

MINUTES OF TALGARATH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AT 7PM, WEDNESDAY, 17 JANUARY 2024, HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, TO DETERMINE THE PRECEPT FOR 2024/2025

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr J Bond, Cllr J Evans

IN ATTENDANCE: Josephine Rumsey (Town Clerk),

WELCOME: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, welcomed members to the meeting.

24/15 DECLARE MATTERS OF INTEREST – No matters of interest

24/16 MINUTES – The Minutes of the last Precept meeting held on 11 Jan 2023 and approved at the 8 Feb 2023 meeting were circulated, for ease of reference.

24/17 CORRESPONDENCE –

Black Mountains College (BMC) proposals – Received email update dated 10 Jan from Ben Rawlence setting out the BMC plans and aspirations for the former Victorian School building, Talgarth. This topic generated much discussion with the Town Council.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed to respond to Ben Rawlence informing him that the Town Council discussed the BMC proposals at their meeting on 17 Jan and the topic generated much discussion and that:

- The Town Council is pleased that the BMC is preparing an application to the Community Ownership Fund.
 - The Town Council understand and appreciate that the BMC is discussing a memorandum of understanding with the Talgarth & District Regeneration Group (TDRG), however, wish to inform the BMC that the Town Council would like to support and assist with moving this proposal forward and representatives of the Town Council will be attending the BMC Public Meeting on 23 Jan in the Town Hall, Talgarth.
- **PCC – Precept 2024-2025** - Information letter dated 24 Nov 2023 received – Noted Precept request 2024-2025 to be submitted to PCC by 2 Feb 2024.
- **Talgarth Community Library** – Letter dated 17 Jan 2024 received from William Lloyd, Chair of the TDRG in respect of the Talgarth Community Library, noting that the Town Council had set aside, a contribution towards the running costs of the Community Library during the current financial year 2023/2024, pending sight of audited accounts, which the TDRG anticipate submitting those, together with associated documentation, shortly.
The TDRG is also requesting the Town Council to consider providing a level of support for their activities for the community at the Talgarth Community Library project in 2024/2025
- RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed to make a further £500 available to be spent in 2024/2025, to support the provision of the Talgarth Community Library, which has the full support of the Town Council. However it was decided that the money would be retained by the Town Council and released for specific purposes when the TDRG make a request, subject to the Town Council having sight of the audited accounts.

24/18 TO DETERMINE THE PRECEPT FOR 2024-2025 – Cllr L Elston-Reeves handed over to Cllr A Lord, for his presentation of the Precept part of the meeting. Cllr Lord went through his presentation explaining the key points indicated in his advice notes, which he had prepared on behalf of the Town Council, in order to determine the Precept 2024-2025.

Project List - The project list presented for consideration was fully considered.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed to the summary proposals – attached.

PROJECTED TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2023/2024 **£86,745.00**

RESOLVED: It was proposed, voted and decided to set the precept 2024/2025 at £75,000.00.

Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked Cllr A Lord for his valued assistance in preparing these figures and notes for discussion with Town Councillors, in order to set the Precept for 2024/2025.

Town Councillors were acutely aware of the financial pressures being faced by fellow local residents, with likely increases to come in Powys County Council Tax demands, including the Dyfed Powys Police and Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Precepts. This was a major factor for Town Councillors in their deliberations in determining their Precept level 2024/2025.

24/19 LOCAL RESIDENTS ATTENDING 14 FEBRUARY 2024 MEETING – As agreed at the 10 January 2024 meeting - Virginia Brown, local resident with Trudy Godwin and local resident Peter Weavers, local resident – will be attending the 14 February 2024 meeting to address the Town Council re their concerns.

RESOLVED: That both Virginia Brown and Trudy Godwin, address the Town Council for 15 minutes, at 6.30pm and Peter Weavers, address the Town Council for 15 minutes at 6.45pm, prior to the main part of the meeting commencing at 7pm 14 February 2024..

24/20 DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING - 6.30pm Wed 14 February 2024.

There was no further business to be discussed and the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.14 pm.

Signed:

Date:

Summary of Projected spend for 2024 to 2025

Salaries	
	£39,066.00
Town Hall	
	£11,201.00
General Admin	
	£10,700.00
General Admin One Off	
	£0.00
Training Courses	
	£2,000.00
War Graves/Remembrance	
	£130.00
Town Hall/Toilets Maintenance	
	£5,750.00
Burial Ground	
	£9,698.00
King George V	
	£0.00
Bowling Club	
	£0.00
Elections	
	£250.00
Christmas lights	
	£0.00
Repair Loan	
	£0.00
Donations	
	£650.00
Project list	
	£7,300.00
Total	£86,745.00