

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF MACHYNLLETH TOWN COUNCIL
on Monday February 24th 2025 at 6.30pm in the Vane Tempest room at the Plas**

PRESENT :

Cllr J Paige (Chair of the meeting), Cllr A MacGarry (remote), Cllr J Honeybill, Cllr N.McCarten, Cllr R.Hughes, Cllr G.Phillips, Cllr A.Evans, Cllr Ll.Griffith.

APOLOGIES : Cllr K.Bryan, Cllr G.Jones, Cllr M.Atkins, Cllr P.Jones

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicole Beaumont (Clerk & Minutes taker)

No member of the press

6 members of the public.

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES : See list above.

2. DECLARATION of INTERESTS in the matters to be discussed :

None

3. Public Participation :

None

4. Mayor's report :

None

5. Minutes of the last meeting :

5.1 : Minutes of the Ordinary Full council meeting held on 27/1/2025 with the following correction :

All councillors were present with the exception of Cllr A.Evans who sent his apologies.

at Item 4 : *The Mayor sent a letter of condolence to William Lloyd Williams on the loss of Carwen his wife. Carwen was a very much loved person in her own right, dearly missed by her family especially her husband Will who, in the late 1990s/early 2000s, was a Councillor and Mayor of Machynlleth.*

Minutes agreed **unanimously**.

6. Matters arising :

6.1 : Cllr J.Paige proposed the following motion :

MTC reaffirms its commitment to the Equality Act 2010, noting the 9 protected characteristics and key concepts. Cllrs agreed **unanimously**.

6.2 : Cllr J.Paige proposed the following motion :

The role of Proper Officer and Safeguarding Officer are transferred to the Town Clerk for the period from 4th March to 6th April 2025 inclusive, whilst Cllr J.Paige, current Proper Officer and Safeguarding Officer is away. Cllrs agreed **unanimously**.

7: Report from County Councillor :

7.1 : County Cllr A.Evans gave congratulations on having the Maengwyn carpark loos re-opened.

7.2 : Staff from the Highways Department, report every 28 days on works needed to be carried out throughout the county on their website.

7.3 : Warning that the Trunk Road Agency has programmed the retarmacking of Maengwyn Street.

7.4 : Powys County Council budget FY2025-26 document is online on the PCC website.

7.5 : Closure of the Leisure centre is for the moment on hold and will be reconsidered at a later date.

7.6 : Soon more trees on Maengwyn Street will be planted.

Councillor Evans monthly surgery he holds at Y Plas every 1st Wednesday of each month, from 10am to 2pm, proved successful. At the latest session, many have wanted to put their concerns over the alcohol licence applied for by Spløj on Bank Street.

8: Planning :

8.1 : 25/0152/HH - Erection of an extension at 22 Cae Crwn Machynlleth

8.2 : 25/0231/HH – Extension to the front of a dwelling at 17 Maes y Garth Machynlleth

Councillors had no objections to each of these applications. **Unanimous.**

9: Finance :

9.1 : Council approved the list of invoices to pay as presented. **Unanimous.**

10: Reports from nominated representatives on outside bodies :

10.1 : Cllr N.McCarten reported on her attending the Machynlleth Patients Forum meeting.

11: Clerk's Report :

11.1 : Plas Hall entrance. A contract for maintenance and 2 routine maintenance visits has been taken at a cost of £480+VAT from the Plas maintenance budget. See the Planned Preventative Maintenance document. Still a lot of the finishing work needs to be done. The contractor has been told that all works must be carried out well before 1st May, as from the 2nd to the 5th Comedy Festival is once more coming to town and will take over the Plas and the Hall as their "nerve centre".

11.2 : Machynlleth Community Children's Project (MCCP) The Nursery : See the photographs showing the extent of the damage suffered by MCCP's building during storm Darragh. MCCP is waiting to see a structural report from its insurance provider, for the next step to be assessed. Until that has arrived, MTC can only support MCCP whichever way possible.

11.3 : Poster attached for what is dubbed the "Cambrian Blockade" where both vital accesses to Machynlleth from the east are closed to all traffic : the A470 road at Talerddig closed until mid April, due to much needed repairs to the carriageway and the railway line Aberystwyth to Shrewsbury, will be closed for a shorter time, from 17th to 24th March, for its own program of repairs on the tracks.

11.4 : Plas Allotment project set of minutes from their latest meeting in January. The project is going well, there has been a tremendous effort with all the plot holders and the Facilities Manager to do all by mid March, date by which all the funding must be claimed. The back wall of the allotment is in need of serious repairs, it has been propped up. Repairs will be under taken as soon as the party occupying the land on the other side of this wall, have seen to the overgrowth of ivy coming onto the allotment side of the wall.

11.5 : The carpark loos are at last open. Thank you to the working group spearheading the project. A few items still needing attention are being looked at presently.

11.6 : Comedy Festival is coming during the first weekend of May, they have asked that the area allowed to them be better defined to help them with a more effective way of managing their space to

avoid gate crashers & other unwanted nuisance. Comedy Festival will have their own security. Hopefully there will also be a police presence to re-assure the people of Machynlleth and to avoid the wanton vandalism caused to the playing fields next to the Plas.

11.7 : An email from Sploj Machynlleth concerning their advertising for the selling of alcohol at their premises Unit 2 Bank Lane, Machynlleth. A Public Notice of the Licensing Act 2003 was published in the press and raised a few concerns from local people.

On enquiring why Town councils are not consulted on such matters , the response came back from the Licensing Office that only the County Councillor could raise the matter, town councils were not in the list of entities to be consulted. The matter has been referred to the County Cllr A.Evans as the town council didn't get such a notice to register their thoughts.

It seems odd that the town council has to look after its town yet is not allowed to respond on matters within its precinct that could involve breaches of the peace, noise pollution, safety of minors.

12 : Members items :

12.1 : Cllr J.Honeybill queried the proposed move of services for stroke victims from Bronglais to further afield, making it more difficult for relatives of sufferers to go and visit them in hospital, especially those from rural areas with connexion of public transport facilities are not the best.

If anything services available at Bronglais should be increased.

12.2 : Cllr J.Honeybill queried the Mid&West Wales Fire Service o how do they propose to man the fire station at Machynlleth in the future, including the number of appliances available, the manpower and the training of the personel.

12.3 : Cllr A.MacGarry reported on a meeting with PCC on the Local Development Plan. More will be on the March agenda.

13: Correspondence :

14: Items for the next agenda :

14.1 : Local Development Plan

15 : DATES of the Next Meetings :

15.1 : FULL Council meeting on 31st March 2025 at 6.30pm (Vane Tempest room)

15.2 : Climate change meeting on 6th March 2025 at 6pm (Vane Tempest room)

***The Chairperson shall propose that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following items as it is likely exempt information, as defined in part 4, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, will be revealed.**

Unanimous.

16. *STAFFING MATTERS*