

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 25 OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.00 P.M.

406/21 PRESENT

Councillor J Powell (Mayor in the Chair)
Councillor M Matthews
Councillor T Davies
Councillor L Rijnenberg
Councillor D Meredith (left at 8:17pm)
Councillor M Dorrance
Councillor A M C Weale (left at 8:17pm)
Councillor G Ham
Councillor R Thomas
Councillor C Walsh
Councillor S Morgans

In Attendance: Fiona Williams (Town Clerk)
Rhys Ridge-Evans (Administrative Officer)
Kevin Harding (Brecon Mountain Rescue) (left at 7:35)

Not in attendance: Councillor G Ham

407/21 PRESENTATION

The Mayor welcomed Mr Kevin Harding to the meeting and invited him to give his presentation. Mr Harding thanked the Mayor and Members for their time this evening and explained the work that Brecon Mountain Rescue does and what their fundraising ambitions are for the future. Mr Harding also requested a letter of support to assist with grant applications being made by Brecon Mountain Rescue. After his presentation, Members had an opportunity to ask questions, which Mr Harding answered. The Mayor thanked Mr Harding for his time, and he left the meeting.

408/21 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Perry, Mathias, Williams, and M Davies.

409/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors D Meredith and A M C Weale declared an interest in agenda item 20 on the confidential pages.

410/21 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The Mayor confirmed that he had attended the busking pilot and volunteered at the same, a tribute event for Sister Bonaventure, the Visit Brecon volunteers evening, the Dashain at Dering Lines, a baby loss awareness service at the Cathedral, and had delivered the Christmas window competition letters.

SECTION A

411/21 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27 September 2021 (Pages 76 to 81) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 27 September 2021 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

412/21 PLANNING, GUILDHALL AND STAFFING COMMITTEE – 4 OCTOBER 2021

The Minutes of the Planning, Guildhall and Staffing Committee held on 4 October 2021 (pages 85 – 87) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Guildhall and Staffing Committee held on 4 October 2021 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

413/21 FINANCE AND COMMISSIONING OF CONTRACTS COMMITTEE – 4 OCTOBER 2021

The Minutes of the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee held on 4 October 2021 (Pages 90 – 92) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee held on 4 October 2021 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

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413/21 ENVIRONMENT AND EVENTS COMMITTEE – 5 OCTOBER 2021

The Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 5 October 2021 (Pages 95 – 99) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 5 October 2021 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

414/21 LETTER SENT TO THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER AND RESPONSE RECEIVED

Submitted **C(A)** letter sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the response received.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

415/21 EMAIL RECEIVED FROM LLANDRINDOD TOWN COUNCIL – PROVISION OF COUNCIL MEETINGS – THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS (WALES) ACT 2021

Submitted **C(B)** email received from Llandrindod Town Council concerning provision of council meetings – The Local Government Elections (Wales) Act 2021. The Town Clerk informed Members that she was requested at the previous Council meeting to contact One Voice Wales to enquire whether there is any funding available for hybrid meeting equipment and they have replied to say that they have asked Welsh Government and been informed that there is no funding to support the procurement of such equipment. Members discussed this item and it was

RESOLVED

THAT this Council is supportive in principle of writing to Welsh Government as requested, though after further information about hybrid meetings equipment is considered by the Planning, Guildhall and Staffing Committee at its next meeting.

416/21 POWYS WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN (WESP)

Submitted **C(C)** information received relating to the Powys Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

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RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

417/21 TRANSFORMING TOWNS – RESULTS OF SURVEY

Submitted **C(D)** results of the Transforming Towns Survey.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

418/21 SMART TOWNS - UPDATE

Submitted **C(E)** update relating to SMART Towns.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

419/21 REPORT – PENDRE PARK

Submitted **C(F)** report concerning Pendre Park.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted and that agreement is given for the project to proceed as outlined in the report.

420/21 DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2022/23

Submitted **C(G)** the draft budget for 2022/23. An overview of what is contained in the budget was given by Councillor Walsh, along with an explanation of what is required to achieve this level of expenditure in regard to usage of reserves. The Town Clerk also explained the level of reserves that would be required to achieve this budget and that without an increase in the precept it would require a spend of all of the general reserves held. Councillor Meredith requested that the budgeted amount for Newton Green park be increased from £5,000 to £50,000. The Town Clerk further explained the requirements to reduce the expenditure, or increase the income, or a combination of both, to achieve a reasonable budget for 2022/23, and recommended that if an additional amount was to be included for Newton Green park that Members may need to consider what

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could be removed from the budget. Members discussed this in detail and it was

RESOLVED

THAT any further suggestions for items to be included or added to or removed from the draft budget for 2022/23 be forwarded to the Town Clerk within 2 weeks in preparation for an amended budget to be tabled at the November Council meeting for approval

421/21 LIST OF DELGATED DECISIONS

Submitted **C(H)** list of delegated decisions.

THIS information was taken as received and noted.

422/21 TO NOMINATE NEW TRUSTEE TO BRECKNOCK WELFARE TRUST TO REPLACE COUNCILLOR HAM

Members discussed this agenda item, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT Councillor L Rijnenberg replaces Councillor Ham as a Trustee to Brecknock Welfare Trust.

423/21 PR OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM THE MEETING

There were no items.

424/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items.

425/21 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

SECTION B

RESOLVED

THAT in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted whereby matters of a possible personal nature might be discussed in relation to the finances or staff of the Council, and matters of a sensitive nature, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily

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excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw from the meeting.

DRAFT