

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12th July 2017 at 7:00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Abergavenny.

Present: Cllr D Simcock (Mayor). Cllrs T Davies, L Van de Vyver, S Dodd, F Morgan, P Simcock, N Tatam, G Jones, T Konieczny, M Harris, R Harris and M Groucutt. **In attendance:** Member of the Press, M James (Assistant to the Clerk).

2029: Apologies were received from Cllrs M Hickman, T Thomas and S Head.

2030: Declarations of interest to be declared as and when necessary.

2031: The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th June 2017 were received and approved as a true record subject to two minor amendments: [Page 4 Item 2022] amended to "Keep" Abergavenny Tidy and the date of the AGM to 26th.

2032: Matters arising:

Page 1 Item 2008

The Mayor reported the War Memorial has been cleaned

Page 2 Item 2011/Page 6 Action 4

Ongoing - *assistant to make enquires.*

Page 4 Item 2020

Cllr M Harris informed the visit to CCTV Headquarters will be arranged in August/September.

Page 4 Item 2022

Cllr Dodd has contacted the majority of organisations and reported the following amendments: Welsh School - not in area; Market Hall Users Group – not set up; National Parks - no longer required. Cllr P Simcock informed she has been elected to the Bryn y Cwm Area Committee and is also ATC's representative on the North Monmouthshire Liaison Committee.

Page 5 Item 2022

Cllr Dodd asked if a date has been set for the summer concert: *this is being arranged.*

D Edwards invited to present a report on the toilets. Roger Hoggins to attend.

2033: The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14th June 2017 were received and adopted.

2034: Matters arising: none reported.

2035: The minutes of the Special meeting held on 28th June 2017 were received and adopted.

2036: Matters arising: OVW recommend the Town Clerk Advisory Committee be granted delegated powers to make decisions relating to the recruitment process (eg advert/grading/job description, etc). Cllr Groucutt proposed this be agreed. This was seconded by Cllr Tatam and unanimously agreed.

2037: Finance Report. The paper copies of the finance minutes circulated were found to be incomplete. The assistant apologised for this error. It was proposed and agreed they be represented at the Projects Meeting on the 27th. (Commencing at 6:45pm in order for the matter to be concluded prior to the main meeting).

a) Council was asked to authorise the following payments:

DATE	CHQ NO	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
19/06/2017	106496	One Voice Wales	Training (N Tatam)	£ 50.00
26/06/2017	106497	Staff	Salary	£1,212.82
29/06/2017	106498	Staff	Salary	£ 427.76
29/06/2017	106503	S B Bees	Internal Audit Fees	£1,350.00
29/06/2017	106504	G James	Expenses	£ 30.30
12/07/2017	106505	NR & CA Bailey	Replenish Parlour	£ 112.76
12/07/2017	106506	Cable News	Library papers/stamps	£ 80.90
12/07/2017	106507	Angel Hotel	Mayor's Installation Reception	£ 880.00
12/07/2017	106508	Viking	Office supplies	£ 51.47
12/07/2017	106509	Merlin Waste	Dog bins	£ 406.80
12/07/2017	106510	Generation (UK)	Barriers for Cycling Festival	£ 433.28

The above payments were approved and passed.

b) Month 3 budget reports were received and approved.

Cllr Tatam noted the Abergavenny in Bloom coding relates to an organisation which hasn't existed for 7 years - Cllr Dodd explained when disbanded funds were transferred to the Council and put towards the ongoing cost of providing floral displays within the town.

Cllr Dodd informed Members the planters are in a disgusting state of repair and suggested a committee be formed to look into improving matters for the forthcoming year.

Cllr T Konieczny proposed the Friends of Linda Vista/Bailey Park/Castle Meadows be invited to work with the Council to formulate a strategic plan for the whole town, not just the centre suggesting volunteers are also sought.

It was agreed to form a committee to move this forward. This to comprise Cllrs T Konieczny, L Van de Vyver, S Dodd and M Harris.

2038: Honorary Burgesses: Following previous discussions this item was placed on the agenda at the request of Cllr Hickman who unfortunately was not able to be present. In his absence Councillor Dodd explained a councillor needs to serve a minimum term of 20 years to receive this honour and proposed ex-councillor Douglas Edwards, having diligently served the Town Council for some 26 years, two of which as Mayor, be bestowed the status of Honorary Burgess. Members were unanimous in their support of this proposal. It was resolved to seek Mr Edwards' acceptance.

For future reference it was suggested the Town Clerk Advisory Committee look into documenting the qualifying criteria.

Cllr Tatam noted in previous years the standing orders were reviewed in the May meeting. It was agreed to agenda this for discussion at the next meeting.

2039: No reports were presented.

2040: Team Abergavenny: Cllr Tatam reported attending a meeting in which Alan Michie gave a presentation. He also attended a Public Realm meeting and reported the County Council is being pressed to make a decision regarding the redevelopment of Lion Street/upper part of Frogmore Street. Peter Johns' lottery bid for Bailey Park is supported. Things are moving along, albeit slowly.

Cllr Groucutt explained it had been agreed the 5 Year Plan will become the North Monmouthshire Community Plan as it was more appropriate to the Bryn Y Cwm area. Whilst the North Monmouthshire Community Plan could not represent this Town Council's 5 Year Plan the document was acknowledged to be a valuable resource for the whole area. There is to be a joint forward from the Mayor to signify the Town Council's support of this publication.

Abergavenny Town Council will now proceed with its statutory responsibility to produce its 5 year plan. Cllr Tatam thanked the Mayor and Cllr Groucutt for their input. The Mayor agreed it had proved a very positive meeting.

2041: CCTV: Councillor M Harris had nothing specific to report. She asked Members to contact her if they are or become aware of any problems. Cllr Morgan questioned whether the camera in Market Street was working as his car had been broken into twice. Cllr M Harris will make enquires.

2042: Questions from Town Cllrs to Cty Cllrs/Information from Cty Cllrs to Members:

Cllr Konieczny asked for information on MCC's plans to install double yellow lines in lower Chapel Road – as well as a box junction at bottom of Pen Y Pound. Cty Cllr Harris reported he was unaware of these proposals and suggested the Council write to MCC to ask why hasn't the Town Council been consulted on this?

Discussion ensued in which it was noted traffic in Cantref has always been a problem. The streets were not designed for so many cars. MCC need to produce a proper strategic plan for traffic management. MCC was reported to be considering decriminalising parking (enabling them to employ parking wardens to control traffic) although noted this is unlikely to happen for another 18 months.

Cllr P Simcock proposed the Council write to ask MCC to inform the Clerk of its highways plans. This was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Groucutt advised he is continuing to endeavour to contact MCC's Deputy CEO to inform him ATC's elected representative on AGRI Urban is Cllr Tudor Thomas.

The Mayor asked if there was anything to report regarding Morrisons. The County Councillors were unable to help – the site now belongs to Morrisons therefore this is in their hands.

2043: Members Reports:

The Mayor attended: Jo Cox Memorial Coffee Morning, Abergavenny Chronicled, Abergavenny Eisteddfod, Cantref Open Gardens, Usk Civic Service, Fly the Flag MCC, MCC Civic Service, Rotary President Installation, Abergavenny Symphony Orchestra Concert, Building Bridges Presentation, Opening of Mayor's Charity Appeal, South Wales Shire Horse Show, Caldicott Civic Service, Beauty and the Beast (Cross Ash School), IYE Festival, Concert Bach Choral Society, CAIR meeting.

Cllr Groucutt: nothing to add - other than two meetings already reported.

Cllr R Harris: Abergavenny Cycling Festival.

Cllr M Harris: Abergavenny Cycling Festival – she suggested the Council write to thank the organisers for their hospitality – it was a wonderful evening.

Cllr Konieczny: Jo Cox Memorial coffee morning, Abergavenny and District Partnership against Crime. He is due to accompany a PCSO on a walk around Castle Ward. Cllr Konieczny also

reported a request for an additional dog bin by Castle Meadows (residents offer to fund purchase) and want the Council to pay for emptying. Following discussion, it was initially agreed to a: contact the contractor to determine his rota. b: ask the contractor (as part of annual review) to identify any underused bins which could be moved.

Cllr Jones: Abergavenny Sanctuary meeting with Syrian families.

Cllr Tatam: Abergavenny Cycling, Award Ceremony for lady who climbed the 3 Peaks 3 times in one day and OVW Larger Councils Conference.

Cllr P Simcock: accompanied the Mayor (events already reported). Due to meet with PCSO Moyse to walk around Grofield/Cantref Wards; North Monmouthshire Liaison Meeting; Bryn Y Cwm Area Forum – presentation on Hate Crime by PCSO Moyse – she suggested this topic be placed on the agenda for a Projects Meeting. Bryn Y Cwm is running a pilot scheme whereby the representative (Cllr P Simcock) from each T/C Council will be able to vote.

Cllr Morgan: Abergavenny Cycling Festival - *as a participant*.

Cllr Dodd: Abergavenny Festival of Cycling.

Cllr Van de Vyver: Friends of Bailey Park (as previously reported); Town Team (granted Y Fenni Business Club £300 towards brochure).

Cllr Davies: due to walk around Priory Ward with PSCO Young. She has been contacted regarding reinstating a swimming pool in Bailey Park and will be looking into possibility of making a bid for grant funding.

2044: The Mayor reminded Councillors of the Freedom Parade which takes place this Saturday. They need to meet in the Parlour to robe up at 10am.

Councillors were asked to invite two people of prominence from their wards (with guests) to the Civic Service and asked to notify the Town Clerk of the number for catering purposes.

Cllr Konieczny asked for a map showing the location of defibrillators be displayed in Council's notice board.

The Mayor informed Members an architect is being sought for the refurbishment of the town hall. It was proposed Roger Hoggins be asked what the current position is.

In view of the need to make a decision regarding the toilets issue it was suggested and agreed the Council hold an August meeting (9th August).

Cllr Groucutt reported the date of the Council Xmas dinner needs to be changed as it clashes with a Labour Party event.

The Mayor thanked those present and closed the meeting at 8:40pm.

POINTS FOR CLERK TO ACTION

1. Letter to detail ATC's AGRI Urban representative
2. Date for summer concert

3. Doug Edwards to be asked to present report on toilets
4. Council/Projects Meeting to start 6:45 to enable Finance Minutes to be approved.
5. Grant Douglas Edwards title of Honorary Burgess – ask for his acceptance.
6. Standing Orders – agenda for review in September meeting.
7. Write to MCC to request the TC is consulted on highway proposals
8. Write to organisers to thank them for hospitality at cycling event
9. Contact Merlin Waste and ask for details of rota/dog bin usage
10. Map of defibrillators to be put in notice board
11. Write to Roger Hoggins to determine position regarding refurbishment of town hall
12. Hate crime to be placed on Projects Agenda
13. Council meeting 9th August – book Council Chamber
14. Review date of Xmas Dinner

COUNCILLORS

1. Councillors – to notify Clerk of number of guests invited to Civic Service.