



MONTGOMERY TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF TREFALDWYN

Minutes of the meeting of Montgomery Town Council held on **Thursday 23rd February 2023 at 7.15pm**

This meeting was recorded

Present in person:

Cllr Kibble, Cllr Beaven, Cllr Andrew, Cllr Stephenson, Cllr Humphries, Cllr Lock,

In attendance online:

Cllr Harper, Cllr Lewis (joined the meeting at 20:52)

In attendance:

Helen Royall (Town Clerk) CCllr Brignell-Thorp

ITEM		ACTION RECORD
1.	Apologies	
	Cllr Weston, Cllr Jones	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	None	
3.	Break for the Public to Speak	
	None	
4.	Chairman's Announcements	
	<p>Fundraising for the earthquake was undertaken utilising a coffee mornings slot and was very successful.</p> <p>Successful lottery funding afternoon with several community organisations represented. Good information was shared and will help inform future discussions.</p> <p>Thanks to councillors who supported the bus discussions as this was very productive. Water works meeting was well attended at the town hall with information being shared with the wider community. March 15th is the next one in the evening with the business representative in attendance.</p>	
5.	Minutes of the last meetings	

	<p>A small clarification on the sponsorship of the town crier event. Town criers are responsible for paying for one nights accommodation and they are sponsored for the other.</p> <p><i>RESOLVED: The minutes of the Ordinary Business Meeting 27th November 2022 are approved and signed as a correct record.</i></p>				
6.	Information from the minutes				
	<p>Item 6.10 – works to the water main on Pool Road - communication has gone out from Hafren Dyfrdwy.</p> <p>Item 6.15 – Warm Spaces Initiative - seems to be incredibly successful with the space well attended and has started to be a great meeting point for people. To go on the next agenda as the council are keen to support this further if there is a further need for funding. There may be some potential funding from the Council in addition if the need and footfall is proved. The need in Montgomery appears to be coming from a social need and making connections. Originally it was not registered on the website due to a clerical error at Powys County Council.</p>				
7.	Report from the County Councillor				
	<p>Council was sent an update via email prior to the meeting. Cllr BT stated that the main council meeting was on the same day as the town council so could report back on some of the discussions that took place. In response to the funding situation cuts will be made which will make £16million saving, however this will not impact any major services. Council tax is set for a 5% increase. Council is discussing making a substantive change to the way that it functions in the future.</p> <p>Planning for the Cottage was discussed with an overall agreement that the outcome was disappointing, and Cllr BT is looking into appeals. There appears to be some discrepancies in the way the application has been handled and this is being taken very seriously. Some issues at Caerowel where there is a current planning application. This is due to the change of use which may mean in the future there are more vehicles and a more substantial impact than is outlined.</p> <p>24 hour care on call in other areas which gives access to support for people who need some additional help which does not require medical support. The next step is to do a demonstration of need for the area. Council thought this was worth investigating and other schemes are also running so would be able to provide advice.</p> <p>Meeting on the buses was very constructive. They were happy for the buses to use the piece of land past the play area as a turning circle, however some investigation into ownership of this strip of land and then there is also a cost implication.</p>				
8.	Finance				
	a. Invoices and Payments				
	<p>Finance report was distributed after the meeting</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 1912 1139 1980"> <tr> <td>Salary</td> <td></td> <td>£594.40</td> </tr> </table>	Salary		£594.40	
Salary		£594.40			

	Salary			
	Salary		£463.80	
	HMRC		£159.80	
	J Kibble		£650.00	
	G17		£120.00	
	Gaskells	P176201	£41.56	
	One Voice Wales		£271.00	
	Roots Tree Specialist	INV0222	£125.00	
	Gail Packer	Expenses	£75.00	
	Montgomery Institute	M1007-230131	£10.00	
	EDF		£61.00	
	EDF		£222.14	
	BT		£364.43	
	b. Town Hall Finance			
	Finances had not been improved by the time of the meeting			
	<i>RESOLVED: To accept the amended costs proposed</i>			
9.	Planning			
	Proposal was made to invite the planning officer to a council meeting to discuss how decisions are made and what consideration is given to community councils comments as part of the planning process			TC to invite planning officer
10.	Highways			
	a. Parking proposals			
	<p>Gathering comments together and these are coming through with a large amount of commonality. Next stage is to create a map to show where the potential double yellow lines and to bring together the comments into a document which will be distributed to the council. Cllr Kibble proposed that Cllrs who were interested could meet to create this document and map to send out. Some of this may be dependent on other things happening in town which includes the Bunnors changes and the bus changes. There is also the consideration to the future of vehicles and electrical charging.</p> <p>An update on speed watch was given as a number of new volunteers have been recruited so activity will be increased</p>			
11.	Coronation Planning			
	Cllr Beaven gave an update of the planning so far. School organising a tea and having a fancy dress day to celebrate the coronation. Felt that If the council were holding a street fair they could come along and sing as part of this. Some of the suggestions including teddy bears. If the council would like a longer-term impact,			

	<p>then potential to fund a buddy bench as a coronation gift to the school as there is a focus on mental health.</p> <p>Suggestion of investigating if the school council could attend the next council meeting to talk about some of the ideas generated.</p> <p>Free street closure is available for towns and communities however a number of people are not here on that day. So thoughts are around applying for the street closure for the Monday and letting the community know that this is for pop up parties and people can bring their own things to do a street. Cllr Taylor volunteered to look after the street closure on the day.</p>	
12	Clos Tan-y-mur fund	
	Carried forward	
13	Report from assets committee	
	<p>Play park – quote for the playpark has been received and this was larger than anticipated. So the tender is being rejigged and being sent back out.</p> <p>Discussion around digital assets – where to find digital documents and this needs to be merged from Google to Microsoft. Needed to sort the robing room in the future and need to get this sorted. Next assets committee will be considering defib signage.</p> <p>Bench – photograph was sent round of a bench for the community garden. The cost is £350. Donation for the benches. Council was happy with the bench suggestion and this would be taken forward.</p> <p>Report on the hornbeams were received from the tree consultant with them being categorised as a low risk with some remedial works recommended. The report showed that all the trees were in good condition through the immediate need to replant one is more pressing and four pots will need to be replaced in the near future. It was noted on the ongoing maintenance and watering of the trees in the square was essential to their ongoing care.</p>	
	<p>Proposed: That the council takes on the ongoing management and maintenance of the hornbeam trees in the market square</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Kibble Seconded: Cllr Taylor</p> <p>Approval: Cllr Lewis, Cllr Andrews, Cllr Lock, Cllr Stephenson, Cllr Harper Against: Cllr Beaven Abstained: Cllr Humphries</p> <p>Motion passed</p>	
14.	Deaths in the community	
	<p>A meeting has been held between Cllr Lock and Cllr Humphries to discuss a previously raised issue and proposed a solution for how this can be implemented. A simple proforma was shown which captures some simple information which could potentially be put on the website/in hard copy/ Facebook. An article is going to be done for the next Crier to get wider opinions on the proposal and to</p>	

	get some feedback.	
15.	800 Years at the Castle	
	<p>Banquet in town for the celebration on a Saturday evening was discussed on 30th September. Sunday 1st October is the anniversary with a procession up to the castle with a number of displays potentially and involvement from the school. A street fair will be on in the town square with several people already interested and some food. In May and June potential to have some costume workshops as the ambition to have everyone in costume. There will be some costs but looking to do this in the local community. Potential to have some form of commemorative items with the suggestion of a leaflet / commemorative booklet. Also, on the walking festival with more walks on the Saturday and promote this as part of the overall activity and events.</p> <p>Street closure and TEN to be applied for.</p> <p>Need to be clear that this is a Council lead event and that we are supporting other organisations.</p>	
16.	Social Housing	
	Carried over	
17.	Car Park Recycling	
	Covered previously in discussion	
18.	Complaints committee report	
	Report was circulated prior to the meeting.	
17.	Communications from the meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 800 years is a council led programme • Parking information • Pop up party for the coronation 	
18.	Items for next agenda	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clos Tan-y-mur • Social Housing • Starting at 6.30 and item 1 on the agenda so that school can attend – coronation project 	