

BRECON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 9 JANUARY 2024 AT 6.00 P.M.

445/23 PRESENT

Councillor L Rijnenberg
Councillor R Thomas
Councillor J Powell
Councillor M Matthews (in the Chair)
Councillor S Morgans (arrived 6:16pm)
Councillor T Fretten
Councillor C Walton

In Attendance: Fiona Williams (Town Clerk)
Rhys Ridge-Evans (Administrative Officer)
Mr Malcolm Rich (co-opted member)(left
7:06pm)
Ms Francesa Bell (co-opted member)(left
7:06pm)
Mr Rhys Gillard (Youth Representative)(left
7:06pm)
Mr Martin Draper (left 6:07pm)
Ms Amy Peltor (left 6:27pm)
Ms Bethan Irwin (left 6:27pm)

Not in attendance: Councillor N Kilgallon
Mr Ken Savage
Mr Ray Savage

446/23 PRESENTATION

The Chair welcomed Mr Martin Draper to the meeting, and invited him to give his presentation. Mr Draper thanked Members for their time this evening and explained the On The Verge project. After the presentation, the Chair thanked Mr Draper for his time, and Mr Draper left the meeting, and did not return to the meeting.

The Chair then welcomed Ms Amy Peltor and Ms Bethan Irwin to the meeting, and invited them to give their presentation about the orienteering event in July 2024. Ms Peltor explained the background of the project and gave an overview of how it is proposed to work. After the presentation, the Chair thanked Ms Peltor and Ms Irwin for their time, and they left the meeting, and did not return to the meeting.

447/23 APOLOGIES

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Apologies were received from Councillors Dorrance and Davies, and from Miss B Arthur, Youth Representative.

448/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no items.

449/23 MINUTES ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on 3 October 2023 (Pages 80 – 85) (copies of which had been previously circulated)

450/23 ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

PLAQUE REPLACEMENT – BENCH OUTSIDE LLOYDS BANK (MINUTE NO. 285/23)

The Town Clerk confirmed that the new plaque was now in situ on the bench outside Lloyds Bank.

TREE REPLACEMENTS AND FURTHER PLANTING (MINUTE NO. 287/23)

The Town Clerk confirmed that a meeting had taken place before Christmas with the people involved in the project, who have since been successful in securing grant funding to purchase additional trees. The new trees have been ordered and the proposed date for planting is 2 February. The Town Clerk also confirmed that the Park Keeper was at the meeting and that there is a maintenance plan for the new trees going forward.

Subject to the foregoing, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 3 October 2023 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

451/23 YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

There was no report.

452/23 FISHING ACCOUNTS FOR 2023 SEASON

Submitted **E(A)** fishing accounts for 2023 season. The Town Clerk confirmed the expenditure and income for the 2023 season.

RESOLVED

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THAT the fishing accounts for the 2023 season be taken as received, noted, and approved.

453/23 LONE WORKER RISK ASSESSMENT

Submitted **E(B)** Lone Worker Risk Assessment for fishing.

RESOLVED

THAT the Lone Worker Risk Assessment be taken as received, noted, and approved.

454/23 INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY 2024

The Town Clerk informed Members that a request has been received from a member of the public, via Councillor Meredith, to mark International Men's Day, and confirmed the date in 2024 will be 19 November. Members discussed this item in detail, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Town Clerk reverts to the member of public to confirm that Councillor John Powell has endeavoured in the past to set up events to mark this occasion with little success, but suggests that Brecon Men's Shed could look at organising something to appropriately mark the occasion, and to invite the individual to participate.

455/23 TO CONFIRM EVENTS FOR 2024

The following events were discussed for consideration and approval in 2024; **1)** Best of Brecon Awards, **2)** Annual General Meeting, 13 May 2024, **3)** Gurkha Parade to include 50 year commemoration, date to be confirmed, **4)** Brecon Pride, date to be confirmed, **5)** Remembrance Events, 10 and 11 November 2024, **6)** Brecon With Bells On, 16 November 2024, **7)** D-Day 80, 6 June 2024, suggestion to organise a fish and chip event with beacon lighting.

With regard to the Brecon Town Council 50 year anniversary, the working group put forward a suggestion to mark this in a way other than with an event, and welcomes ideas in this respect. Suggestions so far relate to water themed investment such as access to drinking water, reusable bottles etc.

The Town Clerk suggested that working group memberships remain the same, but welcomed any changes for those wishing to do so. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

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THAT the above events go ahead as discussed and that powers are delegated to the Town Clerk to organise the events in consultation with the relevant working group and/or relevant Committee chair.

456/23 EMAIL – ORIENTEERING EVENT 2024

Submitted **E(C)** an email received concerning the Orienteering Event 2024 for which a presentation as received earlier on in this meeting.

RESOLVED

THAT the information provided by be taken as noted and received and that it is supported by this Committee.

457/23 TREE INSPECTION REPORT

Submitted **E(D)** tree inspection report for 2024. The Town Clerk informed Members that the quotes for the works were presented to the Finance and Commissioning of Contracts Committee the previous evening, and that the work has been awarded. Also, the Town Clerk will liaise with Llanfaes School in regard to the trees within its boundary.

RESOLVED

THAT the content of the tree inspection report be taken as received and noted.

458/23 EMAIL FROM COUNCILLOR THOMAS – CASTLE WEEDS

Submitted **E(E)** an email received from Councillor Thomas and a further email received from a member of the public concerning weeds in the area of the Castle. Councillor Thomas explained this agenda item for the benefit of Members, and Members discussed the pros and cons of vegetation removal in regard to biodiversity, structural damage, and obstruction of views. Discussion of ownership of the various areas took place along with responsibilities. Ms Bell informed those present that the Local Nature Partnership has prepared an ecology report covering various areas in Brecon, and she will obtain a copy of that to ascertain whether it assists. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted, and that the report mentioned during discussions be presented to the next meeting of this Committee if available.

459/23 ROSPA REPORTS

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Submitted **E(F)** RoSPA Reports for Llanfaes Park, Camden Road Park, and the Skatepark for 2023. The Town Clerk explained the items of note within the report.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

460/23 ENVIRONMENT WALES ACT REPORT AND ACTION PLAN

Submitted **E(G)** draft Environment Wales Act Report and draft Action Plan. The Town Clerk enquired with Members whether there are any additions or amendments required to the Report, and explained the additions to the Action Plan for 2023. Members discussed this item, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Report and Action Plan be approved as drafted.

461/23 LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP FUNDING UPDATE. BRECON GATEWAY TO NATURE

Submitted **E(H)** Local Nature Partnership Funding update. Ms Bell explained this item for the benefit of Members and noted some changes that would be happening in the coming months. Members discussed this item, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

462/23 PR AND PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

The orienteering event to be published on Brecon Town Council's social media.

463/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items.

464/23 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.

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Mr M Rich, Ms F Bell and Mr R Gillard left the meeting at this point, and did not return.