

**MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
TOWN HALL, LLANIDLOES ON MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM**

Present Cllrs J. Jones (Mayor), A. Bennett, D. Craig, G. Davies, T. Davies,
K. Hawkins, M. Jones, J. Hughes, E. Leguay, G. McArthur, A. Morel

Town Clerk

The expected presentation from Helen Guerney, Llanidloes Chamber of Trade, did not take place due to illness. A full email from Helen was provided and this was read to the meeting by the Mayor. The essence of the email related to supporting local high streets.

2 members from Central Wales Football Association attended the meeting with a request to store conferencing equipment in the Town Hall which they would purchase and use to offer hybrid meetings to their members. This equipment may also be used by the Town Council. Equipment was 85' tv screen and tripods with cameras. Agreed that some issues may arise but there could be benefits to Town Council. Agreed to await formal proposal from CWFA. Cllr Macarthur advised that it was now a legal requirement to offer hybrid meetings to members and Councillors should be offered this option. The Town Clerk advised that if the CWFA equipment was not available then a major upgrade of IT equipment in the Town Hall would be required. The Clerk's PC does not have a camera/microphone and the laptop is 15+ years old. Town Clerk will investigate further and return to Council in due course.

496/01 APOLOGIES were received from Cllrs Gareth Morgan and Angela Morgan and Cllr Glyn Preston.

496/02 TO ACCEPT PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS OF BUSINESS - Cllr Andrew Morel advised he was a Town Guide on Llanidloes Guided Walks.

496/03 MINUTES

Council Meetings held on 24 July and 11 September 2023. Unanimously agreed as a true record.

496/04 THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE WAS RECEIVED

- i) Statements from Public Sector Deposit Fund for July and August 2023 together with Fund Fact Sheet.
- ii) Llanidloes Joint Burial Committee Bank Reconciliations for July and August 2023.
- iii) Advance notification of Mixed payment plan charges from Barclays Bank
- iv) Email from Helen Griffiths requesting permission to erect a memorial bench at Football Ground – Agreed – Action – Town Clerk to confirm request agreed.
- v) Email from Helen Rees, Clerk to Llanidloes Schools Federation Governing Body, requesting Town Council nominate an additional Community Governor – meeting agreed to nominate The Mayor, Cllr Jamie Jones. Action: Town Clerk to advise Clerk.

- vi) S137 Grant Requests – confirmed that these should be referred to Finance Panel before consideration by full Council. Action: Town Clerk to refer to Finance Panel.
- vii) Email from Bryn Blaen Community Wind Farm Fund was discussed. Possible projects were security gates for public toilets, lift in Town Hall, Equipment for Meetings. Agreed to review following first round of applications which would be completed on 1.10.23. Action Town Clerk – add to October meeting agenda.

496/05 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON SIGNAGE FOR THE ENTRANCES TO THE TOWN AND BYPASS FURTHER TO MEETING OF THE WORKING -PARTY HELD ON 13.06.23 (Cllr Morel).

Cllr Morel reported progress with signage and requirement for Graphic Designer to compile images for quotations. Agreed that signs would comprise 3 images, Museum, Historic Building and Historic Church. Twinning logo, 1280 AD and First Town on Severn (latter proposed by Cllr Leguay and agreed by all) should be considered. Cllr Morel and Town Clerk to Liaise.

496/06 TO RECEIVE INFORMATION/UPDATES FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Councillors Morgan and Preston had tendered apologies to the meeting.

496/07 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT NEW STANDING ORDERS (2023) AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS (2019).

The Town Clerk had previously emailed all Councillors with copies of the latest Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. These were adopted by the meeting unanimously and would be brought in to use immediately.

496/08 TO DISCUSS INVITING YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES TO JOIN COUNCIL

Cllr Morel advised good progress made on Youth representation on Council. Proposal to adopt the ‘Pontardawe’ model with minor changes was received from Cllr Morel, seconded by Cllr Leguay, and agreed unanimously. Cllr Morel, The Mayor and Town Clerk to liaise with a view to progressing at October meeting.

496/09 TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Ref: 23/1332/HH – erection of 2 storey extension at Burnside, Garden Suburb, Llanidloes, SY18 6EU. No objections.

A further 3 planning applications had been received during the recess (see agenda) – they were emailed to Councillors as expiring prior to meeting. No objections.

**496/10 THE FOLLOWING PAYMENTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2023 WERE
CONFIRMED AND UNANIMOUSLY AGREED**

Accounts for Payment		July	August
101573	C Taylor		446.40
			101593 448.28
101586	J C Rowlands		140.00
101582	Agri Power Services		1,345.08
101568	Inland Revenue	1,251.13	101591 2,090.08
101569	PCC (pension)	815.14	101575 815.14
			101592 815.14
101570	EDF Energy	166.82	Card 162.85
101571	Hafren Water	823.99	
101576	EDF Energy	175.30	
101577	LAS Recycling	258.72	101594 124.52
101578	Beech Tree Services	850.00	
101574	Inland Revenue	1,251.33	
101584	JDH Business Services		573.00
101579	Wynnstay		92.13
101581	Viking Office Supplies		88.22
101580	Simon Owen		1,800.00
101590	Dial a Ride – Donation		2,620.00
d/d	Barclays Commission	23.35	22.15
d/d	Total GP	475.94	
s/o	Wages	3,871.82	5,290.52
d/d	Zoom	12.99	12.99
d/d	Allstar	118.53	68.40
Card	Brightpay Ltd		72.00
Card	Viking Office Supplies		140.81
Card	BT Business		100.06
Card	Amazon – Sadolin Varnish		81.65
101583	Ray Parry Playgrounds		9,492.00
101587	Scottish Power		336.59
101585	One Voice Wales – Membership		599.00
101588	PC-Q Solutions		113.14
101595	Arthur J Gallagher – Insurance		930.99
			101596 3,899.23
101589	Border Janitorial Supplies		400.07
Total		£10,095.06	£33,120.44

It was agreed to cancel the Zoom subscription. Action: Town Clerk to cancel with Bank.

496/11 TO CONSIDER RESPONSES TO CONSULTATIONS

Consultation request received from Ombudsman Wales – Our Equality Plan. No comments made as agree with proposals. View is that the Council should comment on consultations that affect local requirements.

496/12 TO CONSIDER INSURANCE UPDATE

Town Clerk advised that all insurances were renewed on 1.8.23. 3 year Long Term Agreement was accepted in 2022 with Hiscox which may or may not have been in the best interests of the Council. Clerk is reviewing insurance sums insured re Town Hall as concern may be underinsured for reinstatement value. Will report back to next meeting. Action: Town Clerk to report back to October Council meeting.

496/13 TO CONSIDER ACCOUNTANCY PACKAGE UPDATE

Following audit recommendation an accountancy package has now been purchased – Scribe. Clerk is inputting data from 1.4.23 to date but now able to issue automated invoices. System will enable time savings in financial management.

496/14 TO CONSIDER RISK ASSESSMENTS

Clerk advised Fire Risk Assessment completed – Working way through requirements/recommendations. PAT testing completed. Legionella Assessment completed, awaiting sample return and full report. Risk Assessing all activities is required. Clerk progressing.

496/15 TO CONSIDER COUNCILLOR VACANCY FOR CLYWEDOG WARD

The Returning Officer had confirmed that no request had been received for an election so co-option can now commence. Action: Town Clerk to post notice of vacancy as per Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

496/16 TO CONSIDER WRITING TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS OFFERING THANKS FOR THEIR COMMUNITY ACTIONS.

The Mayor suggested that it would be appropriate for the Town Council to acknowledge the good work undertaken by local organisations by writing letters of thanks. It was agreed to send letter to Llanidloes RFC, Llanidloes Cricket Club, Tim Morgan (storage of items from Market Hall) and the Carnival Committee. Cllr T Davies raised concern over missing out an organisation. It was agreed that letters would be sent on a rolling basis to organisations.

496/17 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS – There were no questions received.

496/18 ACTION POINTS – it was agreed that updates on all action points should be sought by Town Clerk/County Councillors as there appears to be little progress made.

ACTION POINT	STATUS	ACTIONED BY
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Brynposteg	Ongoing	Council/Cty Cllr Preston
Cwmdu	Ongoing	Council
Double Yellow Lines	Meeting planned for Nov	Clerk
Trunk Road Signage	Contact MWTRA	Clerk
Committee Panel membership	To be discussed	Council

496/19 NEXT MEETINGS

Council Meeting with LWCC and members of LBJC – Monday, 9 October 2023

Council Meeting – Monday, 23 October 2023