

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF MACHYNLLETH TOWN COUNCIL

on Wednesday September 14th 2022 at 2.30pm in the Vane Tempest room

PRESENT:

Cllouncillors J Paige (Mayor), M Williams, A MacGarry, K Bryan, P.Jones, and N.McCarten,

APOLOGIES :

Councillors G.Jones, M.Atkins, J.Honeybill, R Hughes, A Evans, Ll. Griffiths.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Julie Humphreys (Facilities Manager), Dewi Jones (Town Clerk)

3 members of the public .

1/ APOLOGIES : See list above.

2 / DECLARATION OF INTERESTS : None.

3/ PUBLIC PARTICIPATION :

Mr Fergus Scott gave a contribution on behalf of the Market Traders.

4/ CONSULTATION ON MACHYNLLETH STREET TREES :

The council discussed the matter and agreed the following response to the consultation.

Machynlleth Town Council broadly welcomes the project especially the benefits that will come from more shade and cooling in the town and the absorption of pollution. The Council welcomes the aesthetic improvement to the town centre.

The devil is of course in the detail and the Council asks the Trunk Road Agency to consider the following concerns.

What has been done to ensure that the planting of these trees has no adverse effect on insurance for surrounding buildings?

Machynlleth is a market charter town and the trees must be placed sympathetically with regard to the weekly market. We urge the Trunk Road Agency to do the following.

- **Ensure they arrange a meeting with a representative of the National Federation of Market Traders to discuss among other things the legal aspects of disrupting a charter market.**
- **Prepare an overlay map of tree placement and usual market stall placement to ensure the placement of trees is sympathetic to the market.**

We are aware that some projects in neighbouring towns have had a high failure rate for trees planted. It is important that the quality of installation and maintenance is high. We urge the Trunk Road Agency to ensure the following.

- **That they produce and publish a husbandry and maintenance plan. This might include a budget for cleaning dog and bird muck that could accumulate under the trees.**
- **In order to give the trees the best opportunity to establish themselves, promote and fund training for a tree guardian scheme. We would urge that they look at the successful tree guardian scheme currently run by Gerddi Bro Dyfi.**

We have concerns for the disruption that might be caused in the construction phase. For one thing we would suggest that works on each tree should start on a Thursday to ensure that work is completed before the Charter Market on a Wednesday.

5/ DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING :

26/09/22.