



LLANDOVERY TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF LLANYMDDYFRI

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, LLANDOVERY ON MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7:00 PM.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Chairing the meeting: The Mayor, Cllr Dorothy Burgess,
Councillors: Jackson, Long, Jones, Rees, Nigel Burgess, Wright, Smith, Blud, Logsdaile, and Thomas.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Morgan, and Hudson.

2. DECLARATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OF ANY PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes from 21 July 2015 be approved as a correct record.

4. POLICE MATTERS & REPORT

PCSO Steven Griffiths (SG) in attendance. No details of the crime and incidents statistics for Llandoverly were available, but from the Police point of view the town had been quiet over the summer. Plenty of police cover has been arranged for the forthcoming Sheep Festival.

In response to questions

- SG had no knowledge of damaged fencing in the station yard caused by a foreign lorry,
- SG noted that a resident had complained about traffic speed in Garden Lane,
- the installation of speed humps in Garden Lane would be a matter for County.
- SG had not been trained but had requested training in dealing with littering offenders.

The Mayor thanked PCSO Steven Griffiths for attending, when he left the meeting.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

July 2015

- 20 Chair, Town Council meeting
- 20 Chair - Planning Committee meeting
- 28 League of Friends meeting

August 2015

- 1 Flowers in Bloom Presentation
- 3 Meeting at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr (Pantycelyn) re. school site
- 7 Meeting with Mark Hooper, Indycube re. Hub lease
- 8 Summer Fayre at Henllys to raise funds for Cilycwm Church
- 10 Hywel Dda League of Friends reception
- 12 League of Friends meeting
- 17 Chair - Planning Committee meeting
- 20 Welcome guests from Pluguffan - 30th Anniversary visit
- 21 Official Reception of guests from Pluguffan
- 25 Defibrillation familiarisation training
- 28 Hospital fete at Rhys Prichard Memorial Hall
- 29 Rhandirmwyn Show
- 31 Cilycwm Show

September 2015

- 7 Hub Committee meeting
- 8 Chair - Planning Committee meeting
- 8 Christmas Lights Committee meeting
- 8 Forward Planning Committee meeting
- 13 League of Friends 'Duck Race' on Llangadog Common
- 17 Meeting at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr (Pantycelyn) re. school site
- 17 Ysgol Bro Dinefwr (Pantycelyn) Prize-giving.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Jackson had nothing to report.

In answer to questions, Cllr Jackson informed members:

- cutting of grass in preparation for the Sheep Festival is in hand,
- the matter of the perceived over-zealous traffic warden will be considered, and
- County's procedures for unoccupied buildings are activated only when a building becomes dangerous.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1. Planning Committee

- 1. The minutes from the meeting on 20 July 2015 were noted.
- 2. The minutes from the meeting on 17 August 2015 were noted.
- 3. The minutes from the meeting on 8 September 2015 were noted.

7. 2. Hub Committee

1. The minutes from the meeting on 7 September 2015 were noted, and the recommendations at items 6 and 9 considered.

It was **resolved** that the recommendations at item 6 (that Indycube should manage all bookings for the meeting room, that the Hub's website be set to redirect users to Indycube's website to facilitate this) and item 9 (that the printer/copier agreement be settled and terminated) be approved.

With regard to item 8 (the heating system), it was **resolved** that the Committee's resolution that the advice of Des Clarke & Son be sought be endorsed, and the Clerk reported that guidance from the electrician on the thermostats is awaited.

7. 3. Town Lights & Christmas Festivities Committee

1. The minutes from the meeting on 8 September 2015 were noted, and to the recommendation at item 4 considered.

It was **resolved** that the recommendations at item 4 (that the star decorations should be disposed of) be approved.

7. 4. Forward Planning Committee

1. The minutes from the meeting on 8 September 2015 were noted, and the recommendation at item 5 considered.

It was **resolved** that the recommendation at item 4 (that the Council should proceed with the transfer of the playground assets process by making an expression of interest) be approved.

It was agreed that the Council should try to negotiate an enhancement of the improvement grant on offer, and noted that a detailed analysis of the financial implications will be produced and considered before any definite commitment is made.

8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report for September 2015 was received and noted.

9. MATTERS ARISING

1. The resignation of Cllr Anthony Wathan was noted, and the options to fill the vacancy in the event of no request for an election were considered.

It was **resolved** that, the vacancy should be advertised in The Post.

2. The resignation of the Clerk with his final day being 31 December 2015 was noted, and action to find a replacement considered.

It was **resolved** that the vacancy should be advertised in The Post, and The Carmarthen Journal.

3. The forthcoming closure of the Llandovery branch of the National Westminster Bank was considered.

It was **resolved** that a letter be sent to the bank to register sadness, concern and disapproval.

It was **resolved** that a letter be sent to Lloyds Bank about the long queues in the Llandovery branch.

4. A verbal update from the Llandovery Fireworks Committee about this year's event was received from Cllr Blud. Circumstances dictate that this year's event cannot be held in Llandovery, and it will take place in Myddfai.

5. A verbal update on the Defibrillation familiarisation training session was received from the Mayor.

6. The idea of welcoming Syrian refugee families to Llandovery was considered.

It was **resolved** that a letter be sent to the County Council welcoming a small number of Syrian refugee families to Llandovery.

A recorded vote was requested.

For (5): Cllrs Long, Rees, Smith, Nigel Burgess, Dorothy Burgess.

Against (5): Cllrs Thomas, Logsdail, Blud, Wright, Jackson.

Abstention (1): Cllr Jones

Casting vote by the Mayor: For

It was agreed that this Council has no funds to devote to this initiative, if and when it happens.

7. To receive and consider an update on the litter and 'Clean Up' issues.

Mr Paul Murray (PM), Grounds Maintenance Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council in attendance in response to a request to meet with members in the light of a perceived worsening of the litter problem in the town, highlighted by letters from a local resident.

PM informed members that two new larger bins had been installed in the Castle playground. The bins in the Castle Fields and car park area are now scheduled to be emptied once each week as cuts in the past two years have reduced staff by one third. PM said requests to deal with full bins will be attended to, if possible. County is looking to restructure the Grounds Maintenance Department and might employ more staff.

PM said the littering of football pitches is a countywide problem. Education is required, but he acknowledged that those in charge of children who use the pitches can only do so much.

In response to questions PM said

- he would refer the issue of lorries parking overnight to John McEvoy.
- various action has been, and is being taken, to monitor staff effectiveness, and to tackle illegal dumping of waste for which there is a zero tolerance.
- The skate park is cleaned on a Wednesday
- Changes in legislation have affected the effectiveness of weed sprays and their longevity.

PM was informed about the locally organised “clean up” days. So far very few residents have responded, but there is some support, and it will take time to develop the idea. Publicity and information is important, and it was suggested that events take place at weekends rather than normal working days. A group from Keep Wales Tidy is coming to the town on 9 October and 10 December.

The Mayor thanked Mr Murray for attending, when he left the meeting.

8. An update on the community plan for the Pantycelyn School Site was received and considered.
A Working Group met on 17 September and a questionnaire had been produced for distribution in the town in preparation for another meeting of the Working Group to be held on 3 October. From the questionnaire replies, one community plan is to be decided upon and a business plan formulated.
9. An update on the state of the public footpaths considered at the last meeting was considered and noted.
10. An update from the Assembly Rooms Management Committee was received.
11. The need for one more member of the Council to join the Assembly Rooms Management Committee was considered.
Cllr Wright was elected.
12. The contents of a letter from One Voice Wales detailing the nine motions being put forward at the One Voice Wales AGM on 3 October 2015 were noted.
13. The contents of a letter from the Welsh Government concerning a consultation on draft statutory guidance for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 was considered. It was agreed responses should be done on an individual basis.
14. Guidance concerning access to information on community and town councils was noted. Some clarification is required but more information has to be shown on the Council's website.
15. The contents of a letter from the Welsh Government concerning a consultation on the Welsh Government's Draft Directions to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales was considered and noted.
16. The withdrawal of Bus Service 80 – Brecon to Llandovery – was considered further.
It was **resolved** that the Council writes to Carmarthenshire and Powys County Councils asking for each to provide support for the service to be re-introduced.
17. A proposed Prohibition of waiting at any time in Garden Lane was considered.
There were no objections or concerns and it was **resolved** that the proposal be approved.

10. ACCOUNTS

1. The schedule from the Clerk relating to income totalling £775.82 and payments totalling £5,335.08 for the period 1 to 31 July 2015 was considered.
It was **resolved** that the schedule from the Clerk be noted and approved.
2. The Consolidated Statement of Accounts and the Budget Summary as at 31 July 2015 were noted.
3. The schedule from the Clerk relating to income totalling £22,526.09, and payments totalling £4,139.3 for the period 1 to 31 August 2015 was considered.
It was **resolved** that the schedule from the Clerk be noted and approved.
4. The Consolidated Statement of Accounts and the Budget Summary as at 31 August 2015 were noted.

11. FINANCIAL REQUESTS

1. The donation decision taken at the meeting on 20 July 2015, when it was resolved that £500 be donated to Llandovery Sheep Festival Committee for funding for the Sheep Festival 2015, was ratified.
2. A request from Menter Bro Dinefwr for funding was considered.
It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.
3. A request from Urdd Gobaith Cymru for funding was considered.
It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.
4. A request from Shelter Cymru for funding was considered.
It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.
5. A request from Amman Valley Women's Aid for funding was considered.
It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.
6. A request from Dinefwr Indoor Bowls Club for funding was considered.
It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The contents of a letter from a School Development Project Officer at County notifying adjustments to the transitional arrangements for Ysgol Bro Dinefwr were noted.
2. The production of the booklet “Great Walks Around Llandovery” with the involvement of Llandovery Walkers are Welcome, and a note of thanks for the Council's help and support, were noted.
3. The receipt of another letter of thanks, and a report of their experiences in the USA, from Rhian O'Connor and Owen Williams, following the donation made to help fund their trip in May 2015, were noted and appreciated.

MEETING CLOSED AT 9.15 pm