2.30pm Mon 7 Mar 2022 – Received copy of the Agenda and awaiting minutes of the meeting.

- **WAW** – Received Minutes of 18 Jan 2022 and a copy of the ‘Marked’ 2021 Talgarth WAW Annual Report – on circulation. Note next meeting 7pm 22 Mar 2022 at the King George V Pavilion – Agenda received.
- **St Gwendoline’s Churchyard updates - Tenders Churchyard Maintenance**
 - **Tenders for Churchyard Maintenance from 1 April 2022 for up to 3 years**
Contract – 2 Tenders received and opened at the meeting.
Martin Leighton Grounds Services – Not VAT Registered
2022-2023- £6,440, 2023-2024 £6,762 & 2024/2025 £6,762 = £19,964 over 3 years.
OTM Groundscare Ltd -2022-2023- £4,850 +20% VAT, 2023-2024 - £5,092.50 + 20% VAT & 2024/2025- £5,092.50 + 20% VAT = £15,035 + VAT 20% over 3 years
Noted that neither of the Tenderers had met with Cllr Bufton to confirm the works.
RESOLVED: Cllr Bufton to meet with both Tenderers to ensure that they fully understand the job specification and, if they did when they quoted, to accept the lowest Tender for the works.
 - **Health & Safety Audit of Memorials** – Cllr P Lewis, Mayor reported that there had only been 2 communications to our request for relatives to come forward by 28 Feb 2022 re failed Memorial Stones. Noted a further failed stone may belong to a relative at New House and to clarify.
RESOLVED: To arrange a Site meeting in early April, to agree the way forward.
 - **Proposed Howell Harris parents' grave - Information Board** – Received some suggested wording for the Information Board from Niel Poulton and a picture of an A2 sized information board as an illustration of what could be provided. He also offered to try and design a draft of the artwork etc for us to consider.
RESOLVED: That the suggested wording for the Information Board appeared to be in order and to ask Niel Poulton if it may be possible for him to design a draft of the artwork to be received, in time for our Site Inspection meeting in early April.
- **Town Hall –**
 - **Redecoration – Main Hall including Kitchen, Toilet areas, Entrance area** – It was reported that Marsh Decorating had withdrawn his Tender in the sum of £6,510.00 and we have secured the work to the second lowest Tender, of Black Mountain Decorators, in the sum of £8,400.00 for the Redecoration of the main Town Hall, including Kitchen, Toilet areas, Entrance areas only, with a start date of 23 May 2022 and 5 – 6 weeks to complete the work.
RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed to accept the second lowest Tender of Black Mountain Decorators in the sum of £8,400 for the work above, to commence 23 May.
Small bit of Plasterwork – rear entrance - Noted a small bit of wall urgently needs re-plastering before the main redecoration work commences and a quote of approx. £450 for the labour work only, has been received from Gavin Perry.
RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed to accept this tender £450 for the plaster work labour from Gavin Perry and to purchase the plaster materials etc from Talgarth Building Supplies at an estimated cost of £150. To ask Alun Walters to remove the radiator from the wall, in this location, so the plasterwork can be undertaken, as soon as possible and before the main decoration work takes place.

- **Caretaker/Cleaner Vacancy** – Noted two applications have been received from Emma Hayles and Scott Powell, both residents of Talgarth.

RESOLVED: Cllr P Lewis, Mayor, Cllr A Bufton and Cllr R Parry to interview the two applicants on the evening of Mon 14 Mar 2022, in 2 x half hour interviews, in the Town Hall.

- **King George V Playing fields/Pavilion /Children’s Play area /TADSCA** –
 - **Pavilion** – Cllr A Bufton reported that he had met with the Football reps the previous evening re the proposed alteration to the access to the Pavilion etc and everything appeared to be going to plan. Cllr Bufton made a strong suggestion that they liaise with the Disabled Group in Powys re this matter.
 - **Children’s Playground area** – Noted the new play equipment and flooring, organised by TADSCA, has been ordered by the Town Council, as previously agreed, in the sum of £26,742.78 + VAT at 20%. Noted the Town Council had previously agreed £5,600 towards this project and TADSCA is funding the remaining net balance, which will be transferred to the Town Council prior to payment. Payment will be made on delivery and fixing of the equipment, estimated June 2022.

22/55 FINANCIAL UPDATE:

- **To consider and approve Monthly Accounts** – previously circulated.

Amounts received since last meeting 9 February 2022 and banked:

Date	From	Item	Amount
02/3/20220	D Gwynne	SGC Grazing Agreement - 2021/2022	£85.00

Accounts for Payment/Ratification since last meeting 9 February 2021:

Date / Cheque No	To	Item	Net	VAT	Total
09/03/22 3516	Cllr R Reid	Town Councillor Annual Allowance £150 less tax £30	£120.00		£120.00
09/03/22 3515	Cllr R Parry	Town Councillor Annual Allowance £150	£150.00		£150.00
09/03/22 3514	Cllr L Elston-Reeves	Town Councillor Annual Allowance £150 less tax £30	£120.00		£120.00
09/03/22 3513	Cllr C Voyle	Town Councillor Annual Allowance £150 less tax £30	£120.00		£120.00
09/03/22 3512	Cllr W Powell	Town Councillor Annual Allowance £150 less tax £30	£120.00		£120.00
08/03/22 DD	Public Loan Board	Half-year loan repayment due 8/9/21 of £4,506.46 (incl interest)	£4,506.46		£4,506.46
07/03/22 3511	SLCC	Society of Local Clerks Annual fee	£171.00		£171.00
05/3/2022 3510	Border Office Supplies Ltd	Stationery – 2 x 10 A4 Copier Paper£32.38, Highlighters £3.04	£35.42	£7.08	£42.50
02/3/2022 3509	Royal Mint Ltd	107 x £5 Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Coins for Ysgol y Mynydd du pupils	£1,070.00		£1,070.00
01/3/2022 3508	Bruce Williams	The Mill Lease – Access/Egress – Town Hall – Mill Yard - £1 Pepper Corn rent 2022-2023	£1.00		£1.00
01/3/2022 3507	Beacons Pest Control	Town Hall – Pest control – Date of 1 st visit – 26/02/2020 – Now completed work.	£70.00		£70.00

19/02/2022 Business Reserve Account - £28,673.34 Current Account - £7,051.27
(Less unrepresented cheques 3507 £70.00, 3508 £1.00, 3509 £1,070.00, 3510 £42.50, 3511
£171.00, 3512 £120, 3513 £120, 3514 £120, 3515 £150, 3516 £120)

RESOLVED: To approve the above Financial update/Monthly Accounts.

- **National Salary Award 2021/22** – Received the salary award for clerks as applicable from 1 April 2021, as agreed at the Precept meeting. Noted hourly rate increased by 25 per hour.

RESOLVED: To Clerk's increase in salary, 25p per hour from 1 Apr 2021.

- **Public Works Loan Board** – Noted Direct Debit on 8 Mar 2022 - payment £4,506.46 (Principal payment + £186.11 Interest payment) – Principal remaining £13,237.66.

22/56 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & DISCUSSED –

Black Mountains Lions Group – Letter dated 7 Mar received from the Black Mountains Lions Group with a request they had received from PAVO Community Connectors re support needed with shopping collection and delivery for a Talgarth resident, due to medical and mobility issues.

RESOLVED: To seek more information re the person's relocation etc.

22/57 Election 5 May 2022 – Cllr Voyle reported that he would not be standing for re-election on 5 May 2022 due to his forthcoming move from the Talgarth area on 31 Mar 2022.

He thanked colleagues for their support received, over his time as a Town Councillor.

Cllr P Lewis, Mayor, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked Cllr Voyle for all his input which is appreciated by all Town Councillors and wished him well, in the future.

22/58 Ukraine Crisis – Cllr L Elston-Reeves thanked the Town Council for the use of the Market Hall as a collection point for the Donations for the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis, which had been collected and on its way to the Polish border to a Refugee Camp which is expecting it.

Cllr P Lewis, Mayor, thanked Cllr L Elston-Reeves for her input and wished to thank the Co-op for all they have done, stating that he was not aware of this good work going on in Talgarth, until local residents Daphne & Tony Morris, recently made a request, for the Market Hall to be used for storage of the donations re this appeal, as the donations were getting too many to store in the Co-op, and he readily agreed to this request.

22/59 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION –

WG - Independent Review Panel for Wales - Annual Report - Feb 2022 - Received a pdf document and link to the IRPW's Annual Report, Feb 2022 and letter from the Chair.

WG - Welsh Government Apprenticeship Scheme 2022 – Noted commencing 28 Mar 2022.

WG - Covid 19 – Regular weekly updates received.

PCC - Powys Planning - Decision Notices - 24 Jan to 11 Feb and 14 - 25 Feb received.

PCC - Mobile Testing Unit (MTU) in Talgarth Car Park – Note PCC has agreed to PtHB to extend all their MTUs in their current locations – Talgarth Car Park, until 31 May 22.

BBNPA - Meeting - Fri, 11 Mar 9.30am - Via Public-i/Teams

Bronllys Well Being Park - Public Meeting, 7pm 21 Feb at Glasbury Village Hall or on

Zoom – Noted County Cllr W Powell & Cllr M Dodds had attended

Trefi Smart Towns – 'Become a SMART Town' workshops - Information received

22/60 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS:

5.30pm Mon 14 March 2022 – Town Hall/Public Conveniences Caretaker/Cleaner – Interviews

6pm Mon 16 March 2022 – Information gathering informal meeting with OTV & GfT

6pm Wed 6 April 2022 – Informal Site meeting at St Gwendoline's Churchyard

7pm Wed 13 April 2022 – Monthly meeting – Also to Review Policies and Procedures

7pm Wed 18 May 2022 - AGM

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.50

SIGNED:

DATE: