

Minutes of the Meeting for Montgomery Town Council held on Thursday 27th April 2017 at 7.15 pm in Montgomery Town Hall, Broad Street, Montgomery.

Present: Cllr E Fairbrother (Town Mayor) Cllr L Weaver (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillors: M Mills, D Jones, R Farmer, H Andrew, C Thomas, A Lawrence, J Kibble

MINUTE 188 – APOLOGIES

Cllr M Michael – Work Commitment

MINUTE 189- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

MINUTE 190 – MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Street Sweeping had been carried out twice in one week. Thanks to all the helpers.
- Bags of rubble had now been moved in Bishops Castle Street.
- E mail received from Hungary, Plaque will be shipped shortly.
- Cllr Fairbrother has enjoyed his time as Mayor and Councillor over the past five years but commitments with his new role means he has had to retire from Council.

MATTERS ARISING – 191 MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Kibble had attended a meeting in Llandrindod Wells as an observer regarding the major rewrite of certain areas of LDP.

Possible meeting in June regarding Renewable Energy

MINUTE 192 - RESIGNATION FROM COUNCIL

Cllr Julie Davies had resigned from council because of work commitments.
Councillors wanted to wish her all the best.

MINUTE 193 – PLANNING

P/2017/0334 Erection of livestock building Court Calmore

Have concerns regarding extra heavy traffic on a minor road that already is in need of attention.

MINUTE 194 – HIGHWAYS

- Check re Insurance details re the sign on Station Road
- Contact Nigel Pryce re cost of re-erecting sign
- E mail received re weeds in Maldwyn Way. A resident has offered to undertake weed spraying at a cost of £25. This is not allowed as weed spraying on a public highway requires a trained operative. Contact resident and request a possible working party.

Letter

TC

SH

- Check if Road Sweeper is available on 5th May following the May Fair in Broad Street.
- Cllr Hayes will check on street lights 162 & 165 to ascertain if these should be lit.
- Cllr Farmer informed that Mr Shaw's e mail regarding speeding had not been discussed, as Cllr Farmer had not been at March meeting he was not aware that this matter had been discussed at that meeting. Town Clerk informed that she had answered the e mail advising Mr Shaw of comments made by Councillors who were present at the last meeting in March. Mr Shaw will also be informed that it is Powys CC that ultimately make decisions on where 'speed bumps' are placed.

MINUTE 195 – REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hayes advised that Highways would not take action at 'Conduit' and suggested liaising with Powis Estates.

MINUTE 196 – INSURANCE 2017-2018

A quote for 1,3 and 5 years had been received from Zurich, Councillors agreed to request Chains of Office to be insured for £25K and Robes to be increased to £5K. They will then make a decision on 1,3, or 5 years.

MINUTE 197 – TOWN HALL

- Cllr Mills advised that plans for Town Hall refurbishment had not yet been sent.
- An inventory had been taken of kitchen utensils and will be taken again in six months.
- Cllr's Mills and Weaver along with Town Clerk had undertaken an inspection of the Town Hall prior to a review with Caretaker. The cleanliness of the Town Hall had been very good in general. Some items had been noted and work had been carried out to rectify these.
- Plastic round tables need to be replaced it was agreed to purchase at least three new tables and Town Clerk was given a figure of £600 to purchase same.
- Contact Probation with a view to painting Town Hall
- Cllr Andrew advised he had received a complaint re the Bar and advised that an e mail was being sent to Town Clerk regarding this issue.
- A quote had been obtained from BT re costs of installation for Broadband Town Clerk to investigate further.

MINUTE 198 – DESTINATION MONTGOMERY

- Destination Officer had attended several meetings and was forging ahead with digital marketing and social media group.
- Adam Cusack and Keith Williams were working together on a new website.
- Following a meeting of the walking group guides and trails were being planned.
- Need to feed information to Facebook.

MINUTE 199 – TOURISM

- There is a problem with slabs/tiles at the tourism site this needs attention.

TC

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baroque evening will go ahead. Harp workshop will take place on the same afternoon Amanda Mundy is organising this. • Tourism Group are not able to do Jazz evening and have asked if MCBPT would be able to organise this instead. • Flyers are in hand and promotion for the Walking Festival. • October Fest had been suggested. • The grant request for the 'Treaty of Montgomery' had not been successful. 	TC
<p>MINUTE 200 – ADDITIONAL DEFIBRILLATOR</p> <p>Dr Ashton has contacted council to ask for permission to place a Defibrillator on the wall of the Bowling & Tennis Club this would mean that a Defibrillator would be available at both ends of the town. This would not involve any expense to the council although council may discuss a grant at the next meeting. Dr Ashton also asked that Town Council hold any monies that were collected towards the Defibrillator, this will be discussed further at May's meeting.</p> <p>Resolved to allow the Defibrillator to be fixed on the wall at the Club.</p>	TC
<p>MINUTE 201 – RECYCLING</p> <p>An e mail had been received from Cae Post requesting that Council consider the possibility of having a bin to collect plastics that are at present not collected for recycling and are disposed of through general waste. This would cost £8.50 per month. Resolved to try this for a period of twelve months.</p> <p>It was also agreed to obtain the cost of a Eurobin from Cae Post, as this could save a considerable amount.</p>	
<p>MINUTE 202 – SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY</p> <p>Town Clerk had distributed a copy of the policy to all Councillors. Resolved to accept this policy as provided.</p>	
<p>MINUTE 203 – REVIEW OF BANKING ARRANGEMENTS</p> <p>Councillors would like the Clerk to look into Online Banking as this will allow salaries to be paid without the present delay of one week and also pay invoices more efficiently.</p>	
<p>MINUTE 204 – ALLOTMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Clerk informed that she had collected rent for allotments and at the same time had taken the opportunity to visit Tan y Mur allotments with the allotment holders. • An e mail had been received from an allotment holder who had informed that she had been ill during 2016 and had not been able to work on her allotment. This particular allotment had been in excellent condition when taken over but had been allowed to deteriorate considerably as had the allotment held before by this person. Therefore, Town Clerk had written to the allotment holder advising that she would need to remove any items and the allotment would be offered to the next person waiting. Council agreed a date of 15th May 2017 for re-allocation. 	

MINUTE 205 – FINANCE

Annual Income and Expenditure figures were reviewed by Councillors and accepted as presented.

002001/2	Salaries	1257.34
002003	Howells Fuel Oils	420.73
002004	Eric Neville Catering – Cleaning	77.81
002005	IGF Finance – Picaw Alarm System	822.29
002006	Powys County Council – Council Tax	638.25
002007	HMRC – Tax & NI	254.26
002008	G Smith – Expenses	138.57
Lloyds		0.00
000001	Salary	915.48
		4,524.73

RESOLVED to accept the above invoices for payment.

Following examination of the Income & Expenditure documents Councillors RESOLVED to accept the figures as presented.

MINUTE 206 – CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was noted.

MINUTE 207 – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

None

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS: Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (2) to resolve that members of the public and press be requested to leave the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

RESOLVED

'In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960(2) the Town Council resolves that members of the public and press be requested to leave the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.'

MINUTE 208 – TOWN CLERK'S CONTRACT

Following a meeting with Councillor's M Michaels, C Thomas and Glenys Smith when the new contract was discussed and amendments agreed.

Councillors had received a copy of the contract and had no comments to make on its content.

Contract was signed by Cllr E Fairbrother and Glenys Smith.

Percentage rise in salary agreed as per agreement drawn up by NALC & SLCC 2017/2018

MINUTE 209 – CARETAKER

Town Clerk advised that NALC/SLCC guidelines were considerably more than minimum wage. As this had not been taken into account when setting the Precept for 2017/2018 it was agreed to review Caretaker's salary when discussing the Precept for 2018/2019, A 1% pay rise was agreed

MINUTE 210 – GRASS CUTTING

Andrew Evans Landscapes had been asked to review his quote but unfortunately it was still over the figure agreed on Precept.

Following discussion, it was RESOLVED that Greenfingers would be awarded the contract for 2017/2018.