

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, ABERGAVENNY ON WEDNESDAY 14th NOVEMBER 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 S Dodd
Cllr L Van de Vyver
Cllr M Lewis

In attendance:

J Lee (Town Clerk)

77/18	1. Apologies No apologies
78/18	2. Declarations of Interest To be declared during the meeting.
79/18	3. To receive a presentation from Sara Burch, Manager, Gateway Credit Union Sara Burch gave a presentation on the work of the Credit Union and thanked the Town Council for the small grant that was recently awarded. The main points raised were: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Credit Union has been in Abergavenny for 10 years and is growing steadily• The CU shares offices with the CAB• Currently have savings of £2.7 million and loans of £1.8 million• Average loan £1000, can lend up to £10,000• CU offer an alternative to high cost lenders• CU try to turn people that have a loan into savers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU has not seen an impact of the rollout of Universal Credit in June, perhaps too early • CU will work with customers to reschedule loan payments if there is a change to benefits • The CU has a good working relationship with many of the High Street banks and building societies. <p>Sara Burch expanded on her earlier written request for the Town Council to consider opening a Community Account and depositing a proportion of their reserves. The maximum deposit would be £30,000 and interest would be paid, currently 0.25%. This would provide more capital for the CU to use to help residents.</p> <p>It is understood that the Town Council's deposit would be protected under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme but this would require clarification.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked Sara for her presentation and explained that the Town Council will consider her request.</p>
80/18	<p>4. Minutes of Council held on Wednesday 10th October 2018</p> <p>The Minutes of Council held on 10th October were received and adopted as a correct record with the addition of Cllr F Morgan being recorded as present. Proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Konieczny.</p> <p>5. Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town Clerk reported that actions from the October meeting attributed to her are still outstanding and to be carried forward • Cllr Thomas reported that MCC have agreed to fund the cost of locking and unlocking the barrier on the Fairfield Car Park. This arrangement will be for a trial period of 6 months in the first instance. • Cllr Groucutt reported that at a recent Public Realm meeting, the costs of moving the War Memorial were estimated at £20,000 which is significantly lower that reported to Council in October. Although a lower amount MCC would not be able to fund this from the grant awarded for Public Realm Phase 3 works.
81/18	<p>6. 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. Proposed Cllr Morgan, seconded Cllr Jones</p> <p>7. Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town Clerk reported that Planning Aid Wales have been appointed to deliver the LDP training in North Monmouthshire.

82/18	<p>8. Minutes of Policy Committee held on Wednesday 24th October 2018</p> <p>The minutes of the Policy Committee held on Wednesday 24th October were received and adopted as a correct record. Proposed Cllr D Simcock, seconded Cllr Konieczny.</p> <p>9. Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A further date for the Policy Committee to meet will be arranged in approx. 1 month's time
83/18	<p>10. Minutes of the Projects Committee held on Wednesday 24th October 2018</p> <p>The minutes of the Projects Committee held on Wednesday 24th October were received and adopted as a correct record. Proposed Cllr R Harris, seconded Cllr Thomas.</p> <p>11. Matters Arising</p> <p>The Town Clerk reported that Aine Morris, Abergavenny Food Festival and Justine Wheatley, PEAK will attend the January Projects Committee meeting</p>
84/18	<p>12. Minutes of the Events Committee held on Tuesday 30th October 2018</p> <p>The minutes of the Events Committee held on Tuesday 30th October 2018 were received and adopted as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Hickman, seconded Cllr P Simcock.</p> <p>13. Matters Arising</p> <p>No matters arising</p>
85/18	<p>14. Minutes of the Finance Committee held on Wednesday 7th November 2018</p> <p>The minutes of the Finance Committee held on Wednesday 7th November 2018 were received and adopted as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Tatam, seconded Cllr Jones</p> <p>15. Matters Arising</p> <p>Cllr P Simcock reported that a written report will be received from Mike Moran in due course.</p> <p>Council agreed the following recommendations by Finance Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve a grant of £1000 to Dance Blast for aerial equipment, proposed Cllr P Simcock, seconded Cllr Tatam

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve IT & Consultancy Support as below proposed Cllr P Simcock, seconded Cllr Jones: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Set Up Office 365 for Business £199 ○ Set up 2 staff PC's and provide written instructions for other users £150 ○ Migration of 13 historic mailboxes from Vision ICT (current email hosts) £450 ○ Monthly subscription for web hosting and Office 365 £63.80 per month ○ To purchase 5 hours IT support in advance at a cost of £225 which provides an IT helpdesk facility to staff and to members as they can assist with the setting up mobile devices. • That for a period of two months the Admin Assistant hours are increased from 8 hours to 12 hours to enable progress to be made on harmonising the IT. Proposed Cllr P Simcock, seconded Cllr M Harris. 																																				
86/18	<p>16. Finance Report</p> <p>The following payments were authorised</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Melville Centre for the Arts (Room Hire Strategy Day)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£150.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Anthony Davies (Past Mayors Board)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£285.60</td></tr> <tr><td>Rialtus Business Solutions (Support Upgrade)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£96.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Martins Framing (Mayor's Photo)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£50.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Cllr Thomas (Travel Expenses OVW event)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£38.70</td></tr> <tr><td>MCC (Q3 CCTV)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£3264.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Merlin Waste (Dog Waste collection November)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£521.25</td></tr> <tr><td>Cable News (Library Papers)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£48.00</td></tr> <tr><td>J. Lee (Restock Mayor's Parlour)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£64.40</td></tr> <tr><td>Office Costs</td><td style="text-align: right;">£3791.10</td></tr> <tr><td>Abergavenny Chronicle (Events Ad)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£240.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Dance Blast (small grant)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£1000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Poppy Appeal (wreaths)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£46.00</td></tr> <tr><td>The Soldiers' Charity (collection at Battle's Over event)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£115.00</td></tr> <tr><td>RAF Benevolent Fund (collection at Battle's Over event)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£115.00</td></tr> <tr><td>BBNPA (Annual contribution to Abergavenny TIC)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£10000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Cllr Tatam (Travel expenses OVW meetings)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£121.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Stuart H Bawler (The Last Post exc hire costs)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£5405.00</td></tr> </table> <p>b) Month 7 reports were accepted.</p>	Melville Centre for the Arts (Room Hire Strategy Day)	£150.00	Anthony Davies (Past Mayors Board)	£285.60	Rialtus Business Solutions (Support Upgrade)	£96.00	Martins Framing (Mayor's Photo)	£50.00	Cllr Thomas (Travel Expenses OVW event)	£38.70	MCC (Q3 CCTV)	£3264.00	Merlin Waste (Dog Waste collection November)	£521.25	Cable News (Library Papers)	£48.00	J. Lee (Restock Mayor's Parlour)	£64.40	Office Costs	£3791.10	Abergavenny Chronicle (Events Ad)	£240.00	Dance Blast (small grant)	£1000.00	Poppy Appeal (wreaths)	£46.00	The Soldiers' Charity (collection at Battle's Over event)	£115.00	RAF Benevolent Fund (collection at Battle's Over event)	£115.00	BBNPA (Annual contribution to Abergavenny TIC)	£10000.00	Cllr Tatam (Travel expenses OVW meetings)	£121.50	Stuart H Bawler (The Last Post exc hire costs)	£5405.00
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87/18	<p>17. To approve the policies- Communications Policy, Social Media Policy, Investment Policy, Complaints Procedure, Member-officer protocol</p> <p>Following discussion, it was agreed that the policies require further editing to ensure a consistent layout and should be considered again at the January Council meeting. The Town Clerk reminded Councillors of the importance of tackling the lack of policies.</p>																																				

	<p>Cllr Konieczny proposed that Cllr Groucutt joins the Policy Committee, Cllr Jones seconded.</p> <p>Cllr Groucutt informed Council that he has already started to format the policies. Comments on these policies to be sent to Chair of Policy Committee or to the Town Clerk.</p>
88/18	<p>18. Update from CCTV User Group</p> <p>Cllr M Harris informed Council that MCC had proposed an increase of more than 2% in 2019/20 however this was not well received by a number of councils. As a result, there will a 2% increase. Cllr M Harris suggested that in future years an increase of more than 2% is likely and CCTV will play a more important enforcement role given the financial constraints that Gwent Police are experiencing.</p>
89/18	<p>19. Questions from Town Councillors to County Councillors on local issues/Information from County Councillors to members</p> <p>Cllr M Harris asked if County Councillors could request information on how MCC will use its assets to offset budget cuts.</p> <p>Cllr Lewis asked if County Councillors were able to make representation on the poor ambulance response times. Cty Cllrs suggested this matter should be taken up with the Aneurin Bevan Health Board.</p>
90/18	<p>20. Members Reports (relating to representation on external bodies)</p> <p>Cllr Groucutt – none Cllr M Harris – CCTV User Group Cllr T Konieczny – Welsh Guards Dinner Cllr M Lewis – None Cllr G Jones – City of Sanctuary meeting, Portcullis House, London Cllr N Tatam – Public Realm meeting, OVW Larger Councils Committee, Team Abergavenny AGM Cllr P Simcock – Spreading the Word Group, Relief in Need Charity Cllr S Dodd – Y Fenni Business Club, ADTA Cllr L Van de Vyver – Team Abergavenny AGM Cllr D Simcock – Team Abergavenny AGM Cllr T Thomas – Spreading the Word Group Cllr T Davies – Friends of Bailey Park, ADTA AGM, KHS Past Pupils Association, Welsh Guards dinner, Give Dog Fouling the Red Card meeting, Armistice events, Meeting delegation from Beaupreau & Relief in Need Charity</p>
91/18	<p>21. Any Other Business</p> <p>The Town Clerk informed Councillors that a forward programme of meetings for 2019/20 had not yet been prepared as awaiting more information on the works in the Town Hall to ascertain if the Chamber and Parlour will be unavailable.</p>

	Cllr R Harris requested that the date for the Mayoral installation is circulated asap
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There being no other business the meeting ended at 8.27pm

ACTION LIST FROM NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Action	Name
1. To review the use of single use plastics and report back to Council on actions that the Town Council can take	JL
2. To continue discussions with MCC re gathering evidence re air pollution along the A40 through the town	JL
3. To prepare a more detailed report on taking forward the closure of White Horse Lane toilets	JL
4. To prepare a draft Town Council Strategy & Action Plan	JL
5. To arrange a Policy Committee	JL