

**MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
TOWN HALL, LLANIDLOES ON MONDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM**

Present Cllrs J. Jones (Mayor), G Morgan, Mrs A Morgan, A. Bennett, D. Craig, G. Davies, Miss K. Hawkins, Mrs M. Jones, J. Hughes, Ms E. Leguay, G. McArthur, A. Morel, G Preston

1 member of the press

Town Clerk

At 6.45pm the meeting was addressed by Dr Duncan Burwood and Dr Fernando Jarabo from Dyfodol Llani Futures on the promotion of solar panels in the area.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their involvement in the Remembrance Day arrangements with particular thanks to Cllrs Gareth and Angela Morgan for hosting the Lord Lieutenant of Powys and Councillors afterwards.

498/01 APOLOGIES - Cllr T Davies

498/02 TO ACCEPT PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Cllrs Gareth Morgan & Glyn Preston declared interests in any matters in connection with Powys County Council (PCC) in their roles as County Councillors.

Cllr Kelly Hawkins declared an interest in matters relating to Llanidloes Youth Club.

Cllr John Hughes declared an interest in item i) of the Finance Panel recommendations

498/03 MINUTES

A motion was moved by the Town Clerk to amend the minutes of the Council meeting on 23 October 2023 to include Cllr Gareth Morgan and Cllr Angela Morgan as attendees. This was approved and the minutes were accepted as a true record save an abstention by Cllr Leguay.

498/04 FINANCE PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

i) S137 applications received and unanimously approved, save 1 abstention, as follows:

Cwmni Urdd Gobaith Cwmru re Eisteddfod 2024 - £500. Cllr Hughes left the room for this item.

Rotary Club of Llanidloes - £181.69.

ii) A resolution was passed to confirm enrolment of the Town Clerk in the Local Government Pension Scheme.

iii) A resolution was passed to confirm maintenance of existing hire charges for the Town Hall

- iv) A resolution was passed to confirm statutory inspection contracts with Snowdonia Fire (Fire) and Assured Air & Water Ltd (Legionella).
- v) A resolution was passed to confirm adding £25k to the Public Sector Deposit Fund and to designate this account as General Reserves.

498/05 THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE WAS RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED

- i) Bank reconciliation as at 31.10.23 approved. Signed by Town Clerk and Chair of Finance Panel
- ii) Llanidloes Joint Burial Committee – Financial & I&E Report to 31.10.23. It was confirmed that the Town Clerk would carry out a root and branch review of the Burial Committee with a view to presenting proposals to Council for the ongoing management of the Cemetery. Interim report to December meeting, full report and proposals for January 2024 meeting.
- iii) Powys Green Guide – it was agreed to refer this publication to Powys County Council.
- iv) Rhiwlas Energy GEN Project – it was agreed to request a personal consultation presentation to Council and Town Clerk will obtain details of timing. January 2024 meeting proposed.
- v) Contact from a member of the public re commemorating workers during Covid – talking bench discussed. Cllr Bennett to report back to Council with proposals.
- vi) Llanidloes Youth Club – strong feeling that the building, formerly Pitter Patter nursery, should not be sold but returned to Youth Club use. Town Clerk to contact Powys County Council (PCC) and report back. There is rumour that PCC may be selling building to a charity.
- vii) Councillors Allowances – Town Clerk sought clarification on claiming of allowances - £156 p.a. for home working, £52 p.a for consumables or cost of office. Not claimed. Town Clerk suggested claim and donate to local charity - not pursued.

498/06 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON SIGNAGE FOR THE ENTRANCES TO THE TOWN AND BYPASS

Cllr Morel reported slow progress with PCC.

498/07 TO RECEIVE INFORMATION/UPDATES FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Morgan reported Foundry Terrace culvert/drain issue was ongoing. PCC were intending to use camera to assess blockage.

Cllr Preston advised work on Old Market Hall had resumed although there would be delays during cold weather due to materials being used.

498/08 TO DISCUSS INVITING YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES TO JOIN COUNCIL

Response to poster campaign had resulted in 5 candidates. It was decided that all 5 should be invited to join Council and possibly form a Youth Committee. Invites to be extended to next meeting.

498/09 TO DISCUSS PLANNING APPLICATIONS

New Boiler Flue at 19 Bethel Street, Llanidloes – no objections.

498/10 TO CONSIDER INSURANCE UPDATE

Progress on having insurance reinstatement value on Town Hall completed is slow but have 2 possible valuers. Christmas Lights has been added to the Council's policy.

498/11 ENERGY CONTRACTS

Gas contract with Total Energies expires on 28.2.24. 3 quotes obtained and Councillors agreed that 2 year fixed term would be sensible. Current prices are c50% lower than expiring contract.

498/12 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES PAY AWARD

Pay award had been agreed, effective April 2023. Resolution to adopt was approved with back dated payments to be made to Town Clerks, previous and current.

498/13 TO CONSIDER WRITING TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS OFFERING THANKS FOR THEIR COMMUNITY ACTIONS.

Letters to be sent to:

- i) Bryn Blaen Community Wind Fund for donation towards Christmas Lights.
- ii) Clare Bound – Llanidloes Covid Support Group
- iii) Reverend Alison Gwalchmai re Remembrance Sunday Service
- iv) Parade Marshall re Remembrance Sunday

498/14 TO CONFIRM ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

List of payments to authorise had been provided with meeting documents. A tabled update was provided as 4 additional invoices had been received. Approved for payment.

498/15 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS

None received.

NEXT MEETING – Council Meeting at 7pm on 11 December 2023