

MINUTES OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, FOLLOWING THE AGM, HELD AT 7PM, WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY 2024, HELD IN THE TOWN HALL COMMITTEE ROOM

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr C Briggs

IN ATTENDANCE: Josephine Rumsey (Town Clerk)

24/80 WELCOME: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, welcomed Members to the meeting.

24/81 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no Declarations of Interest.

24/82 MINUTES: The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 10 April 2024, had been previously circulated to Town Councillors.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 10 April 2024, be accepted as a correct record.

24/83 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- **OVW /PAVO** – All updates and training dates on circulation.
- **OVW – ‘Is the Cost-of-Living Crisis Over?’**- Webinar- Thurs 23 May 2024 - 10.00 - 11.30am. Noted Cllr W Powell and Cllr D Coleman to attend.
- **PAVO - Hay & Talgarth Locality Network Meeting 22 May 2024, at 10.30am-12pm** – at Health and Care Academy, Bronllys Hospital.
- **PAVO - Fund Launch - Community Buildings – Grant scheme - £500 - £60,000** - Noted information received and on circulation.

24/84 TALGARTH /TREFECCA UPDATES

- **Inconsiderate Parking issues adjacent Town Hall** – A site meeting had taken place, with relevant authorities, to seek a solution and it was agreed that a ‘H’ bar and hatched area suggested, as an initial solution.
Received correspondence from a neighbouring resident to the Town Hall, re parking issues.
RESOLVED:
 - To pay the Land Registry fee of £29.94 re Town Hall land ownership plans.
 - To further pursue the site meeting suggestions.
 - To acknowledge the correspondence from the neighbouring resident which has been referred to PCC and awaiting their guidance.
- **Talgarth Placemaking Plan – Town Hall Basement project** - Regular progress updates received from Peter Weavers and a request to commence an application for BBNPA Listed Building Consent (LBC).
RESOLVED:
 - That an application for LBC for the project, goes ahead with the BBNPA .
 - To pay Touch Down Invoice for letter printing costs - £218 + £43.60 VAT.
- **Town Centre issues/Liverpool House** – Update received from Hywel Richards, Aspects Development, confirming that he has Liverpool House under offer and that he will keep the Town Council updated of progress.
- **Talgarth and surrounding areas becoming pesticide free** – Received an update from PCC, confirming that the Town Council’s request that no weed spraying will take place has been agreed, in the short term..

- **Section 6 Biodiversity Report** – Noted Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor and Cllr A Lord, Deputy Mayor, are progressing with the report.
- **Council Allotment Project - Community Allotment at Woodlands** – Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, reported that the Council Allotment is progressing well and is liaising with OTV to arrange an open day as soon as possible.
- **D-Day 80th Anniversary** – Noted Cllr J Evans has agreed to check out the gas beacon and arrange for the supply of gas from the Anchorage Caravan Park.
Noted our Zurich insurers have been informed of the 6 & 8 June events and informed us of their requirements.
RESOLVED: For the working group to meet one evening next week to finalise all risk assessments and licence arrangements.
80th D-Day Poppy Wreath – Noted a wreath has been purchased from the British Legion - £22.92 + £4.58 VAT – Total £27.50 to be placed on the War Memorial 11am 6 June by John Gwynne, on behalf of the Town Council.
RESOLVED: To pay British Legion invoice - £22.92 + £4.58 VAT – Total £27.50.
PCC Road Closure - 8 June - Noted the PCC Road Closure on 8 June is being processed.
- **Defibrillator grant/Trefecca** – Noted the Town Council Lottery application has, unfortunately, been unsuccessful.

24/85 TOWN COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION - Application for co-option received from Adam Brown, a local resident. **RESOLVED:** To co-opt Adam Brown as a Talgarth Town Councillor.

24/86 TOWN COUNCILLOR VACANCY - Noted that PCC has confirmed that the recent vacancy can now be advertised for co-option.
RESOLVED: This vacancy will be advertised for co-option and any interested applicants be considered at the 12 June meeting.

24/87 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES FOR 2024/2025 - Noted the report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. During the meeting the details listed in the subject heading were discussed. The Council considered those determinations that were optional as well as the timing of payments. **RESOLVED that:**

- The basic allowance for extra costs for councillors working from home of £156 per annum , who do not opt out, to be made in March 2025.
- The allowance for office consumables of £52 per annum, agreed be paid as an allowance rather than reimbursement for actual expenses incurred, who do not opt out, to be made in March 2025.
- Part of the discussion included the optional payment that could be made to the Mayor/Chair (£1500) and Deputy Mayor/Deputy Chair (£500). It was agreed that the option to allocate these funds should be kept but with a determination in this financial year that we would allocate £500 to the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor a NIL sum.

24/88 FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Amounts received since last meeting 10 April 2024:

| Date | From | Item | Amount |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| 10/05/24 101959 | Black Mountains Friends Group | Committee Room hire for meeting- 03/05/24 | £7.00 |
| 08/05/24BAC | A V Griffiths & Son | SGC – Interment of Ashes – HS dec'd | £194.00 |
| 30/04/24BAC | Nat West Bank | Apr Interest on Business Reserve A/C | £29.63 |
| 30/04/2024BAC | A V Griffiths & Son | SGC – Interment of Ashes – MM dec'd | £194.00 |

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 30/04/2024BAC | A V Griffiths & Son | SGC – Interment of Ashes – DRW dec'd | £194.00 |
| 30/04/24BAC | PCC | One Third Precept | £25,000.00 |
| 08/04/24BAC | Aerobics | Hall hire 24/23 | £84.00 |

Accounts for Payment/Ratification since last meeting 10 April 2024:

| Date/Cheq | To | Item | Net | VAT | Total |
|------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------|--------|-----------|
| 17/05/24 | Eon D/D | Town Hall – Electric – 28/03 – 30/04/24 | £122.89 | £6.14 | £129.03 |
| 17/05/24 | Eon D/D | Public Conveniences – Electric - 28/03 – 30/04/24 | £45.27 | £2.26 | £47.53 |
| 16/05/24 | Eon D/D | Town Hall – Gas – 28/03 – 30/4/24 | £317.17 | £15.86 | £333.03 |
| 15/05/24 3848 | Town Clerk | Salary & Expenses May 24 | £1,241.09 | | £1,241.09 |
| 15/05/24 3847 | Caretaker – Town Hall | Salary May 24 | £694.03 | | £694.03 |
| 15/05/24 3846 | OTM Groundscare Ltd | SGC Burial Ground Contract 2023/2024 - May invoice £424.38 + £84.88 VAT | £424.38 | £84.88 | £509.26 |
| 07/05/24 | PCC | Town Hall Council Tax | £298.31 | | £298.31 |
| 01/05/24 3845 | Dave Price Solutions | Xmas Lights budget – 25% deposit – 100 x lanterns – Total cost £1,500.00 | £375.00 | | £375.00 |
| 01/05/24 3844 | Sanders Housekeeping | Public Conveniences – Cleaning – May invoice. | £132.00 | | £132.00 |
| 01/05/24 3843 | Newall Janitorial Ltd | Town Hall – Cleaning Materials | £9.40 | £1.88 | £11.28 |
| 01/05/24 3842 | Royal British Legion | 80 th D-Day – Poppy Wreath | £22.92 | £4.58 | 27.50 |
| 01/05/24 3841 | PHS Group | Public Conveniences – 3 Sanitary Disposal – 24/05/24 – 23/05/25 | £66.57 | £13.31 | £79.88 |
| 26/04/24 | BT D/D | Town Hall Tel Mthly Rent/B'Band | £26.24 | £5.24 | £31.48 |
| 17/04/24 3840 | Land Registry | Town Hall entrance road – application fee | 29.94 | | 29.94 |
| 10/04/24 3839 | SLCC | Membership Fee 2024/2025 | £188.00 | | 188.00 |

- **To Approve** - Schedule of monthly accounts since 10 Apr 2024, as above.
RESOLVED: To approve Schedule of monthly accounts since 10 Apr 2024.
- **To Approve** - 1 – 30 April 2024 - Bank Reconciliation Statement.
RESOLVED: To approve the Bank Reconciliation – 1 – 30 April 2024, attached at the end of these minutes.
- **To Approve - Zurich Insurance Renewal – 1/6/2024 – 31/5/2025** – Zurich Renewal papers 1 June 2024 – 31 May 2025 received. Noted the renewal papers had been updated and agreed by Town Councillors. **RESOLVED:** To pay Zurich Invoice £5,549.52.
- **To Approve** – Parish On-Line - Annual Renewal Subscription - £45 + £9 VAT = £54
REVOLVED: To renew Annual Renewal Subscription - £45 + £9 VAT = £54

24/89 PCC COUNTY COUNCILLOR W POWELL – County Councillor W Powell had circulated his monthly report, in advance of the meeting - on circulation.

PCC matters

- **Workplace Recycling Webinars** – Noted PCC has confirmed that the Workplace Recycling Webinars that were held in Feb/Mar 2024 in readiness for the new legislation which came into force from the 6 Apr, are still available on the Wrap Cymru website.
- **PCC - Sustainable Powys - Let's Talk!** – Received the video recording of the Sustainable Powys Webinar held on 21 Mar and noted that a transcript of the webinar is also available.
- **PCC & Town & Community Council remote meeting – 22 May at 6pm** –
RESOLVED: Cllr A Lord, Deputy Mayor and Cllr D Coleman to attend the meeting.

24/90 GROUP UPDATES –

ST GWENDOLINE'S CHURCHYARD –

- **Churchyard Maintenance – RESOLVED:** To payment of OTM May 2024 Churchyard maintenance Invoice - £424.38 + £84.88 VAT £509.25
- **Churchyard Inspection meeting** – To arrange a meeting at 6pm 29 May 2024.

TOWN HALL –

- **Town Hall fees review** – Noted - in progress of reviewing and to finalise as soon as possible.
- **Table Tennis Tables** – A letter received from Clyro Black Mountain Table Tennis Club, requesting loan of the Town Hall 2 x Table Tennis tables if they are not in use.
RESOLVED: To respond that these 2 Table Tennis tables are in use at the Town Hall so are not available for loan.
- **Town Hall Emergency Exit onto Mill Yard** – Noted that pallets and a wheelbarrow of flowers were recently blocking the fire escape gate in this area. Both have been removed.
RESOLVED: To arrange replacement signage for this Fire Exit gate.
- **Solar Panel installation at Talgarth Bowling Club proposal** – Noted the Bowling Club Secretary has confirmed that the NFU are to insure the solar panels on their contents insurance as these items will not be in the ownership of the Town Council.
- **King George V Pavilion, Children's Play area etc**
 - **Clock for Talgarth Football Pavilion** – Noted Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor and Cllr A Lord, Deputy Mayor attended a meeting, on site, with County Cllr W Powell and the Football Club representatives. Cllr W Powell confirmed that this new replacement clock is conventionally powered and has been donated for the King George V Pavilion.
 - **Slipped Slates on Roof** – Noted Alan Evans Builder had urgently replaced the slipped slates to make safe. **RESOLVED:** To pay Alan Evans' Invoice £42.40 for this urgent work.
 - **Annual Fixed Playground Inspections** – Annual ROSPA inspections, organised by PCC, are due – Noted TADSCA has applied and paid the £75 fee for the annual inspection of the Children's Play area at the King George V Play area.
- **Walkers are Welcome** - Received draft minutes of the 16 Apr meeting. Note next meetings – Walk Leader's Briefing – 7pm 30 April and the AGM – 7pm 11 June, both meetings to take place at Talgarth Football Club
RESOLVED: To forward a letter of congratulations and thanks to Dr Havard Prosser, Chair of the group, conveying the grateful thanks of the Town Council, for the excellent successful Walkers are Welcome Festival 2024.

- **Town Councillor Representative on other groups** – Cllr M Dodds reported that he is cutting down on his workload, due to his recent illness and has resigned as Town Council representative from the Walkers are Welcome group, Bronllys Well Being Park Board and as an Ysgol y Mynydd du governor.
RESOLVED: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, thanked Cllr M Dodds for all his work, over the many years, on these volunteer groups. Clerk to circulate the ‘Town Councillor Representative on other groups list’ to Town Councillors, for updating at the 12 June meeting.
- **Xmas Lights** – Noted the 100 new coloured lanterns for the river display have been ordered from Dave Price Solutions– total cost as quoted and agreed £1,500.00. Noted £375 - 25% paid with order and when the first 5 lanterns are produced and agreed, we pay the balance owing for delivery of all by Oct 2024.
RESOLVED: To payment for the 100 x Lanterns with a deposit of 25% £375 and balance of £1,125 to be paid after the first 5 lanterns have been received and agreed.
- **Talgarth & District Regeneration Group** - Received the TDRG Meeting minutes of 8 Apr 2024. Cllr W Powell gave a brief verbal update following the library review meeting.
- **Talgarth Visitor Centre** - Received the Talgarth Visitor Centre minutes of 8 Apr 2024.
- **Grow for Talgarth – April Newsletter** – Noted the Wheelbarrow Community event will be held on the weekend of 28/29/30 June.
- **On the Verge** – All updates received and on circulation. Noted OTV has been awarded funding from Keep Wales Tidy, for the starter veg package and are putting together a "Kids veg club", based at Woodlands. An event will be held at 12 noon 15 June; with a representative from Keep Wales Tidy and inviting Town Council presence.
RESOLVED: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, confirmed that she will be in attendance at 12 noon on 15 June and would offer OTV use of any suitable equipment at the council allotment.
- **BMC - Talgarth Talks / Invitation to Town Councillors** – Noted BMC - Talgarth Talk - social scientist and small farmer Chris Smaje is being held this evening Wed 15 May - 6.30pm in the Talgarth Community Hall.

24/91 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- **Invitation from Khusi Gurung MVO, New Gurkha Inn** – The Mayor reported that she has received and accepted an invitation to a breakfast with Nepali Ambassador His Excellency Mr Gyan Chandra Acharya at 8:45am on Sun 19 May 2024.
- **Parish on Line** - Renewal of Subscription - £45 + £9 VAT = £54.
RESOLVED: To agree to renewal of the annual subscription - £45 + £9 VAT - £54.
- **Kind Campaign** – Noted Powys Teaching Health Board and Powys County Council are running a campaign to reduce abuse and violence towards people who provide vital public services to Powys residents – information received.
- **Bannau Brycheiniog Historic Environment Partnership - ‘Big Fish!’ exhibition at Abergavenny Museum and Castle** - Noted this runs until the 15 Dec 2024. It tells the story of the rich heritage of our rivers and their modern day challenges.
- **ICO - Data Protection fee 2024-2025** – Noted fee of £35 to be taken by direct debit on 3 June 2024.
- **PCC - Planning Decision Notices** – 1 – 12 Apr, 15 to 26 Apr & 29 Apr to 10 May 2024.

- **PCC - Fostering in Powys** – Information received
- **BBNPA** - Agenda for the BBNPA Local Access Forum - 9 May at 2pm
- **BBNPA** - Weekly List of Planning Applications
- **PCSO** - Counter Terrorism Policing Campaign – information received.
- **Joint Commissioning Committee – Ambulance Services** - Received update regarding the decision of the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee in relation to the recommendations of the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service Service Review.
- **Urdd Gobaith Cymru** - Request for financial support. Request acknowledged and will be considered at end of financial year.
- **Llais** - Cake and Conversation – An invitation to Town Council received , to this gathering - 10am – 2pm 29 Apr at The Guildhall, Brecon.

24/92 Date of the next meetings –
7pm Wed 12 June 2024 Monthly meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.33pm.

SIGNED:

DATE:

| Receipts 1 Apr - 30 Apr 2024 | | | |
|---|--------|---|--------------------------|
| 08/04/2024 | BACS | Town Hall hire - 24/23 | 84.00 |
| 22/04/2024 | TRS | Transfer Cap Res Account to Current Account | 2,000.00 |
| 30/04/2024 | BACS | Nat West - Bank Interest 1 - 30 Apr | 29.63 |
| 30/04/2024 | BACS | PCC - One third Precept 2024/2025 | 25,000.00 |
| | | Total Receipts: | <u>£ 3,943.08</u> |
| | | | <u>£48,116.27</u> |
| Payments 1 Apr - 30 Apr 2024 | | | |
| 12/04/2024 | DD | E-on - Public Conveniences Electric - 26/2-27/3 | 41.71 |
| 12/04/2024 | DD | E-on - Town Hall Electric - 26/2-27/3 | 115.01 |
| 12/04/2024 | DD | E-on - Town Hall Gas - 26/2 - 27/3 | 314.43 |
| 16/04/2024 | CH3836 | Newhall Janitorial - Town Hall cleaning maerials | 108.13 |
| 17/04/2024 | CH3831 | OVW - Annual Subscription 2024/2025 | 331.00 |
| 17/04/2024 | CH3832 | PCC- Town Hall Premises Lic fee - 23/4/24-24/25 | 180.00 |
| 18/04/2024 | CH3834 | Printerbase - New Drum for Printer | 59.84 |
| 18/04/2024 | CH3835 | Printerbase - Cartridge for Printer | 51.30 |
| 18/04/2024 | CH3837 | Caretaker's Apr salary | 694.03 |
| 22/04/2024 | TRS | Transfer Cap Res Account to Current Account | 2,000.00 |
| 22/04/2024 | CH3833 | OTM - SGC - Churchyard Main - Apr | 509.26 |
| 25/04/2024 | CH3838 | Clerk's Apr salary/expenses | 1,237.78 |
| 25/04/2024 | CH3839 | SLCC - Membership fee 2024/2025 | 188.00 |
| 25/04/2024 | CH3840 | Land Registry-Application fee for Town Hall title | 29.94 |
| 26/04/2024 | DD | BT - Town Hall Monthly B'band Rental | 31.48 |
| | | Total Payments: | <u>£ 3,891.91</u> |
| | | | <u>£ 2,000.00</u> |
| Closing Balances - 30 April 2024 | | | <u>£ 51.17</u> |
| | | | <u>£46,116.27</u> |