

## **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF MACHYNLLETH TOWN COUNCIL**

**on Monday October 31st 2022 at 6.30pm in the Vane Tempest room**

### **PRESENT:**

Cllr J Paige (Mayor), Cllr M Williams, Cllr A MacGarry, Cllr J Honeybill, , Cllr P.Jones, Cllr N.McCarten, Cllr M.Atkins, Cllr A.Evans, Cllr R.Hughes and Cllr L.Griffith

### **APOLOGIES :**

Cllr K.Bryan, Cllr G.Jones

### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Dewi Jones (Town Clerk)

Nicole Beaumont (Finance Officer & Minutes taker)

1 member of the public (online), no member of the press.

**1/ ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES :** See list above.

### **2 / DECLARATION of INTERESTS :**

Cllr N.McCarten & Cllr M Williams excluded themselves from any discussion relating to item 16

### **3/ PUBLIC PARTICIPATION :**

3.1/ A presentation was given by Rachel Evans, Interim Head of Commissioning and Partnerships, Social Services Dept, Powys County Council, outlining the various provisions on care availability and provision in Machynlleth.

### **4/ MAYOR'S REPORT :**

Cllr Paige reported on the following events that he attended on behalf of the Council.

- Stiwdio Dyfi Fashion Show

The Mayor has resurrected the Xmas dinner for Machynlleth senior citizens. Organisation is underway and he will update the Council once date and venue are arranged.

### **5/ MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS :**

**5.1/ *With a minor correction to the minute for item 11.1, so it reads "Cllr Norma McCarten requested that it be minutes she voted against the resolution on the basis of information she had received at the patients forum regarding efforts to resolve the matter."* Minutes of the full council on 26/9/22 were agreed to be a true record. (Unanimous)**

**5.2/ The minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting held on 17/10/2022 were agreed to be true record. (Unanimous)**

Matter arising : Item 3 Councillors commented on the reply circulated by the Clerk to correspondence arising from the meeting. Councillors noted that the provision made was wholly inadequate and asked the Clerk to relay to the Post Office their disappointment in this matter.

**5.3/ The minutes of the Finance Committee held on 17/10/2022 were agreed to be a true record and actions arising authorised (Unanimous)**

**5.4/ The minutes of the Facilities Committee held on 17/10/2022 were agreed to be a true record and actions arising authorised (Unanimous).**

Matter arising : Item 7 Hen Stablau : Clerk drew the attention of Council to the large costs which will be incurred in relation to insuring the Hen Stablau and to carrying out works to comply with insurance conditions.

**6/ MATTERS ARISING** : were discussed and reported above in each section.

**7/ REPORT FROM CLLR M.WILLIAMS – COUNTY COUNCILLOR** :

A written report was received from Cllr M.Williams relating to his role as a County Councillor. It is attached to the agenda of the meeting.

**Council resolved to take the following actions in response to the contents of the report.**

- **To write to Powys county council regarding dog fouling at Tregarth Cemetery and the poor condition of the door on the smaller of the two sheds on site.**

**8/ PLANNING** :

Planning Application 22/1705/TRE

Heol Maengwyn, Heol Pentrerhedyn and Heol Penrallt.

Works to various trees within Machynlleth Conservation Area. Removal of 19 trees, 5 of which are proposed to be relocated and 8 of which have already been removed. Management works to 11 retained trees. 31 New Trees are proposed to be planted.

**Council considered that the comments made at the extra ordinary meeting on 14/9/22 called specifically to respond to the public consultation on this project remained valid and so resolved to re state them as a response to the planning application.**

**“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.”**

**9/ FINANCE** :

**9.1 / Resolved to pay invoices as presented (Unanimous).**

**9.2 / Received for information (Unanimous).**

## **10/ RESPONSE TO OUR CORRESPONDENCE :**

10.1 / Powys County Council – Removal of Recycling Provision at Maengwyn car park. (26/9/22 – Item 12)

**Received for information**

10.2 / Powys County Council – Regarding updated project plans and designs for new school building (26/9/22 – Item 7)

**Received for information**

## **11/ Members items :**

11.1/ Cllr Rwth Hughes : to consider to which Committee it would be best to refer the possibility of Machynlleth becoming a Palm Oil Free Community. Withdrawn in order that more complete information can be provided to the next meeting.

11.2/ Cllr Norma McCarten : to request that the Clerk produce a list detailing regular and ad hoc room hire and hall hire at the Plas. This will enable answers to queries from organisations and the public generally as to the use of Y Plas spaces.

Cllr A.MacGarry proposed that the wording be amended to read “that the Clerk produce as staff time allows a list detailing ...” Cllr M.Williams seconded. By majority vote amendment not carried. Substantive motion not carried.

## **12/ APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR 2022-23 :**

**Council resolved to appoint WJ Matthews as internal auditor for 2022-23 (Unanimous).**

## **13 SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

**Council resolved to adopt the Social Media Policy as presented with minor corrections to replace reference to “Gwynedd” with “Powys” (Unanimous).**

## **14/ REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY:**

Councillors received a report on arrangements for Remembrance Sunday and received an invite to attend the ceremony and Sunday lunch from Mr A W Jones of the Royal British Legion. The Clerk will contact Mr Jones with the number of Councillors who wish to attend.

Cllr J.Paige as Mayor will place a wreath at the Cenotaph on behalf of the Council.

## **15/ ON STREET PARKING :**

**Council resolved to consider the attached correspondence from Cadfarch Community Council in the context of a town wide review of on street parking and to accept the invitation from Chris Lloyd the Montgomeryshire Area Traffic Engineer of Powys County Council to contribute to such a review.**

**Council resolved that the General Purpose Panel would be the correct place for the discussions to take place and that recommendations would be brought to full Council for approval before submitting to Powys County Council. (Unanimous)**

## **16/ GERDDI BRO DDYFI GARDENS**

Council welcomed the proposed improvements and expressed their thanks for being kept informed of developments.

## **17/ RE-OPEN NOMINATIONS TO COMMITTEES**

**Council resolved that the following additions be made to Committees**

**Finance – Cllrs J.Honeybill and N. McCarten be added to the committee**

**General Purpose – That all councillors be made members**

**Climate Action Panel – Cllr N.McCarten be added. (Unanimous)**

**18/ Clerk report :**

Council received a written report from the clerk .

**Council resolved to authorise the actions arising from the report, namely.**

- **That the Clerk convene meetings of the Plas Energy Panel and the Climate Action Panel – Hopefully in November**
- **That the Clerk proceed with the tree works**

**(Unanimous).**

**19/ REPORTS FROM NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES:**

Cllr Ann MacGarry reported on her attendance at the One Voice Wales area meeting.

**20/ CORRESPONDENCE.:**

20.1 / Brecon Advice Centre – Receive for Information

20.2 / Wales Air Ambulance – Receive for information

20.3 / Urdd Eisteddfod 2023 (Camarthen) – Receive for Information.

20.4 / Chief Executive Un Llais Cymru – Invitation to attend OVW / SLCC Joint Event :  
Clerk and Cllr MacGarry to attend.

**21/ Information from Members :**

**22/ Items for next agenda :**

Item 11.1 of this meeting to be carried forward to November meeting.

Health board to be invited to tell of what services will be on offer at the new hospital.

**23/ Staffing issues :**

Café manager appointed as from November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**The next Full Council meeting will be on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 6.30pm in the Vane Tempest room at the Plas.**