

**MINUTES OF TALGARTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, HELD AT 7PM, WEDNESDAY,
12 FEBRUARY 2025, HELD IN THE TOWN HALL COMMITTEE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr L Elston-Reeves (Mayor) (In the Chair), Cllr A Lord (Deputy Mayor) Cllr A Brown, Cllr A Bufton (on line), 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, Cllr B Dale

IN ATTENDANCE: Josephine Rumsey (Town Clerk)

25/19 WELCOME: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, welcomed members to the meeting.

25/20 INCONSIDERATE PARKING – ENTRANCE TO TOWN HALL – Noted that the problem of inconsiderate parking on the hatched area and Keep Clear signage continues and discussion took place on the way forward.

25/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr W Powell in respect of Agenda item 6 - Planning Application 23/22366/FUL and took no part in the discussion and decision making.

25/22 MINUTES: The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 15 January 2025, had been previously circulated to Town Councillors.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 15 January 2025, be accepted as a correct record.

RESOLVED: Unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Town Council Precept meeting held on the 22 January 2025, be accepted as a correct record.

25/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- **OVW /PAVO –** All updates and training dates Dec - Mar - on circulation.
- **Talgarth developments being blocked by BBNPA – RESOLVED:** To invite the Director of Planning BBNPA, to meet with the Town Council, to clarify some of the issues of concern.
- **Brilliant's Basic Fund - Tues 21 Jan at 17:00 hrs Committee room –** Noted a stakeholder discussion took place on 21 Jan, around the TDRG brilliant basics grants, to inform the Town council of what the intentions are and to have a better understanding of what discussions have taken place. Noted the outcome of the grant application is expected around Easter time. Noted that no monetary contribution is expected from the Town Council.
- **Charity Dinner Night in Talgarth –** Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, reported that she had been approached by Khusi Gurung of the Gurkha Inn, who wishes to hold a Gurkha Charity Night, endorsed by the Town Council, on Thurs 13 March at the Gurkha Inn – proceeds in support of the healthcare centre in Dhampus and Brecon Mountain Rescue.
RESOLVED: To circulate the poster.

25/24 TALGARTH /TREFECCA

- **Liverpool House –** No new update.
- **Digital Talgarth – Town Wifi -** Update received from Cllr J Evans, Town Council representative, reporting that he has been in contact with the relevant officer from PCC, submitted the signed up agreements and awaiting an installation date.
- **Town Centre Liaison Officer: share your views –** Noted Cllr J Evans had completed the on-line survey, as Town Councillor representative on the group.
- **S6 Biodiversity –** Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, reported that a biodiversity planning meeting was held on 10 Feb 17:30 hrs and it is noted that the Biodiversity Open Day is now planned to be held on Tues 22 Apr 2025.

- **VE-Day 80th Anniversary - 8 May** – Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, reported that a planning meeting of previous stakeholders and some Town Councillors, had been held on 3 Feb and gave a brief outline on the plans they have proposed to mark the event, to include, on 10th May a street party on The Square with a road closure in place – noting the application fee been waived by PCC. Full programme of events to follow.
Noted items ordered for 80th anniversary, on the Finance Report, for ratification are:-
 - 80th Anniversary Wreath – Lady Haig - £33 + £6.60 VAT – Total £33.60.
 - One Stop Promotions - Flags & Bunting – £80.89 + £16.18 VAT – Total £97.00.
 - Amazon - Tea lights - £7.49 + £1.50 VAT – Total £8.99.**RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed to payment of the above items.
- **Youth Provision** – Cllr C Green reported that she had been approached by an interested party re this matter and Cllr Green has contacted had forwarded contract detail to the Powys Youth Services.
- **Dark Skies Presentation - 6.30 Thurs 6th March 2025 in Committee Room** – Noted the Dark Skies Presentation by Leigh Harling-Bowen, Presteigne and Norton International Dark Sky Community coordinator, will take place.
- **Cost of Living/Food Bank** – OVW – A Cost of Living Crisis Project 'Working With Partners: To Deliver Cost of Living Support to Your Community' Webinar Working With Partners:Thurs 6 Feb- 10.00am - 12.30pm. Noted Cllr W Powell attended.
- **Keep Wales Tidy – Funding – Ysgol y Mynydd du** – Cllr A Brown reported that the school has now received the picnic bench from the Keep Wales Tidy scheme.
- **Repair Café** – Noted the Repair Café, commenced its first meeting on Sat 8 Feb at Talgarth Community Hall and will meet on the second Saturday of the month thereafter

25/25 BBNPA ISSUES:

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR CONSULTATION – Noted Cllr W Powell, who had declared an interest, took no part in the discussion or decision making of the following Planning Application.

- **RECONSULTATION DUE TO AMENDMENT – Planning Application 23/22366/FUL -** “Proposed construction of a timber store and Road Traffic Accident compound - Address: Mid-West Wales Fire And Rescue Service, Talgarth Fire Station, Cottage Lane Talgarth Brecon Grid Reference: E:315473 N:233878.
RESOLVED: The above Planning Application, was considered and no objections raised.

25/26 TOWN CLERK’S ANNUAL REVIEW DUE 1 FEB 2024 – Noted Josephine Rumsey, Town Clerk’s annual review was discussed and unanimously agreed that the Town Clerk has performed satisfactorily again this year. Noted the Town Clerk is on the final increment in this substantive grade - Grade SP 23 – current hourly rate - £17.29per hour - Contract 20 hours per week, from 1 Apr 2024, as per the current NALC - National Salary Scales.

RESOLVED: Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, on behalf of all Town Councillors, thanked Josephine, Town Clerk, for her excellent work again this year.
Noted Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor, signed up the Schedule 2025-2026 to accompany the Clerk’s Contract.

25/27 TOWN HALL/MARKET HALL/PUBLIC CONVENIENCES – FEES REVIEW – Noted a Revised Hire fees list, as previously agreed, circulated to Town Councillors prior to the meeting for confirmation of groupings. **RESOLVED:** To agreed groupings as discussed at the meeting,

25/28 FINANCIAL UPDATE:**Amounts received since last meeting 15 Jan 2025:**

Date	From	Item	Amount
07/02/25 101969	Black Mountains Friends Group	Committee Room hire for meeting- 07/2/25	£7.00
07/02/25BACS	C C James	SGC-Cremation Plot fee-25/08 NT dec'd	£194.00
07/02/25BACS	C C James	SGC-Burial Plot fee - 25/07 DL dec'd	£581.00
07/02/25 BACS	Llandefalle YFC	Hall hire - 25/04	£75.00
05/02/25 BACS	BMC	Hall hire - 25/05	£79.50
31/01/25BACS	Nat West Bank	Jan Interest on Business Reserve A/C	£68.39
24/01/25 BACS	BWBP	Hall hire - 25/2	£28.00
23/01/25 BACS	Free Spirit	Hall hire - 25/3	£62.00
22/01/25	Black Mountains Friends Group	Committee Room hire for meeting- 03/1/25	£7.00
20/01/25	A V Griffiths & Son	SGC Burial Plot CJ - F19	£581.00
17/01/25	Llais	Hall hire- 24/75	£75.00

Accounts for Payment/Ratification since last meeting 15 Jan 2025:

Date/Cheq	To	Item	Net	VAT	Total
12/02/25 3953	P D Evans	Town Hall - Replacement supply & fix angle guttering	£64.10		£64.10
12/2/25 3952	Town Clerk	Salary & Expenses Feb 25	£1,284.03		£1,284.03
12/02/25 3951	Caretaker - Town Hall	Salary Feb 25	£694.03		£694.03
12/02/25	Eon D/D	Town Hall - Electric - 27/12/24 - 27/01/25	£110.47	£5.52	£115.99
12/02/25	Eon D/D	Town Hall - Gas -27/12/24 - 27/01/25	£248.97	£12.45	£261.42
12/02/25	Eon D/D	Public Conveniences - Electric - 27/12/24 - 27/01/25	£101.76	£5.09	£106.85
09/02/25 3950	OTM Groundscare Ltd	SGC Burial Ground Contract 2024/2025 - Jan invoice	£424.38	£84.88	£509.26
09/02/25 3949	Amazon	VE Day 8 May 2025 - 24 x tea lights for lantern making	£7.49	£1.50	£8.99
07/02/25 3948	One Stop Promotions	VE Day 8 May 2025 - Flag (large), Flags (hand) & bunting	£80.89	£16.18	£97.07
06/02/25 3947	Lady Haig's Poppy Factory	VE Day 8 May 2025 - 80 th Wreath	£33.00	£6.60	£39.60
05/02/25	PCC D/D	Town Hall Council Tax	£298.00		£298.00

29/01/25	Eon D/D	Town Hall – Gas –29/11 – 14/1/25	£246.92	£12.35	£259.27
27/01/25	BT D/D	Town Hall Tel Mthly Rent/B'Band	£26.24	£5.24	£30.20
26/01/25 3946	Kels Klean	Public Conveniences – Cleaning – Jan cleaning	£189.00		£189.00
15/01/25 3945	Town Clerk	Salary & Expenses Jan 25	£1,284.03		£1,284.23
15/01/25 3944	Caretaker – Town Hall	Salary Jan 25	£694.03		£694.03
15/01/25 3943	A G Evans	SGC – Replace tap to standpipe & lagging	£68.48		£68.48
15/01/25 3942		Town Hall- Mill – Fire Exit Gate – Break Tubes for lock £14.19 Plastic keys £5.50	£19.69		£19.69
14/01/25	Eon D/D	Town Hall – Electric – 28/11 – 26/12/24	£156.54	£7.83	£164.37
14/01/25	Eon D/D	Public Conveniences – Electric – 29/11- 29/12/24	£52.91	£2.64	£55.55

To Approve - Schedule of monthly accounts since 15 January 2025, as above.

RESOLVED: To approve Schedule of monthly accounts since 15 January 2025.

To Approve - 1 – 31 January 2025 Bank Reconciliation Statement

RESOLVED: To approve the Bank Reconciliation 1 – 31 January 2025 - attached at the end of these minutes.

25/29 PCC COUNTY COUNCILLOR W POWELL – County Councillor W Powell had circulated his monthly report, in advance of the meeting.

PCC Updates - Highway and other matters –

- **Holly Tree fallen down on Tower Lane** – Noted Cllr C Green had reported the fallen tree in this location to PCC Highways, which has since been cleared.
- **Hospital Road Water** – Noted the Town Council had been copied into correspondence that County Councillor W Powell had received from the Brecknock Wildlife Trust confirming that PCC is dealing with the matter and will keep us informed.
- **Powys Sustainable Resource Strategy 2025 – 2030 - Powys Sustainable Resource Strategy 2025-2030 Draft - Have your say on the Draft Powys Sustainable Resource Strategy** – Noted that a twelve-week engagement exercise has begun to seek the views of residents, councillors, partner organisations and workplaces on the council's draft Powys Sustainable Resource Strategy. Note closing date 4 April 2025.
- **Flooding issues** – Noted County Councillor W Powell is awaiting a date for a review site meeting on Talgarth flooding issues, with the relevant stakeholders, to identify the best way forward, in coordinating efforts.
- **Invitation to NRW Community Flood Volunteer Events 2025** – 6 March 2025 – Orbit Business Centre, Merthyr Tydfil 10:00 – 16:00 – Noted Cllr A Lord planned to attend.

25/30 GROUP UPDATES –

- **ST GWENDOLINE'S CHURCHYARD –**
- **Churchyard Maintenance – RESOLVED:** To payment of OTM Jan 2025 invoice - £424.38 + £84.88 VAT = £509.25.
- **Memorial Stone** – Received estimate £215 for the full repair of the damaged headstone.
RESOLVED: To accept this estimate and for the work to be undertaken.

- **Ex-Mid Wales Hospital Patients Grave markers** – Noted matter on going.
- **Dog Fouling signage** – Noted matter ongoing.
- **Churchyard Maintenance Contract due Apr 2025 – RESOLVED:** That a site meeting be held at St Gwendoline’s Churchyard at 4.30pm Mon 24 Feb re works required and preparation of the Churchyard Ground Maintenance Tender for our 12 Mar meeting.
- **Asbestos Removal St Gwendoline’s Church Talgarth** – Received request from Canon Rowland Edwards, concerning the removal of asbestos from the church boiler room and seeking permission from the Town Council, for a 'decontamination unit' to be sited in the churchyard for the anticipated 6 day duration of the proposed work.
- **RESOLVED:** Permission agreed for a ‘decontamination unit’ to be sited in the vicinity of the entrance to the boiler room (ie on the north side, or Churchfields side of the building).

- **TOWN HALL –Town Hall works – RESOLVED:** To pay Alan Evans Invoice of £64.10 for guttering repair at the Town Hall.
- **Talgarth WAW group** – Received draft minutes of the 20 Jan meeting, the 2025 Talgarth Walking Festival Programme and an update and WAW CIC – Members’ Annual Return for the Year Jan to Dec 2024, for information.
- **King George V Pavilion** – Cllr A Lord, Town Council Liaison, reported that, on 10 Feb, he had been requested to attend the Football Pavilion for advice re locking the changing room door on match days, for security. **RESOLVED:** To check out this request as appropriate re risk assessment etc.
- **TDRG Meeting – 7pm 19 Feb** – Received notification of this meeting and minutes of the previous AGM meeting held on 25 Jan, when it was noted Cllr A Brown had been nominated Chair of the TDRG group and would no longer be a Town Council rep on this group.
- **Festival Meeting 3 Feb** – Cllr J Evans, Town Councillor representative, attended the Festival Group and circulated an update. Noted the group is planning an event for Easter Saturday event on 19 April both in the Market Hall and a Duck Race on the River Ennig.
RESOLVED: As a Community event, to offer free hall hire - to pay any energy costs only.
- **Grow for Talgarth AGM – Tues 25 Feb 7pm** – Received notification of the AGM in the Community Hall and a copy of the Chair’s Report to the AGM, for information.
Noted Cllr M Dodds, Town Council representative, to attend this meeting.
Big Garden weekend - Sat & Sun 28 & 29 June – Notification of this event received.
RESOLVED: As a Community event, to offer free hall hire - to pay any energy costs only.
- **Talgarth Visitor Centre – 3 Feb 2025 meeting** – Noted Cllr D Coleman, Town Council representative, who attended the meeting had circulated an update, following the meeting. Also since received minutes from TVC minutes from the meeting.
- **Police/PCSOs – Talgarth Old Hospital Resident Letter** – Received an update letter from Dyfed Powys Police for circulation, as appropriate, to be arranged by Cllr L Elston-Reeves, Mayor.
- **Speedwatch** – Noted John Williams Go Safe is arranging to forward agreed locations for Speedwatch in Talgarth/Trefecca area so that Cllr Andy Lord Co-ordinator can start up sessions again.
- **Bronllys Well Being Park –Position Paper -- Reimagining Rural Healthcare: The Case for the Bronllys Well-Being Community Hub** – Information received and on circulation.
Quiz Night 7 Mar in Town Hall – Noted this fundraising event - free hall hire as per the grant.

25/31 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- **DBCC - Electoral Review Programme 2025 (ERP 2025)** – The Commission is seeking views on the Policy and Practice document and the closing date for responses is 24 March 2025. Received and on circulation.
- **Llais - Lung Screening Survey** – Received information re the lung screening survey which closes on Fri 14 Feb.
- **2025 – 2030 Our Five Year Vision** – Information received from Repair Café Wales and on circulation
- **Powys Teaching Health Board – Meeting in Public** on 29 Jan 2025 at 9.30am On-line.
- **PCC - Planning Decision Notices 6 – 17 Jan 25**
- **BBNPA - Weekly List of Planning Applications**
- **PACE Cymru - Powys climate and nature online workshop – Food Security – 1 Feb at 9am on zoom**

25/32 Date of the next meetings –

- **6.30pm Thurs 6 Mar** – Dark Skies meeting
- **12 Mar 2025 - 7pm** - Monthly meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

SIGNED:

DATE:

Talgarth Town Council - Bank Reconciliation 1 Jan - 31 Jan 2025				
			Current	Cap Res Act
Opening Balances - 1 Jan 2025			£ 1,506.14	£ 61,499.35
Receipts 1 Jan - 31 Jan 2025				
07/01/2025	BACS	BMC - Hall hire - 24/78	72.00	
07/01/2025	BACS	BMC - Hall hire - 24/72	85.00	
08/01/2025	BACS	M Pritchett - Hall hire - 25/01	84.00	
17/01/2025	BACS	Llais - Hall hire - 24/75	75.00	
20/01/2025	BACS	A V Griffiths & Son - SGC Burial Plot - CJ dec'd	581.00	
22/01/2025	CR	Black Mountains Friends - Hall hire 03/01	7.00	
22/01/2025	TRS	Transfer Cap Res Account to Current Account	3,000.00	
23/01/2025	BACS	FreeSpirit - Hall hire - 25/03	62.00	
24/01/2025	BACS	BWBP - Hall hire - 25/02	28.00	
31/01/2025	BACS	Nat West - Bank Interest 1 - 31 Jan		68.39
		Total Receipts:	£ 5,500.14	£ 61,567.74
Payments 1 Jan - 31 Jan 2025				
06/01/2025	DD	PCC - Town Hall/Pub Conv - Mthly Council Tax	298.00	
14/01/2025	DD	E-on - Public Conveniences Electric-29/11-29/12	55.55	
14/01/2025	DD	E-on - Town Hall Electric - 25/11 - 26/12	164.37	
21/01/2025	CH3939	TBS - Sand Bags	43.20	
21/01/2025	CH3943	A G Evans - SGC Replace tap/lag on standpipe	68.48	
22/01/2025	TRS	Transfer Cap Res Account to Current Account		3,000.00
22/01/2025	CH3944	Caretaker's Jan salary	694.03	
23/01/2025	CH3938	OTM - SGC - Churchyard Main - Dec	509.26	
23/01/2025	CH3945	Clerk's Jan salary/expenses	1,284.23	
24/01/2025	CH3940	Vision ICT - Web hosting/support/email hosting	198.00	
24/01/2025	CH3942	Reimbursement - Cost ceramic tubes/plas keys	19.69	
27/01/2025	DD	BT - Town Hall Monthly B'band Rental	30.20	
27/01/2025	CH3941	Blackwood Fire - Town Hall Annual Service/parts	204.36	
27/01/2025	CH3946	Kels Cleans - Town Hall - Jan cleaning	198.00	
29/01/2025	DD	E-on - Town Hall Gas -29/11/24 -14/01/2025	259.27	
		Total Payments:	4026.64	
Closing Balances - 31 Jan 2025			£1,473.50	£58,567.74