



LLANDOVERY TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF LLANYMDDYFRI

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, LLANDOVERY ON MONDAY 14 DECEMBER 2015 AT 7:00 PM.

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Logsdail, and Rees.

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

None.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3. 1. It was **resolved** that the minutes from 16 November 2015 be approved as a correct record.

3. 2. It was **resolved** that the minutes from 17 November 2015 be approved as a correct record.

3. 3. It was **resolved** that the minutes from 23 November 2015 be approved as a correct record.

4. POLICE MATTERS & REPORT

No Police in attendance.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

November 2015

16 Chair - Town Council meeting

16 Planning Committee meeting

17 Chair - Town Council meeting

18 All Wales Armed Forces Champion's Event, Infantry Battle School, Brecon

18 Army Engagement Team - Brecon: Evening at Armed Forces Infantry Battle School

22 Charity Concert, Myddfai Hall for Air Ambulance

23 Chair, Town Council Meeting

24 Llandovery Hospital League of Friends Meeting

27 'Turn On' of Llandovery Christmas Lights

30 Chair, Planning Committee Meeting

30 Chair, Finance Committee Meeting

December 2015

2 Presentation of Christmas Poster Competition Prizes at Gollop Preparatory School

2 William Williams Memorial Chapel - opening of restored and renovated vestry & kitchen

2 Llandovery Heritage Board Meeting at Prime Cymru

3 Gollop Preparatory School Carol Service in the Chapel at Llandovery College

9 Llandovery College Carol Service in Llandingat Church

10 Presentation of Christmas Poster Competition Prizes at Ysgol Rhys Prichard

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Jackson had nothing to report.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7. 1. Planning Committee

1. The minutes from the meeting on 16 November 2015 were noted

2. The minutes from the meeting on 30 November 2015 were noted.

7. 2. Finance Committee

1. The minutes from the meeting on 30 November 2015 were noted, and the recommendations at items 4, 5, 6, 8.1, and 8. 2 in the minutes were considered for approval.

It was **resolved** that the recommendations in the minutes at items 4. (that the banking arrangements be re-approved), 5. (that the existing use of variable direct debit mandates for Rates, Gas, Electricity, Water, Broadband, and Telephone, and Printer, and the Standing Order for the Storage Room Rent be re-approved), 6. (that the draft Financial Risk Assessment for 2015-16 be approved), 8.1. (that the revised Draft Budget for 2016-17 as amended at 30 November 2015 be approved), and 8. 2. (that the Precept Demand for 2016-17 be increased by 1.905% to £50,500) be approved.

8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

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

9. MATTERS ARISING

1. Applications to fill the casual vacancy on the Council were considered.

There were two applicants for the vacancy. It was agreed that a vote by open ballot be made.

It was **resolved** that Annabel Graham Paul be invited to be co-opted onto the Council.

(Cllrs Jackson and Long abstained.)

In view of the resignation of Natasha Morgan (see 13. 1) the unsuccessful candidate will be asked to remain on the list. Exasperation was expressed about the lack of applications from natives of Llandovery who grumble but do not join.

9. MATTERS ARISING (contd.)

2. It was **resolved** that Mr Stephen C D Carter be appointed as Clerk to Llandovery Town Council with effect from 1 January 2016.
3. Mr Handel Davies provided an update on the future of the Pantycelyn School site, and sought support for the idea of Ysgol Rhys Prichard moving to the Pantycelyn School site.
4. The idea of supporting Ysgol Rhys Prichard moving to the Pantycelyn School site was considered.
It was **resolved** unanimously that this Council supports the idea of Ysgol Rhys Prichard moving to the Pantycelyn School site.
5. Mr Robin Ennion provided an update on Post Office Services in Llandovery.
After some years of subsidising the operation of the Post Office, and unable to accept a new, unviable contract, he is approaching the time when he is unable to afford to keep the current Post Office open. Post Office Ltd (POL) has been unable to find a potential new operator in the town because POL has consistently dropped the value earned for each transaction, and independent stores and even many multiples can no longer justify taking on a Post Office function within their stores. In the circumstances, when Mr Ennion ceases to trade, probably in 2016, it is likely Llandovery Post Office will be classed as a "Temporary Closure" by POL, to be replaced by a Post Office van appearing in the car park on a set period of days-per-week basis.
It was **resolved** that letters be sent to Post Office Ltd and to Jonathan Edwards MP to raise concerns about the apparent injustice of the Post Office Limited's contract and remuneration policy, which renders the operation of a Post Office unviable, and the loss of an important community service.
6. An update from Llandovery Heritage CIO was received and noted.
7. A request from Jonah McGill for support for a "Llandovery Bike-Fest 2016" was considered.
It was **resolved** that a letter of support for the idea be sent.
8. The storage of the Council's Christmas decorations was considered. Concern was expressed that the new decorations had been purchased without thought for subsequent storage.
It was **resolved** that the Mayor and Cllrs Hudson, Logsdail, Wright and Jackson review the contents of the container. Cllr Wright to enquire as to whether storage is available at the station.
9. A response to the request to complete a survey relating to Carmarthenshire County Council's second Statutory Play Sufficiency Assessment 2016 was considered and agreed. Clerk to complete and submit the survey form.
10. An invitation from The Welsh Language Society to attend an open meeting to discuss the County Council moving to working in Welsh was considered. Objection was expressed about the rude tone of the reference to "non-Welsh speakers" in the invitation. Cllrs Blud and Long indicated they would attend.
11. The contents of a letter from Christopher Salmon, Police and Crime Commissioner, about a survey relating to setting the 2016-17 Council Tax policing precept, were considered and noted.
12. The notification of the consultation on a Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill was considered.
It was thought that One Voice Wales would provide a relevant commentary.

10. ACCOUNTS

1. The schedule from the Clerk relating to income totalling £20.93 and payments totalling £3,674.71 for the period 1 to 30 November 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 30 November 2015 were noted.
3. The proposed adjustments to the 2015-16 Budget from December 2015 set out in the Clerk's Report were considered.
It was **resolved** that the adjustments to the Budget for 2015-16 from December 2015 be approved.
4. An offer of Internal Audit Service from Mr Lyn Llewellyn was considered.
It was **resolved** that the offer of Internal Audit Service from Mr Lyn Llewellyn be accepted.

11. FINANCIAL REQUESTS

1. A request from BLAS Ammanford Stroke for funding was considered.
It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The receipt of a copy of the Autumn 2015 edition of the HOWLTA Newsletter was noted.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The Mayor read out a message of resignation from Natasha Morgan. The Clerk was asked to send a letter of thanks for her contribution.
2. The Clerk informed members the Neighbourhood Policing Team officer for the area is now PC 520 Huw Jenkins.

MEETING CLOSED AT 9.00 pm