

BRECON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND COMMISSIONING OF CONTRACTS COMMITTEE OF BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.00 P.M.

541/22 PRESENT

Councillor T Fretten
Councillor M Davies
Councillor S Morgans
Councillor J Powell (in the Chair)
Councillor M Dorrance

In Attendance:- Mrs. Fiona Williams (Town Clerk)
Mr Rhys Ridge-Evans (Administrative Officer)

The Town Clerk informed Members that Mr Lyn Parry had submitted his apologies for the meeting and therefore would not be attending. Members raised concerns with some aspects of the contract and also requested assurances that Brecon Town Council is receiving value for money, and asked that these be forwarded onto Mr Parry.

542/22 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Perry, Walsh, Meredith, Stone, and Kilgallon.

543/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

544/22 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee held on 9 January 2023 (Pages 131 – 133) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee held on 9 January 2023 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

545/22 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Submitted - Schedule of applications received for financial assistance (copies of which had been previously circulated - **Attachment F(A)**).

Having considered the financial aspects and other details of all the applications

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received (attachment F(B)) it was –

RESOLVED

THAT the undermentioned applications for financial assistance be dealt with as follows:

BRECON MOUNTAIN RESCUE

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT a grant of £790 be awarded to Brecon Mountain Rescue.

THE BIG SKILL

Members discussed this application in considerable detail and raised concerns with about the general nature of the application along with other queries. It was

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT this application be declined on this occasion.

BRECON TOWN CONCERT BAND

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT a grant of £750 be awarded to Brecon Town Concert Band.

546/22 REPORT – RESERVES SUMMARY

Submitted **F(C)** a report concerning Brecon Town Council's reserves, dated 24 January 2023. The Town Clerk explained this agenda item for the benefit of Members, in particular referring to the reserves held in regard to the Wellington statue, the Guildhall theatre and flooring, street safety, shelving, and table tennis. Options were discussed, following which, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the reserves held for the Guildhall theatre and flooring be released towards the cost of the theatre works due in March 2023; that the street safety reserves be retained pending hearing further from Powys County Council in relation to the traffic order at Cradoc Road; that the reserves held for shelving be released to general reserves; and that other reserves be retained presently.

547/22 LETTER FROM YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Submitted **F(E)** a letter from Yscir Community Council dated 26 January 2023, concerning a donation for Visit Brecon.

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RESOLVED

THAT a letter of thanks be sent to Yscir Community Council for its donation.

548/22 VERIFIED BANK RECONCILIATIONS

The Town Clerk informed Members that the Bank Reconciliation as at 31 December 2022 has been verified by the Chair of this Committee, and that signed copies are held on file in the office.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

549/22 STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS PAID

Submitted F(E) statements of accounts paid for December 2022.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

550/22 RISK ASSESSMENT – VISIT BRECON

Submitted F(F) Risk Assessment for Visit Brecon. Members discussed this item, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Risk Assessment be approved.

551/22 VISIT BRECON VISITOR NUMBERS

Submitted F(G) Visit Brecon visitor numbers report since the service opened to the end of 2022. Members considered the data provided and noted the busiest tourist season. Members discussed how Visit Brecon can strive to extend this season and how it can contribute to the potential for growth of the tourism in Brecon. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT Visit Brecon staff meet with representatives of the Chamber of Trade, Brecon Buzz, and Brecon Beacons Tourism to share this data and to work together to understand how extension of the tourist season could be extended with a report to be brought back to this Committee at a later date.

552/22 RAINWATER HARVESTING

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The Town Clerk informed Members that there is an ongoing problem with the rainwater harvesting system at the Promenade toilet block, including a leaking pump and issues with blockages. Pending quotations for repair, it is not in use. The Town Clerk also informed Members that with the rising costs of energy the cost of running the system will not be as efficient as previously anticipated.

THIS information was taken as received and noted.

553/22 PR AND PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

The grant aid.

554/22 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Town Clerk informed Members that in November 2021 a grant application was submitted to pay for a defibrillator to be located at Llanfaes Dairy, utilising the spare cabinet already held by this Council. Despite a considerable delay, notification has been received this week that the grant application has been successful. The Town Clerk reminded Members that it was previously agreed that this Council would meet the installation costs, and suggested that this is paid for from nominal code 6010. The Town Clerk will establish if the location is still available. Members also noted a potential gap in defibrillator cover in other areas of the town, and a discussion took place around the various options for registration of defibrillator locations.

The Town Clerk provided an update for Members in relation to Powys County Council's appointment of a School Crossing Patrol Officer at the Struet, including the need for training which may not be available via Powys County Council in the sum of £200. It was agreed that this sum can be covered from this Council's school crossing budget if necessary.

555/22 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was recommended that for the purposes of this section the Committee pass the following Resolution:-

THAT in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted whereby matters of either a sensitive nature or of a possible personal nature might be discussed in relation to the finances or staff of the Council, it was advisable in the public interest, that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw from the meeting.