

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7PM,  
WEDNESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2018, IN THE TOWN HALL, TALGARTH**

**PRESENT:** Cllr W Powell (Town & Powys County Councillor), Mayor (In the Chair), Cllr P Lewis (Deputy Mayor), Cllr Pip Turner (Deputy Mayor), Cllr M Dodds, Cllr G Jones, Cllr J Lilly, Cllr R Reid

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Z Argent, Cllr A Bufton, Cllr A Lord, Ms Amy Argent – Youth Member

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

**18/278 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Cllr W Powell, Mayor, declared an interest in the following Planning Applications:

- (a) Planning Application 18/16853/FUL** – Change of use of part of the Tourist Information Centre at the Tower House, Talgarth, from computer/resource room back to residential space. To accompany LBC – 18/16794/LBC – Tower House, High Street, Talgarth, and  
**(b) Planning Application 18/16794/LBC** – Proposed Internal and External alterations – Tower House, High Street, Talgarth

**18/279 TO CONSIDER A RESOLUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS ACT 1960, IN RELATION TO AGENDA ITEM 15** – Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, to pass this resolution in respect of Agenda Item 15.

*Cllr G Jones arrived 7.15pm*

**18/280 POLICIES**

**TO ADOPT THE COMPLAINTS POLICY AND LOCAL RESOLUTION PROTOCOL** – Documents previously circulated. Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr Pip Turner to adopt both documents.

**SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY** – Previously circulated. **Agreed** to look at when required.

**18/281 MINUTES:**

Minutes 14 November - previously circulated, Cllr W Powell, Mayor, sought their adoption. Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, that the minutes of the 14 November be signed as a correct record.

**18/282 MATTERS ARISING – NOT ON THE AGENDA –**

**Wales in Bloom meeting – Mon 3 Dec 7pm** held at the Wye and Usk Foundation building – Noted Cllr W Powell, Mayor and Cllr M Dodds attended the meeting. Cllr M Dodds reported the Usk & Wye Foundation is re-submitting a Planning Application for the River Ennig Bank, Bronllys Road project.

**Old de-trunked Pengeffordd Road** – Update received from Barbara Christopher stating that there are more strange things happening at the old road at the end of Regent Street. For most of this week the gate has been left wide open and all the locks and chain have disappeared.

**Recycling Centre on Car Park** – Cllr P Lewis confirmed that the site had been cleaned up.

**Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan Review - Invitation to Submit Candidate Sites (Stage 1 Initial Call for Candidate Sites)** - Proposed by Cllr W Powell and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour, agreed that the Town Council make a request to BBNPA that the former Talgarth Primary Schools, both the 1976 school and the former Victorian school be registered as a mixed use site. Town Councillors felt this would safeguard the Victorian school.

**Remembrance Sunday Service Leaflet at the War Memorial** – Cllr M Dodds requested that the current Service Leaflet be revised to clarify the format and order of ceremony for participants. **Agreed** to get this Service Leaflet revised.

**Flags – Union Jack and Welsh Flag** – Proposed by Cllr R Reid and seconded by Cllr W Powell, all in favour, that Talgarth Town Council offer these two new flags for use at Ysgol y Mynydd du, as they are surplus to Town Hall requirements and the Council is able to use the larger flags which we already own.

**Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner - Dafydd Llywelyn** – Cllr W Powell, Mayor, reported that Dafydd Llywelyn would be present at the Brecon & Radnorshire area OVW special meeting on Highways and Speed Enforcement ,in the Town Hall, Talgarth on Fri 11 Jan 2019, following a visit to Ysgol y Mynydd Du.

**Talgarth Speedwatch Scheme** – **Agreed** to chase PCSO Helen Scott regarding the commencement of the scheme in Talgarth.

**Welsh Water** – Update received 12 Dec stating again that the contractor had a slow start to the programme due to the defective pipes which were supplied by the manufacturers and that they now need to make up time to ensure that they are able to complete the work within the agreed programme timescales. Noted the contractors will now need to work weekends to ensure they can achieve this, commencing Sat 15 Dec until the scheme completes in mid-February. Working hours will be 8am to 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Also there will be a break for the Christmas period between Fri 21 Dec and Mon 7 Jan.

**Agreed** to write to Welsh Water expressing concern at the apparent lack of progress and share concerns with Kirsty Williams AM.

*Cllr J Lilly arrived 7.25pm*

#### **18/283 PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING ISSUES –**

Note – Cllr W Powell, Mayor, declared an interest and left the room when Planning Applications (c ) & (d) below were being considered. Cllr P Lewis, Deputy Mayor, took the Chair for these 2 Planning Applications (c ) & (d).

- (a) **Planning Application 18/16804/TRCA** – Tree Cutting, The Malthouse, High Street, Talgarth – Proposed by Cllr R Reid and seconded by Cllr Pip Turner, all in favour to support this Planning Application.
- (b) **Planning Application 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 - Proposed by Cllr R Reid and seconded by Cllr P Lewis, all in favour to support this Planning Application.
- (c) **Planning Application 18/16853/FUL** – Change of use of part of the Tourist Information Centre at the Tower House, Talgarth, from computer/resource room back to residential space. To accompany LBC – 18/16794/LBC –Tower House, High Street, Talgarth - Proposed by Cllr R Reid and seconded by Cllr M Dodds, all in favour to support this Planning Application.
- (d) **Planning Application 18/16794/LBC** – Proposed Internal and External alterations – Tower House, High Street, Talgarth - Proposed by Cllr R Reid and seconded by Cllr M Dodds, all in favour to support this Planning Application.
- (e) **Planning Application 18/16755/FUL** - Removal of 1950s extension and replacement with office study and sunroom together with new openings formed within existing structure." - Address: Glandwr, Talgarth, Brecon, Powys LD3 0ER - Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr W Powell, all in favour to support this Planning Application.
- (f) **Planning Application 18/16756/FUL** - Replacement of 1950s outbuilding with new traditional timber styled barn to form annexed living accommodation" - Address: Glandwr, Talgarth, Brecon, Powys LD3 0ER. Proposed by Cllr M Dodds and seconded by Cllr R Reid, all in favour to support this Planning Application, subject to the ecologist report being adhered to.

**BBNPA - Planning Application Approved** - Planning Application 18/16376/FUL – Proposal: “Planning application for a farmworker’s dwelling” (Full Application) at Pengefordd, Talgarth LD3 0EU.

**18/284 TOWN COUNCIL VACANCIES (2) – Talgarth Town Council** - Election 13th Dec 2018  
– Persons Nominated – Louise Elston-Reeves, Chris Voyle, Steve Woodward

**18/285 COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE –**

**Cllr A Lord** – Noted that Cllr A Lord has secured a new job nearer home and will be able to regularly attend Town Council meetings in the future on a more regular basis.

**18/286 PRECEPT MEETING 9 JANUARY 2019** - Noted the Precept Request 2018/2019 form to be completed and returned to PCC, by 25 Jan 2019.

**18/287 TOWN COUNCIL – CAPACITY BUILDING AND SUPPORT** – Cllr W Powell and Cllr P Lewis reported on the meeting with reps of the Town Council, held on Wed 21 Nov. Heart of Wales Business Solutions, whose company offers organisations access to a range of professional services, provided by Powys County Council, had forwarded further information on their service, which is run by a Partnership Agreement. Noted, the cost for providing administrative support is currently £16.25 per hour + VAT for 2018/19 Financial Year. Information was circulated on the suggested temporary post of Communications Officer – 20 hours per month.

Received clarification from OVW on employment status.

Proposed by Cllr G Jones and seconded by Cllr R Reid, all in favour, to refine the job specification, to include an hourly rate, and circulate to all Town Councillors for agreement, before advertising.

Town Clerk was able to share her perspective on the benefits that would accrue from this new position. Noted Clerk had supplied copies of her current Contract, Job Description etc on 30 Nov. Clerk to provide further detail on all roles within her Job Description for the future.

**18/288 CORRESPONDENCE**

**National Association of Local Councils – Town & Community Council Clerks - Salary Award increase 2019-2020** – Received new pay scales 2019-2020, payable from 1 Apr 2019, for Town Clerks and other employees employed under the terms of the model contract. Noted Town Clerk on Spine Point 27 – current hourly rate £12.81 to increase to £13.15 per hour – 34p per hour increase from 1 Apr 2019.

**The Pensions Regulator** – Received information that the minimum pension contributions will increase on 6 Apr 2019. Noted the Town Council does not have any eligible staff at present.

**18/289 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS** – Agenda Item 15 was held ‘In Confidence’

**18/290 TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS** – Cllr M Dodds asked to move Standing Orders at 9pm from 2 hours to 2.5 hours for this meeting.

**18/291 POWYS COUNTY COUNCILLOR** – Cllr W Powell reported on the PCC budget situation for 2019/2020 and the associated Council Tax setting process, both of which were under way. It was already in the public domain that there is a shortfall on last year of some £14,000,000 due to cuts from the UK government, reflected in the Welsh Government funding settlement. This shortfall would need to be addressed by means of unpalatable decisions and difficult choices. There was a rationalisation of senior management underway and a loss of 50+ fte posts was on the agenda.

There would be significant further work necessary on this in the coming 4/6 weeks. It was highly unlikely that any Powys communities would remain unaffected by the changes that would be necessary. The evaluation of the recent responses to the Garden Waste Survey & emerging proposals were just one aspect of the whole picture.

On a local front, it has been a busy period, with serious service failures in the recycling service, as well as housing maintenance and highways issues.

On recycling, the department was dealing with severe sickness absence rates - of up to 25% in a recent period and Cllr Powell had done his utmost to assist affected residents, especially, but not exclusively in Bronllys Road, in securing an acceptable service and circulated the recent update from PCC of details what is being done during the Bronllys Road closure.

On a more positive note, Cllr Powell had had a very comprehensive series of Highways site visits at Ysgol Y Mynydd Du and elsewhere on 6th Dec with Tony Caine and Jo Lancey. The key outcomes/observations/actions included:

- to survey the speed of traffic along the A4078 and feed back from the school and the Police.
- to arrange for the bush to be trimmed, which was obscuring the 20mph limit sign from the Town side
- to check the dimming of the signs as they were reported too dim in the mornings
- school warning signs are in situ
- verge parking on the A4078/A479 junction verges – no recent parking noted due to lack of marks in the verge. Enforcement does take place as the yellow lines extend to the highway boundary, specific note is taken of this area on market days.
- Car park – noted damage to the wall on central area. Loose stones to be checked - not causing a safety issue.
- Heol Las – more substantial bollard to replace the removed ones on the High St side.

Cllr W Powell circulated correspondence 4 Jun 2018 from Sustrans to Kirsty Williams AM re her query about a traffic free multi-use path between the Bronllys and Talgarth.

#### **18/292 POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL – HIGHWAY MATTERS –**

**A479 Bronllys Road** – Update received and on circulation, from the Rev Richard Walker, resident Bronllys Road, regarding concerns of safety in this location. He requested the Town Council to ask for a comparative risk assessment to be done on both roads, from the point of view of pedestrians.

#### **18/293 TOWN HALL/ MARKET HALL –**

##### **Town Hall –**

**Annual Fire Alarm & Emergency Light Testing** – Noted that Skyrme Electrical Solutions has undertaken the work and report sheets with some failures noted for attention -Invoice £140 + VAT received, for payment.

**Piano tuning** – The annual piano tuning by David Day - cost £50, was undertaken on 23 Nov.

**Tender for minor works in Town Hall** - Cllr A Bufton is currently preparing a specification for tender work:

- Continuation of trunking in the main hall for cables
- LED Strip light on new wall in Preparation Room

**Boilers in Town Hall** - Cllr R Reid emphasized that the Town Hall boilers need to be replaced in 2019 and costs to be considered at the Precept meeting.

It was noted that Cllr A Bufton is aware of this and has been seeking a suitable plan.

**Market Hall** – Cllr R Reid reported that Smiths Builders have still got some outstanding minor works ie tiling around new sink unit, in this location. **Agreed** to pay Invoice for

Tender sum £2,012.37 + £402.48 VAT – Total £2,414.85, when work completed.

Cllr W Powell, Mayor, thanked Cllr R Reid for his considerable input with the works in the Market Hall.

#### **18/294 TALGARTH ISSUES**

**BOWLING CLUB** –Noted that Mr Sherrard, PCC, is chasing the completion of the transfer. Noted we are still awaiting works to be completed before the transfer.

**Bowling Club meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 7pm** – Cllr M Dodds attended – Nothing new to report.

**KING GEORGE V PAVILION – Annual Fire Alarm & Emergency Light Testing –**  
Noted the Town Council arranged for the Annual Fire Alarm & Emergency Light Testing to be undertaken by Skyrme Electrical Solutions and report sheets with some failures and Invoice £140 + VAT received. This information has been forwarded to TADSCA for action.  
**RECYCLE SITE –** Update received from Valmai Davies, Secretary TDRG confirming that the Talgarth and District Regeneration Group have now taken over the management of the recycling site in the car park. Noted there is a monetary return for the group in undertaking this responsibility which will be used for – planting, events, new projects etc.

**18/295 GROUP UPDATES –**

**TALGARTH INFORMATION & RESOURCE CENTRE (TIRC) –**

**Request for Financial Support for the TIRC –** Update 9 Nov received from Tim Davies, confirming that Tim Martin has submitted the planning application to CADW for his changes to his overall property, which include the provision of the toilet in the TIRC. This was costed in a quote from Sheppard's at £3300 as previously mentioned. The other cost estimate, ie £1,400 for work to the front shop remains the same as previously given. The anticipated timescale for this work is January/February 2019.

**Agreed** to ask the TIRC for copy of their audited Accounts for last year and more information regarding their shortfall, so that an informed decision can be made by the Town Council.

**TIRC Xmas Closure -** Noted the TIRC will be closed from 23 Dec 2018 to 4 Feb 2019.

**YSGOL Y MYNYDD DU –**

**Additional Community Governor on the governing body –**No new update.

**Christmas Fayre –** Noted this event will be held at the school 5.30pm – 7.30pm on 7 Dec.

**FESTIVAL GROUP –** No new update.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS GROUP –** Xmas Lights PCC Road Closure – documentation received and forwarded to Martin Draper, Lights Group.

Cllr R Reid reported on the successful 'Switch on' event on 1 Dec.

**Agreed** payment of Cynthia Argent's Invoice for refreshments £37.49

**Agreed** to forward a letter of thanks to the Lights Group on such a successful event.

**TOWN HALL – V W Cleaning Services –** **Agreed** to pay Nov invoice - Town Hall cleaning £199.80 - Gates Open/Close £68.12 – Total £267.92.

**TALGARTH & DISTRICT REGENERATION GROUP –** Received TDRG Agenda for Meeting 27 Nov & Minutes 6 Nov, also minutes of 5 Sept and 3 Oct.

**Christmas Markets –** Noted that the successful Christmas Markets were held in the main Town Hall from 2pm – 4pm on Sat 1 Dec, prior to the Xmas Lights Switch on.

**Agreed** to forward a letter of thanks to the TDRG Group on such a successful event.

**WALKERS ARE WELCOME GROUP –** Received Agenda for meeting 4 Dec meeting. Noted the draft Programme 2019 was well underway. Date of next meeting 15th Jan 2019.

**18/296 OOH Bulletin - November 2018 –** Received Powys Health Board Final Powys 111 and OOH Stakeholder Bulletin.

**18/297 BURIAL GROUND**

**War Graves – 8 x Holly Wreaths –** Noted Clerk has ordered 8 x £6 Holly Wreaths – £48 total from Ann Davies and Valmai Davies of the TDRG will kindly position them on the 7 War Graves in St Gwendoline's Churchyard and 1 at the former Mid Wales Hospital.

**18/298 CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH**

**WAG - Statement by Cabinet Secretary for Local Government & Public Services –** Future role of the Town and Community Sector in Wales.

**WAG -** Section 137 Discretionary Expenditure Limit for 2019-20

**PCC –** Register of Electors – 1 Dec 2018 – Request form for a copy received and completed

**BBNPA - Agenda for National Park Authority** - Fri 14 Dec at 10am plus Supplement: Single Integrated Assessment Reports 14 Dec to the agenda for National Park Authority, Fri 14 Dec at 10am.

**Agenda for Planning, Access and Rights of Way**, Tues 11 Dec at 10am.

**OVW** - Jan – Mar 2019 OVW Training Sessions

**OVW** - December 2018 News Bulletin

**PAVO** - E-briefing Dec 18

**PAVO** - Powys Council Budget & Third Sector Grants

**PSMA** Newsletter November 2018

**Allotments in Talgarth** – Received letter dated 4 Dec, re interest for an allotment. Request forwarded to Mike Tovey, Chair of the Allotments Group.

**Black Mountains College** – Update received

**Hustings - Election 13 Dec**- E-mail received from Virginia Brown asking if the Town Council will be organising hustings before the election day. NB Clerk asked advice of OVW and PCC and noted we are not advised to do so.

### 18/299 AMOUNTS RECEIVED

Hall Hire – Children’s Zumba – 23/12	- £16.50
Hall Hire – RABI - 30/11	- £22.00
Hall Hire – Talgarth Transport – 8/12	- £50.00
Hall Hire – Faith in Talgarth – Sept – Dec	-£176.00
Hall Hire – Maria – Step Aerobics – Sept – Dec	-£121.00
Hall Hire – Country& Western Club – 5/10, 2/11	- £90.00
Hall Hire – Black Mountains Friends Group – 14/12	- £8.00
Hall Hire – Child’s Party 27/12 – RT	- £22.00
Hall Hire – Powys Dance – Sept – Dec	- £132.00
Hall Hire – Wynona, Zumba	- £55.00
Hall Hire – TDRG – 27/10	- £70.00
Peter Evans, Funeral Director – Burial Ashes – BW dec’d	- £80.00
A V Griffiths & Son – Burial Ashes - BMMH dec’d	- £80.00

### 18/300 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

J Rumsey, Clerk – Dec Salary £1,110.63, Less Tax £222.00 = £888.63,	
Tel Rent £18.32 Broadband/Calls £24.00, Home Office £35, Travel £2.25	-£ 968.20
Town Hall – Toilet Rolls - £3.32 + 67p VAT	- £3.99
V W Cleaning Services – Nov - Gates Open/Close £65.25,	
Town Hall cleaning £167.40	- £232.65
Cynthia Argent – Xmas Lights Switch o 1 Dec, Mulled wine etc	- £37.49
HMRC – Oct, Nov, Dec – Income Tax & Employee’s NI contributions	- £834.91
Ann Davies – 8 Holly Wreaths x £6 each	- £48.00

### 18/301 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- Current Account - £2,639.83
  - High Interest Account - £53,044.44 (+ on 31/12/18 one third Precept £18,000)
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### 18/302 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS –

- 7:00 pm Wed 9 January 2019 Precept meeting
- 6.30 pm Wed 16 January 2019 Regular monthly meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

**SIGNED:** .....

**DATE:** .....

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