**ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 29th MAY 2024 AT 7:00PM ON MS TEAMS & IN THE**

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

**Present:** Cllr A Wilde (Chair)

Cllr P Bowyer

Cllr M Barnes

Cllr K Eldridge

Cllr C Holland (Vice Chair)

Cllr G Jones

Cllr G Wilde

**Absent:** Cllr D Simcock

**In attendance**:

Sandra Rosser – Principal Officer / RFO

Jay Shipley – Deputy Principal Officer / Deputy RFO

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| E54/24 | **Receive and approve apologies for absence.**  Cllr L Wright, Cllr J George. All Councillors resolved to accept the reasons for apologies. |
| E55/24 | **Receive Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda.**  Jay Shipley items regarding Castle Meadows |
| E56/24 | **To approve the minutes from 24th April 2024.**  Cllr Holland proposed the minutes from the meeting on 24th April, be approved as a true and accurate record, seconded by Cllr Jones. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal. |
| E57/24 | **To receive and note the Principal Officer’s update.**  Report received and noted.   1. Gwent Green Grid - Morrisons Supermarket Green Space Proposal. Public consultation 14th June. Engagement and feedback encouraged (on-line). Initial enquiry regarding funding for sculpture or bug hotel proposed. Celebration of Cattle Market suggested. Cllr Barnes expressed concern re which agency would take over maintenance. Cllr Bowyer responded that there shouldn’t be much maintenance cost, ATC should support sculpture. Cllr G Wilde enquired about the green wall and if there were plans to re-instate it. 2. Town Signage   SWTRA will contact the Principal Officer. It is not a fast process. New signs for each of the parks might be a worthwhile project. New directional arrow signs (currently blue/white) are needed throughout town. Suggest these are considered as part of Place Making.   1. Tourism maps and display boards – this falls within National Volunteering Week.   Local business volunteers wanted to do this, to give back to the town. To carry out maintenance on map cases and bollards around the town. Paint number and permission given by MCC. Previous boards were paid for by the Rural Development Project Team at MCC, which no longer exists. Costs for replacement maps to ATC for consideration.  Cllr G Wilde proposed ATC release the funds for paint and maps seconded by Cllr Jones. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal.   1. Friends of Bailey Park   Requested release the 24/25 funds. A report will follow in September, along with a proposed renewal of the co-operation agreement.   1. Friends of Castle Meadows   A new website is under construction which is being designed by The Media Agency. Castle Copse has recently been granted National Forest of Wales Status which is a huge accolade for the volunteers. A report will follow in September, along with a proposed renewal of the co-operation agreement.   1. Active Travel Update   Press release from the Active Travel Team at MonLife, detailing the latest consultation which will be open until 28th June 2024. Request from Sight Cymru to re-direct the NCN cycle route away from Neville Street – Health and Safety.   1. Abergavenny in bloom the judge will be walking the route on 2nd July. On the 3rd and 4th of July he will be judging it's your neighbourhood. The portfolio is being put together with the media agency. The town team, volunteer groups and Monmouthshire County Council are working together to present the town at its best. The theme is community growing. |
| E58/24 | **To receive and note the Service Delivery Update.**  Report received and noted.  1 Toilets. The Service Level Agreement for 2024/25 is under review, and it is hoped to also have this to form part the report on the costs for Bailey Park toilets at the June Environment Committee Meeting. PHS who service the bins at the bus station have declined to service them until the hazard of needles in the waste has been resolved. Ongoing negotiation. Principal officer to contact environmental health. |
| E59/24 | **Finance**:  (a) Receive a report on the Environment Budget headings.  (b) Receive a report on CCTV project for Sugar Loaf Car Park  (c) Receive a report on replacement planters for Frogmore Street  a) Cllr Bowyer proposed the finance report be deferred until June seconded by Cllr Holland; all Cllrs resolved to accept this proposal.  b) Pilot project Blue Light CCTV in Sugarloaf Car Park be accepted proposed Cllr Holland, seconded by Cllr Wright. All councillors resolved to accept this proposal. Cllr G Wilde proposed that residents be asked for feedback after three months of the pilot.  c) Survey carried out with the businesses on Frogmore Street regarding replacement planters. All consulted returned favourable opinions. Cllr Barnes proposed a vote of thanks to the Principal Officer for the work on these projects. |
| E60/24 | **To consider and make recommendations regarding the following planning applications:**  DM/2024/00640 - Councillors voted to recommend approval.  DM/2024/00631 - Councillors voted to recommend approval.  DM/2024/00605 - Councillors voted to recommend approval.  DM/2024/00597 - Councillors voted to recommend approval. |
| E61/24 | **To receive updates from Councillors on the Strategy and Action Plan.**  Volunteers rebuilding the bus station planters. These will be planted in time for Abergavenny in Bloom. |
| E62/24 | **To receive reports from Councillors attendance at external bodies which are relevant to this Committee:**   * Abergavenny and District Tourist Association: Cllrs A Wilde and D Simcock – None * CCTV user group: Cllrs George & Jones - None * Friends of Linda Vista Gardens: Cllrs Wright & Simcock – no report * Friends of Bailey Park: Cllrs Bowyer & English – * Friends of Castle Meadows: Cllrs Simcock & Wright – no report * Monmouthshire CC Planning Committee: Cllrs Holland & George – no report * Greener Abergavenny – Cllr Barnes Reported is that the event for October in the market hall is moving ahead. |
| E63/24 | **To receive reports from County Councillors on matters affecting Abergavenny relevant to Policy and Resources Committee.**  None |
| E64/24 | **Items for the next meeting on 26th June 2024**  Cllr G Wilde asked to discuss streetlights and Borough Theatre light outside building.  Presentation by Jane Clark River Gavenny Corridor  Feedback regarding plans for green wall at Morrisons |

**Meeting ended 20:37pm APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD**

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