

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

**on Monday November 28th 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 A.Evans, Cllr L.Griffith, Cllr K.Bryan, Cllr R Hughes and Cllr G.Jones

**APOLOGIES :** Cllr M.Atkins

### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Dewi Jones (Town Clerk)

Nicole Beaumont (Finance Officer & Minutes taker)

1 member of the public.

Andrew Sowerby (Pryor & Rickett Silviculture – To make a short presentation)

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

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

Cllr G.Jones ref item 20, left the room and took no part in the discussion.

Cllr R Hughes ref item 10.3 & item 10.4. left the room and took no part in the discussion.

Cllr K Bryan ref item 13 wanted it to be known that she had an association with Mid Wales Refugee Action, but she took a full part in discussions.

Cllr LI Griffith ref item 11 as her business uses sustainable palm oil.

### **3/ Public Participation :**

3.1/ A presentation was given by Andrew Sowerby (via zoom) Regional Manager of Prior & Rickett Silviculture.

### **4/ Mayor's report :**

Cllr Paige reported that he along with many other councillors had attended the Remembrance Sunday service.

The Mayors Christmas Lunches for Machynlleth Senior Citizens are fully booked and will take place on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 in the Café at the Plas.

The Mayor has been asked to open the newly refurbished Spar store on Maengwyn.

### **5/ Minutes of the last meeting :**

5.1/ **With a correction to show that Councillor R.Hughes had been present the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 31/10/2022 were agreed to be a true record (unanimous).**

5.2/ **With a correction to show that Councillor R.Hughes had been present he minutes of the Council as Trustee meeting held on 31/10/2022 were agreed to be a true record (unanimous).**

5.3/ **The minutes of the Plas Energy panel meeting held on 14/11/2022 were agreed to be a true record and all recommendations approved for action. (majority vote)**

5.4/ **With a minor correction to show that Councillor N.McCarten is a volunteer with Gerddi Bro Ddyfi rather than a board member, the minutes of the Climate Action Committee meeting held on 14/11/2022 were agreed to be a true record and all recommendations approved for action (unanimous).**

### **6/ Matters arising :**

None – all actions authorised.

### **7/ Report from Cllr M.Williams - County Councillor :**

Cllr M. Williams gave a brief report of his meeting with Powys County Council. It is attached to the agenda of the meeting.

In relation to point 2.3 Cllr A. MacGarry questioned whether all committee meetings of the County Council were open to the public in the same way that those of the Town Council were. The Clerk confirmed that they were.

In relation to point 2.4 Cllr N. McCarten questioned the status of planning applications on the Old Travis Perkins site and the field behind the football pitches next to the button roundabout. **The Clerk agreed to search the planning portal and inform Councillors if he found any information in relation to applications at these sites.**

#### **8/ Planning :**

None.

#### **9/ Finance :**

**Resolved to pay invoices as presented (majority vote).**

#### **10/ Response to our correspondence :**

10.1/ Lee Waters AS, Deputy Minister for Climate Change – Fully subsidised Traws Cymru travel at weekends. Disappointed at the answer received, **Receive for information.**

10.2/ Sue Barnes, Chief Executive Wales Air Ambulance – Response to letter arising from item 13, FC, 26/9/22. **Receive for information.**

10.3 and 10.4/ Dyfi Valley Health, in relation to letter arising from item 11.1 FC, 26/9/22.

**The Clerk was asked to respond in writing thanking the practice for their comprehensive response, seeking further clarity on how many actual appointments are represented by “25% more” and inviting a representative from the practice to attend a future meeting of the Council. In relation to the final paragraph of the second letter – Clerk will state that Council does not believe that there are grounds to complain about the conduct of Cllr G. Jones but that any such complaint should in any case be referred to the Public Services Ombudsman.**

10.5/ Post Office Consultation Support Team – Responding from our letter arising from item 3, Full Council 17/10/22.

**Receive for information.**

#### **11/ Machynlleth as a palm oil free community :**

11.1/ **Council Resolved to request the Climate Action Panel to research the matter and if they consider it appropriate to make a recommendation to Full Council (unanimous).** In line with item 5.4 of this meeting the Clerk will bring information on the policy in relation to palm oil of Castell Howell Foods who supply our Café.

#### **12/ Ysgol Bro Hyddgen Breakfast Club :**

**Council resolved that the Clerk would write to the Education Minister asking for clarification on the funding mechanism for breakfast clubs (unanimous).**

#### **13/ Migrant Champions Network :**

An amendment was proposed and accepted to remove the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of the motion as submitted along with the last three paragraphs as they related to areas beyond the scope of the Town Council, and that as well as adopting the proposal as amended that the Council write to Powys County Council asking them to consider adopting the motion as presented to the Town Council.

**Council resolved to pass the motion as amended (unanimous).**

#### **14/ Clerk's Report :**

Council received a report from the Clerk which is attached to the agenda of this meeting.

Also the clerk distributed drawings of the proposal to improve the entrance to the Plas Hall.

**Council resolved to write a letter for signing by Mr Anthony Jones and Cllr J.Honeybill requesting that the account ending 5829 be closed and the £7.60 therein be transferred to the main account (unanimous).**

**15/ Reports from nominated representatives on outside bodies :**

Cllr M.Williams reported on his meeting of the Shrewsbury Aberyswyth Rail Liaison Committee.

Cllr A.MacGarry reported on the OVW/SLCC joint conference she attended with the Clerk.

**16/ Correspondence :**

Letters were circulated as per given in the agenda for info.

**17/ Information from Members :**

Cllr A.MacGarry to attend a meeting on Cost of Living Crisis on 30/11/2022.

To put the defibrillators on a map of the town and this publicised on the MTC website or social platforms.

**18/ Items for next agenda :**

Following on from item 12 of this meeting, Breakfast Club in schools.

**Council resolved that press and public should be excluded for the remainder of the meeting as the items discussed will likely include exempt information, as defined in part 4, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972. (unanimous).**

**19/ The Plas Endowment Fund :**

A letter sent by the Town Clerk to Powys County Council regarding the status of the fund was received for information. (unanimous).

**23/ Staffing issues : Probationary Period of the Town Clerk :**

**The Clerk left the room for discussion of this item.**

Council considered that the customary probation period at the beginning of a contract of employment had been satisfactorily completed. The mayor will write to the Clerk to inform him (unanimous).

**The next meeting is the Finance meeting to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm in the Vane Tempest room at the Plas.**

**The next Full Council meeting will be on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 6.30pm in the Vane Tempest room at the Plas.**