

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 12TH JANUARY 2022 AT 8:17PM ON MS TEAMS

Present: Cllr T Thomas (Chair)
Cllr T Konieczny
Cllr M Harris
Cllr R Harris
Cllr G Jones
Cllr M Groucutt
Cllr S Burch
Cllr N Tatam
Cllr T Davies
Cllr F Morgan
Cllr M Hickman
Cllr P Simcock
Cllr D Simcock

Absent without apologies

None.

In attendance:

S Rosser (Town Clerk)

No public session

No public in attendance

FC 01/22	Receive and approve apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllr L Van de Vyver and Cllr MA Brocklesby, and it was resolved to accept the reasons for absence.
FC 02/22	Receive Declarations of Interest Cllr R Harris sits on the MCC Planning Committee so is unable to pass comment on planning applications received for comment.
FC 03/22	To approve the minutes from 10th November 2021. Cllr Thomas asked Councillors to approve the minutes of the last meeting, moved by Cllr M Groucutt and seconded by Cllr G Jones. All approved.
FC 04/22	To receive a presentation from James Roberts Cyber Resilience Manager at National Cyber Security Centre. Cllr T Thomas informed ATC that unfortunately James Roberts had sent a message saying he was unable to deliver tonight's presentation due to having

	<p>Covid. The Clerk had received some signposting information regarding the Cyber Ninja project that had been developed to cascade to Town Councils to increase awareness of cyber security during the course of our online interactions. The information and links are to be shared with Councillors and the presentation to be rescheduled for a later date.</p>
FC 05/22	<p>To ratify the 2022/23 budget.</p> <p>Cllr T Thomas asked Councillors to ratify the budget presented to Policy and resources Committee prior to the Full Council meeting. A recorded vote was carried out:</p> <p>Cllr T Thomas - Approve Cllr T Konieczny - Approve Cllr M Harris - Approve Cllr R Harris - Approve Cllr G Jones - Approve Cllr M Groucutt - Approve Cllr S Burch - Approve Cllr N Tatam - Against Cllr T Davies - Approve Cllr F Morgan - Against Cllr M Hickman - Against Cllr P Simcock - Approve Cllr D Simcock – Approve</p> <p>10 approved, 3 against: motion carried and ratification of budget approved.</p>
FC 06/22	<p>To receive and note Town Clerk’s report.</p> <p>Town Clerk’s report was received and noted. Cllr T Thomas has spoken to Nigel Leaworthy from MCC Grounds Department about the increased issue with graffiti around the town over Christmas along with broken glass, and vandalised coping stones on raised beds in areas around the town and Bailey Park. Abergavenny seems to be adversely affected more so than other towns in Monmouthshire. A meeting is being planned between Gwent Police, CCTV officers from MCC, Grounds Team at MCC and MCC Cabinet members for the town, to discuss a way forward to tackle this growing issue. Huge issue which seems to happen at night, CCTV not able to pick up details of culprits easily at night. Volunteers with Keep Abergavenny Tidy find on their litter picking patrols they are also seeing an increase in clothing and glass as well as fast food containers, and dog waste. The Community Orchard have seen an increase in dog fouling here, and the issue has been raised in the write up in the Chronicle this week. This general issue is having a negative effect on the town, so a referral is requested for the Environment Committee to discuss this growing issue.</p>
FC 07/22	<p>To review and comment on the following planning applications:</p>

	<p>Cllr T Thomas handed over to Cllr T Konieczny to lead the discussions on the following applications:</p>
<p>FC 08/22</p>	<p>To consider the consultation for the alteration to the zebra crossing on Merthyr Road.</p> <p>No objection from councillors in the first instance to make alterations to the existing crossing. The proposals have better anti-skid provision, and better zig-zag markings to stop vehicles parking so close to the crossing.</p> <p>Cllr G Jones said this crossing is very dangerous, and the extra zig-zag markings will mean a loss of parking spaces which is already an issue within the ward. The crossing is in the wrong place, so these proposed alterations are simply a sticking plaster over a gaping wound, which Cllr N Tatam agreed with.</p> <p>Cllr P Simcock was appalled we hadn't been presented with a better solution – this was the very first sue brought to Councillors by the Grofield Ward. The angle of the road prohibits vehicles seeing pedestrians until almost too late. It is the closest crossing to the Abergavenny Community Centre and is not safe to be used. It is evident that the siting of the crossing should be changed.</p> <p>Cllr G Jones said the crossing ideally should be moved to the junction at Commercial Street where part of the road is chevroned out. This would be a far better site.</p> <p>Cllr T Thomas recognised this is a highly dangerous crossing and asked if we can send a letter to the cabinet member stating that it is totally inadequate. Cllr Thomas also commented that the pro-mobility group have raised the issue that they can't see approaching traffic clearly on the crossing.</p> <p>Cllr M Groucutt said this must come under planning but also road safety. It is the only crossing he himself avoids using as it is so dangerous. He tends to cross at the point Cllr Jones has suggested the crossing be moved to.</p> <p>Large group of residents have objected to this and a survey was conducted of residents who overwhelmingly asked that it be moved. Cllr S Burch agreed with all being said, and asked if there would be much of an affect once the 20mph zone is brought in over the coming months, and if more could be done with additional signage.</p> <p>Cllr T Konieczny asked if Councillors are so unhappy with the proposed alterations, that we suggest the alternative and propose moving the crossing, by writing to Cllr J Pratt and the road safety officer at MCC. This was moved by Cllr G Jones, and seconded by Cllr P Simcock. Unanimously approved.</p>
<p>FC 09/22</p>	<p>Proposals for next meeting March 2022.</p> <p>Cllr T Thomas asked for Councillors to email any suggestions for the next meeting to the Clerk.</p>

Meeting ended 8:50pm

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN **DATE**