

BRECON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 4 JANUARY 2022 AT 6.00 P.M.

497/21 PRESENT

Councillor M Matthews (in the chair)
Councillor R Thomas
Councillor I Williams
Councillor M Davies
Councillor M Dorrance

In Attendance: Fiona Williams (Town Clerk)
Rhys Ridge-Evans (Administrative Officer)
Ptryk Bialowas (left at 6:46pm)
Malcolm Rich (left at 6:46pm)

Not in attendance: Councillor A M C Weale
Councillor S Morgans
Councillor L Rijnenberg
Councillor T Davies
Councillor G Ham
Miss B Osborne
Ms J Bere
Ms C Pape

498/21 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr K Savage and Mr R Savage due to technical issues.

499/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Dorrance declared an interest in agenda item 5.

500/21 MINUTES ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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

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.

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501/21 FISHING ACCOUNTS FOR 2021 SEASON

As Councillor Dorrance declared an interest in this agenda item, he was placed in the waiting room and took no part in discussions. It was noted at this point that the meeting was no longer quorate, but Members present wished to look at the figures for informational purposes.

Submitted **E(A)** the fishing accounts for the 2021 season. The Town Clerk gave an overview of the income and expenditure over the last 3 years for comparison. It was noted that the fishing income has increased this year, above pre-covid income.

502/21 ROSPA REPORTS X 3 – CAMDEN ROAD PARK, LLANFAES PARK, SKATE PARK

Submitted **E(B)** the RoSPA reports for the play parks owned by Brecon Town Council. The Town Clerk informed Members that the items that required actions had been completed.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

503/21 EMAIL – SWIFTS

Submitted **E(C)** email received concerning the newly formed Brecon Swift Group. Councillor Thomas explained this agenda item for the benefit of Members, having attended the first meeting of the group. The Town Clerk informed Members that the camera swift box that was purchased was now in situ on the Guildhall and the camera is live, and arrangements are being made for this to be streamed to the town council's website. It was requested that this item be put back on the agenda for the next meeting of this Committee to provide a further update.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

504/21 EMAIL FROM BRECON EVENTS – PROPOSED EVENTS FOR 2022

Submitted **E(D)** an email received from Brecon Events concerning proposed events for 2022. The Town Clerk informed Members that this was also on the agenda for the upcoming Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee meeting, having been requested by that Committee. The Town Clerk had also provided it to this Committee for informational purposes. Points were raised about collaboration with existing events organisers and governance issues concerning contractor arrangements, which need more clarity.

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RESOLVED

TO seek further information following the meeting of the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee also considering this information.

505/21 UPDATE REPORT – TABLE TENNIS TABLE

Submitted **E(E)** an update report prepared by the Town Clerk concerning the table tennis table proposed for Llanfaes park. The Town Clerk gave an overview of the content of the report and confirmed that RoSPA have since advised that a hard standing such as concrete or bitmac should be used for the surfacing with concrete being the first choice due to longevity. The Town Clerk also advised that Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has confirmed that installation of a table tennis table will fall within permitted development for a town council and therefore planning permission will not be necessary. Members discussed this item and queried the evidence base upon which a decision had been made to install this facility. It was confirmed that it had arisen from a request to this Committee to place funds for this item into the precept by Councillor Morgans. After discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the project be suspended until evidence of the need for this item has been considered by this Committee at its next meeting.

506/21 ENVIRONMENT WALES ACT

Submitted **E(F)** a report prepared by the Town Clerk concerning the Environment Wales Act, the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2019, and s6 Action Plan. The Town Clerk explained that she had updated the report as thought appropriate but would welcome any further additions for inclusion. Members recorded their thanks to the Town Clerk for the work she had put into preparing this report.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted, and that the report and action plan be approved as drafted.

509/21 UPDATE REPORT – GREENSPACES / TEEN SHELTER

The Town Clerk informed Members that a substantial amount of consultation data had been received from Brecon High School and that the working group is going to be considering this in more detail on 13 January and that a further report could either be provided to the next meeting of this Committee or alternatively full Council if it wished to proceed quicker.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be noted, and that a further report following the meeting of the working group be presented to the next meeting of this Committee or a future Council meeting.

510/21 REPORT – FREE PARKING

Submitted **E(G)** a report prepared by the Town Clerk concerning the free parking arrangements for the remaining months in 2021/22 and for 2022/23. The Town Clerk explained the options and Members discussed whether it would be better to have the free parking during the busy months or alternatively whether it would be more beneficial to businesses when the town is quiet. Another suggestion was for a reimbursement scheme to be implemented. After discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT advice be taken from Brecon Buzz and Brecon Chamber of Trade and Tourism about which option would be preferable and that the arrangements for funding be delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair of the Committee.

511/21 REPORT – SUMMARY OF GRANTS APPLIED FOR

Submitted **E(H)** summary of grants applied for. The Town Clerk informed Members that in addition to the information contained within the report, she had now received confirmation that the All Wales Play grant in the sum of £5,895 has been successful to fund a climber and seating at Bryn DeWinton park.

RESOLVED

THAT this information was taken as noted.

512/21 MAENDU WELL – ARRANGEMENTS FOR MAINTENANCE 2022

The Town Clerk informed Members that the Park Keeper has suggested a meeting to discuss plans for maintenance at the Maendu Well site in 2022 in collaboration with the Maendu Well Group, and suggested that she contacts the Maendu Well Group to arrange a site meeting.

RESOLVED

THIS information was taken as received and noted.

513/21 PR AND PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

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Swift Boxes / better year for fishing / removal of collapsed fishing bay

514/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Williams thanked the park keeper for his work in cleaning the wet leaves off Castle Street Bridge.

515/21 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED

THAT in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted whereby matters of a sensitive nature were to be discussed it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw from the meeting.

Mr P Bialowas and Mr M Rich left the meeting at this point and did not return.