



# MONTGOMERY TOWN COUNCIL

## CYNGOR TREF TREFALDWYN

Minutes of the meeting of Montgomery Town Council held on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022**

This meeting was recorded

**Present in person:**

Cllr Kibble, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Jones, Cllr Stephenson, Cllr Beaven, Cllr Humphreys, Cllr Andrew, Cllr Weston

**Present online:**

Cllr Harper

**In attendance:**

Helen Royall (Town Clerk)

ITEM		ACTION RECORD
1.	<b>Apologies</b>	
	None	
2.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
	None	
3.	<b>Break for the Public to Speak</b>	
	None	
4.	<b>Chairman's Announcements</b>	
	<p>A minute's silence was held in honour of the late queen. Thanks to David Thomas as the tower captain and assistance in finding images and the presentation for the memorial book and Susan Blower who wrote the announcement that was used in town and Paul Hodgson who helped to organise the event at the memorial. Cllr Kibble to write an official letter to acknowledge this and pass on the councils' thanks. Screening of the funeral was held in the Town Hall which was well attended and used the new screen. Thanks to Cllr Stephenson and Adam Cusack from G17 for technical support and organising the installation.</p> <p>Council to write a letter of thanks to Jenny Bailey-Beech who has been selling cards for charity for several years and is hoping to have raised £1000 by Christmas.</p> <p>Community survey has been attracting a significant amount of interest at coffee mornings and there have been some bookings for groups. Discussion</p>	

	around going into school. Conversations have been interesting and enlightening giving some good insights.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Minutes from the last meeting</b>	
	<p>To approve and sign as a correct record, the minutes of the Full Council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022.</p> <p>Some small corrections detailed below:</p> <p>8b – Arwain – change spelling to correct  10 – Change spelling of ‘formerly’ to ‘formally’ and change the location of the proposal to give more prominence  11 – repeat of punctuation  12 – change wording to MTC</p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed the accuracy of the corrections.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of Full Council 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022 are approved and signed as a correct record with a typographical correction.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Information from the minutes</b>	
	<p>7 – letter has been chased in regards to social housing</p> <p>10 – hedges have been trimmed on Princes Street by the residents but no movement so far on Chirbury Road. The movement of the bus stop appeared to be progressing, however there has been a pause meaning the process is still ongoing. The original letter has been followed up</p> <p>10b – Caerhowel river bridge has now been cleared</p> <p>12 – new ‘Assistance Dogs Only’ signs have been installed at the castle which seems to be making some difference</p> <p>16 – Policy group has not yet met and a meeting is to be arranged</p> <p>Request to councillors that if they wish to submit papers they use the official Town Council format.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Report from County Councillor</b>	
	<p>A report was sent to the councillors prior to the meeting via email and some points were discussed in the meeting.</p> <p>Concern about straw in the road however a street sweeper had been sent and this seems to have improved the overall situation.</p> <p>Information on strategic grants have now been sent out for consideration.</p> <p>CLlr Beaven stated that she would be discussing the issue of cemetery fees with CLlr Brignell-Thorp but needed to pull together a pack of previous relevant comms</p>	

	for background information  Query on the intake to Welshpool School with most children from the primary going to Bishops Castle. It was emphasised that this was a parental choice and it was felt through some feedback that the induction and prospectus/open days were more extensive at Bishops Castle.																																																										
<b>8.</b>	<b>Finance</b>																																																										
	<p>a. All financial information available on the SharePoint. Council asked for a brief document outlining income and expenditure to be shared pre meeting in addition. Also suggested a short training session on using SharePoint would be welcomed</p> <p><b>August</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Salary</td> <td></td> <td>£638.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salary</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salary</td> <td></td> <td>£701.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td></td> <td>£238.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bunners</td> <td>Soap</td> <td>£18.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bunners</td> <td></td> <td>£18.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stannah</td> <td>1085444775</td> <td>£104.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stannah</td> <td>1085433420</td> <td>£647.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MWT Cymru</td> <td>INV-8575</td> <td>£90.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Evans</td> <td>2086</td> <td>£497.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gaskells</td> <td>P160859</td> <td>£41.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Susie Blower</td> <td>Hotel</td> <td>£207.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Susie Blower</td> <td>Retainer</td> <td>£150.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>David Beddows</td> <td>Honorarium</td> <td>£500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Glenys Smith</td> <td>Invoice - audit</td> <td>£193.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Montgomery Show</td> <td>DONATION</td> <td>£822.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF</td> <td></td> <td>£61.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF</td> <td></td> <td>£84.68</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council Tax</td> <td></td> <td>£682.00</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>September</b></p>	Salary		£638.10	Salary			Salary		£701.57	HMRC		£238.07	Bunners	Soap	£18.35	Bunners		£18.00	Stannah	1085444775	£104.10	Stannah	1085433420	£647.10	MWT Cymru	INV-8575	£90.00	Andrew Evans	2086	£497.83	Gaskells	P160859	£41.56	Susie Blower	Hotel	£207.20	Susie Blower	Retainer	£150.00	David Beddows	Honorarium	£500.00	Glenys Smith	Invoice - audit	£193.20	Montgomery Show	DONATION	£822.00	EDF		£61.00	EDF		£84.68	Council Tax		£682.00	TC to action
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	Salary		£0.00		
	Salary		£513.00		
	HMRC		£167.40		
	Sprout		£200.00		
	Josette Gresty	Easel Hire	£60.00		
	Bunners		£21.86		
	Bunners		£5.80		
	G17		£210.00		
	Gaskells	P163099	£41.56		
	Welsh Government	1800105217	£360.00		
	Alison Strachan	Cleaning	£195.00		
	Margaret Beddows	Cleaning	£195.00		
	Montgomery Weddings	MW033-220813	£180.00		
	Crier	4 2022	£70.00		
	Powys Luxury Loos	11390	£252.00		
	Montgomery Weddings		£120.00		
	EDF		£183.40		
	EDF		£61.00		
	BT		£122.00		
	Service Charge (Unity)		£18.00		
	<p>b. Council had been selected for full audit with a short extension of time to allow for the change of RFO and pulling together information</p> <p>Town Hall Trust – figures for the transfer to be run through at finance committee looking at the income and expenditure during the transition period</p> <p>Financial risk assessment to be looked at next meeting (Sept)</p>				
<b>9.</b>	<b>Planning</b>				
	<p>a. Forden Road Development</p> <p>An enforcement order is in place as some of the discharge conditions had</p>				

	<p>not been met, however work has been allowed to continue as long as they can do the work safely. Some additional signage has been put in place. Cllr Brignell-Thorp to bring up the issues with the portfolio holder and the management of the enforcement notice. The councillors noted that it was disappointing at the lack of action from PCC and that the concerns of local residents are being ignored.</p> <p>Council to send a formal letter to portfolio head to discuss the various incidents and also to express concerns around the Forden Road Development lack of enforcement. Suggestion that TC draft a letter to be brought to council meeting for discussion.</p>	TC to draft letter
	<p>b. Application at the Cottage Emailed 24<sup>th</sup> Aug with comments and they are not yet showing on the website. Council has asked for the date of the committee as the council will be making a representation at the meeting.</p>	TC and JK to follow up
<b>10.</b>	<b>Highways</b>	
	<p>Water Mains Recent issues with the main in Poole Road. It was scheduled for replacement in 2019 and it is concerning that this has not yet happened which is creating repeated issues especially for businesses and schools. Concern about the new development and the additional pressure on the main.</p> <p>Drainage in the town is poor with many drains blocked. Previously the council has asked the highways at PCC to let the council know work is planned so there can be a joint comms piece so vehicles can be moved. Danny Jarman to be email in regards to the issue again.</p>	TC to email Danny Jarman
<b>11.</b>	<b>Tourism</b>	
	<p>Paper sent from the last tourism meeting. Request to council to consider a paid freelance post to look at a development officer role. This person would support the news events team and have a small budget to promote the town. Council requested a clear job specification as it was felt that the role needed clarity. It was felt to be more of a tourism officer working with groups, creating links and supporting new events to bring in people all year round. It was suggested that the role is brought to the staffing committee and presented back to the council.</p> <p>Confirmed that the Destination Montgomery account and organisation is now separate from the council.</p>	
<b>12.</b>	<b>Assets</b>	
	<p>Section 6 Response Draft response had been circulated to the council. Council approved the response to be sent. Environmental policy to be renewed every year in September.</p> <p>Health and Safety policy to be brought up at the next council meeting for discussion</p> <p>Query if the council needs an acquisition policy especially around the purchase of common land for events and recreation in the longer term. Needs a strategic overview of surrounding landowners and proposals and hierarchy of potential locations. Assets committee to consider and bring to council for approval.</p>	

<b>13. Bins</b>		
	<p>£1k in the budget for bins and a proposal from Cllr Lewis to buy 2 x new bins to be placed in two locations. Discussion around the bin location and emphasis that the needs to be communication with the PCC in regard to adding to the emptying schedule and also with the conservation officer due to locations in the conservation area.</p> <p><b>Proposal: To purchase the bins outlined in the plans following the relevant conversations outlined</b></p> <p><b>Proposed: Cllr Lewis</b> <b>Seconded: Cllr Jones</b></p> <p><b>All in favour</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> <b>To purchase bins following approval from PCC</b></p>	
<b>14. Allotments</b>		
	<p>Complaints and Resolution All information (redacted) circulated to council and discussion around the learning points and future actions which involved changing the agreement and putting in a complaints procedure for the allotments.</p> <p>Church Bank water supply was discussed as there is no mains water supply with one of the residents generously providing access to water. Thinking of climate change and the difficulty of getting a mains supply in place a proposal for the council to supply the allotment holders with water butts paid for by the council. Costs to be investigated</p>	<p>Complaints Committee to agree additional wording with Cllr Harper as Allotments rep.</p> <p>TC</p>
<b>15. Website</b>		
	Current website needs some updating. Website content was delegated by Council to Destination Montgomery and is worked on by the website team. A website team meeting is scheduled for 4th October. It will be appropriate to bring this team back under the Town Council going forward	
<b>16. Milestone Refurbishment</b>		
	Email from Simon Bedford to gain council support for the refurbishment of the milestones. They would all be repaired in situ with the potential to get the one held by Cardiff Museum back. TC are supportive and grateful for the proposed action.	
<b>17. Mayoral Name Board</b>		
	Needs updating – suppliers to be identified by the TC	TC
<b>18. Communications from the meeting</b>		
	<p>Communicate the work the council is doing around Highways and especially with planning issues</p> <p>Photography of the allotments and promotion of the allotment holders</p>	
<b>19. Items for next agenda</b>		
	<p>Cllr Beaven – cemetery fees and town crier event</p> <p>Cllr Kibble – Tourism role and anniversary of the castle event</p> <p>Cllr Humphreys – announcement of deaths in the community</p>	

	Cllr Stephenson – Website feedback	
<b>20.</b>	<b>Other business not on the agenda</b>	
	Removal of the air ambulance service at Welshpool was discussed outside of the agenda. Query around how the council will support the movement to keep the service. Advised that information on how to support would be coming from the campaign group and if needed the council could write a letter of support	