

BRECON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2022 AT 6.00 P.M.

753/21 PRESENT

Councillor M Matthews (in the chair)
Councillor R Thomas
Councillor I Williams
Councillor M Davies
Councillor M Dorrance
Councillor T Davies
Councillor A M C Weale
Councillor L Rijnenberg
Councillor S Morgans

In Attendance: Fiona Williams (Town Clerk)
Rhys Ridge-Evans (Administrative Officer)
Ptryk Bialowas (left at 7:32pm)
Malcolm Rich (left at 7:32pm)
Catherine Pape (left 7:15pm)
Oliver Brown, Natural Resources Wales (left
6:28pm)

Not in attendance: Mr K Savage
Mr R Savage

754/21 PRESENTATION

The Chair welcomed Mr Oliver Brown from Natural Resources Wales to the meeting and invited him to provide an update in relation to the salmon smolt tagging project. Mr Brown informed Members of the details of the project which has been in place since 2021 and provided details of how the tagging process is undertaken, figures for numbers of fish tagged last season and other data about the movement of the fish between Brecon and Newport. Mr Brown confirmed that 2021 was a good year for migration and the figures compare quite favourably to other rivers. They are hoping to tag similar numbers in 2022 as the project continues. Members were then given opportunities to ask questions which Mr Brown answered. The Chair thanked Mr Brown for his time and he left the meeting.

755/21 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ms J Bere.

756/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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Councillor Dorrance declared an interest in agenda item 9.

757/21 MINUTES ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on 4 January 2022 (Pages 130 – 134) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

758/21 ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EMAIL – SWIFTS (MINUTE NUMBER 503/21)

Councillor Thomas provided Members with an update in regard to this agenda item, and informed Members that Swift Week is 2 July – 10 July 2022. The local swift group is active and they are hoping to put further swift boxes in situ, as well as arrange guided walks in town. Councillor Thomas will keep Members updated.

Subject to the foregoing, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 4 January 2022 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

759/21 AUDITED FISHING ACCOUNTS FOR 2021 SEASON

Submitted **E(A)** the audited fishing accounts for the 2021 season.

RESOLVED

THESE were taken as received and noted.

760/21 FISHING BAY IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

The Town Clerk informed Members that grant applications have been submitted to the National Lottery and the Sustainable Development Fund, and that we are awaiting consent from the landowner in regard to the proposals. A meeting has taken place with the National Park Authority on site and guidance has been received on how to progress this application. Unfortunately, the National Lottery applications has been unsuccessful but guidance has been provided about a further application. The Town Clerk advised that she will advise further to a later meeting once the outstanding information has been received.

RESOLVED

THAT this item be reconsidered at a later meeting of this Committee when the new Council is in situ.

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761/21 MAENDU WELL RISK ASSESSMENTS

Submitted **E(B(i))** Maendu Well Risk Assessment, and **E(B)(ii)** Pond Risk assessment.

RESOLVED

THAT the risk assessments be approved as drafted.

762/21 2022 EVENTS

The Town Clerk requested that consideration be given as to whether the Remembrance Sunday arrangements and Brecon With Bells On events can go ahead in 2022, subject to any COVID requirements that may be implemented this year. In regard to Brecon With Bells On, the Town Clerk requested permission to make reservations and bookings for the infrastructure if it is the intention to proceed.

Submitted **E(C)** an email from Miss F Morgan concerning a cascade of poppies. Members discussed this item, and it was suggested to have conversations with the local British Legion branch to see if they could assist in this respect.

RESOLVED

THAT the Remembrance Sunday and Brecon With Bells On events be approved in principle, with arrangements being made by the new Council in due course. In regard to the request from Miss F Morgan that this be approved in principle, subject to agreement from St Mary's Church.

763/21 WILDFLOWER MEADOW – LLANFAES PARK

Submitted **E(D)** an email received concerning the wildflower meadow at Llanfaes Park, and a request for further funding for plants. Members discussed this item, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the proposal be agreed, subject to the Town Clerk identifying a suitable budget with an underspend in 2021/22, up to a maximum of £200.

764/21 TABLE TENNIS CONSULTATION

Submitted **E(E)** results of a consultation concerning the table tennis table, requested at the last Committee meeting. The Town Clerk explained that there is £5,000 in earmarked reserves for this project, and that she was concerned that the cost of the base means that this budget

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is likely to be exceeded, and advised that if this is the case it would be prudent to defer the decision to the next meeting of this Committee after the election. Discussions took place about the consultation and who had been consulted, along with options in regard to provision of the base. Members discussed this agenda item in detail, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the project be agreed in principle and that the Cornilleau table, recommended previously, be selected with quotes being obtained for the groundworks to be completed to be considered at a later meeting.

765/21 UPDATE REPORT – TREES AT LLANFAES PARK

Submitted **E(F)** an update report concerning trees at Llanfaes Park. The Town Clerk explained this agenda item for the benefit of Members.

RESOLVED

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

766/21 EMAIL FROM COUNCILLOR MORGANS – BENCH AT LLANFAES PARK

Submitted **E(G)** email from Councillor Morgans concerning a request to site a bench. Councillor Morgans explained this agenda item for the benefit of Members. Discussions took place about the most suitable location for the bench and potential costs for installation. Queries were raised about the type and style of bench.

RESOLVED

THAT the request be approved in principle, however, further details are needed concerning the type of bench, installation costs and most appropriate location, to be considered at a later meeting.

767/21 CONSIDER REMOVING NO CYCLING SIGN FROM LLANFAES PARK

The Town Clerk explained this agenda item for the benefit of Members. The Administrative Officer showed those present a photo of the current sign in situ which was sent to him by the Park Keeper. Members raised queries about active travel, consultation, and by-laws. Members discussed this item, and it was

RESOLVED

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THAT the Town Clerk research requirements in regard to by-laws, cycling arrangements at Powys County Council' parks, and requirements in regard to path width and markings for cycling, and that this be referred to a later meeting of this Committee.

768/21 EVENTS UPDATES

The Town Clerk informed Members that the arrangements for the Best of Brecon Awards 2022 are being progressed.

The Town Clerk informed Members that plans are underway for the Platinum Jubilee celebration with an event at the bandstand with two local choirs taking part, a Freddie Mercury tribute act, and a beacon lighting ceremony.

Councillor M Davies gave an update with regard to the busking event due to be held on Saturdays during July and early August 2022. The Town Clerk informed Members that there has been a lot of interest from buskers to take part.

RESOLVED

THIS information was taken as received and noted.

769/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Town Clerk provided Members with an update in regard to the AGM. She informed Members that Y Gaer are happy to accommodate Brecon Town Council for its AGM which will enable the full guest list to be invited. The Town Clerk advised Members that the meeting must be made available remotely under the hybrid meeting requirements, and that Y Gaer has new equipment in place that they hope will be useable in this regard. The Town Clerk confirmed that the terrace / foyer is available for a reception following the AGM.

770/21 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.