

ABERGAVENTNY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th January 2017 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Abergavenny.

Present: Cllr C Woodhouse (Mayor)

Cllrs S Horrell, S Woodhouse, D Edwards, J L Prosser, T Thomas, R P Jordan, N Tatam, Cllrs M Hickman, M Harris, R Harris, M Powell, D Simcock, M Toombs.

Apologies: Ms S Dodd.

In attendance: Town Clerk - Jacqueline Humphries, the Press, David Todd.

The Mayor welcomed all present.

1909. Apologies were received from Cllr Dodd

1910. No declarations of Interest were made.

1911. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14th December were received and adopted.

1912. Matter Arising

Councillor Edwards thanks all members who helped deliver letters to traders regarding the Chamber of Trade meeting, the meeting was well attended with approximately 60 in attendance.

Some councillors expressed some confusion about their part in the 5 Year Plan and 5 themes received, the Mayor explained in more depth their roles within the plan – if they refer to the term of reference sent out with the e-mail. Contact the people on the lists they were given and arrange meeting to discuss the way forward.

Councillor Prosser informed all to look at the list of projects under each theme they were given, ask attendees to meeting who would like to take on each theme and possibly appoint a chair person who could work with volunteers.

Councillor S Woodhouse informed all that she has booked her first meeting with regard to her theme of ‘Spreading the Word’, that meeting is going to be held on 17th January in the Council Chambers. Invites have been send out.

Councillor Prosser has also booked his first meeting with regard to his theme of ‘Encouraging Business Success’, the meeting is going to be held on 25th January in the Council Chambers. Invites have been send out.

Correspondence and acceptances have been received from invitees regarding being placed on the ‘Honours Board’, hopefully we can arrange a date in March that would be acceptable to all to perform the ceremony.

1913. Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14th December were received and adopted.

1914. Matters Arising

Regarding the Britannia Inn applications MCC don’t approve of one of the applications, however they are in discussions with the applicant.

1915. Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 7th December.

The above minutes were passed at the last council meeting held on 14th December.

1916. Finance Report.

Cllr S Woodhouse asked the council to approve the December payments from the council budget.

a) The following payments were authorised and approved:-

Nicholls	First Prize Best Dressed Christmas Window	£75.00
Hilary's Floral Designs	Second Prize Best Dressed Christmas Window	£50.00
Cuddle & Cwtch	Third Prize Best Dressed Christmas Window	£25.00
G M James	Salary	£236.22
HMRC	Tax & National Insurance	£301.18
Mrs J Humphries	Salary Dec (standing order not made)	£1,162.05

1917. Month 9 Budget Report

A cheque for £500 for A4B was added to authorised payments above with regard to a grant payment.

Councillor Hickman stated that MCC are currently looking at 4.5 million shortfall and a 3.95% increase in the rates, with 68 proposals and £300,000 still to be found.

Councillor D Edwards stated Town council cannot confirm our budget as the town toilet issue has yet to be resolved and it may be useful to speak to Chepstow regarding their stance on the toilets and street cleaning this year.

The Mayor confirmed that there would have to be a limit on the amount of money that the Town Council could allocated for the toilets. Councillor S Woodhouse proposed a full council meeting for 1 Feb at 6pm to set the final budget.

Councillor R Harris confirmed that there was a meeting of the MCC Joint Select Committee on 31st January to look at the budget, therefore we still will not have the final figures then.

1918. Reports - Team Abergavenny.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19th January to discuss the projects for the rest of the year.

1919. CCTV – Councillor Prosser had received communication off a potential supplier of a new night vision CCTV system available that may help tackle the on-going vandalism and anti-social behaviour in Bailey Park. The cameras have a 400 metre range to identify persons and can be viewed 24/7 by authorised persons. Councillor Prosser to end proposal to all councillors. Councillors feel we need to look at the matter in more depth and to present the idea to the Friends of Bailey Park, the police and MCC.

All councillors felt it could be a very good thing and should be investigated further, they also felt that it should be linked into the police system that current runs from Blaenavon as using authorised persons could be stepping on dangerous ground. If it could be run alongside the current system that would be the best way forward.

Councillor M Harris stated that we need to contact Blaenavon to discuss the matter, she was unsure if they currently run night time cameras and if there is a possibility they can be linked in – contact Andrew Mason.

The Mayor advised Councillor Prosser to produce a paper covering all councillors concerns, Councillor Prosser agreed.

1920. Questions from Town Councillors to County Councillors on local issues.
No questions were asked.

1921. Members Reports

Councillor Tatam – Delivering traders leaflets, attended Traders association meeting, Team Abergavenny meetings.

Councillor Thomas – Delivering traders leaflets, attended night market, meeting with police manager regarding Fairfield, Y Fenni Business Community meeting

Councillor Simcock - Delivering Traders letters, 5 Year Plan consultations.

Councillor Prosser – Attended 5 Year Plan, Chamber of Trade meeting, meeting regarding the Cibi Walk toilets, negotiations have now ended regarding providing new toilets.
Councillor Prosser informed all that the date for the Freedom Parade would have to be moved to a new date of 15th July as the regiments is on operational duties, all agreed to the new date.
The Memorial Concert will still take place on 6th May in St Mary's church.

Councillor Jordan

Councillor S Woodhouse – Evening Food Market, KHS Concert, Visions of Hope Concert, Commissioning Service Holywell Community, Borough Band Concert, Nine Lessons and cards at St Mary's, Welcome to Christmas Borough Theatre, Opening of the Angel Bakery, Nick Banwell retirement function, Former Pupils of KHS, 5 Year Plan, Business Club launch, Coleford Tourism Conference.

Councillor Edwards - Delivering Traders letters, 5 Year Plan meeting, toilet discussions with MCC.

Councillor Toombs – Mayors coffee morning, Borough Band concert.

Councillor Horrell – OSM, Governors meeting.

Councillor Hickman – Fair Trade Town.

Councillor M Harris – 5 Year Plan.

Councillor R Harris – Governors meeting, Fair Trade town.

Mayor C Woodhouse - Evening Food Market, KHS Concert, Visions of Hope Concert, Commissioning Service Holywell Community, Borough Band Concert, Nine Lessons and cards at St Mary's, Welcome to Christmas Borough Theatre, Opening of the Angel Bakery, Nick Banwell retirement function, Former Pupils of KHS, 5 Year Plan, Business Club launch, Coleford Tourism Conference.

1920. AOB

The meeting ended at