

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, ABERGAVENNY ON WEDNESDAY 10th JANUARY 2018 AT 7.00PM

Present:

Chairman - Cllr D Simcock (Mayor)
Cllr M Groucutt,
Cllr R Harris,
Cllr M Harris,
Cllr M Hickman,
Cllr T Konieczny,
Cllr G Jones,
Cllr S Head,
Cllr N Tatam,
Cllr P Simcock,
Cllr F Morgan,
Cllr T Thomas,
Cllr L Van de Vyver

In attendance:

J Lee (Town Clerk)

2107	Apologies Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T Davies, S Dodd
2108	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest
2109	Minutes of Council Meeting The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13 th December 2017 were received and adopted as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Tatam, Seconded Cllr Hickman Matters arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• JL reported that the action to follow up with MCC the proposals for the toilets in 2018/19 is outstanding and to be carried forward• Cllrs D Simcock and L Van de Vyver reported back on their visit to Morrisons. No opening date was given nor details of how long the parking stay at the store will be. The store will incorporate the Market street layout seen in other stores and will also house a small café. The store is smaller than the Ebbw Vale store. Morrisons staff expressed an interest in working with Abergavenny Food Bank.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JL reported that the standing orders do not specify the nature of the members reports. This to be considered when the standing orders are revised in May.
2110	<p>Minutes of Planning Committee</p> <p>The Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 8th November 2017 were received and adopted as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Konieczny, Seconded Cllr Hickman</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clerk reported that MCC Planning had been in contact regarding the Planning Committee's objection to application DC/2017/01367. After discussion it was agreed to withdraw the objection on the understanding that the property is not within the Primary Shopping area and therefore current planning policy does not seek restrict use to A1 use. <p>ACTION: JL to notify MCC Planning of the revised decision</p>
2111	<p>Minutes of Finance Committee</p> <p>The Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 3rd January 2018 were received and adopted as a correct record</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Head brought to the attention of Council an ongoing issue as to whether Cllr S Dodd is a member of the Finance Committee. The minutes of Council in May 2017 do not record Cllr Dodd as being a member of the Committee; however this may have been a recording error. Following discussions Cllr Head proposed and Cllr Konieczny seconded that Cllr Dodd should be a member of Finance Committee, this was unanimously agreed. JL will inform Cllr Dodd of the decision and pass on apologies for the error.
2112	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was unanimous agreement to approve the Finance committee recommendations as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homestart Grant £720 MCC Youth Club Grant - £360 Abergavenny Arts Festival - £2500 Clerk to revise the Community Grants Scheme Application documentation Clerk to have authorisation to discuss bank details with Barclays Bank Clerk to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Lead Officer and Chair of Finance Committee to be the LGPS Adjudicator
2113	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Head presented the draft 2018/19 budget. The proposed budget is an increase on 2017/18 to enable the Town Council to continue to provide services in the town that MCC is no longer able to fund or fully fund such as

<p>2114</p> <p>2115</p>	<p>public conveniences and street cleansing. There is also an increase on salary costs reflecting a decision to employ a full time clerk. Provision for future projects has also been made as well as additional funding for the Summer Playscheme targeted at families in receipt of Free School Meals. The Finance Committee proposes to end the Community Toilet Scheme. The changes would result in a budget of £366,896.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Groucutt informed members of interest from MCC Leisure Services and Head of the Playscheme to work closely with the Town Council to ensure that the Summer Playscheme fully benefits families in most need. This includes targeting families in receipt of Free School Meals and an up to date list is being produced by MCC for this purpose. • A query was raised regarding the ‘other toilets’ budget heading as the Town Council pay for the toilets at Bailey Park, therefore there will be a cost and should be budget provision. More information is required as to opening times and cost. Agreed that this could be funded from reserves. <p>ACTION: JL to seek clarification regarding Bailey Park toilets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town Council has also committed in principle £60k from reserves for two projects which are the subject of external funding bids – Redevelopment of Bailey Park and an Events Pavilion at Abergavenny Castle – further information on both projects will be made available by MCC in due course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Groucutt proposed that the budget of £366,896 be accepted, seconded by Cllr M Harris. A vote was taken on the proposed budget, one abstention, all others voted in favour. 																
<p>2116</p>	<p>Finance Report</p> <p>a) The following payments were authorised:</p> <table data-bbox="383 1478 1404 2038"> <tr> <td>Andrew Jones (PAT Testing and repairs Xmas lights)</td> <td>£ 350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MCC (Q3 contribution for toilets)</td> <td>£17400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cycling Club Abergavenny Promotions (Cycling Festival)</td> <td>£2676.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff</td> <td>£620.46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff</td> <td>£1853.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mike Herring (Electrics for Shops Christmas trees)</td> <td>£448.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roly Fury (Placing of Shops Christmas Trees)</td> <td>£271.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC – Tax & NI (Dec)</td> <td>£834.41</td> </tr> </table>	Andrew Jones (PAT Testing and repairs Xmas lights)	£ 350	MCC (Q3 contribution for toilets)	£17400	Cycling Club Abergavenny Promotions (Cycling Festival)	£2676.79	Staff	£620.46	Staff	£1853.96	Mike Herring (Electrics for Shops Christmas trees)	£448.80	Roly Fury (Placing of Shops Christmas Trees)	£271.20	HMRC – Tax & NI (Dec)	£834.41
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	<p>Local Government Pension Scheme (Dec) £729.86</p> <p>Keltic Print (Printing of Christmas cards) £106.80</p> <p>Cable News (Papers for December) £97.00</p> <p>Merlin Waste (dog waste collection for January 2018) £508.50</p> <p>NR & CR Bailey Ltd (Stamps for Xmas cards and restocking Mayor's Parlour) £109.68</p> <p>Town Council Election Recharge £1996.92</p> <p>P Johns Expenses (Postage, Stationery) £53.11</p> <p>Data Protection Registration Renewal (Town Council Cllr David Simcock, Cllr Sam Dodd, Cllr Margaret Harris, Cllr Nick Tatam £35 each) £175</p> <p>b) The month 9 budget reports were received and noted.</p> <p>c) Following approval of the 2018/19 budget, the precept is to be £366,896</p>
2117	<p>Draft Monmouthshire Wellbeing Plan</p> <p>This item was postponed and will be discussed at the Projects Committee on 25th January 2018</p>
2118	<p>Monmouthshire Local Development Plan – Draft Review Report</p> <p>Consultation response to stress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for affordable housing and for this to really be affordable • Developers should not be able to pay Sec106 contributions to renege on their on-site affordable housing obligations • Good quality housing (with a garden) is crucial if children are to have the best start in life. Good quality is more sustainable long term • Residential development via windfall sites (ie not identified as residential in the LDP) undermines the reason for identifying sites in an LDP <p>ACTION: JL to prepare and submit the LDP consultation response</p> <p>Councillor S Head left the meeting at 8.10pm</p>
2119	<p>Fairtrade Town Renewal</p>

2120	<p>Cllr Hickman presented the report. Abergavenny Fairtrade Forum is seeking to renew Abergavenny's Fairtrade Town status. The Council has been asked to support this renewal. In response there was unanimous support for the following resolution</p> <p>Abergavenny Town Council supports the renewal of Abergavenny's Fairtrade Town status and actively supports Fairtrade by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • when possible using products with the Fairtrade Mark such as Fairtrade tea, coffee, sugar, biscuits, wine, cola and fruit juices • promoting Abergavenny Fairtrade Town status through their work • promoting the exchange of ideas with other Town councils in the County who are also Fairtrade Towns <p>Period Poverty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr P Simcock presented a report on period poverty, highlighting the negative effects of period poverty on girls and women and the actions that some other councils and community organisations are taking. • This issue is being considered by MCC and a research exercise is being planned with King Henry school to improve the evidence available. The surveys of girls will initially be trialled with the Youth Council. Cllr M Harris requested to be kept informed of this. • It was noted that Food Banks are receiving sanitary products and a request was made to receive figures from the Abergavenny Food Bank regarding demand for food as well as sanitary products <p>ACTION: JL to contact Trussell Trust</p>
	<p>Questions from Town Councillors to County Councillors</p> <p>None</p>
2121	<p>Members Reports</p> <p>Members gave reports on meetings/events attended:</p> <p>Cllr D Simcock – Flower Festival, Morrisons site visit, Borough Band Christmas Concert, Welcome to Christmas Play, Nine Lessons and Carols Service, Public Realm meeting, WW1 Quilt Unveiling at Pierhead Building, New pastor installation at United Reform Church, CAIR (Disabled Group), Former Pupil Association Annual Meeting</p> <p>Cllr T Thomas – KHS Carol Service, Public Realm Meeting, Llanfoist Bridge Consultation, Active Travel meeting</p> <p>Cllr F Morgan – Public Realm Meeting</p>

	<p>Cllr L Van de Vyver – (inc Nov update) Friends of Bailey Park, Team Abergavenny meeting, Morrisons site visit Cllr Mrs P Simcock – WW1 Quilt Unveiling, Installation United Reform Church, St Marys Carol Service, Flower Festival, Borough Band Christmas Concert, Former Pupils Association Annual Meeting Cllr N Tatam – Public Realm meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Tatam informed Councillors that Peter Fox, leader of MCC will be attending a coffee morning at Park Street Community Centre on 19th January from 11am onwards <p>Cllr G Jones – None Cllr T Konieczny – Llanfoist Footbridge consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well presented consultation, concerns expressed to officers present at the consultation on how vandal proof the materials of the bridge will be and also access on to and off the bridge. Continuation of the cycle path across Castle Meadows to access/exit on Merthyr Road would be desirable <p>Cllr M Hickman – Gateway Carol Service Cllr Mrs M Harris – King Henry Carol Service Cllr R Harris – No report Cllr Groucutt – No report</p>
2122	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Abergavenny Eisteddfod – Cllrs Hickman and Thomas to be the Town Council representatives</p> <p>Abergavenny Railway Station – Cllr Groucutt referred to correspondence from UK Govt regarding improving access at the station. It was agreed to support actions proposed by MCC – further letter to WG, seek support from new franchise operator when franchise awarded and to ask for further information from Network Rail re the signalling issues.</p> <p>ACTION: JL to liaise with Christian Schmidt at MCC in order to action</p>

. There being no other business the meeting ended at 8:45pm

ACTION LIST FROM JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING

Action	Name
1. Contact Roger Hoggins regarding arrangements for toilets in 2018/19	JL

2. JL to notify MCC Planning of the revised decision re 47 Cross Street	JL
3. To seek clarification regarding Bailey Park toilets.	JL
4. To prepare and submit the LDP consultation response	JL
5. Contact Trussell Trust re foodbank demand	JL
6. Liaise with Christian Schmidt at MCC re station access improvements	JL