**ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD**

**20TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7PM VIA MS TEAMS &**

**IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM, TOWN HALL, ABERGAVENNY.**

**Present:** Cllr T Konieczny (Chair)

Cllr C Holland (Vice Chair)

Cllr M Barnes

Cllr P Bowyer

Cllr J George

Cllr D Simcock

Cllr G Wilde

**Absent without apologies:** Cllr L Wright

**In attendance**: S Rosser - Town Clerk

**Public in attendance:** None

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| E93/23 | **Receive and approve apologies for absence.**  Apologies received from Cllrs Eldridge and Jones, and their reasons for absence were accepted. |
| E94/23 | **Receive Declarations of Interest**  Cllr George will abstain from discussions on DM/2023/01213 due to knowing the neighbour. |
| E95/23 | **To receive and approve the minutes from the last meeting on 26th July 2023**  Cllr Holland proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record, seconded y Cllr George. All Councillors resolved to accept this proposal. |
| E96/23 | **To receive a report and recommendation on replacement of “rusty” planters on Frogmore Street.**  The report from the Town Clerk was noted. Significant damage has been caused to one planter on day of the meeting – repair will not be possible. Greenfinch Nurseries have asked that alternative rusty planters be considered for the area. Costs start from £600 upwards. These are not as large as the Amberol planters costed in the report. Opportunity to ask for sample planters to be brought to the town to look at them ‘in situ’. The current planters will need to be re-homed if at all possible as not able to be recycled. Discussion between Councillors around colours, placement of planters, and the damage to current planters.  Cllr Bowyer proposed to accept the recommendation of the report for the Amberol planters, seconded by Cllr George. All Councillors resolved to accept this recommendation and proposal. |
| E97/23 | **To receive and note an update on Abergavenny In Bloom.**  Report was noted by all present. It was good to see how Denbigh facilitated the award ceremony – they were excellent hosts. Lots of opportunities going forward – exciting prospects with place making, public art smart town tech. Review work with businesses, and look to engage the primary schools. Discussion around marks for Wales in Bloom and where points could be gained, better communication to ensure all participants install flowers and planters in time for judging.  Evening meeting to be held at Our Lady and St Michaels School on either 24th or 26th October to discuss Wales in Bloom 2024, as well as results from Britian in Bloom 2023.  Cllr G Wilde said a resident has requested a full cost breakdown of what is spent on Wales/Britain in Bloom. Cllr Konieczny explained the £30k budget covers this, plus an additional £20k was earmarked for the new planters installed this year. |
| E98/23 | **To receive and note the Town Clerk’s update.**   1. Community Nature Spaces consultation shared. Cllr George asked about the 3 areas in Lansdown. Can’t see any objections to the sites suggested. Cllr Konieczny said we need to see if funding for Local Places for Nature via Welsh Government will be released for these proposals. Consultation will follow on all the plans. Cllr Barnes queried maintenance costs, who covers this, and would that effect the decision. Cllr Konieczny confirmed there is an expectation to involve the community to look after these areas. 2. All Councillors to be invited to join in the Dog Fouling Action Day on 12th October 2023. 3. Endorse rollover of PSPO without amendment. Cllr Bowyer proposed, seconded by Cllr Holland, and all Councillors resolved to accept and approve this proposal. |
| E99/23 | **To receive and note the Service Delivery update.**  Report noted.   1. Comment from Councillors that contract for emptying dog bins is more than current support for Citizens Advice Bureau. 2. Noted. |
| E100/23 | **Finance: (a) Receive an update on the Environment Budget headings.** Budget headings walked through by Town Clerk. Cllr Holland proposed to accept the report as a true and accurate record, seconded by Cllr Bowyer. All Councillors resolved to accept the budget report.  **(b) to receive update and approve cost increase for Dog Bin Contract for 2024.** 3% increase notified to the Council from 1/4/24 – 31/3/25. Cllr Bowyer proposed to accept this increase, Cllr Holland seconded this proposal. All Councillors resolved to accept this cost increase. |
| E101/23 | **To consider and make recommendations regarding the following planning applications:**  **DM/2023/01213 Proposed alteration to lean-to roof and part first floor extension to flat. 145 Park Crescent, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, NP7 5TN.** [**https://planningonline.monmouthshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=S05FZNKYJ1O00**](https://planningonline.monmouthshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=S05FZNKYJ1O00)  Councillors resolved to recommend approval of this application.  **DM/2023/01204 Replacement of car park, driveway and building access lights with LED lights. Old Station Surgery, 39 Brecon Road, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, NP7 5AQ.** [**https://planningonline.monmouthshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RZZNLKKYJ0H00**](https://planningonline.monmouthshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RZZNLKKYJ0H00)  Councillors resolved to recommend approval of this application.  **DM/2023/01179 This application relates to the provision of new Bin Stores/Mini Recycling Centre (MRC) within the grounds of 5 blocks of flats. There are 4 regular size stores, each store will be able to accommodate 12x 240l bins (5 general waste, 6 recycling and 1 food waste per block of flats). And 1 larger**  **store serving two blocks which can accommodate 24x 240l bins. 63-92 St Andrews Crescent, Abergavenny, NP7 6HL.** [**https://planningonline.monmouthshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RZSPNVKYIYB00**](https://planningonline.monmouthshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RZSPNVKYIYB00)  **DM/2023/01014 – reconsultation:** Councillors requested that previous comments be resubmitted. |
| E102/23 | **To review and update on relevant items on the Strategy and Action Plan (priorities 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,14,15,21,23,26,31).**  No updates from Councillors received prior to meeting. Cllr Konieczny asked the points covering Placemaking progress, environmental schemes to be included, and smart town tech. Insert public art aspirations to be updated. Cllr G Wilde noted the NHS at 75 theme not included in plan for Abergavenny in Bloom.  Plan to be recirculated to all Councillors prior to next meeting. |
| E103/23 | **Report from Town Councillors attendance at external bodies relevant to this Committee:**  **• Abergavenny and District Tourist Association: Cllrs Konieczny & Simcock –** AGM 17th October 2023.  **• CCTV user group: Cllrs George & Jones –** Meeting delayed until October 2023.  **• Friends of Linda Vista Gardens: Cllrs Wright & Simcock**  **• Friends of Bailey Park: Cllrs Eldridge & Bowyer**  **• Friends of Castle Meadows: Cllrs Simcock & Wright**  **• Monmouthshire CC Planning Committee: Cllrs Konieczny & George**  **• Y Fenni Business Community: Cllrs Eldridge & Nicholson** |
| E104/23 | **Report from County Councillors on matters affecting Abergavenny relevant to this Committee.**  None received. |
| E105/23 | **Items for consideration at the next meeting Wednesday 25th October 2023.**  Submissions to be emailed to Chair, Vice Chair and Town Clerk by 18th October 2023. |

**MEETING CLOSED AT 8:15pm**

**APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD**

**CHAIR ……...………………………… DATE ……………………………**