

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF MACHYNLLETH TOWN COUNCIL

on Monday January 31st 2023 at 6.30pm in the Vane Tempest room at the Plas

PRESENT:

Cllr J Paige (Mayor and Chair of the meeting), Cllr M. Atkins, Cllr R. Hughes, Cllr J Honeybill, Cllr P. Jones, Cllr L. Griffith, Cllr K. Bryan, Cllr A MacGarry, Cllr N. McCarten, Cllr M. Williams, Cllr A. Evans and Cllr G. Jones.

APOLOGIES : None

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Dewi Jones (Town Clerk)

Nicole Beaumont (Admin & Finance Officer - Minutes taker)

3 members of the public, no member of the press.

1 / ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES :

See list above.

2 / DECLARATION of INTERESTS :

Cllr G. Jones with reference to item 22

Cllr M. Williams with reference to item 8 – Family members involved with the club.

Cllr R. Hughes and Cllr J. Honeybill with reference to item 18 – Members of the organisation requesting support.

3 / Public Participation :

None.

4/ Mayor's report :

Cllr Paige told of his wish to re-instate yearly community awards and asked that an item be put on the Agenda of a future meeting of the Facilities Panel.

5/ Minutes of the last meeting :

5.1/ **The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 19/12/2022 were agreed as a true record. (majority vote).**

5.2/ **The minutes of Climate Action Panel meeting held on 9/1/2023 were agreed as a true record and all recommendations approved for action with the exception of the adoption of a bio-diversity policy which would be discussed in item 10 of this meeting. (majority vote).**

5.3/ **The minutes of the Finance panel held on 16/01/2023 were agreed as a true record and all recommendations approved for action. (majority vote).**

5.4/ **The minutes of the Facilities panel held on 16/01/2023 were agreed as a true record and all recommendations approved for action. (majority vote).**

6/ Matters arising : None.

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

Matter 2.10 of Cllr M. Williams report was drawn to the attention of the Clerk in case it was relevant to his intention to seek rate relief on the Community Hall.

8/ Planning :

A motion was agreed to move item No 8 to be discussed after item No 10, at the request of Cllr J.Paige.

9/ Finance :

Council resolved to pay January invoices as per list presented. (unanimous).

10/ Bio diversity and resilience of ecosystems policy :

10.1/ **Council resolved to adopt the policy as presented (majority vote).**

10.2/ Item 8 :

- Planning Application 22/2139/HH : **No Objection. (unanimous).**

- Planning Application 23/0107/HDG : **Council oppose the removal of the hedge on bio-diversity grounds and propose the barbed wire is removed by snipping and removing (by majority vote).**

11/ Dyfi Valley Health Centre (DVHC) :

Cllr Ll.Griffith gave a progress report on a complaint to the chief executive of the local health board.

The motion proposed was discussed, two amendments were accepted and one amendment fell.

Consequently **Council resolved that the Clerk issue again an invite for a representative of Bro Ddyfi Health to attend a future meeting to discuss with councillors the issues of concern, namely that they answer the questions of clarification raised in our November letter and a further question on the proximity to the health centre to the location where telephone appointments are dealt with. That the letter state our understanding that individual cases can not be discussed and express the hope of the Council that it does not prove necessary to put in an FOI to receive these answers. (unanimous).**

12/ PCC gritting response :

Council resolved that the Clerk write to PCC and request grit bins are placed to cover all PCC car parks and the main shopping areas of the town. To also ask why the response in gritting Machynlleth was so slow and to request a swifter response in future (unanimous).

13/ Risk register :

Council adopted amendments as per Clerk report (unanimous).

14/ Safeguarding policy :

Council adopted the safeguarding policy as proposed (Unanimous).

Council nominated Town clerk to be the Safeguarding officer (unanimous).

15/ Reports from nominated representatives on outside bodies :

Cllr A.MacGarry reported on One Voice Wales area meeting, also a meeting with PAVO.

16/ Quarterly PCC & Town Community Council meeting :

Council resolved that Cllr K.Bryan should represent the Council at these meetings, the next of which is virtual at 6pm 20/4/2023 (unanimous).

17/ Correspondence :

17.1/ Council resolved that Clerk should ask the same question regarding funding mechanisms to PCC with specific reference to the last sentence in the letter from the Minister regarding school breakfast clubs : “maintain our commitment to provide free breakfasts for all primary school pupils” (unanimous).

17.2/ Receive for info (unanimous).

17.3/ see reply below at 18.

17.4 / see reply below at 18.

18/ FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS :

Council resolved that all requests for Financial Assistance towards ongoing costs be put before the January Finance Panel, so that any budget agreed in the December Council meeting can be recommended for distribution to the January meeting of the Council. That all such payments be made in the first week of April at the beginning of the budget year in question and that both the requests from 17.3 and 17.4 be bought before the January 2024 Finance Panel (unanimous).

19/ INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS :

Cllr N.McCarten reported that the Mid Wales Advice centre had made a successful grant application to the fund whose details the Town Clerk had circulated to Councillors. Also that the Patient Forum had a display at the pop up community hub at the old Taj Mahal Indian restaurant.

Cllr A.MacGarry reported that the cost of living crisis leaflets had been distributed to addresses in the town.

20/ ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA :

Dog fouling on the streets at the next General purpose panel.

21 / PLAS MACHYNLLETH AND PLAS ENDOWMENT FUND

Correspondence was shared to show that enquiries with both PCC and the Charity Commission were being pursued.

Council resolved that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items as it is likely that exempt information, as defined in part 4, Schedule 12A, local government Act 1972 would be discussed.

22/ Staffing issues :

Clerk reported on staff annual appraisals and probation periods.

23/ DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY 27th FEBRUARY 2023 at 6.30pm in the Vane Tempest room at the Plas.