

**MINUTES OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AT 7PM, WEDNESDAY,
10 JANUARY 2024, HELD IN THE TOWN HALL COMMITTEE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr L Elston-Reeves (Mayor) (In the Chair), Cllr A Lord (Deputy Mayor), Cllr J Bond, Cllr C Briggs, Cllr K Burns, Cllr A Bufton, Cllr D Coleman, Cllr J Evans, Cllr C Green, Cllr G Jones, Cllr W Powell (Town & Powys County Councillor)

APOLOGIES: Cllr M Dodds

IN ATTENDANCE: Josephine Rumsey (Town Clerk)

24/01 WELCOME: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, welcomed Members to the meeting.

24/02 MEETING CONDUCT – Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor had circulated information, reminding Councillors of meeting conduct and some key roles to observe, which were noted.

24/03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No declarations of interest

24/04 MINUTES: The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 6 December 2023, had been previously circulated to Town Councillors.

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

24/05 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- **OVW /PAVO –** All updates and training dates on circulation.
- **OVW Brecon & Radnor Committee –** Noted the Area Committee meeting was held remotely on 9 Jan and attended by Cllr D Coleman, who has circulated a brief report of the meeting. Noted the next meeting will be held on 8 April, to be attended by the PCC Chief Executive – venue to be confirmed.

24/06 BBNPA - PERMISSION FOR DEVELOPMENT –

- Planning Application 23/22393/FUL - Proposal: “Alterations to the rear elevation: Raise the roof at the rear of the house. Addition of 6 rooflights. Addition of 1 new door & new windows/ glazing to replace existing 4 windows.” - Address: Trefecca Farm , Trefecca, Brecon LD3 0PW
- Planning Application Consultation Letter 23/22392/SCO – Scoping Opinion - Proposal: “Request for EIA Scoping Opinion on a residential-led, mixed-use development at the former Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth.” - Address: Former Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth, Brecon Powys LD3 0ED - Grid Reference: E:316175 N:233072

24/07 FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Amounts received since last meeting 6 December 2023:

Date	From	Item	Amount
02/01/23BAC	Tuesday Lunch Club	Hall hire – 23/78	£105.03
30/12/23 BAC	Powys County Council	One third Precept 2023/2024	£24,333.00
30/12/23BAC	Nat West Bank	Dec Interest on Business Reserve A/C	£20.94
27/12/23BAC	Hannah Bojang	Hall hire – 23/76	£39.00
20/12/23BAC	M Barker	Hall hire – 23/73	£32.00
19/12/23BAC	R W Evans & Son	SGC – Memorial Stone fee S & FG	£200.00

18/12/23 101954	Black Mountains Friends Group	Committee Room hire for meeting- 30/11/23	£7.00
15/12/23 BAC	Wye & Usk Foundation	Hall hire – 23/70	£70.00
13/12/23BAC	Black Mountains College	Hall hire – 23/74	£65.00
7/12/23BAC	S L Harty	Hall Hire – 23/71	£31.50
4/12/23BAC	Perthyn	Hall Hire – 23/64	£87.00
4/12/23BAC	Brecon & District MIND	Hall hire – 23/69 – Nov hire	£100.00

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

Date/Cheq	To	Item	Net	VAT	Total
05/01/24 DD	PCC	Town Hall/Public Conveniences - Monthly Council Tax	£198.00		£198.00
04/01/23 3777	Town Clerk	Sept salary – Shortfall of £100 on payment	£100.00		£100.00
28/12/23	BT D/D	Town Hall Tel Mthly Rent/B'Band	£23.33	£4.66	£27.99
18/12/23 3776	Town Clerk	Salary & Expenses Dec 23	£1,237.58		£1,237.58
18/12/23 3775	Caretaker – Town Hall	Salary Dec 23	£632.15		£632.15
18/12/23 3774	HMRC	Oct, Nov, Dec 23 –Clerk/ Caretaker Income Tax - Employee Nat Ins.	£1,326.86		£1,326.86
18/12/23 3773	PAVO	Payroll fee – Oct, Nov, Dec	£54.00		£54.00
15/12/23 3772	Sanders Housekeeping	Town Hall cleaning – 15 - 21/12	£105.00		£105.00
12/12/23 DD	Eon	Town Hall – Gas – 28/10 – 26/11	£264.87	£13.24	£278.11
12/12/23 DD	Eon	Town Hall – Electric – 28/10– 26/11	£117.33	£5.87	£123.20
12/12/23 DD	Eon	Public Conveniences – Electric - 28/10 – 26/11	£70.80	£3.54	£74.34
08/12/23 3771	Argos	Town Hall - Bush Corded Bagged Cylinder Vacuum Cleaner	£44.65	£5.35	£50.00
06/12/23 3770	Ann Davies	War Graves – 8 x Holly Wreaths - £6 each.	£48.00		£48.00
06/12/23 3769	Amazon	Xmas Lights maintenance items	£89.54	£17.90	£107.44
06/12/23 3768	OTM Groundscare Ltd	SGC Burial Ground Contract 2023/2024 - Nov invoice £424.38 + £84.88 VAT	£424.38	£84.88	£509.26
06/12/23 3767	A G Evans	Town Hall & Public Conveniences repair work	£200.40		£200.40
06/12/23 3766	Sign Design	Xmas Lights maintenance items – Signage	£200.00		£200.00
05/12/23 DD	PCC	Town Hall/Public Conveniences - Monthly Council Tax	£198.00		£198.00

- **To Approve** - Schedule of monthly accounts since 6 December 2023 meeting.
RESOLVED: To approve Schedule of monthly accounts since 6 December 2023 meeting.

- **To Approve - 1 – 31 December 2023 - Bank Reconciliation Statement.**
RESOLVED: To approve the Bank Reconciliation – 1 – 31 December 2023, attached at the end of these minutes.
- **Vision ICT - Annual website hosting** – Invoice received from Vision ICT for Annual - website hosting - £161.00 + £32.20 VAT – Total £193.20.
RESOLVED: To pay Vision ICT Invoice £193.20 inclusive of VAT and to sign up our new member Cllr W Powell to the Town Council email addresses.

24/08 PCC COUNTY COUNCILLOR W POWELL – County Councillor W Powell had circulated his monthly report, in advance of the meeting and contributed to other matters on the agenda.

24/09 PCC Highways issues –

- **Street Lighting - requests for repairs – Park Ave, Kings Drive and Hay Road location** – Cllr W Powell reported that a PCC street lighting engineer will attend on site 15 Jan, to investigate the faulty street lights in this location.
- **Tower Bridge, The Square, Talgarth – Dangerous vegetation** - Cllr W Powell reported that he had received a report of the dangerous vegetation overgrowth, over the walkway, in this location and had reported it to PCC highways, for action.
- **Damaged Verges Nr Hay Road/Kings Drive** – A couple of reports of recently damaged verges in this location were reported at the meeting. **RESOLVED:** Cllr W Powell to report these damaged verges for suitable repair./ obstructions to be put in place.
- **Tower Lane blocked** – Noted Cllr Chris Green discovered and reported that Tower Lane had been blocked by a huge fallen branch from the oak tree there and pointed out that there is a TPO on that tree. Noted the Town Council referred the matter to PCC Highways, who arranged for the fallen branch to be cut up by the evening. Noted thanks and appreciation had been forwarded to PCC.
Noted County Councillor W Powell has also reported the matter to PCC Housing and BBNPA colleagues, as tree protection and maintenance of footpaths fall to the National Park with a response backed up by Andy Thompson’s commitment to arrange a health check for the ancient oak by a suitably qualified person, given its TPO protection.
Also noted that Kathy Jenkins, BBNPA, has agreed to undertake a site visit to get images of the lost branch so that the TPO file could be updated.
- **PCC – Slippery Pavement on pavement outside Town Hall** – Noted Cllr C Green had received a report on 3 Jan by a concerned resident re the slippery pavement in this location, which the Town Council referred to PCC Highways, for attention. Noted PCC Highways confirmed that they would be carrying out a routine safety inspection of The Square area, the following week and would address any repairs or treatment to the footway that is required.

PCC Other matters -

- **PCC & Town & Community Council remote meeting 7 Dec** - Minutes of the 7 Dec meeting, attended by Cllr A Lord, and presentations from the meeting received and on circulation. Noted the next meeting is planned for Wed 21 Feb 2024 – 6 - 7.30pm and will be focusing on the PSB's Well-being Plan.

- **PCC - Talgarth placemaking plan** – Following the Town Centre Placemaking Plan update meeting, held late pm 6 Dec, Ayden Davies PCC had forwarded, for information, a link to their Transforming Towns Programme - [Transforming Towns Grants | Grow in Powys](#)
Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, reported that earlier today, Owen Davies, Consultant, had confirmed to the Clerk, that the final Talgarth Place Plan report had been completed and was currently with PCC officers for signing off, prior to forwarding to the Town Council for consideration/ adoption. **RESOLVED:** Clerk request the final Talgarth Place Plan report from Alan Davies, PCC Regeneration for our 14 Feb meeting, for consideration/adoption.
- **PCC - Local Places for Nature Grants** - Noted Local Places for Nature project application put forward by Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, has been successful in the sum of £600 for the Woodlands Allotment, noting the deadline for claims is 26 Feb and the agreement had been signed up by the Clerk. Further update received from Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, that we have already received agreement to be given £500 worth of raised beds and we will arrange the purchase of the required equipment from the Old Railway Garden Centre for adults/ children use, for this project at the new Council Allotment in Woodlands Ave.
- **PCC - Powys Environmental Education Cluster Teams meeting 4pm 30 Jan** – Noted next meeting will be held on Teams at 4pm 30 Jan. Received agenda etc. Noted Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor planned to join this meeting.

24/10 TALGARTH& TREFECCA MATTERS

Talgarth Issues – Co-op – Noted a letter of concern, requesting an update, had been forwarded to Coop Disposals on 15 Dec 2023 but no full response received.

County Councillor W Powell reported that the agents of the Coop are commencing their marketing activities and understands that an appointment has been made with an interested party, the following week and hopefully we will see some active progress

RESOLVED: To request a response from the Coop Disposals for our 17 Jan meeting.

Co-op – re lack of Post Office – Concern received from the son of an elderly resident re the continued lack of post office services in this location. Noted the Mayor had responded, informing him that the Town Council is seeking updates but not yet received any firm answers.

Post Office and Electric Car Charger Points – Noted Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, had contacted William Lloyd Coop, expressing concerns raised about the continued lack of post office services and of functioning electric car charger points and requested contact details in order for Town Council to write direct to seek an update.

Noted Will Lloyd had responded confirming that he currently has an email ready to send up to the chain of command that covers all the concerns raised by the Mayor.

Cllr W Powell confirmed that the Electric Car Charger Points is a matter for the owner of the site, who is dealing with the matter.

Coop - Car Park Lighting - Cllr W Powell reported that he had received concerns of the excessive lighting emitted from this location which is a matter for the owner of the site.

Virginia Brown, local resident – re Concerns of Town Centre and Lack of Post Office –

Noted Virginia Brown had accepted the invitation to address the Town Council re her concerns and requested that Trudy Godwin, who runs a neighbouring Post Office, also attends the meeting.
RESOLVED: That both Virginia Brown and Trudy Godwin attend the 14 Feb meeting to address the Town Council.

Peter Weavers, local resident – re Concerns re Town Centre & its environs – Noted Peter Weavers was not available to attend tonight's meeting but has accepted an invitation to attend the 14 Feb meeting to address the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That Peter Weavers attends the 14 Feb meeting to address the Town Council.

Peter Weavers, local resident - letter 11 Dec to BBNPA re processes – Noted the Town Council received, for information, copy of a letter sent from Peter Weavers, local resident to the BBNPA re BBNPA processes, also copied to County Councillor W Powell. Copy response from Councillor Powell to Mr Weavers was received by the Town Council.

British Heart Foundation Defibrillator/Cabinet Grant – Noted Cllr Jon Evans has completed the application from the British Heart Foundation, for a free defibrillator/cabinet for the Trefecca area – location to be determined, on behalf of the Town Council, and awaiting the outcome. The Mayor thanked Cllr J Evans for his work in completing the application.

RESOLVED: Cllr J Evans and Cllr A Lord work together on this project.

D-Day 80th Anniversary – Noted enquiries had been made to Robert Butler, Historical Promotions re this event, and awaiting information / costs so we can precept for the event.

24/11 S6 BIODIVERSITY REPORT - Cllr A Lord, Deputy Mayor, reported that he is currently working on the report.

24/12 GROUP UPDATES – Talgarth/Trefecca

- **Football Club – King George V Pavilion –** Noted a break-in had occurred, at the Football Club, early hours of 25 Dec 2023 causing theft and damage. This was followed by a further break-in during the early hours of today 10 Jan 2024 causing more theft and damage. Noted an insurance claim is being made by the Town Council, which incurs a £250 excess, and that the Football Club has contacted Nolans, who fitted these new doors 1 – 2 years ago, for a quote for replacement/repair.

RESOLVED: Cllr A Lord, Liaison Officer, liaise with the Football Club regarding getting the building secured as quickly as possible.

- **Football Club –** The Football Club Chair has requested information to ensure that as a Football Club they are aware of their compliance responsibilities going forward.

RESOLVED: To forward the relevant information/responsibilities to the Football Club.

- **Football Club – Proposed Pavilion Clock –** Cllr W Powell had no new update.

- **PCSO - Surgery –**Noted PCSO Emma Jackson had confirmed that the next Surgery would be held at 6pm 1 Feb in Committee Room.

- **GoSafe Community Speed Watch** - Invitation received from the Transport Assistant, to an online session via Teams 7pm 8 Feb, to learn more about Community Speed Watch: GoSafe. Noted Cllr A Lord and Cllr D Coleman agreed to attend. Clerk to arrange.
- **Police & Crime Commissioner** - A479 petition – County Cllr W Powell reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner visit is planned for 21 Feb.
- **WAW** - Received 12 Dec Agenda and 14 Nov Draft Minutes - for information.
- **Talgarth Festival Group** – Cllr Jon Evans, Town Council rep on the group, circulated an update of the Group for information. Noted the next meeting will be held on 15 Jan.
- **Xmas Lights Group** –
 - Cllr Jon Evans, Town Council rep on this group, circulated an update from the group Noted that the group is looking at replacing the aged river Xmas lights lanterns.
 - **Reimbursement of Electricity – RESOLVED:** To forward a £30 contribution to Mrs S Coles, The Bell, for electricity provided for the Xmas lights in Bell Street.
 - **Reimbursement for Mulled Wine – RESOLVED:** To reimburse Mrs H Summerfield the cost of £79.76 for refreshments provided for the Xmas Lights Switch on.
- **Talgarth Visitor Centre** - Received Minutes of the meeting held on 11 Dec and notification of the meeting at 2.30pm 8 Jan at the Strand Café, attended by Cllr Doug Coleman, Town Council rep, attended the meeting, who has circulated an update of the meeting.
- **On the Verge** – Received OTV yearly update from Martin Draper, Chair – on circulation. Noted Cllr C Green hoped to attend the PCC/OVW site meeting at 10am 22 Jan at Coed y Bryn.
- **Talgarth & District Regeneration Group – AGM Fri 5 Jan 2024 at 6.30pm at the Castle Hotel, Talgarth** – Agenda received – noted Cllr W Powell and Cllr J Bond, Town Council rep on this group, attended the meeting. Cllr Powell gave a verbal update and also reported that given the renewed interest in the refurbishment of the 1875 Victorian School, he has forwarded for circulation to councillors, a set of key documents relating to this matter.
- **St Gwendoline's Churchyard - RESOLVED:** To payment of OTM Dec 2023 Churchyard maintenance Invoice - £424.38 + £84.88 VAT £509.25.

TOWN HALL –

- **Annual Fire Alarm & Emergency Test – RESOLVED:** To payment of Skyrme Electrical Invoice for Town Hall work - to replace new light in gent's toilet and replace 4 emergency bulkhead fittings following the annual Fire Alarm & Emergency Lighting test – Quotes received - Total £278 + £55.60VAT – Total £333.60.
RESOLVED: Skyrme Electrical Invoice –Total £333.60 be paid.
- **Blackwood Fire Ltd** – Noted Annual Fire Extinguisher test took place on 4 Jan.
RESOLVED: To pay Blackwood Fire Invoice £188.50 + £37.70 VAT which includes 2 replacement fire extinguishers. Noted a further 2 new fire extinguishers will be due for replacement in Jan 2025.

24/13 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- **PCC – Events in Powys 2024** – Noted Lisa Horne PCC is working on collating events happening in Powys in 2024.
RESOLVED: To advertise this request on the What’sAp group.
- **PCC - Powys Planning Decision Notices - 27 Nov to 8 Dec 23**
- **BBNPA Historic Environment Partnership - December 2023**, Weekly list of Planning Applications & agenda for various committees
- **Age Cymru Powys - Winter Newsletter**
- **Vision ICT - Winter Newsletter**
- **Dyfed Powys Police – Newsletter 2023**
- **Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Draft Community Risk Management Plan Consultation Draft Service 2040 plan** – Received from Neil Evans, MWWFS for Powys area - more information and links - Note Consultation ends 15 Jan.
- **EMRTS - Emergency Ambulance Services Committee on the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) – EMRTS Service Review update received.**

24/14 Date of the next meetings –

Wed 17 Jan 2024 Precept meeting
Wed 14 Feb 2024 Monthly meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.12pm.

SIGNED:

DATE:

Talgarth Town Council - Bank Reconciliation 1 Dec - 31 Dec 2023			Current	Cap Res
Opening Balances - 1 Dec - 31 Dec 2023			£ 744.87	£20,107.37
Receipts 1 Dec - 31 Dec 2023				
04/12/2023	BACS	Town Hall hire - 23/69 - MIND	100.00	
04/01/2023	BACS	Town Hall hire - 23/64 - Perthyn	87.00	
07/12/2023	BACS	Town Hall hire - 23/71 - SH	31.50	
13/12/2023	BACS	Town Hall hire - 23/74- BMC	65.00	
14/12/2023	BACS	Town Hall hire - 23/72 - TT	85.00	
15/12/2023	BACS	Town Hall hire - 23/70 W & U	70.00	
15/12/2023	TRS	Transfer Cap Res Account to Current Account	4,000.00	
18/12/2023	CR101954	Town Hall hire - Black Mountains Friends 30/11	7.00	
19/12/2023	BACS	R W Evans & Son - Memorial Stone fee - S & FG	200.00	
20/12/2023	BACS	Town Hall hire - 2023/73 MB	32.00	
27/12/2023	BACS	Town Hall hire - 23/76 - HB	39.00	
29/12/2023	BACS	Nat West - Bank Interest 1 - 31 Dec		20.94
29/12/2023	BAC	PCC - Final One third Precept 2023/2024		24,333.00
		Total Receipts:	£ 5,461.37	£44,461.31
Payments 1 Dec - 31 Dec 2023				
05/12/2023	DD	PCC - Town Hall/Pub Conv - Mthly Council Tax	198.00	
06/12/2023	CH3764	British Legion - 10 Street Poppies	30.00	
11/12/2023	CH3753	Army Cadets - Donation Remembrance Sunday	30.00	
12/12/2023	DD	E-on - Public Conveniences Electric	74.34	
12/12/2023	DD	E-on - Town Hall Electric	123.20	
12/12/2023	DD	E-on - Town Hall Gas	278.11	
13/12/2023	CH3769	Amazon - Xmas Lights maintenance items	107.44	
13/12/2023	CH3771	Argos - Bush Vacuum cleaner	50.00	
15/12/2023	TRS	Transfer Cap Res Account to Current Account		4,000.00
15/12/2023	CH 3766	Sign Design - Xmas Lights maintenance items	200.00	
15/12/2023	CH 3767	A G Evans Builder - Town hall/Pub Convs work	200.40	
15/12/2023	CH3772	Sanders Housekeeping - Cleaning	105.00	
19/12/2023	CH3773	PAVO - Payroll fees	54.00	
19/12/2023	CH3774	HMRC - PAYE	1326.86	
19/12/2023	CH3776	Clerk's Dec salary/expenses	1,237.58	
20/12/2023	CH3768	OTM - SGC - Churchyard Main - Nov	509.26	
20/12/2023	CH3775	Caretaker's Dec salary	632.15	
22/12/2023	CH3770	A Davies - 8 holly wreaths for War Graves	48.00	
28/12/2023	DD	BT - Town Hall Monthly B'band Rental	27.99	
		Total Payments:	£ 5,232.33	
Closing Balances - 31 Dec 2023			£ 229.04	£40,461.31

