

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 24 JULY 2023 AT 7.00 P.M.

169/23 PRESENT

Councillor M Davies (Mayor in the Chair)
Councillor J Powell
Councillor M Matthews
Councillor M Dorrance (remote attendee) (arrived 7:51pm)
Councillor S Drinan (remote attendee)
Councillor R Thomas
Councillor C Walsh (remote attendee)
Councillor T Fretten (remote attendee)
Councillor C Walton
Councillor M Perry (remote attendee)

In Attendance: Fiona Williams (Town Clerk)
Rhys Ridge-Evans (Administrative Officer)
Not in attendance: Councillor S Morgans

170/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Stone, Rijnenberg, Meredith, and Kilgallon, and from Belle Arthur, Youth Representative. The Town Clerk informed those present that Councillor Dorrance would be attending but would be joining the meeting later.

171/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Davies and Drinan declared an interest in agenda item 13. Councillor Dorrance declared an interest in agenda item 17 when he joined the meeting.

172/23 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor thanked Members for the opportunity to meet TM's the King and Queen the previous week and said that she had been honoured to be involved in the Royal Visit.

173/23 YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

The Youth Representative had provided Members with a written report, and in her absence, Councillor Walton explained the content of the report for Members. Members discussed the content of the report, following

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which it was agreed to reply to the Youth Representative to confirm the agreed actions, and details of upcoming events.

SECTION A

174/23 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 June 2023 (Pages 27 – 31) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 26 June 2023 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

175/23 PLANNING, GUILDHALL AND STAFFING COMMITTEE – 3 JULY 2023

The Minutes of the Planning, Guildhall and Staffing Committee held on 3 July 2023 (pages 34 – 35) (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 3 July 2023 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

176/23 FINANCE AND COMMISSIONING OF CONTRACTS COMMITTEE – 3 JULY 2023

The Minutes of the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee held on 3 July 2023 (Pages 38 – 40) (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 3 July 2023 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

177/23 ENVIRONMENT AND EVENTS COMMITTEE – 4 JULY 2023

The Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 4 July 2023 (Pages 42 – 47) (copies of which had been previously circulated) were considered

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IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 4 July 2023 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

178/23 SAFEGUARDING POLICY FOR REVIEW

Submitted **C(A)** Safeguarding Policy for review. Members discussed the policy, and it was noted that there were some minor typographical amendments needed to the policy which would be forwarded to the Town Clerk outside of the meeting.

RESOLVED

THAT subject to the typographical amendments, that the Safeguarding Policy be approved.

179/23 ACTIVE TRAVEL PROVISION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME – PENDRE / PENDRE CLOSE

Submitted **C(B)** information relating to the active travel provision improvement scheme for Pendre / Pendre Close.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

180/23 APPOINTMENT TO THE STANDARDS COMMUNITY SUB-COMMITTEE

Submitted **C(C)** information received from Powys County Council Standards Community Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

181/23 Y GAER QUARTERLY REPORT

Submitted **C(D)** Y Gaer quarterly report.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

182/23 BUDGET V ACTUAL – APRIL / MAY / JUNE 2023

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Submitted **C(E)** Budget V Actual for April, May, and June 2023. It was noted that one of the nominal codes has a stray figure in it, and it was requested that this be queried. Subject to this, it was

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

183/23 BANK RECONCILIATION – APRIL / MAY / JUNE 2023

Submitted **C(F)** bank reconciliations for April, May, and June 2023.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

184/23 NEW DRAFT STANDING ORDERS

Submitted **C(G)** new draft standing orders. The Mayor thanked Councillors Meredith and Kilgallon for working on this document with the Town Clerk and handed over to the Town Clerk to explain this agenda item. Members discussed this item in detail. It was requested that the provision relating to standing during meetings be removed and this point was discussed, following which, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the provision relating to standing during meetings be removed, and that subject to this removal the draft Standing Orders be approved.

185/23 WELSH WATER - £9 MILLION INVESTMENT AT BRECON WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS

Submitted **C(H)** information received from Welsh Water concerning their £9 million investment in Brecon. Members discussed this project in connection with the proposed works to the fishing bay, being a project of the Environment and Events Committee, and discussed the fact that it would be preferable to carry out the fishing bay works during the time the Welsh Water works are happening. The community funding opportunity during these works was also discussed and the Town Clerk confirmed that an application has been submitted towards funding for the pride event.

RESOLVED

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THAT the Town Clerk follows up the request to the Show Committee as per the recent resolution of the Environment and Events Committee.

186/23 DRAFT FIRE SAFETY POLICY

Submitted **C(I)** draft Fire Safety Policy. Members discussed this item in detail, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Fire Safety Policy be approved as drafted.

187/23 DRAFT FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT – Guildhall

Submitted **C(J)** draft Fire Risk Assessment for the Guildhall. The Town Clerk informed Members that this was being presented to Council following a site meeting with the Fire Officer from the Fire Authority. Members noted that the risk assessment refers to bedrooms and asked that this be removed. Following this, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Fire Risk Assessment be approved with the removal of the reference to bedrooms.

188/23 DRAFT FIRE EVACUATION PLAN

Submitted **C(K)** draft Fire Evacuation Plan. Members discussed this item, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Fire Evacuation Plan be approved as drafted.

189/23 DRAFT FIRE ROUTINE NOTICE

Submitted **C(L)** draft Fire Routine Notice.

RESOLVED

THAT the Fire Routine Notice be approved as drafted.

190/23 RESPONSE FROM POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL – PLANNING APPLICATION FOR FORMER ROY HATTON CAR SALES

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Councillor Dorrance arrived at this point, and declared an interest here in relation to this agenda item. Councillor Dorrance was placed in the waiting room on zoom and took no part in discussions.

Submitted **C(M)** response from Powys County Council concerning the planning application for the former Roy Hatton Car Sales. Members discussed this item in lengthy detail, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT a further letter be sent from Brecon Town Council to Powys County Council and Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority reaffirming the point for a day centre to be included in the plans.

191/23 LETTER FROM POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL – PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD – WELL-BEING PLAN

Submitted **C(N)** letter from Powys County Council concerning the Public Service Board Well-Being plan. The Mayor suggested that an invite be sent to the Public Service Board to give a presentation to the October meeting of Full Council.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

192/23 YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATIONS

As the Mayor declared an interest in this agenda item, she asked the Deputy Mayor to chair this agenda item, and she left the chamber and took no part in discussions. Councillor Drinan was placed in the waiting room on zoom, and took no part in discussions.

The Deputy Mayor explained this agenda item for the benefit of Members, and the Town Clerk explained that both applicants are presently away on holiday. Members therefore suggested that the applicants be invited to attend the September meeting of the Council to give their presentations.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the applicants for the Youth Representative vacancy be invited to give their presentations at the September meeting of Full Council.

193/23 PR OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM THE MEETING

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There were no items.

194/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items.

195/23 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 excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw from the meeting.