

Minutes of the meeting of Hay Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 7.30 pm on 1st February 2010

Present:

Cllr F Howard (FH) Cllr D Gittins (DG) Cllr N Birch (NB)
Cllr K Showler (KS) Cllr J Kramer (JK) Cllr R Golesworthy (RG)
County & Town Cllr G Ratcliffe (GR)

Apologies:

Cllr A Lloyd-Penny (ALP) Cllr M Fellowes (MF) Cllr P Lloyd (PL)
Cllr S Like (SL)

In Attendance: Nigel Lewis, Clerk to the Council

683. Declarations of Interest

GR – all planning issues, Warren Close. PL – Community Enterprise CIC, Hay Parochial Church Council, Hay 2 Timbuktu Co Ltd

684. Minutes of Meeting dated 4th January 2010

The minutes of the meetings held on 4th January 2010 were signed as a correct record.

685. MATTERS ARISING

a. Black Lion Green

NL advised that Mike Harris has obtained two quotes for a Barrister's Opinion on this matter and both were £1000 plus VAT. It was resolved not to proceed with this at this stage but to contact Paul Clayden, CE of the Local Councils Advisory Service for advice.

b. Office Lease Debt

NL reported that he had written again to PD advising her of the Council's intended action, pointing out that any additional costs incurred would be added to the amount outstanding and to avoid this she needed to get in contact by Monday 4th February. No response has been received and so it was resolved a Statutory Demand under section 268(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986 form should be issued.

c. Vintage Sports Car Club

Powys CC have responded to the FOI request stating that they had no record of the Jaguar Car Club using a car park in Brecon in September or October. It was agreed that NL contact Alan Jones(traffic warden) and/or Hugh Lewis(Powys CC) to check that a section of the car park would be coned off.

d. Additional Bench

GR confirmed that the new bench should be put in place this week.

e. Recycling Income

GR advised that he had spoken to Officers at Powys CC who stated that although they were concerned that they were funding a scheme which is actually in Herefordshire, they had previously offered it to HTC who had refused it. Councillors were of the opinion that this was not the case and GR further advised that he had asked Powys for all correspondence on this and details of the last three years income.

f. IT

Giles had advised that the work to update the website had not yet been completed but that in the meantime he could add items to the current page if required.

g. Outstanding Powys CC Invoices

Powys CC have advised that they have no record of being told that the 2008 lights that they erected did not work. As a result it was agreed that we should pay this invoice. It was decided to defer discussion on the cleaning invoice until the later agenda item when other Council Offices issues would be discussed.

h. Any Other Matters arising not listed

No other matters arising.

686. Christmas Lights

NL advised that the cost of the lights in 2009 had exceeded the budget provision by approximately £1800 and although the budget for the erection of the lights had been increased for 2010/11 it would still be necessary to make savings. FH, GR, SL, DG and NL had met with John Evans, Chamber of Commerce, to discuss the way forward for future years. JE had indicated that the Chamber of Commerce may be able to give a grant not exceeding £2000 towards capital costs. One option

discussed was to concentrate the Lights over a smaller area in the centre of town. GR to investigate and it was agreed that a further meeting be held with JE when proposals had been drawn up.

Concern was expressed about the contractor having the necessary Qualifications and Insurance to erect the lights. NL to meet with RG to establish the position.

687. Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Concern was expressed by some Councillors as to whether the Council should continue to fund this event. It was suggested that either the costs should be met through fund raising or a charge of £5 should be made. It was proposed and agreed that as making a charge would raise approximately £500 towards the cost, this amount should be earmarked from the Recycling Fund each year.

688. Childrens Play Areas

Peter Lathbury, PAVO had indicated that there was limited grant options available to fund this project if the application was made by the Town Council and that a bid was far more likely to be successful if it was made by a local Community Organisation. It was suggested that as Hay & District Sports and Community Assoc Ltd might be a suitable Company to approach to take this project forward in partnership with the TC.

RG & GR then declared an interest in this item.

It was proposed by DG and seconded by KS and agreed that NL should write to the Association to invite them to join the TC on this project.

689. Encroachment of Gardens on Old Railway Line

In order to establish the full extent of this problem it was agreed that Councillors undertake a Town walk to inspect the Railway Line together with any other areas in the town where there were potential problems.

It was agreed that the walk would take place on Sunday 21st February at 2:30pm commencing at Wyeford Road.

It was also agreed that the Railways Board Transfer map would be of assistance. RG to obtain a copy from Alan Jenkins.

690. Trench alongside Town Wall(not Castle Wall as on agenda)

GR advised that he had contacted BBNP and Powys CC who had both confirmed that it was safe.

691. Town Criers Outfit

NL advised that M Budd had agreed to provide a quote for making the outfit. It was agreed that further quotes be obtained and that an item put on the agenda for next months meeting to discuss this and other matters in relation to the changeover.

692. Electrical Inspection

NL advised that the Inspection had been carried out but the report was not yet available. During the Inspection the electrician had contacted NL to advise that the full inspection was more involved than originally thought and as a result the cost would be in the region of £700. NL advised that he had approached DG, MF and GR(Finance sub-c'tee) who had agreed that the Council would pay up to £700 in total for the inspection.

693. Questions from the Public

No questions submitted.

694. Correspondence

- a) BBNP - Retention of Sign Board at The Globe - permission granted
- b) BBNP - Extension to Existing Dwelling - 40 Warren Close - permission granted
- c) BBNP - Re-roofing, new windows, door, render to front elevation - 23 Bear Street - application withdrawn
- d) BBNP - update on consultation process re Policy ES25 and Charging for Planning Advice
- e) Nottssport - offer to meet to discuss refurbishing play areas
- f) Kidney Wales Foundation - 2010 Walk for Life - request for donation/an organised walk in Hay

Agreed not to make a donation.

- g) Dwr Cymru - offer of Direct Debit scheme
- h) Scottish Power - confirmation of Direct Debit scheme
- i) One Voice Wales - Statement by WAG on Community & Town Councils and copy of The Voice magazine
- j) Williams Beales & Sons - letter on Hay Town matters dated 6th January 2010
- k) Williams Beales & Sons - letter on Deeds of River Wye Fishing dated 7th January 2010
- l) Williams Beales & Sons - copy letter to Woodland Davies Partnership re Black Lion Green dated 8th January 2010
- m) M&J Robinson - copy letter to Cllr G Ratcliffe re Developments in town affecting School, Supermarket etc

- n) Powys CC - FOI Request re Jaguar Car Event
- o) Community Health Council - Minutes of Hay Health Focus Group - 4/11/09
- p) Powys CC - Unitary Development Plan - consultation document

RG agreed to read

- q) One Voice Wales - Nomination re Invitation for Chairpersons to attend Buckingham Palace Garden Party

Agreed to nominate MF

- r) Notes of Public Meeting re Bronllys Hospital Services - prev circulated
- s) Powys CC - Notification of meeting to consider Planning application at Gipsy Castle Farm
- t) Hay and District Dial-a-Ride - Thank you letter re grant
- u) Herefordshire Council - Local Development Framework and Local Transport Plan 3 - consultation documents

GR agreed to read

- v) Hay & District Sports and Community Assoc Ltd - copy of signed accounts - yr end March 2009
- w) Ombudsman - Booklets on How to Complain about a Public Body
- x) Powys CC via Cllr G Ratcliffe - Nominations for High Sheriff Award

Agreed to nominate Derek and Gaynor Keeble for their contribution to the Youth community of Hay.

- y) Age Concern Powys Notification of meeting 9th February- Assessing how Age friendly your community is
- z) Urgent correspondence received after agenda circulated
 - (1) Tenovus - Invitation to Mobile Unit Awareness Day
 - (2) WAG - Borrowing by Community & Town Councils in 2010/11- Application form

695. Finance

Balances

Current Account: £7111.51 High Interest Account: £18695.10

Council Offices Account: £9543.34

NL pointed out that Scottish Power had, on 8th January, without notice, deducted £13673.79 by direct debit from the Offices account. This has now been reinstated into the account and a formal complaint has been raised with Scottish Power and they have been advised that HTC require reimbursement of the bank charges incurred.

Schedule of Cheques Issued/to be Issued

Period 5th January - 1st
February 2010

Date	Cheque Number	Payee	Details	Sub-total £	Amount £
Main Account - Cheques Issued					
07/01/2010	102223	RJ LX Lumiere	Xmas Lights 2nd inst less tools		1614.00
13/01/2010	102224	D Brown	Clock winding - qrter ending Dec09		100.00
18/01/2010	102225	Powys CC	Land Lease Rear Cartref 2009 &2010		100.00
18/01/2010	102226	Powys CC	Election Recharges May 2008		264.58
28/01/2010	102227	Powys CC	Playground Inspections		117.50

Main Account - Cheques to be Issued					
01/02/2010	102228	Coast 2 Coast	Supply of 2 Xmas trees 2008 & 2009		230.00
01/02/2010		BOSS	Inv 234477 - Files & Envelopes	48.17	
		BOSS	Inv 235061 - Rubber Date Stamp	17.92	
		BOSS	Inv 235308 - Rubber Stamp - HTC	17.82	
	102229	BOSS	Inv 235016- Ink, Diary, Toilet Tissue	95.83	179.74
01/02/2010	102230	PAVO	Minibus Hire		52.56
01/02/2010	102231	M Budd	Jan Salary		118.48
01/02/2010	102232	K Wilding	Jan Salary		98.72
01/02/2010		N Lewis	Jan Salary	639.15	
	102233	N Lewis	Jan Expenses	10.30	649.45
01/02/2010	102234	AS Davies	Repair Manhole cover, replace slabs		100.00

For information - Standing Orders

		MJ Eager	Tidying Recycling Area		50.00
			TOTAL		3675.03

Council Offices Account - Cheques Issued

Council Offices Account - to be Issued

For information - Standing Orders

		OTM	Grass Cutting		273.33
			TOTAL		273.33

696. Council Offices

NL reported that a second tenant had now given notice that he would be ending his lease with effect from 28th February 2010.

It was agreed that the rooms be advertised on the TC webpage and that also an advert be placed in the Wye Local.

GR reported that Geoff Petty Strategic Director(Finance and Infrastructure), Powys CC, had agreed to meet Councillor's to discuss a way forward so that HTC could continue to lease the Council Offices. NL to arrange a convenient date.

NL advised that he had discussed the outstanding Cleaning invoice with Cheryl Layton(Property Services), Powys CC and suggested a meeting to try and work out a compromise.

It was decided to leave this until the meeting with Geoff Petty.

It was reported that SL had arranged to get the tree cut down which is pushing out the wall at the Council offices. However when approached, G Eales, Powys CC had indicated that Powys CC were not willing to pay for a hire of a skip or any labour and suggested a site meeting.

It was decided to defer this item until the meeting with Geoff Petty.

NL pointed out that the electrical items in the offices should have been PAT tested in 2008.

It was agreed that NL should arrange for this to be carried out.

697. County Councillor's Report

GR advised that

(1) he had met with the Bronllys Hospital working group and that there was a meeting of the Community Stakeholder workshop on 10th February. FH confirmed that she would be attending.

(2) he had held a site meeting with Powys CC Officers in connection Grit Bins.

(3)there was a public meeting tomorrow night re Powys Schools Modernisation programme.

(4) he had held his monthly surgery and a representative from the Police had attended.

(5) there had been complaints about youths standing around the Town

Clock toilets in the evenings. Councillors raised concerns about the standard/condition of the toilets both at the Clock and in Oxford Road. GR to raise with Powys CC.

(6) there was a Neighbourhood Watch meeting arranged for 9th February.

(7) there was an Eastern Forum National Park meeting arranged for Tuesday 23rd February. DG to represent HTC.

(8) there were concerns that the Gate at the top of the Cemetery leading into Cemetery Lane was still locked. GR to raise with Annie Berry(Powys CC)

(9) BBNP were organising training on Planning procedures. It was agreed that NL would attend.

698. Chairman's report

FH read out an e-mail from PL who was unable to attend. Arising thereon

it was agreed that letters of congratulations be sent to: -

(1) Mike and Rachel Carnell on winning a Great taste award with their Ginger Marmalade.

(2) Medics4Timbuktu for achieving a United Nations Gold Star award in health.

(3) Jump4Timbuktu for achieving a United Nations Gold Star award in livelihoods.

It was also agreed to arrange a Civic Ceremony to welcome the representatives from Mali when they come over for the Gold Star Awards Ceremony on 1st March 2010. NL to liaise with PL regarding arrangements.

699. Sub Committees

Finance – nothing to report

Fishing and Estates – nothing to report

Christmas Lights – see earlier agenda item

Christmas Party – nothing to report.

Recycling Grants – nothing to report.

Twinning – nothing to report.

700. Reports from Representatives

Tourism Group – met on 26th January 2010. They wish to meet with the TC before they arrange another Open meeting. DG to liaise regarding a suitable date.

Dyfed/Powys Police – nothing to report.
Community Support – excellent recent meeting held.
Gwynne's Almshouses – nothing to report.
Dial-a- Ride – nothing to report.
Hay Youth Club – nothing to report.
Hay School Governors – meeting arranged for 4th February.
Community Centre Committee – nothing to report.
Gwernyfed Sports Centre – nothing to report.
One Voice Wales – nothing to report.
Health Focus Group – recently met with Doug Westhead who explained the new structure. It was also pointed out that anyone living in Wales who paid for a prescription in Hereford Hospital could now reclaim the prescription charge.
PACT – Fean not present.
Cheesemarket –NL read out the notes produced by John Evans regarding the recent meeting regarding the Cheesemarket project. It was agreed that this was a correct summary of the meeting with the exception of the suggestion regarding the reduction in time allowed to park from a 2 hour **maximum**(delete – minimum) charge to 1 hour. GR had pointed out that this was not possible as the Powys regulations state that where a charge is levied a **maximum**(delete – minimum) 2 hour period must apply.

Jett

701. Planning

GR left the meeting for this agenda item.

(a) Urgent Mayor and Deputy Mayor Authorisations

None received.

(b) Planning Applications for Comment

09/02815/FUL - Change of Use to retail premises to create a performance venue
– 44 Lion Street – No comments

702. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 1st March 2010.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9:45pm

Signed

Jane Howard

Date 1st March 2010