

## **ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13 May 2015 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Abergavenny**

Present: Cllr Mrs M Powell, (Mayor)

Cllrs C Woodhouse, R Harris, Mrs M Harris, M J Hickman, S Horrell, D Edwards, Mrs S Woodhouse, P Jordan, J L Prosser, P Woodley and N Tatam.

In attendance The Town Clerk, Inspector Huw Jones and Mr P James (Press)

Cllr C Woodhouse thanked the Mayor for her hospitality on Monday evening at the Mayoral Installation. He felt it was a very pleasant evening

The Mayor welcomed the new Inspector Huw Jones to the meeting and invited him to speak to members.

Inspector Jones said he had come to make himself known to members and to find out how often they would like to see him at their meetings. He had no specific agenda for this meeting, but he told members that since 1 April there had been 70 crimes reported in the Abergavenny area, about 2 per day. More officers were working out of Abergavenny since the force organisation had been reconfigured. He has 35 PCs, 6 Sergeants, 11 PCSOs and 3 Ward Officers in Monmouthshire and they were bolstering the response elements. There had recently been several burglaries in the Plas Derwen area and 5 men had been arrested very quickly in London. Two outbuilding burglaries at Llanvetherine and Llanvapley had also been recorded and much of the stolen goods had already been recovered within 24 hours. A different style of policing has been adopted to be more on the front foot. His personal history had brought him to Abergavenny previously as a PC and as a Sergeant. He lives in Goytre and his children go to King Henry VIII School, so he is committed to the area.

Various questions were asked by members, concerning Fairfield Car Park issues, (One vehicle had been seized last week) dog fouling (patrol officers had been instructed to issue fixed penalty notices if they saw a dog fouling when the owner did not pick it up) A new allocation of officers to wards had been made and this is on the police website. They are looking for patterns and trends weekly to try to anticipate crime. Drugs are a problem anywhere but the police are looking for intelligence on it.

The Mayor thanked Inspector Jones for coming to the meeting. It was agreed that it would be helpful if he could attend every three months, but a written report for each meeting would be very welcome.

1692. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Ms S Dodd, Miss M Toombs.

1693. Declarations of interest would be made as and when necessary during the meeting.

1694. The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8 April 2015 were received and adopted as a correct record.

1695. Matters arising.

Cllr Woodhouse noted that the reduction in our grant to the TIC to £7500 was appropriate as a surplus of £3000 had been made last year on sales and a contribution towards the costs had already been offered for this year from a business in town. Also more volunteers are working there which is a great help

Cllr Jordan referred to minute 1673a) and commented that he was concerned that the community contribution from new developments should not be reduced to compensate the developer if an unforeseen problem arose. He also noted that there are concerns being expressed about the higher percentage of Affordable homes being required in new developments.

Cllr Edwards noted that the CIL is a percentage but S106 is subject to negotiation.

Cllr Woodley commented that CIL should be a clearer way of doing it.

Cllr Mrs Woodhouse noted that minute 1685e). 5 was not complete and should indicate that the order was subject to satisfactory quality of the sample that has been ordered.

1696. The following minutes were received and adopted as a correct record:

a) Planning Committee held on 8 April 2015

b) Finance Committee held on 6 May 2015

1697. Matters arising.

1. A grant of £225 be paid to Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni.

2. A grant of £248 be paid to Abergavenny Community Centre subject to the Council's involvement being acknowledged

3. Audit Information for 2014/15 be received. The full report will be presented to Finance Committee and Council in June.

4. Month 1 Printouts be received.

5. The revised insurance quotation of £1200.05 be accepted. It was noted that a reduction had been negotiated from last year.

6. The Council's funds in Gateway Credit Union be withdrawn. Their position seems good and we will need the money for our reserves.

7. Small payments from the Toy Fair grant be agreed totalling £200 to be paid to Mr Fletcher and redistributed by him.

Cllr Mrs Woodhouse asked for a revised spreadsheet to be produced which shows the grants issued to specific organisations year on year. This was agreed.

1697. Finance Report for May 2015

a) The following payments were authorised:

Albany Jones (Eisteddfod judge)	£65
Lisa Tippings (Eisteddfod judge)	£65
Cavalier Heraldry (Town Crest)	£67.95
P Johns (one-off pay adjustment)	£26.85
HMRC tax and NI	£650.87
G M James Salary	£232.45
Monmouthshire C C CCTV	£3200
Jems Catering 2 receptions	£175
RBL Poppy Appeal 2 wreaths	£46
SLCC Enterprises conference fees for 3 people	£248.40
Cablenews library papers	£63.60
M Hickman Hospitality purchase	£19.81
Jems Catering (Toy Fair and 1 reception)	£160
J Fletcher (Toy Fair)	£200
Zurich Municipal Insurance	£1200.05
M Powell (Mayor's Allowance)	£2150
C Woodhouse (Dep Mayor's Allowance)	£215
Merlin Waste (dog bins)	£325.44
Abergavenny Community Centre	£248.00
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni (grant)	£225

b) The Month 1 report and the Audit information were noted and would be considered in full at the next meeting.

1698. Correspondence. The following Items were received and noted:

1. Monmouthshire CAB Thanks letter
2. One Voice Wales -The Voice
3. Grass Roots
4. Clerks and Councils Direct

## 1699. Reports

- a) Notes of the North Monmouthshire Liaison Committee were received and noted
- b) Notes of the Town Team of 9 April were received and noted
- c) Representation on other bodies was considered and the following representation was agreed for 2015/16

Patron – Beaupreau Twin Town Association	The Mayor
Patron – Oestringen Twin Town Association	The Mayor
Abergavenny in Bloom Committee	Cllr Mrs S Woodhouse
Abergavenny and District Tourist Association	Cllr Ms S Dodd (reserve Cllr Prosser)
Beaupreau Twinning Association	Cllr S Woodhouse
Oestringen Twinning Association	Cllr J L Prosser
Governor of Cantref School	Cllr P Wadsworth
Governor of Deri View School	currently not our turn
Governor of Our Lady and St Michael School	Cllr S Horrell
King Henry VI Charity Trust and P Wadsworth	Cllrs Mrs S Woodhouse, Ms S Dodd, C Woodhouse
Abergavenny Relief in Need Charity	Cllrs M Toombs and D Edwards
National Parks	Cllr N Tatam (dep Cllr R Harris)
Borough Theatre A4B	Cllr Mrs M Powell, Cllr S Dodd
Monmouthshire C C Planning Committee	Cllr C Woodhouse (dep Cllr P Woodley)
N Monmouthshire Liaison Committee	Cllrs M Toombs
Deputies,	Cllrs D Edwards, R Harris
Crime Prevention Committee (ADPAC)	Cllrs J Prosser, Mrs M Harris
CSAT	Cllr P Wadsworth
Market Hall User Group/Development Committee	Cllrs J Prosser, N Tatam
Bryn y Cwm Area Forum	Cllrs N Tatam, P Woodley.
Communities First Partnership Board	Cllr Mrs M Harris
One Voice Wales Representative	Cllr N Tatam
Governor to Ysgol Y Fenni	Offer to Llantiilio Pertholey CC

## **Council Committees**

**All are members of the Planning, Projects, Toilets and Events Committees.**

### **Finance Committee**

Cllrs M Hickman, P Wadsworth, Mrs M Powell, Mrs S Woodhouse, R Harris, C Woodhouse and Ms S Dodd.

### **Artefacts Committee**

Cllrs Ms S Dodd, D Edwards, Mrs M Harris, Miss M Toombs and P Jordan

### **Town Clerk Advisory Committee**

Cllrs D Edwards, C Woodhouse, N Tatam, R Harris, P Jordan, M Hickman and Cllr Mrs S Woodhouse.

### **Friends of Bailey Park**

Cllrs J L Prosser, P Woodley and N Tatam

**Friends of Linda Vista** Cllr M Toombs

**Town Team** Cllrs S Horrell and N Tatam

d) Standing Orders were received and the additions to SO 38 were agreed and adopted as part of the revised SOs.

e) The Annual Attendance Record for councillors was received. It was noted that Cllrs Harris, Edwards and Mrs Powell were not counted at Planning as they took no part in the meeting. That has an impact on their overall performance figures, It was felt that n/a would be more appropriate.

1700. Agenda Items. There were no CSAT issues for Cllr Wadsworth.

1701. Questions for County Councillors.

Cllr Woodley said he felt that this council needs to get a discussion going with County on the future of the cattle market site. We need to know what is happening. Cllr Prosser said that Morrisons are contracted to start by June 2016 and he has no knowledge of any variation from that. Cllrs Hickman and R Harris confirmed that as their understanding. Cllr Woodley commented he had never seen a deal like this and Sainsbury and Tesco were withdrawing from new developments.

Cllr Tatam commented that following the free energy survey on the Town Hall/Market Hall, he had spoken to the County Energy Manager initially but had not managed to get a response from him since. He was advised to copy in the County Councillors for the town and the Chief Executive.

1702. Members Reports

Cllr Tatam had attended Town Team, One Voice Wales Meetings and the Mons Assembly.

Cllr Woodley had attended the Installation

Cllr Prosser had been to Flanders and laid a wreath on behalf of the Council – it was a very moving experience The Mayor thanked Cllr Prosser for his attendance.

Cllr Jordan had attended the Installation.

Cllr Mrs Woodhouse had attended the Mons Assembly, the Installation and Mayoral receptions,

Cllr Edwards had attended the Mons Asswembly, Relief in Need Charity meeting, Bryn y Cwm Area Meeting attended by Costains and the Installation

Cllr Horrell had attended 2 receptions, Town Team, Mons Assembly and the Installation.

Cllr Hickman had attended 2 receptions, Soroptimists, Toy Fair, Elvis Concert, AAODS Show, Visions of Hope Reception, Bric a Brac Sale in Market, Verve cheque presentation Mons Day and Installation,.

Cllr Mrs Harris had attended Mayor`s Receptions, Installation and Mons Day.

Cllr R Harris had attended the same.

Cllr C Woodhouse had attended as Cllr Mrs Woodhouse and the Bryn y Cwm Committee, School Governors and the TIC Meetings

The Mayor had attended the AAODS Show, Toy Fair, Mons Day, 2 receptions, Soroptimists, VE Day Concert, AGM of Monmouthshire CC and Action 50+ meeting.

1703. Any Other Business

a) It was agreed to postpone the June Meeting until 17 June

b) Cllr Edwards noted that in thanking the outgoing Mayor he had also intended to thank the Clerk and the Clerk`s Assistant for their work.

c) Members received the newsletter fro Action 50+. There were no comments.

**The meeting closed at 8:30pm**