

**MINUTES OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AT 7PM, WEDNESDAY,
4 OCTOBER 2023, HELD IN THE TOWN HALL COMMITTEE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr L Elston-Reeves (In the Chair), Cllr A Lord (Deputy Mayor), Cllr J Bond, Cllr C Briggs, Cllr K Burns, Cllr J Evans, Cllr C Green

APOLOGIES: Cllr A Bufton, Cllr D Coleman, Cllr M Dodds, Cllr G Jones

IN ATTENDANCE: Josephine Rumsey (Town Clerk), County Councillor W Powell

23/125 WELCOME: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, Members to the meeting.

23/126 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No declarations of interest

23/127 RESIGNATION – Received the resignation of Cllr Catherine Bufton-Davies on 3 Oct 2023.

RESOLVED: To forward letter of thanks to Cllr Bufton-Davies for her work as a Town Councillor.

23/128 MINUTES: The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 6 September 2023, had been previously circulated to Town Councillors.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 6 September 2023, be accepted as a correct record.

23/129 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- **OVW /PAVO** – All updates and training dates on circulation.
- **OVW – Annual Conference and AGM** – This event was cancelled due to lack of support.
- **OVW Brecon & Radnor Committee** – Noted next meeting is 7pm Mon 9 Oct by ZOOM.
- **PAVO** – Received a communication from PAVO re a proposed meeting to look at collaboration to support future funding bids. **RESOLVED:** To seek more information.
- **20mph Talgarth** – Received for information from WG, a copy of the Orders for the A40, A44, A458, A470, A479, A483, A487 and A489 Trunk Roads (Powys and Ceredigion) (20 mph, 30 mph and 40 mph speed limits and de-restriction).
Noted County Councillor W Powell and Cllr A Lord, Deputy Mayor, attended a meeting with PCC representatives, regarding this matter, earlier today. Noted PCC officers sought the views expressed and are looking into reviewing the situation in parts of the town.
Cllr A Lord pointed out that it was not always clear what the limit was in Trefecca and it would have been preferable for the whole village to be 20mph. It was also stated that Trefecca village should be more apparent. Additional signs such as the white picket fence used elsewhere would have to be funded by the Town Council and PCC would install them.
RESOLVED: To seek information/costings.
- **Wye Valley AONB Partnership Annual Study Tour on Fri 22nd September** –
Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor and Cllr A Lord, Deputy Mayor, who had attended, gave an update on this interesting event which was to look at how Monmouthshire Council are working with the WG re a new partnership around biodiversity, ecology etc.
Cllr Lord reported that he had gained some useful contacts from the meeting, for the bettering our Town Council properties.

23/130 BBNPA - PLANNING ISSUES – To consider Planning Applications –

1. **BBNPA - Planning Application Consultation Letter 23/22188/FUL** - Proposal: Proposal: “Provision for a new wild pond with swimming area. The proposal involves land including existing residential garden curtilage and sui generis grazing (field). The scheme therefore involves a change of use.”- Address: Lower Penybryn , Talgarth, LD3 0EE
RESOLVED: No objections to this Planning Application.
2. **BBNPA - Planning Application Consultation Letter 23/22267/FUL** - Proposal: “Proposed two storey extension and modifications”- Address: Glan-Y-Nant, Pengeffordd, Talgarth LD3 0ER - **RESOLVED:** No objections to this Planning Application.
3. **BBNPA - Planning Application Consultation Letter 23/21995/ADV** - Proposal: “Co-op Store signage including shop logo, car park signage and totem” – Address: Co-Op Talgarth, Hay Road, Talgarth Brecon LD3 0AW - Grid Reference: Reconsultation due to Amendment.
RESOLVED: No objections to this Planning Application.
4. **BBNPA – Planning Application 23/22359/TRCA** - Proposal: “Damson pruning, Edible Cherry reduction of crown, dead wood removal, Apple tree pruning, removal of branches near house, Ash cut back to hedge level, pollarding of sycamores and removing dead section of Lawson Cypress.” - Address: The Elms, Bronllys Road, Talgarth Brecon Powys -
RESOLVED: No objections to this Planning Application.
5. **PCC – Planning Application 23/1315/FUL** - Proposal: Conversion and extension of redundant agricultural building to form a dwelling, installation of sewage treatment plant and all associated works - Site Address: Tregunter, Llanfilo, Brecon, LD3 0RA - Grid Reference: E:313524 N: 233893
RESOLVED: To ask if a Historic Survey has been undertaken, due to its sensitive location and request an extension of time so this application can be considered at our 8 Nov meeting.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY –

- **BBNPA PERMISSION FOR DEVELOPMENT –**
Planning Application 23/21726/FUL - Proposal: “Planning application for upgraded cladding and the erection of a single storey extension for a B2 servicing workshop to provide a client waiting area and reception.” Address: The Green, Bronllys Road, Talgarth LD3 0HH
- **BBNPA – Planning Application 23/22066/FUL** - Proposal: “Planning application for a rear two storey extension additional dormer window and a front porch” - Address: Lower Penybryn, Talgarth, LD3 0EE

23/131 FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Amounts received since last meeting 6 Sept 2023:

Date	From	Item	Amount
30/09/23BAC	Nat West Bank	Sept Interest on Business Reserve A/C	£34.42
29/09/23BAC	Transport for Wales	Hall Hire 23/45	£65.00
28/09/23 BAC	Maria Aerobics	Hall Hire 23/46	£84.00
21/09/23 BAC	A V Griffiths & Son	SGC – 2 Burial of Ashes fees – FHB & JB dec'd - £176 ea.	£352.00
21/09/23 BAC	Brecon & District MIND	Hall Hire 23/44 – Aug hire	£100.00
15/09/23 BAC	Commonwealth War Graves	SGC Annual War Grave Maintenance fee	£70.00
08/09/23 101949	Black Mountains Friends Group	Committee Room hire for meeting- 01/09/23	£7.00

Accounts for Payment/Ratification since last meeting 6 Sept 2023:

Date/Cheq	To	Item	Net	VAT	Total
26/09/23 DD	BT	Town Hall Tel Mthly Rent/B'Band	£21.66	£4.33	£25.99
25/09/23 3739	Sanders Housekeeping	Town Hall cleaning 22 – 28/9/23	£105.00		£105.00
21/09/23 3738	Black Mountains College	3 for 2 Training Course - £75 each	£150.00		£150.00
21/09/23 3737	Town Clerk	Salary & Expenses Sept 23	£1,082.31		£1,082.31
21/09/23 3736	Caretaker – Town Hall	Salary Sept 23	£1,110.15		£1,110.15
21/09/23 3735	HMRC	July, Aug, Sept 23 –Clerk and Caretaker IncomeTax /Employee Nat Ins.	£776.43		£776.43
19/09/23	Eon	Town Hall – Electric	£158.79	£7.94	£166.73
13/09/23	Eon	Town Hall - Gas	£122.18	£6.11	£128.29
13/09/23	Eon	Public Conveniences – Electric	£67.68	£3.39	£71.17
13/09/23 3734	PAVO	PAVO payroll fee July, Aug, Sept 23 – Clerk & Caretaker salaries	£54.00		£54.00
11/09/23 3733	Defib Store Ltd	New Defib unlocked cabinet £391 + £10 carriage + £80.20 VAT	£401.00	£80.20	£481.20
11/09/23 3732	One Stop Promotions	2 x Wall Flag Poles 2m with 1pc angled brackets	£156.00	£31.20	£187.20
06/09/23 3731	Dwr Cymru	Town Hall – Water Rates 17/2 – 9/8/23	£659.67		£659.67
06/09/23 3730	Gavenny Catering	Town Hall – Repairs to leaking Bain Marie	£175.00	£35.00	£210.00
06/09/23 3729	OTM Groundscare Ltd	SGC Burial Ground Contract 2023/2024 - Aug invoice £424.38 + £84.88 VAT	£424.38	£84.88	£509.26
06/09/23 3728	OVW	Training fees for Councillors – July/Aug	£76.00		£76.00
06/09/23 3727	A J Windows	Town Hall – Windows & glass roof Cleaning	£45.00		£45.00
08/09/23 DD	PWLB	Final payment on Loan Account - Principal £4,459.10 + Interest £47.27. = £4,506.37	£4,506.37		£4,506.37
05/09/23 DD	PCC	Town Hall/Public Conveniences - Monthly Council Tax	£198.00		£198.00

- **To Approve - Schedule of monthly accounts since 6 Sept 2023 meeting – RESOLVED:** To approve Schedule of monthly accounts since 6 Sept 2023 meeting.
- **Bank Reconciliation 1 – 30 Sept 2023 – RESOLVED:** Due to the meeting being held one week earlier, to approve Bank Reconciliation 1 – 30 Sept 2023 at the 8 Nov 2023 meeting.

23/132 PCC COUNTY COUNCILLOR W POWELL – County Councillor W Powell, had circulated his monthly report, in advance of the meeting – full details on circulation.

PCC Highways & Other Matters –

- **Talgarth placemaking plan** – Noted Owen Davies is arranging a public meeting on 19 Oct re an update on the Talgarth placemaking plan.

RESOLVED: To offer the Town Hall for the public meeting from 2pm – 7pm Thurs 19 Oct, and to provide tea/coffee facilities and to offer Councillor help to publicise the event by delivering invitations to households in Talgarth.

- **PCC – Car Park** – Noted some concerns have been received by the Town Council re recent lack of available parking in this location and the issue is being investigated. Noted PCC has agreed to Town Council representation on the Car Parking Review group, if this goes ahead.

Cllr K Burns left the meeting.

23/133 TALGARTH& TREFECCA MATTERS

- **Talgarth Post Office Consultation** – Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, reported that, on behalf of the Town Council, she had received an unsatisfactory response from the Post Office regarding this matter, stating that they had reviewed all feedback and made the decision to proceed with the move of the above Post Office into The Co-Operative food store at Hay Road, Talgarth, where it will be operated by a retail partner. Also disappointing too, due to a technical problem the Post Office facility is not yet operating at the new Co-Op premises, and not yet known when this will be rectified. Noted that Bronllys Post Office hours have increased to help with this situation.
- **Remembrance Sunday 12 Nov** – Noted arrangements are in hand for this year's Remembrance Service on Sunday 12 Nov - 10am Service at St Gwendoline's Church, followed by march led by the Army Cadets to the 10 50am War Memorial Service and wreath laying will take place. Refreshments will be served in the Town Hall after the War Memorial Service.

23/134 Allotments - Following on from the Wye Valley AONB meeting, Cllr L Elston-Reeves and Cllr A Lord suggested that we, as a Town Council, could promote community growing and possibly take over one or two allotments within Talgarth. Noted Cllr L Elston-Reeves has liaised with the Chair of the Community Allotments group in Woodlands Ave, who confirmed that one allotment is currently vacant and he is happy for the Town Council to take it on immediately, in order to clear it up as it is overgrown, stating there will be no charge for this year and payment will be due after the renewal date in Feb/March 2024.

Noted PCC has offered 3 free raised beds for the Council use, which have been accepted.

Cllr L Elston-Reeves reported that she is going to speak to both OTV, in order to get the community involved and also to the Black Mountains College in order to involve their students in this project.

Cllr J Bond spoke of the Local Nature Partnership monies available for Community groups, through the BBNPA.

RESOLVED: To pursue this idea and to accept the vacant allotment now in Woodlands Ave, at a current cost £10 per year, payable from Feb 2024.

23/135 S6 BIODIVERSITY REPORT - Cllr A Lord reported that he is working on the report.

Cllr A Lord, Deputy Mayor, reported that he had been liaising with Martin Draper, Chair of the Group, in respect of Section 6 Biodiversity re the joint Launch of the OTV – One Meter matters in conjunction with the Town Council, by holding a public meeting at 7.15pm 24 Oct.

23/136 Town Council reps on other groups – Groups list on circulation

23/137 GROUP UPDATES – Talgarth/Trefecca

- **Tuesday Lunch Club** – MacMillan Coffee morning 16 Sept – request received re Hall hire fee for the event. **RESOLVED:** To charge Town Hall hire fee, hourly rate, for the time members of the public were present at the event + energy costs
- **Grow for Talgarth** – Harvest Supper and Ceilidh 30 Sept - request received re Hall hire fee for the event. **RESOLVED:** To charge Town Hall hire fee, hourly rate, for the time members of the public were present at the event + energy costs
- **GfT Bulb Planting** – Request received from group to plant Tenby and Talgarth daffodil bulbs on the bank, in the location of the poppy and soldier, on left hand of War Memorial. **RESOLVED:** To agree to GfT's request to plant Tenby and Talgarth daffodil bulbs in their chosen location and to request more poppies and rosemary be planted to signify remembrance, in this area.
- **Green Valleys** – Request by Green Valleys re hire costs for the Town Hall kitchen for their community apple pressing event on 23& 24 Sept
RESOLVED: To charge sessional hire rate for kitchen, each day + energy costs.
- **Talgarth Festival** – Received letter of thanks from the Chair of the group, thanking the Town Council for their support re this year's Festival.
Cllr J Evans, Town Council representative, reported that he had attended the AGM on 2 Oct - Elected officers – Tony James, Chair, Steve Smith, Treasurer and Zoe Porter, Secretary.
- **Xmas Lights Group** – Noted Xmas Lights meeting was held on 19 Oct in the Committee Room. Josephine reported that she has obtained for completion, both the PCC Road Closure application form– fee £385 and the PCC Bunting application form– fee £115 for the Xmas Lights Switch on event on Sat 2 Dec – noted these Licence fees have been precepted for.
- **WAW** – Noted next meeting will be held on 10 Oct 7pm at Talgarth Football Club – received Agenda together with draft Minutes 5 Sept, 21 Sept meetings.
- **BMC Autumn Short Courses – Radical Adaptation for Parish & Town Councillors: Creating Green and Resilient Communities** – 3 places booked – Remote Course – Wed 11, 18, and 25 Oct -7pm – 9.15pm to be attended by Cllr A Lord, Cllr J Bond and Cllr K Burns and an update to next meeting.
- **First Aid and Defibrillator Awareness Course** – Noted Zoe Argent, St John's is offering free courses to Volunteer Groups, to be held at the Town Hall. Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor will advertise this offer of training to all local Groups via the WhatsApp group.
- **PCSO** – Noted next Surgery will be held on Thurs 5 Oct – 6 – 7pm in the Committee Room.
- **TIRC** – Noted meeting on 2 Oct, has been postponed to 2pm 9 Oct 2pm at the Strand Café.
- **Flag Poles** – Received the 2 x Wall Flag Poles 2m with 1pc angled brackets - £156 + 20% VAT – For ratification on the Finance report.
RESOLVED: Alan Evans Builder to fix the 2 x Flag Poles/brackets to Town Hall.
- **On the Verge** – Regular updates received and on circulation.
- **Co-op, Hay Road, Talgarth** – Received Invitation to Town Councillors, to the official opening on 15 Sept at 12 noon. Noted Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, Cllr K Burns, Cllr C Green, Cllr M Dodds, Marley and Cllr C Briggs attended the event.
- **Talgarth Bowling Club Revised Lease** – Noted Williams Beales Solicitors, has forwarded a revised lease for signing up, on behalf of Talgarth Town Council by Cllr L Elston-Reeves and Cllr Andrew Lord, which, for all intents and purposes remains the same as signed up in 2021, with the inclusion of the additional clauses 23 and 24 and a change to the signing clause, due to the HM Land Registry requirements changing since the document was signed up in 2021. Noted the Bowling Club will then sign up their part of this revised lease.
RESOLVED: To accept the revised Lease and for Cllr L Elston-Reeves and Cllr Andrew Lord to sign the revised lease, on behalf of the Town Council, in the presence of a witness at the meeting.

- **Talgarth Town Football Club** – Request received from Talgarth Football Club for the consideration of the Town Council, of their proposal for an extension of the King George V Pavilion - the reason being, that the existing space they have is not adequate for their storage. **RESOLVED:** To support the proposed extension of the King George V Pavilion, as per the plans submitted, as long as all the relevant permissions are sought eg BBNPA planning permission, PCC Building Regulations etc.
- **TADSCA –**
General Meeting – 7pm 28 Sept at the King George V Pavilion – Received minutes of the meeting from TADSCA and on circulation.
 Noted Cllr A Lord, Town Council Liaison, attended the TADSCA meeting and gave a brief update, noting change of Chairman - Chris Voyle, had resigned as Chairman due to moving out of the area and Keith Parry was appointed Chairman.
 Cllr Lord reported that he had explained to the TADSCA meeting, the role that the Town Council plays in supporting biodiversity on and around the land in which the Town Council has an interest. Peter Weavers, TADSCA, explained how their management of King George V Field responds to nature and undertook to formally describe their approach which has been circulated to Town Councillors.
King George V Children's Play area – Noted Peter Weavers TADSCA had, with the kind assistance of Steve Butcher, replaced the broken rope to the play bridge equipment - cost of replacement paid by TADSCA - £286.72 + VAT.
- **Request for Bus Shelter, bottom Kings Drive, Hay Road** – No new update from PCC.
- **D-Day 80 – 6th June 2024** – Cllr L Elston-Reeves reported that she had called an initial meeting re the proposed event and shared some of the ideas discussed and will keep us informed of progress.
- **TOWN HALL –**
Electric cut out 2 Oct – Update – Noted Skyrme Electrical had been called out on 3 Oct due to a circuit tripping and the trip was reset and no reason for the fault identified at the time.
Piano – Quote for piano cover – Quote obtained for a 'Full Cover Dustproof Waterproof, Silver-coated Oxford Fabric Piano Protective Cover Black, Block Sunlight, Moisture, Dust' from Amazon - cost £53.50. **RESOLVED:** To purchase this Piano Cover - £53.50.
Piano Tuning – Noted the piano was in need of being tuned.
RESOLVED: To get piano tuned by Robert Thomas, Brecon, cost £90 on 11 Oct 2023.
Table Tennis Table – Noted the Black Mountains Table Tennis Club which is run from Clyro Court Hotel, has requested the temporary loan of one of the 3 owned table tennis tables stored in the Town Hall. Clerk has sought advice of PCC, as the grant aid for the tables was through PCC in 2012. PCC agreed it would be in order to allow Clyro the use of one of our tables on a temporary loan basis to assist with their community club, with a written agreement by both parties to agree and sign, as advised by PCC.
RESOLVED: To temporary loan one of the tables on the terms suggested by PCC.
Hire of Town Hall - A request has been received from a Black Mountains College Student, living in shared student accommodation in Talgarth, to practice her musical instrument cello in the Town Hall.
RESOLVED: To meet the student at the Town Hall to ascertain of her requirements of use.
Defibrillator case– Noted the new Defibrillator case has been received from the Defib Store Ltd – cost £401.00 + VAT – to be ratified on the Finance Report.
RESOLVED: To ask Skyrme Electrical a cost for replacing this Defibrillator case.

9pm Move of Standing Orders – further 15 minutes

23/138 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- **Bronllys Well Being Park - Public Meeting - Wed 18th Oct- 7pm – 9pm, in Talgarth Town Hall** – Received a Notice of this Public Meeting, noting Professor Chris Jones, Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Wales will be present.

- **PCC - Brecon Household Waste Recycling Centre** – Noted this facility is going to close for refurbishment from 16 Nov for approx 3 months.
- **PCC - Local Places for Nature Capital Fund** – Applications invited by 20 Oct.
- **PCC - Powys Planning Decision Notices 4 to 13 Sept 2023;**
- **BBNPA** – Received the weekly list of BBNPA Planning Applications & Meeting agenda for various committees – on circulation.
- **BBNPA - Invitation: Bannau Brycheiniog Heritage Day 2023 - 14 Oct at Brecon Guildhall** - Agenda received - To register, free of charge and visit the BBNPA website to see the Historic Environment Action Plan. Noted Cllr C Green has expressed a wish to attend.
RESOLVED: To arrange for Cllr C Green to attend and register free of charge.
- **Letter of Introduction - Rev Paul Smethurst** - Received a letter of Introduction from the Rev Paul Smethurst, is an Ordained Baptist Minister and moved into the area, earlier this year, to take up the role of Missional Minister for Breconshire – this role being quite varied, part of it is being involved in leading the monthly services held at Penyrheol Chapel.
- **Engagement on proposals affecting MIU services in Gwent** - Proposed Changes to Minor Injury Unit Services within Aneurin Bevan University Health Board – Comments by 3 Nov.
- **PtHB - Bevan Commission Conversations around health and social care** – Noted that the Bevan Commission is hosting a series of face-to-face engagement events across Wales plus an online workshop – The Powys event takes place on 3 Oct at Theatr Brycheiniog from 10:30am to 1pm and the online event is on Tues 7 Nov via zoom from 6pm to 8pm.
- **The Welsh Ombudsman's public consultation: Our Equality Plan 2023-2026** – Comments by 2 Oct 2023.
- **EMRTS** - Update from the Emergency Ambulance Services Committee on the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) - EMRTS Service Review – Update Briefing 10 - Sept 2023 received

23/139 Date of the next meetings –

Wed 8 November 2023 – Monthly meeting.

Wed 6 December 2023 – Monthly meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.08pm.

SIGNED:

DATE: