

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, ABERGAVENNY ON WEDNESDAY 12th DECEMBER 2018, 7.00PM

Present:

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

In attendance:

J Lee (Town Clerk)

92/18	1. Apologies Apologies received from Cllr S Dodd
93/18	2. Declarations of Interest To be declared during the meeting.
94/18	3. Minutes of Council held on Wednesday 14th November 2018 The Minutes of Council held on 10 th October were received and adopted as a correct record with the addition of Cllr M Lewis being recorded as present. Proposed Cllr Groucutt, seconded Cllr Konieczny. 4. Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The action on continuing discussions with MCC re evidence gathering on air pollution along the A40 through the town is to be carried forward• Town Clerk is awaiting information from MCC prior to the preparation of a report on the closure of White Horse Lane toilets• A draft of the Town Council Strategy has been circulated to Councillors for comment by 2nd January. A revised draft will be presented to Council in January.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Policy Committee has been held on 10th December 										
95/18	<p>5. Minutes of Planning Committee held on Wednesday 10th October 2018</p> <p>The Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 10th September were received and adopted as a correct record with the addition of Cllrs Hickman, Dodd and Van de Vyver being present. Proposed Cllr P Simcock, seconded Cllr D Simcock</p> <p>6. Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Konieczny reported that Dick Cole had been contacted and has agreed to attend the LDP training. On further discussion, Cllr Konieczny agreed to contact Dick Cole re attending a Planning Committee to outline Civic Society proposals re candidate sites submitted as part of the BBNP LDP Review. 										
96/18	<p>7. Minutes of the Projects Committee held on Wednesday 28th November 2018</p> <p>The minutes of the Projects Committee held on Wednesday 24th October were received and adopted as a correct record with the alteration to the venue as the meeting took place at the Abergavenny Community Centre. Proposed Cllr Groucutt, seconded Cllr Thomas.</p> <p>8. Matters Arising</p> <p>Cllr Groucutt reported that he will be meeting Marion Pearse from Abergavenny Community Centre in the New Year to discuss closer liaison with ACE.</p>										
97/18	<p>9. Finance Report</p> <p>The Town Clerk drew attention to the Ricoh payment for a settlement fee on the old photocopier lease. Previously the Town Clerk had informed the Town Council that there was not a settlement fee but this transpired to be incorrect.</p> <p>The Town Clerk also informed members that the £66.00 invoice from Vision ICT noted on the payment schedule sent out with the papers has been removed from the list of payments as a credit of £66 has been made against the account as reimbursement for the webmail hosting paid for in advance and now cancelled as a result of changing to Office 365.</p> <p>The following payments were authorised</p> <table> <tr> <td>T Konieczny (reimbursement for Camo netting)</td> <td>£134.19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abergavenny Trading Company (Kings Arms Christmas Meal deposit)</td> <td>£235.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ricoh UK Ltd (settlement fee)</td> <td>£67.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cable News (library papers)</td> <td>£48.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Society of Local Council Clerks (Annual Membership 2019)</td> <td>£247.00</td> </tr> </table>	T Konieczny (reimbursement for Camo netting)	£134.19	Abergavenny Trading Company (Kings Arms Christmas Meal deposit)	£235.00	Ricoh UK Ltd (settlement fee)	£67.39	Cable News (library papers)	£48.00	Society of Local Council Clerks (Annual Membership 2019)	£247.00
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	<p>Merlin Waste (Dog waste bin emptying Dec) £637.50 Flying Colours Entertainment Ltd (Elf Juggler) £408.00 St Mary's Priory Fund (50% cont. to cost of Tea for the Troops) £166.50 J Lee (Restocking Mayor's Parlour) £38.65 NR & CA Bailey (Propane for the Beacon & Restocking Parlour) £62.04 Viking Stationery (inc stamps) £95.84 J. Lee (Print & frame for cadet presentation, restock, postage) £54.38 Abergavenny Trading Company (Christmas meal balance) £255.00 Office costs £4086.28 MCC (Toilets) £69600.00 Keltic Design & Print (Christmas cards) £70.80 Tech-Wales (Office 365 migration and 5 hours upfront support) £1228.00</p> <p>b) Month 8 reports were accepted.</p>
98/18	<p>10. To consider the report on the establishment of a Town Crew</p> <p>The report detailing the proposal to establish a Town Crew for Abergavenny was considered. This would be a small team able to carry out planned and reactive work to improve the local environment. There was support amongst a number of councillors although a number raised concerns on double taxation and affordability.</p> <p>Cllr Thomas proposed and Cllr Van de Vyver seconded the recommendation that a working group is established to have liase with MCC officers on a Town Crew model for Abergavenny.</p> <p>Cllr Tatam requested a recorded vote</p> <p>In favour – Cllrs Thomas, D Simcock, Van de Vyver, P Simcock, Jones, Konieczny, Lewis, M Harris, Groucutt, Davies Against – Cllrs R Harris, Hickman, Tatam Abstention – Cllr Morgan Vote carried</p> <p>The recommendation 4.2 in the report was withdrawn.</p>
99/18	<p>11. To consider the report on the Town Council's use of single use plastics</p> <p>Cllr Groucutt proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded that the report on how to reduce the Town Council's use of single use plastics was noted. All agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Groucutt requested that thanks are recorded to the Town Clerk and Admin Assistant for their preparation leading up to the Refill Scheme launch.</p> <p>Cllr Konieczny requested that the Town Council purchases pop-up banners to use at public events such as the Refill Scheme launch. Cllr Morgan requested badges for the Cllrs. These items of expenditure will be referred to Finance Committee.</p>
100/18	<p>12. Questions from Town Councillors to County Councillors on local issues/Information from County Councillors to members</p>

	<p>Cllr Jones asked Cty Councillors for comment on the chaos that the temporary bus stops are causing. Cllr Thomas replied that the unofficial bus stop outside Robert Price should not be used and bus operators have been informed of this. However, passengers continue to wait at this stop and operators continue to stop. Cllr Thomas will be putting a motion to MCC the following week requesting that MCC addresses this issue as a matter of urgency before someone is hurt.</p> <p>Cllr Konieczny asked Cty Councillors what MCC is doing in light of the recently published figures on child poverty. Cllr Groucutt acknowledged that his ward of Lansdown had high levels of poverty and informed councillors that the finances of MCC are getting to a point where MCC can only provide the statutory minimum in Education and Social Services. It was acknowledged that the impacts of poverty can continue for many generations. Cllr R Harris informed Councillors that he would raise a motion in MCC to discuss the matter.</p> <p>Cllr P Simcock asked a supplementary question as to whether the above situation has disadvantaged refugee children. Cllr Groucutt informed members that the welfare of the refugee children and their families has been handled extremely well in Abergavenny by the various partners including the schools. Cllr Groucutt as an MCC Councillor has written to Kirsty Williams AM to inform the Minister of the good work in Abergavenny and suggested that it may make a good case study. It was agreed that the Town Council should write to the school to thank them for the hard work on this matter.</p> <p>Cllr R Harris informed members that a review is currently being undertaken on the future of Civic Amenity (CA) sites across Monmouthshire. There is a recommendation from MCC Select Committee to Cabinet for all residents to have a permit to get into the CA sites.</p>
101/18	<p>13. Members Reports (relating to representation on external bodies)</p> <p>Cllr Groucutt – none Cllr R Harris – none Cllr M Harris – none Cllr Hickman – Mayoral Reception for the Air Cadets, Scout Remembrance at Raglan Castle Cllr M Lewis - none Cllr T Konieczny – Civic Carol Service, Usk Town Council, LDP training meeting Cllr G Jones – none Cllr N Tatam – none Cllr P Simcock – North Mon Area Committee (reported that agreed to extend the pilot for 3 months) , LDP training meeting Cllr F Morgan - none Cllr L Van de Vyver – Team Abergavenny, Friends of Bailey Park Cllr D Simcock – Evening with the Lord Lieutenant</p>

	Cllr T Thomas – Friends of Bailey Park, Team Abergavenny, Promobility Cllr T Davies – Scouts Remembrance Raglan, Beaupreau lunch, Women's Aid Male Mentoring Graduation, CAB AGM, St John's Carol Service, Tenovus Lovelight Concert, Bailey Park meeting, Cantref Xmas Fair, Air Cadets reception.
102/18	14. Any Other Business None

There being no other business the meeting ended at 8.00pm

ACTION LIST FROM DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Action	Name
1. To continue discussions with MCC re gathering evidence re air pollution along the A40 through the town	JL
2. To prepare a more detailed report on taking forward the closure of White Horse Lane toilets	JL
3. To contact Dick Cole re attending Planning Committee	TK
4. To set up a working group with MCC officers re Town Crew	JL
5. For Finance to discuss purchase of pop up banner and badges	JL/PS
6. To write to KHS to thank them for the work with refugee children	JL/TD