BRECON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF BRECON TOWN COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 20 OCTOBER 2025 AT 6.00 P.M.

252/25 PRESENT

Councillor R Thomas
Councillor C Walton (arrived 6:02pm)
Councillor S Drinan (in the Chair)
Councillor L Rijnenberg (arrived 6:05pm)
Councillor M Dorrance
Councillor J Powell
Councillor M Thapa

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

Not in attendance: Councillor S Morgans

253/25 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Matthews and Davies.

254/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The administrative officer declared an interest in agenda item 14.

255/25 MINUTES ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on 1 July 2025 (Pages 32 – 37) (copies of which had been previously circulated)

RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the Environment and Events Committee held on 1 July 2025 be taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

256/25 YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

There was nothing to report.

257/25 DEBIT CARD FOR FISHING ACCOUNT

The Town Clerk informed Members that the new bank account with NatWest is up and running for the fishing account, and that a resolution

is needed as to whether a debit card is required. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the account have a debit card.

258/25 RISK ASSESSMENTS

Submitted **E(A)** Risk Assessment for Llanfaes Park, **E(B)** Risk Assessment for Camden Road Park, **E(C)** Risk Assessment for Island Fields, **E(D)** Risk Assessment for Island Fields Fencing, and **E(E)** Risk Assessment for Island Fields River Issues. Members queried the controls and measures in relation to the risk assessments, to which the Town Clerk provided an overview. Subject to this, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Risk Assessments be approved as drafted.

259/25 LETTER RECEIVED FROM L'ARCHE

Submitted **E(F)** letter received from L'Arche dated 1 July 2025 thanking the Committee for the use of Llanfaes Park, along with an email received 14 August 2025 requesting the use of Llanfaes Park in 2026. Members discussed this item, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT the content of the letter be taken as received and noted, and that the request to use Llanfaes Park in 2026 be approved.

260/25 PENLAN PONDS

Submitted **E(G)** a letter sent to Powys County Council from Brecon Town Council dated 14 July 2025, and **E(H)** various correspondences from Powys County Council relating to Penlan Ponds. Councillor Rijnenberg provided Members with an overview of this agenda item.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

261/25 BUNTING

The Chair explained this agenda item for the benefit of Members, and informed Members that various correspondences have been received in relation to the bunting in the town centre. The Town Clerk provided Members with the an estimate of the cost of early removal of the bunting

and reminded that it is due to be removed shortly when the Christmas lights are installed. The Town Clerk also provided an estimate of the cost for additional installation of bunting outside of the current contract and reminded Members that there is £1000 in the current year budget to purchase bunting.

RESOLVED

THAT the existing bunting be removed as scheduled when the Christmas Lights are installed, and that new bunting is put up in 2026 in time for St Davids Day, and that grant options are explored in regard to additional installation costs, and that any unspent bunting funds in the current year budget be earmarked at the year end for the same purpose in 2026.

262/25 TO NOTE RESIGNATION OF MS F BELL AND TO CONSIDER APPOINTING FURTHER CO-OPTED MEMBER

As agenda item 17 relates to the same matter, it was agreed to discuss both items at this point. The Chair informed Members that Ms Bell who was a co-opted member of the public on this committee had resigned her post in July. It was noted that a thank you has been sent to Ms Bell for her assistance on the Committee. Members discussed the role of a co-opted member of the public for this Committee and suggested that this be looked at in more detail. After further discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT a working group be set up consisting of Councillors Dorrance, Walton, and Drinan to look at the role of a co-opted member of the public and report back to a future meeting.

263/25 REPORT – CYCLE RACK

Submitted **E(I)** report dated 21 July 2025 concerning Cycle Rack. Members discussed this item in detail, and following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the content of the report be noted and approved and that the best value bike rack option be selected, ordered, and installed.

264/25 REVIEW – CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Submitted **E(J)** Climate Action Plan for review. Members discussed this item, and it was

RESOLVED

THAT Climate Action Plan be approved as drafted and published.

265/25 REQUEST FROM BRECON ROTARY CLUB

Submitted **E(K)** request from Brecon Rotary Club concerning planting of crocus. The Town Clerk informed Members that due to this meeting being delayed the Rotary Club has now completed their planting programme.

RESOLVED

THAT this information be taken as received and noted.

266/25 WILLOW TREE ADJACENT TO RIVER TARELL

The Chair and Town Clerk informed Members about information received from Brecon Angling Club relating to a white willow tree on the Gwtws path which is believed to be over 100 years old and help has been requested from this Council to lobby for its repair and protection as it is in danger of falling into the river. The Chair confirmed its believed to be on Powys' land and provided an explanation of its location. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT The Town Clerk writes to Powys County Council to request that they inspect the tree and address any appropriate measures.

267/25 SKATEPARK – EARMARKED RESERVE

The Town Clerk provided Members with an overview of this agenda item and noted that a request has been received from Councillor Meredith for consideration to be given for additional funding to be placed in the draft precept for 2026/27 for potential skatepark works. The Town Clerk confirmed that there is a sum of money in earmarked reserves for the Skatepark / Pump Track project, and that the additional funding would be for the skatepark project.

RESOLVED

THAT £10,000 be included in the draft 2026/27 budget for the skatepark, and in addition that a new working group be collated to progress both the skatepark and pump track projects consisting of Councillors Dorrance, Drinan, Walton, Rijnenberg, and Walsh.

268/25 AMENDMENTS TO BUS SERVICES LOCALLY

The Chair informed Members that an email has been received in relation to the new bus timetable locally and provided an overview of the content of the email. Members discussed this item, and the Town Clerk informed Members that staff at Visit Brecon have been looking at this in detail with a document being created highlighting the wait times at various stops. Councillor Rijnenberg informed Members she is liaising with Powys regarding the potential of improved timetabling.

RESOLVED

THAT the Town Clerk writes to Powys County Council requesting consideration be given to integration of the Brecon to Merthyr bus service with onward bus and rail services to Cardiff with one ticket available for the whole journey and to respond of the member of the public accordingly.

269/25 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2026/27 BUDGET

The Town Clerk informed Members that the first draft of the budget/precept has been prepared and is due to be considered by Full Council at its next meeting. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

THAT the following items be added to the 2026/27 draft budget/precept £5000 for new gazebos; a sum for replacement benches at the promenade near the beach mural and to enhance the planting in the surrounding area; and £5000 for a Mayors event in 2026.

270/25 PR AND PRESS OPPPORTUNITES

There were no items.

271/25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items.

272/25 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.