



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MACHYNLLETH TOWN COUNCIL
AT Y PLAS
on MONDAY 24TH MAY 2021 at 6.30pm**

PRESENT

Cllr N Elliott
Cllr T Jones
Cllr G Davies
Cllr R Gaskell
Cllr M Williams
Cllr M Rowlands
Cllr J Paige
Cllr A MacGarry
Cllr M Atkins
Cllr J Honeybill

APOLOGIES

Cllr G Jenkins

ABSENT

Cllr G Jones

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE

Julie Humphreys (Minute Taker)

There was six members of the public present.

Agenda
item

1. **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

See list above.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

| Name | Item | Personal | Prejudicial |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|
| Cllr A MacGarry | Ysgol Bro Hyddgen | ⊙ | |
| Cllr M Williams | MCCP | * | |
| Cllr M Williams | Ysgol Bro Hyddgen | * | |

3. **MAYORS REPORT**

Cllr R Gaskell – Due to restrictions there has not been a lot going on, it has been an honour to have represented Machynlleth over the last 12 months. He congratulates **Cllr T Jones** on becoming the Mayor for the upcoming year and wishes him all the best. **Cllr T Jones** thanks **Cllr R Gaskell** and also congratulates **Cllr J Paige** on becoming deputy Mayor.

4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING (previously circulated)**

Following review of the minutes.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26th April 2021 were a true record of what transpired.

Cllr M Williams propose **Cllr R Gaskell** seconds **All Agreed**

Following review of the minutes.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2021 were a true record of what transpired.

Cllr M Williams proposed **Cllr G Davies** seconds **All Agreed**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of sub group meeting held on 4th May 2021 were a true record of what transpired.

Cllr A MacGarry proposed **Cllr M Williams** seconds **All Agreed**

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr A MacGarry advises councillors that CADW records have been updated to include Kennels.

Cllr A MacGarry asks Councillors if they are willing for their date of births to be given to County Times. Those Councillors that were willing to give the information did so.

Cllr A MacGarry advises that there are further repairs being done to footpaths.

Cllr J Paige would like clarification that a letter was sent to Powys County Council with regards to contribution to town. **Cllr A MacGarry** apologises that this was not sent.

Cllr J Paige asks if it is confirmed that only the interest on Endowment Fund is used for upkeep of Plas and grounds. **All Agreed** that only the interest is used.

Cllr J Paige It was asked last month if we could contact Alun Griffiths with regards to the works on the Town Clock, it was confirmed that this had been done but they would not be able to cover the full cost of repair.

Cllr J Paige – It was decided that an investigation would take place into the Tribunal, are we any further ahead with this? **All Agreed** that this would be an agenda item in next month's meeting where a panel would be set up.

6. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Cllr M Williams – This report is here primarily for your information. Any Items that Councillors would like to draw attention to?

Cllr N Elliott asks if it is correct that Powys County Council are stopping transport for children of Carno and Llanbrynmair who attend Llanidloes High School. **Cllr M Williams** does not know the answer to that, **Cllr N Elliott** asks that **Cllr M Williams** finds out. **Cllr M Williams** agrees to seek the answer and get back to her.

7. **PLANNING**

21/0648/HH – replacing a garage for a new one – **NO COMMENTS**

8. FINANCE

1. To receive a report from the RFO
Cllr J Paige had prepared a report which had been provided to councillors in their information packs. He advises that he had met with the finance officer once and he hopes to have the figures for the next meeting. **Cllr M Atkins** thanks **Cllr J Paige** for the report but stresses that she is concerned about the absence of these reports, **Cllr G Jones** has not attended the meeting tonight as they the figures he requested had not been made available to him. **Cllr M Williams** thanks **Cllr J Paige** for putting the report together, its an excellent timeline and it has highlighted the non-actions taken by Councillors
2. Invoices for Payment – Not Available
3. To Consider NAS and POD cabling Quote – **All Agreed** to accept the quotes for POD cabling and the 2-disc sinology.

9. MEMBERS ITEMS

Cllr J Paige proposes that wherever possible any member proposing that a letter is written on behalf of the council should write that letter. If this is not possible the draft draft letter written by a third party should be forwarded to the Member for approval before sending out.

Cllr M Williams – in principle I am against it, I can't see how an individual Councillor writing a letter will not in some way reflect his or her strength as to wording of the letter. **Cllr M Atkins** agrees with **Cllr M Williams**. **Cllr J Paige** offers to withdraw the proposal. Cllr T Jones this is just for the interim to try and relieve the pressure on the Proper Officer. A vote took place. **Cllr M Williams** proposes not to move **Cllr R Gaskell** seconds 4 Agreed not to move 1 Against not to move 4 Abstained. **Cllr T Jones** used his casting vote not to accept the proposal.

10. ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

Cllr A MacGarry – we have realised that there is a deteriorating wall at Garsiwn Allotments that needs some urgent attention, the heads of terms of the site are yet to be agreed, **Cllr M Williams** thanks **Cllr A MacGarry** for her report and stresses that we must point out to Powys County Council that we have not signed the paperwork. **Cllr A MacGarry** – they may demand the fees back from us as we have been collecting them since 2020. **Cllr M Williams** – the wall should have been inspected as part of the dialogue. **Cllr M Williams** proposes we write to Powys County Council, **Cllr T Jones** seconds **All Agreed**.

11 TOWN CLOCK

The Condition Survey has been completed and we are awaiting the report. The timber beam that supports the two bells has nearly failed and should be replaced. As discussed previously Alun Griffiths will not be able to cover the full cost of repairs, Cllr T Jones has been looking at CADW grants. Cllr M Williams has passed on the name of the main contractor for the hospital project and these will be approached. Cllr M Williams reminds councillors that

Machynlleth Town Council has a financial responsibility. These repairs are not going to be fully grant funded. The longer we leave the mechanism the worse it will get. **Cllr M Williams** proposes that council accepts the quote received for additional works from Smiths of Derby **Cllr N Elliott** seconds. 9 Agreed 1 Abstained. **MAJORITY AGREED.** **Cllr M Atkins** asks if we still have money in the Town Clock account. **Cllr A MacGarry** explains that Council agreed previously to have one bank account and there are individual cost centres.

12. **NURSERY LEASE FOR AGREEMENT**

It was noted that there was no mention of MCCP removing the septic tank. **Cllr M Atkins** proposes that an email be sent that the Septic Tank must be removed or made safe when it is not needed. **Cllr G Davies** seconds **All Agreed.**

13. **THE KENNELS**

An email had been circulated previously regarding the kennels project. S Morpeth asks if Machynlleth Town Council agree to transfer ownership of the kennels to a community interest company limited by guarantee. S morpeth would like to maintain his involvement in the project and therefore be one of the trustees of the CIC when it is formed, It would be beneficial to have a member of Machynlleth Town Council be a trustee. The link with the council would negate the need to have a sub-committee of the council involved. **Cllr R Gaskell** moves to accept the proposal in principal **Cllr A MacGarry** seconds. **All Agreed**

14 **CEMETERY**

A proposal from Powys County Council had been circulated previously with regards to an offer of £2000 plus VAT towards the legal fees associated with the transfer of land which includes the Town Council completing the surrender with its existing tenant. **Cllr R Gaskell** proposes to accept the offer **Cllr M Williams** seconds **All Agreed**

15. **REPORTS FROM NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Nothing to report

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr T Jones – We have received a large number of emails in from concerned parents with regards to the changes to Ysgol Bro Hyddgen language Provision, An Extra-Ordinary meeting can be called by the Mayor with 72hrs notice given to councillors. **Cllr J Paige** does not think that we have passed a motion on this we did not take a vote, previously we expressed an opinion. **Cllr R Gaskell** – if we had an extra-ordinary meeting could we give the parents the chance to have their say, **Cllr J Honeybill** – This has already been done, will this meeting be advertised and all parties be involved whichever side they are in? **Cllr J Paige** we have had a lot of correspondence and we need to address them. **Cllr R Gaskell** proposes that an emergency meeting is called

Cllr M Rowlands seconds. **All Agreed** emergency meeting to be held on Tuesday June 1st 2021 6pm at Y Plas. **Cllr J Paige** – standing orders state that we can propose a motion with what comes out of the business in that meeting.

Letter received from Pam Jones – This had been circulated previously, Councillors discussed. **Cllr M Atkins** proposes that a letter of reply be sent to Mrs Jones. **Cllr J Paige** seconds **All Agreed**

NHS Dental Provision in Wales – **Cllr J Honeybill**, we have no NHS Dentist in Machynlleth. **Cllr M Williams** supports **Cllr J Honeybill**. We should support community that is looking to improve Health related services. **Cllr J Honeybill** proposes a letter of support be sent **Cllr G Davies** seconds **All Agreed**

Courtesy Letter from Norma McCarten – A letter was read out from Norma McCarten advising that she will be leaving Gerddi Bro Dyfi committee **Cllr M Williams** proposes a letter of thanks be sent to Norma. **Cllr G Davies** seconds. **All Agreed**

17. **INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

Nothing discussed

18. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Set up Committee for Investigation into the Tribunal

Update on appointing new Clerk. Staffing Panel to meet on Friday May 28. 10am at Y Plas

Cllr M Williams formally moves that the press and public leave the meeting. **All Agreed**

A motion was passed under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (3) to exclude members of the public during discussion of this agenda item due to the confidential nature of the business discussed.

19 **STAFFING ISSUES**

Previously One Voice Wales were paid to assist with the recruitment of a new Clerk. Gwilym Rippon can do all this at a cost of £250. **All Agreed**

Cllr M Williams proposes that Gwilym Rippon is approached with regards to becoming our Locum Clerk in the interim **Cllr J Paige** seconds. **All Agreed**. If Gwilym Rippon is agreeable he is to be asked to take up post immediately on the same terms and conditions as before. **All Agreed**.

Finance Officer was discussed and Cllrs wish that she is told that she has their total support and backing. They have complete faith in her

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Regular meeting on 28th June 2021 the meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed Chair

Date