

<p>Minutes of Montgomery Town Council meeting held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.15 pm in Montgomery Town Hall, Broad Street, Montgomery. <b>Present:</b> Cllr H Andrew (Town Mayor J Kibble (Deputy Chairman) Councillors: M Mills, L Weaver, C Thomas, C Weston, W Beaven, O Lewis, G Stephenson <b>Cllr D Jones absent.</b></p> <p><b>MINUTE 174 – APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>None</p> <p><b>MINUTE 175 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p>None</p> <p><b>MINUTE 176 – MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p> <p>Cllr Andrew welcomed Gwilym Stephenson the new co-opted member to the meeting Members were advised that Julie Davis a former councillor and freeman of the town had passed away. Cllr Andrew reminded fellow councillors that the meeting should finish at 22.00 hours.</p> <p>Cllr Lewis joined the meeting</p> <p><b>MINUTE 177 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b></p> <p>Resolved to approve the minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 which were signed by the Chairman.</p> <p><b>MINUTE 178 – MATTERS ARISING</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cllr Kibble advised that MEG had offered to help with the litter picking.</li><li>2. Cllr Beaven queried why PCC cemetery fees higher than rest of Wales</li><li>3. SPG Cllr Kibble had reviewed the paperwork and advised that there was a commitment re drainage and building on flood plains.</li><li>4. Grit bin is expected on Mortimer Road free of charge</li><li>5. When co-opting follow guidance provided.</li></ol> <p><b>MINUTE 179 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b></p> <p>20/0211/TRE Ty'r Carw, Princes Street, Support this application.</p> <p><b>MINUTE 180 – REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCIILLOR</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cllr Hayes advised gritting wagon would not be able to grit School Bank.</li><li>2. Cllr Hayes would pass details on re cemetery fees.</li><li>3. Station Road is in the programme for re-surfacing.</li><li>4. PCC Budget meeting will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> February with a 5% rise in council tax expected.</li></ol>	<p><b>Action</b></p> <p>TC</p>
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5. Green Bin initiative will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020 residents requiring this service will need to pay the annual fee.
6. Grants may be available for those affected by the recent floods.

**MINUTE 181 – HIGHWAYS**

1. Cllr Thomas advised that PCC had done a really good job of clearing Market Square.
2. Town Hall had been flooded but cleaner had cleared the mess from the foyer and toilets.
3. Flood gates needed on the road from Caerhowel by the Rhydwhyman ford.
4. Cllr Lewis felt the sign at the Conduit had not been placed correctly. Councillors will view this and give an opinion at the next meeting.
5. Pot hole at Stalloe has been done.
6. Cllr Andrew asked that councilors keep an eye on the pot holes on Broad Street.

TC  
All

**MINUTE 182 – FINANCE**

BACS	HMRC – Jan/Feb Tax	71.80
	G Smith – Expenses	56.03
	Welsh Audit Office – 18/19 Fee	559.75
	Gaskells Waste	103.04
	Hafren Cleaning Service	720.00
	Marshalls – Timber Treatment	698.00
	Stannah Stair Lift	181.94
	Eric Neville – Anti Bac Soap	20.32
	Philip Humphreys – Town Hall	1500.00
	E-On – Toilets	211.71
	Licence for Weddings	927.00
	Leander -Town Signs	900.00
	Salary	673.20
Chq 300043	D Wilson – Leaflets	85.07
Chq 300044	PCC – Inspection Fee	972.00
D/D	Positive Energy – Town Hall	127.24
D/D	BT – Phone	35.04

RESOLVED to accept these invoices for payment.

Cllr Thomas requested that any payments should not be made until after the meeting

AGREED

RESOLVED to agree Financial Regulations with recommendations made by Finance Committee.

Council delegated Cllr Weston and Cllr Thomas consideration of how the precept/budget can be formatted for publishing on the website.

**MINUTE 183 – TOWN HALL**

1. Agreed to speak to Mr. Humphreys re snagging list as this has list has yet to be completed.
2. Councils present fire alarm contract is void due to company going into liquidation. A new contract is being sought with a local company and they are dealing with any issues at present.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. A qualified gas boiler engineer is dealing with the issues raised re air flow to the boiler and this will be fixed by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020. A new grille for the outer wall will be purchased and fitted.</li> <li>4. It was suggested a local handyman could be asked to look at the flat roof, and guttering as required in the recent survey.</li> <li>5. Although three tradesmen have been approached re fixing slates on the roof as yet no quotes have been received. Further quotes will be sought.</li> <li>6. To Repoint / replace brickwork plinth to low level quoted £1500.00 this quote will be accepted. It was agreed that Town Clerk could authorize this work up to £2.000.</li> <li>7. Check with Mr. Cusack if free wifi has been affected recently.</li> <li>8. E mail received from the Treasurer of Dementia Friends, one of the market stalls had been set up on Wednesday evening and they had booked the lower floor for training. It was agreed to let the market trader know if any bookings were received for Wednesday evenings on the lower floor and request that he did not set up his stall. Payment for a previous boking has been waived due to lack of heating.</li> <li>9. E mail NSPCC with an apology as boiler not working at their coffee morning.</li> <li>10. Following the treatment for woodworm council have been advised that a window in the clock tower needs attention, quote will be sought.</li> <li>11. Drama Group had requested permission to cover the upper floor windows during their performance in April. Council will agree - with a request to ensure the Health &amp; Safety risk is considered when using ladders, that drawing pins are not used and paintwork is considered. Non - flammable material should be used.</li> <li>12. E mails had been received from weekly market traders and a monthly trader concerned with the increase in rent. Development Officer for Destination Montgomery has been trying to improve footfall and encourage market traders to visit the town. Rent had been agreed in 2019 and will not be reviewed again.</li> </ol>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
<p><b>MINUTE 184– TOURISM</b></p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Draft minutes had been sent to all councillors</li> <li>2. Cllr Thomas asked about the group Monty Music Live. Cllr Kibble informed that this was a general name for the music events in town. Although this event with a well- known pianist had been spoken about at the Tourism meeting it was in fact a Church event. No monies would be taken from Town Council.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>MINUTE 185 – DESTINATION MONTGOMERY</b></p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nothing to report</li> </ol>	
<p><b>MINUTE 186 – ALLOTMENTS</b></p>	
<p>Cllr’s Thomas, Kibble and Jones had met with Mid Wales Housing re the allotment and had informal discussions, proof of ownership would be needed. Mid Wales Housing are also looking into the Care Home site and will request to speak to council at some point.</p>	

<p><b>MINUTE 187 – SLCC/OVV</b>          Approve payment of subscription to SLCC for Town Clerk          Approve payment of subscription to One Voice Wales          Approve attendance and payment for Regional Seminar Conference for Wales (Newport 23<sup>rd</sup> September)          Approve attendance and payment for Joint Conference (Ewloe 20<sup>th</sup> May)</p> <p>RESOLVED to approve payment for all of the above.</p> <p><b>MINUTE 188 – THE BRADES CHIRBURY ROAD</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Members of the public were invited to comment.              Councillors were advised that the owners of the property and Powys CC had been contacted several times since 2005. One member of the public had agreed to forward all correspondence sent to all parties during this time.</li> <li>2. Powys CC have given their decision via e mail which has been seen by all councillors.</li> <li>3. Cllr Lewis and Cllr Thomas had undertaken some research into the legalities of this and it was possible that Powys CC had not followed all due process. It was agreed that Cllr Thomas would draft a letter to Powys CC.</li> <li>4. Once clarification and a response to correspondence is received council will request Powys CC to visit the site along with the owners of the property.</li> <li>5. Town Clerk will write to the owners once their address is received.</li> </ol> <p><b>MINUTE 189 – WHITEGATE POOL</b></p> <p>Cllr Weaver advised that a digger with operator would be £250 per day and could take two days. Resolved to go ahead in March 2020.</p> <p><b>MINUTE 190 -VE DAY</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Street Closure has been agreed by Powys CC</li> <li>2. Cllr Mills has booked Bouncy Castles for the day costing £300; these will be sited in Broad Street between Castle Kitchen and Fish &amp; Chip shop. Spar have agreed for their electricity supply to be used.</li> <li>3. Mr Boundy has agreed to supply chairs.</li> <li>4. Ladies Choir and Montgomery Folk have been booked for the event.</li> <li>5. Some Vintage cars may be available for the day.</li> <li>6. It is proposed to have a fund - raising event on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2020 with Eddie Gartry and his band. Awaiting confirmation.</li> </ol> <p><b>MINUTE 191 – PLAYGROUNDS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Letter received from Powys CC regarding inspections for 2020 agreed to pay Powys to carry out inspections.</li> <li>2. Cllr Kibble advised that parents were very interested and happy to do bids for grants, Cllr Kibble asked if a small group of Councillors maybe interested in taking this forward. Cllr’s Lewis and Stephenson will join along with Cllr Kibble. Council were advised this group would not need a constitution.</li> </ol> <p><b>MINUTE 192 – MONTGMERY FOOTBALL CLUB</b></p> <p>Football Club had sent an e mail requesting use of the top end of the playing fields. As Councillors were not clear whether it was the end nearest the football club or the car park Town Clerk was asked to contact the Football Club again to verify.</p>	<p>CT</p> <p>TC</p>
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<p><b>MINUTE 193 – PUBLICATION SCHEME</b></p>	
<p>Council approved Cllr Weston to make the following suggested edits to the scheme References to website to point to exact location rather than main page Reference to use of model standing orders change to adapted versions of model standing orders and financial regulations.</p>	<p>TC</p>
<p><b>MINUTE 194 – POLICIES</b></p>	
<p>Policies suggested by the group are Equal Opportunities, child protection, community plan and modern slavery. Council gave permission for Cllr Weston to have access to the Council documents "back end" on the website and restructure the files and documents appropriately.</p>	<p>CW</p>
<p><b>MINUTE 195 – INSTITUTE/LIBRARY</b></p>	
<p>Cllr Lewis advised that the Institute was in a healthy position financially but there were a number of issues needing attention. The Library funding of £150 pa was being withdrawn by Powys CC; it was suggested a coffee morning would raise much needed funds.</p>	
<p><b>MINUTE 196 – CORRESPONDENCE</b></p>	
<p>Correspondence was noted</p>	
<p><b>MINUTE 197 – REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL BODIES</b></p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Following Ms. Jaunzens resignation from the council it was agreed that Cllr W Beaven would be the council representative for the Institute. Secretary of the Institute will be advised.</li> <li>2. Cllr Kibble suggested VMRC rep be left until Annual Meeting.</li> <li>3. Cllr Kibble suggested inviting Welshpool Councillors to join training sessions.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>MINUTE 198 - COMMUNICATION FROM THIS MEETING</b></p>	
<p>Litter picking, Precept communications, PCC re clearing Market Square, VE Day and Playgrounds.</p>	
<p><b>MINUTE 199– ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA</b></p>	
<p>Policies Publication Scheme VE Day Council assets Training Precept Communication</p>	
<p>Although minutes were agreed virtually, they have not been signed by Chairman due to Covid 19 (Meetings of more than 2 people) These will be signed at a later date.</p>	