

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON  
MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019 AT 7.00 pm

PRESENT Cllr Mrs J. Crisp (Mayor)

- “ A. Bennett
- “ E. Breeze
- “ Mrs T Davies
- “ Mrs L. Evans
- “ J. Hughes
- “ Mrs M Jones
- “ S. Lees
- “ G. McArthur
- “ Mrs A. Morgan
- “ G. Morgan

Town Clerk

1 Member of the Press

Councillors met at 6.30 pm to meet with Mrs Val Hawkins from Mid Wales Tourism – unfortunately she had sent an e mail to say she was unable to attend as she had a last minute emergency.

At 7.00 pm Councillors were invited to take part in Prayers led by Cllr Mrs Lynne Evans

447/01 APOLOGIES Apologies were received from Cllrs Kelly Hawkins and Aled Griffiths

447/02 TO ACCEPT PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS OF BUSINESS Declaration forms were available and filed with these minutes. Cllr G. Morgan declared as a member of PCC in all matters concerning PCC, and in item 5 as Governor at Llanidloes High School.

Cllrs McArthur and Bennett declared in agenda item 8 as members of Burial Board

447/03 MINUTES

The following minutes were read and confirmed:-

**Council Meeting held on 25.03.19** – It was unanimously agreed that this was a true record.

**Meeting with Carol Shillabeer, Chief Executive Powys Local Health Board 05.04.19** – Cllr Hughes expressed his disappointment that Ms Shillabeer did not have the full facts regarding the advertising campaign to fill vacancies at the Hospital although she was asked by numerous people. Cllr Margot Jones suggested that we should ask for dates that the adverts were placed and make a list of the actions Ms Shillabeer promised us and chase it up as soon as possible. The minutes were agreed as a true record.

447/04 TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Confirmation of Mandate change request from Barclays Bank – Received
- b) Advance notification of Mixed payment plan charges from Barclays Bank - Received
- c) Information from Merchant Navy Fund Supporting Partners - It was agreed to look into purchasing a Red Ensign and report back at the next meeting. Cllr Davies will research members of the Merchant Navy living locally.
- d) Request for funding from Llanidloes Twinning Committee - It was agreed that £500 is included in the Precept and therefore will be handed over.

447/05 TO DISCUSS LETTER RECEIVED FROM LLANIDLOES HIGH SCHOOL REQUESTING FUNDING TOWARDS THE RUGBY OFFICER – It was agreed that £1000 was included into the budget for the current financial year, and therefore it should be handed over.

447/06 TO RECEIVE A LETTER FROM A RESIDENT OF LLANDINAM RE STREET CLEANING Cllr Morgan explained that the initial letter we had from this person was in connection with a bin which was removed from Church place as it was being abused. Clerk will write a letter to explain that the Town Council are not responsible for street cleaning or bins within the Town.

447/07 TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS A LETTER FROM PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL RE PROPOSED BUDGET SAVINGS – POWYS LIBRARY SERVICE AND TO RECEIVE AN INVITATION FROM CLLR RACHEL POWELL TO A MEETING TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF FUNDING AND DELIVERING LIBRARY SERVICES IN POWYS TO BE HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 6 – 8 PM AT ANTUR GWY, BUILTH WELLS - Clerk will write back agreeing with the points made and agree to work together to provide a response to PCC. Cllrs Margot Jones and Angela Morgan will attend Builth Wells with Cllr Gareth Morgan.

447/08 TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS BURIAL BOARD BANK RECONCILIATIONS FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2019 Received. Cllr G Morgan pointed out that PCC have increased their Burial rates by 20% from April 2019. Burial Board members confirmed that their fees will increase in small amounts over a few years.

447/09 TO DISCUSS AGM AND NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR AND DEPUTY Clerk informed Council that she has received nominations for Cllr Crisp to become Mayor and Cllr Breeze to become Deputy Mayor. There were no further nominations, Cllr Crisp was unanimously elected as Mayor and Cllr Breeze as Deputy for the year 2019-20.

447/10 TO DISCUSS CLOSURE OF REGISTRATION OFFICE Cllr Margot Jones explained the closure as appalling and totally disrespectful that this office had been closed without consultation. Clerk was asked to write to the Chief Executive at PCC to complain that there was no democratic accountability. Cllr Morgan explained that decisions are made by 8 people (who are not democratically chosen) out of 73. It was suggested that Town Councils should be given the funding if they are expected to run

these services and monies should be taken from PCC as we are paying more and getting less and resulting in double taxation and funding the larger towns. It was agreed to invite Cllr James Evans (Portfolio holder) and Suzanne Morgan (Chief Registrar) to a meeting and ask them for the Business case and if there is something else we can do to keep the service here. Cllr Margot Jones stated that we need evidence from the public to find out how long people have waited for appointments in Newtown registry office. It was also agreed to request information on the opening hours prior to the cuts.

447/11 TO DISCUSS MEMBERSHIP OF MID WALES TOURISM (further to 6.30pm meeting) As Ms Val Howard was unable to attend the earlier meeting, Cllr Crisp explained that she, Cllr Breeze and the Clerk met with Wendy Abel, PCC Tourism last week. Further to the meeting the Mayor will speak to the Mayor at Montgomery to find out how they have taken the initiative forward. Cllr Angela Morgan expressed concern over the Town Council website. It was agreed that a small committee comprising Cllrs Crisp, Breeze, Trudy Davies, Lees, and McArthur meet up with Mike Slater on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30 pm at the Council Chamber to progress the website and maybe include a short video promoting the Town. It was agreed to invite Emily and Richard Onions along as they are keen on social media advertising.

447/12 TO RECEIVE THE REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY OF POWYS Cllr Morgan explained that the proposals include Blaen Hafren ward becoming part of Llanidloes. This would enable 2 County Councillors for the Town and would increase the amount of monies raised by Precept as there would be more houses included.

447/13 TO DISCUSS PLANTING 1000 TREES IN AND AROUND THE TOWN AS ORGANISED BY MR PHIL STALLARD (Cllr Crisp) It was agreed that we do not have a requirement for more trees on any Town Council property. Cllr Hughes suggested that the Schools may be interested in planting.

447/14 TO DISCUSS GRANTS, AWARDS 4 ALL AND LANDFILL TAX GRANT (Cllr McArthur) Cllr McArthur stated that there are grants available and he would suggest this is discussed at the next Environment panel meeting which will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May

447/15 TO DISCUSS OPTIONS/QUOTATIONS FOR PLANTERS IN THE TOWN (Cllr Crisp) Cllr Crisp explained that she has received a quotation for 4 self watering planters, the cost would be £655.01. Mid Wales Welding would charge £500 for the 4. Cllr Jones expressed concern about the watering risks and wished to see a Risk Assessment before giving the go ahead. Cllr Crisp will ask Mid Wales Welding if they can provide self watering containers. Clerk will ask Mr Adrian Jervis at PCC if he has any objections to Council installing planters at the 4 entrances to Town.

447/16 TO RECEIVE A LETTER FROM A RESIDENT AT WELL LANE RE PATH FROM VICTORIA AVENUE TO WELL LANE Clerk had distributed photos of the path to Councillors last week. Councillors agreed that the path is safe and no further action is required. Clerk will write to the resident explaining that in their opinion, the path is safe.

447/17 TO DISCUSS ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BEFORE THE MEETING No Planning Applications had been received

447/18 THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS FOR MARCH WERE CONFIRMED

100868	One Voice Wales (Membership)	489.00
100869	Kevin Jones Cars	92.56
100870	M. Bufton (Heating & Plumbing)	1,310.54
100871	Wales Audit Office	225.75
100872	Scottish Power	59.04
100873	Border Janitorial	104.28
100874	PC-Q	40.39
100875	Banwy Fuels	1,457.02
100876	Powys County Council (Pension)	591.32
100877	Inland Revenue	1,020.69
100878	LAS Recycling	66.96
100879	Ceri Jones (Bird box project)	100.00
100880	Waterplus	2,501.91
100881	Sonia Pritchard (Travel Exp)	<u>22.50</u>
Total		£ 8,081.96

447/19 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS

Cllr Bennett expressed his disappointment in the XR Rebellion group who had caused vandalism in London and were on the news today.

Cllr Bennett also stated that the Green waste is building up at the Smithfield now that the waste bins have been removed.

Clerk informed Councillors of anti social behaviour in both Victoria park and Severn porte. It was agreed to invite the Police along to our next meeting to discuss further with them.

Cllr Breeze expressed concern that the Cash Point in Short Bridge Street has still not materialised. Clerk will chase up.

Cllr Trudy Davies explained that some of the names on the Cenotaph/grave stones are incorrect and that there are grants currently available from PCC which would enable this to be corrected. Councillors unanimously agreed to support.

447/20 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AGM/Mayor Making	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May 7.00 pm
Mayoral Sunday	Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 11.00 am
Web site & Tourism	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 6.30 pm
Environment	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm
Full Council Meeting	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 6.30 pm
Finance/Town Hall Panel	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 6.30 pm

Meeting closed at 8.17 pm