

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9 August 2017 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Abergavenny.

Present: Cllr D Simcock, (Mayor),
Cllrs M Groucutt, Mrs M Harris (For part of the meeting), S Head, M Hickman, G Jones, T Konieczny, F Morgan, Mrs P Simcock, N Tatam, T Thomas and L Van de Vyver.
In attendance: Temporary Town Clerk, P Johns

2045. Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs R Harris, Mrs T Davies and Ms S Dodd.

2046. No Declarations of Interest were made.

2047. The Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 12 July 2017 were received and adopted as a correct record subject to the following amendments.

- Cllr T Thomas be substituted for T Tudor,
- page 4, third paragraph, insert 3 times after 3 Peaks.
- minute 2032 Page4 item, Cllr Mrs Simcock noted she was the representative on the Bryn y Cwm Area Committee, not its Chair

2048. Matters arising

The Mayor had sent Mr Michie a copy of the Foreword to the North Monmouthshire Planning for a Better Future document.

The Acting Clerk would follow up on the outstanding Action Points from the last meeting and let members know what was happening.

2049. The Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 12 July were received and adopted as a correct record.

2050. The Minutes of the Town Clerk Advisory Committee were received and adopted as a correct record.

2051. Matters arising.

From the above minutes two areas of decision were needed to enable the recruitment process to proceed. The first was to confirm the salary scale as LC2 and the post as full time (37 hours) This was agreed.

The second was to decide where the post should be advertised, and after some discussion the following advertisement locations were agreed:

South Wales Argus Colour Print Advert and online listing
Jobs Go Public

County Council websites at adjoining Counties

One Voice Wales websites

Society of Local Council Clerks

Abergavenny Chronicle small box for strapline ad in recruitment section 30 words plus syndicated online up to 200 words for 2 weeks

WCVA Website

GAVO Website

This was estimated to cost £1842 in total. Before placing the order, the Clerk would await confirmation from Cllr Mrs Simcock of the frequency of the Argus adverts.

2052. The Minutes of the Council/Projects Meeting held on 27 July were received and adopted as a correct record subject to the following amendments-
Under Wellbeing and Future Generations Plan, second paragraph, omit "by October 2018" on page 2 Concerning Town Toilets the figure quoted by Cllr Edwards had been £28,000 not £20,000

Concerning permanent cycle pumps, Cllr Morgan said that this was on the agenda in error. Concerning Homemakers Community Recycling, Cllrs Tatam, Hickman and R Harris declared an interest in this and did not take part in the discussion.

2053. Finance Report.

a) The list of payments submitted for authorisation was approved as follows:

Abergavenny Eisteddfod Grant	1400
Homemakers Community Recycling grant	2500
Staff salary	289.46
HMRC Tax and NI	380.09
Staff Salary	1206.30
Torfaen Pension Fund	522.81
Charles Thomas engraving	48.00
Quantum Traffic Management Freedom Parade	936.00
Monmouthshire CC CCTV	3200.00
One Voice Wales course T Davies	40.00
Monmouthshire CC Public Toilets	17400.00
Abergavenny Food Festival Grant	3000.00
Art Shop and Chapel buffet	1000.00
Emmelines tearoom buffet	600.00
Cable News Library Papers	51.70
Keltic Design and Print Civic Service Sheets	126.00
P Simcock Civic Service Refreshments	199.86
Jiveoholics Summer Concert	400.00
Vision ICT Web Hosting	453.00
Willows Garden Centre Abergavenny in Bloom	10989.60
NR and CA Bailey Civic functions	30.21
Mr L Roberts bar work at civic reception	45.00
1415 Ltd (Mr Flag) 4 new flags	206.16

The Acting Clerk would check with Willows Garden Centre about the problems with this years displays before handing over a cheque.

b) Month 4 Budget control sheets were received. The reconciliation would be circulated to members as the bank statements had only just been received.

2054. Reports

a) Honorary Burgess Reception.

The Acting Clerk would speak to Mr Edwards about a suitable date and liaise with the Mayor.

b) Agri-Urban Reception

It was agreed that the Council would be honoured to provide a reception but as the County Council are making the arrangements they would welcome a 50% contribution from the County Council up to £250.

c) It was agreed to provide a link to Abergavenny Now as requested by Arthur Williams

d) Cllr Tatam made a brief report on Team Abergavenny. He outlined the concern about traffic orders which might be needed to get the optimum value from changes in Lion Street and Frogmore Street and the possible impact of the Morrisons development on this.

Cllr Groucutt would be happy to ask questions at the County Council about these concerns.

e) Cllr Mrs Harris had nothing to report on CCTV. Cllr Morgan noted that the camera in Lion Street was not moving.

2055. Questions for County Councillors.

Cllr Tatam asked if the County Council were now receiving rent for the Cattle Market, and whether there is any progress on the residents parking in Usk View (Merthyr Rd). He was informed that this had now been marked out. Cllr Groucutt would take up these points subject to it being necessary for the second point.

2056. Members Reports.

Cllr Thomas had attended the Bailey Park Steering Group meeting, the Agri-Urban meeting Civic Service, Abergavenny Business Club and the ADT Barbeque.

Cllr Van der Vyver had attended a walk around his ward with the PCSO identifying issues with paving and graffiti. He had also identified a taxi driver with a violent record and had notified Licensing who had withdrawn his licence.

Cllr Morgan had attended the Civic Service, Business Club, ADT Barbeque

Cllr Mrs Simcock had attended the opening of the Gunter Mansion pop-up shop, Agri-Urban Meeting, Civic Service, Royal Welsh Parade, Meeting with PCSO Ruth Moyse re Grofield Ward, Chepstow Civic Service, Caldicot Civic Service, Monmouth Civic Service, Bryn y Cwm Area Committee and Deri View Speech Day.

Cllr Tatam had attended the One Voice Wales Area Meeting, Plan for the castle meeting and Jiveoholics Concert.

Cllr Jones had nothing to report

Cllr Head had nothing to report

Cllr Konieczny had attended the Summer Concerts a Ward Walk in Castle Ward.

Cllr Hickman had attended the Civic Service, ADT Barbeque and the Freedom Parade

Cllr Mrs Harris had attended the Civic Service and the Freedom Parade.

Cllr Groucutt had been on holiday

The Mayor had attended the same events as Cllr Mrs Simcock and in addition he had attended the Homestart AGM in Monmouth and a Fire Fighters event.

2057. Any Other Business

a) Cllr Hickman had received an informal request for financial support for an event at the Castle in September. Last year the Council had supported it and he wondered if they would do the same this year. It was suggested by Cllr Head and agreed that the applicant should be asked to complete a grant application form with an indication that the Council is minded to support the event in principle, subject to having the detail to consider at its next Finance Committee.

b) Cllr Konieczny asked if the yellow lines at the junction of Monmouth Rd with both Belmont Rd and Holywell Rd could be reinstated urgently to assist with controlling parking. He also noted that the community Speedwatch group had noted more than 50 vehicles in half an hour exceeding 35mph in Monmouth Rd. Residents want more warning to drivers to slow down as it is hazardous to cross the road. He felt that the railings alongside the road should be removed and a pedestrian crossing put in place. There followed a discussion about the difficulty of getting any action as this is a trunk road and outside MCC's remit. It was agreed to write to the County Council and SWTRA about this and to provide residents with a copy.

c) The Mayor raised the concerns of disabled people about the failure to include accessible arrangements to cross the line at the Railway Station. The Acting Clerk gave members some background to this issue and agreed to confirm his understanding so that

it could be offered to the Chronicle as a Press Release for next week`s paper. This issue needed to be pursued vigorously.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 8:55pm