

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

Present:

Cllr F Howard (FH) Cllr D Gittins (DG) Cllr N Birch (NB)
Cllr K Showler (KS) Cllr R Golesworthy (RG) Cllr P Lloyd (PL)
Cllr S Like (SL)

Apologies:

Cllr M Fellowes (MF) County & Town Cllr G Ratcliffe (GR)
Cllr A Lloyd-Penny (ALP) Cllr J Kramer (JK)

In Attendance: Nigel Lewis, Clerk to the Council

703. Twinning Grant

FH welcomed Dr Julie Grigg (Hay2Timbuktu) and Roger Hammond (Living Earth) to the meeting. Dr Grigg gave details of the recent stampede in Timbuktu where over 20 people had been killed. A minutes silence was observed to commemorate the victims of this disaster.

Dr Grigg and Roger Hammond then explained that an opportunity existed for HTC to apply for a Grant from the European Commission to support Local Authorities in terms of International Development where the country of origin rather than the overseas country benefits. They outlined how the people of Hay might benefit through projects in connection with music in schools, sport, engaging elderly people etc. In order to be considered for this grant the Council had to register and submit a concept note to the EC by 25th February 2010.

SL concerned that there appeared to be separate factions within the Hay2Timbuktu Group and not all were following the correct procedures laid down with regard to reporting back to the Council.

It was agreed that this be discussed at a special meeting be arranged prior to the next scheduled Council meeting.

704. Declarations of Interest

PL – Community Enterprise CIC, Hay Parochial Church Council, Hay 2 Timbuktu Co Ltd

705. Minutes of Meeting dated 1st February 2010

The minutes of the meetings held on 1st February 2010 were signed as a correct record subject to the following amendment:-

Item 700 - Cheesemarket paragraph - lines 6 & 7 amend "minimum" to "maximum".

706. MATTERS ARISING

a. Black Lion Green

NL advised that he had n't yet contacted Paul Clayden, CE of the Local Councils Advisory Service for advice on this matter.

b. Office Lease Debt

A letter had been received from PD pointing out certain issues that she felt should be taken into account but also advising that she would like to amicably resolve the matter.

Agreed that NL reply to letter answering the points raised and invite PD to meet with PL, DG and NL to try to resolve the matter.

c. Childrens Play Areas

Hay & District Sports and Community Assoc Ltd had written to advise that they were prepared to enter into a joint venture to try and secure funding for this project.

Resolved that FH, GR and NL meet with Mr Leon Morelli and other representatives of the Association to agree a way forward.

d. High Sheriff's Award

NL advised that the nomination of Derek and Gaynor Keeble for a High Sheriff's Award had been successful and that the ceremony would take place on 16th March at 6:30pm at the Royal welsh Showground. FH to advise Derek and Gaynor.

e. Public Toilets

GR be asked to report the latest position at the next meeting as to whether Powys CC intended carrying out any improvements. It was agreed that that the Council support the Chamber of Commerce in their efforts to persuade Powys CC to make improvements before the start of the tourist season.

f. Cemetery Gate

Powys CC had advised that were not willing to unlock the gate.

g. Any Other Matters arising not listed

No other matters arising.

707. Christmas Lights

NL advised that GR was working on the proposal to concentrate the lights over a smaller area in the centre of town.

R Gardner had advised NL that he did not have his own Insurance in relation to putting up and taking down the lights. It was agreed that without Insurance it would not be possible for him to do this work in future.

It was also agreed that the Christmas Lights sub-C'tee meet as soon as GR had finished his proposal.

708. Meeting with Land Registry

PL, RG, DG and NL had met with representatives of the Land Registry who advised that it would be in the Council's interest to register all land that the Council owned. It was agreed that NL liaise with Jane Reynolds of the Land Registry to complete registration forms and to include the land at the bottom of Wyeford Road.

It was also agreed, following advice received from the representatives of the Land Registry, that signs should be erected at the bottom of Wyeford Road stating that car parking was at the owners risk.

709. Allotments

NL advised that he was waiting for Adrian Walsh, who was involved with Allotment Initiative projects in South and Mid Wales, to come back with advice as to the best approach to be taken to try to secure grant aid. SL to contact Ros Garrett to explain the reasons for the lack of progress.

710. Town Walk

(a) Trees on the Railway Line Embankments

Concern was expressed about the random felling of trees on the embankments. It was suggested that we approach Brecon Beacons National Park to enquire whether they would carry out a survey of the trees along the railway line.

It was agree that a letter should be sent to all residents whose gardens

back onto the Railway Line embankment advising them that (1) their gardens should not encroach onto the Council land (2) there should be no fly tipping (3) that they are not permitted to cut down any trees on HTC land (4) they do not have access from the rear of their property onto HTC land. SL to provide a list of names and addresses of the residents who should receive the letter.

RG advised that Alan Jenkins did not have a copy of the Railways Board Transfer map and suggested that Mike Harris may have a copy.

(b) Gaps in hedge - Lane to The Warren

It was confirmed that these would be repaired in the next two weeks.

(c) Sale of land at Warren Close

NL to check minutes of previous meetings to establish what had been agreed re price etc.

(d) Railway Line Tidy Up

It was suggested that we organise a Tidy Up day and try to involve various groups for volunteers eg Youth club, Transition town. It was thought that a chipper would be required for a couple of days to chip all the branches that were now lying on the embankments. NL to check with BBNP to establish whether it is a recognised area for bats and doormice.

711. Town Crier

(a) Outfit

NL advised that two quotes had been received from M Budd and Badders Fabric, Hereford (by telephone) both for £1000 but Badders were unable to guarantee completion before September. It was agreed to accept M Budd's quote and NL to advise her to go proceed with making the outfit.

(b) Event to mark the Retirement of current Town Crier

Agreed that this be discussed at the Special meeting later in the month.

712. Recycling Sub C'tee

The Recycling sub Committee had met and recommended that

- (1) Hay & District Community support should be paid the balance of their previous application amounting to £175 which had been withheld pending receipt of additional recycling income.

Resolved : Payment to be made

- (2) Screen at Hay be asked to provide further financial information.

Resolved : NL to ask for more information.

- (3) Fair in the Square be asked to complete the Grant application Form in order for their application to be considered.

713. Questions from the Public

Ainsleigh Rice, Transition Hay sought the Council's approval to hold a Waste Not Want Not Day as well as a Transport Day. No objections were raised.

714. Correspondence

- a) BBNP - Erection of non-illuminated sign, The Globe - Permission granted
- b) Powys CC - Change of Use of Buildings, Gipsy Castle Farm - Permission granted
- c) NSPCC - Invitation to become a campaign partner to raise awareness of NSPCC Helpline
- d) Dyfed Powys Police - Invitation to Community Consultative Meetings in February
- e) Powys CC - Copy of Lease re land at rear of Cartref
- f) WAG - Consultation document on Review of Councillor's Allowances Regulations
- g) E-mail from M & K Hainge re Waitrose rumour - replied to by Cllr GR
- h) R Gardner - Christmas Lights meter readings
- i) Land Registry - Voluntary Registration Pack
- j) MR Budd - Quote for Town Crier Outfit
- k) Hay & District Community Support - Recycling Grant application
- l) Screen at Hay - Recycling Grant application
- m) Powys CC - Report on Winter Services
- n) Powys CC - Recycling Sites - Revised Adopt-a-Site Agreement
- o) BDO - Audit Briefing 2010

NL advised that the briefing highlighted that a financial risk assessment should be undertaken and approved at a Council meeting before 31st March. Agreed that this be put on the agenda for the special meeting later in the month.

- p) Wye & Usk Foundation - Magazine & Request for Donation

715. Finance

Balances

Current Account: £5380.48 High Interest Account: £18695.10

Council Offices Account: £3267.69

Schedule of Cheques Issued/to be Issued

Period 2nd February 2010 - 1st March 2010

Date	Cheque Number	Payee	Details	Sub- total £	Amount £
Main Account - Cheques Issued					
15/02/2010	102235	Powys CC	Erect & Dismantle Xmas Lights 2008		307.71

Main Account - Cheques to be Issued					
01/03/2010	102236	Brecon Scaffolding	Hire of Octopussy		305.52
01/03/2010		M Budd	Feb Salary	128.65	
	102237	M Budd	Feb Expenses	1.44	130.09
01/03/2010		N Lewis	Feb Salary	639.15	
	102238	N Lewis	Feb Expenses	9.63	648.78
01/03/2010	102239	BOSS	Inv 238589 - 3 ink cartridges		54.00

For information - Standing Orders

		MJ Eager	Tidying Recycling Area		50.00
			TOTAL		1496.10

Council Offices Account - Cheques Issued

Council Offices Account - to be Issued

For information - Standing Orders/Direct Debits

		Scottish Power	Electricity April 2008 - 2nd Feb 2010		7390.99
		OTM	Grass Cutting		273.33
			TOTAL		7664.32

716. Council Offices

Electric update – FH declared an interest

NL reported that the Electrician had advised that the Inspection was more involved than first thought and that the complete Inspection would cost £775. NL had obtained approval from the Finance sub-C'tee for the work to be completed.

The Inspection report indicated that there were a considerable number of

faults that needed rectifying and although in some instances it was difficult to estimate the costs, it was likely to be at least £4000 - £5000. This could increase depending upon what improvements were made to the heating system and whether whole circuits needed rewiring. The meeting with Geoff Petty, Strategic Director, Powys CC was scheduled for 11th March 2010 and a way forward would then be discussed.

NL advised that Philip Sayce had taken up tenancy of one of the offices with effect from 1st March 2010, but he had also received verbal notification that another tenant would not be renewing his agreement after 31st March and consequently there would be two vacant offices from that date.

NL pointed out that he had not yet been able to meet with SG(Annexe) to discuss last years undercharge and the revised rental with effect from December 2009.

717. County Councillor's Report

GR not in attendance.

718. Chairman's report

FH advised that she had recently attended Nell Chillingford's 96th Birthday Party and the Presentation of the Gold Star Awards to Medics4Timbuktu and Jump4Timbuktu.

719. Sub Committees

Finance – NL to arrange a meeting
Fishing and Estates – nothing to report
Christmas Lights – see earlier agenda item
Christmas Party – nothing to report.
Recycling Grants – see earlier agenda item
Twinning – see earlier agenda item

720. Reports from Representatives

Tourism Group – Luke Skinner met with Town Council before this evening's meeting. He advised that approximately 200 of the Public Survey questionnaires had been returned and the interim results were on the whole fairly positive. They aimed to produce an action plan based upon the results and present this together with the results at a Public meeting which was yet to be arranged.
Dyfed/Powys Police – nothing to report.
Community Support – meeting arranged for next week.

Gwynne's Almshouses – nothing to report.
Dial-a- Ride – nothing to report.
Hay Youth Club – nothing to report.
Hay School Governors – nothing to report.
Community Centre Committee – nothing to report.
Gwernyfed Sports Centre – nothing to report.
One Voice Wales – nothing to report.
Health Focus Group – nothing to report
PACT – Fean not present.
Cheesemarket – the questionnaire, letter and architect's drawings outlining the proposal were now ready to be sent out. Powys CC were not prepared to transfer the property to the CIC until the Glanusk Estate have given written confirmation that the use complied with deeds dated 1901 and 1904. To date this had not been received.

721. Planning

(a) Urgent Mayor and Deputy Mayor Authorisations

None received.

(b) Planning Applications for Comment

10/04465/FUL - Change of Use to retail unit to Chartered Surveyor's Office – Pavement House – No comments

722. Date of Next Meeting

Special Meeting - Monday 22nd March 2010.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 10:25pm

Signed



Date 12th April 2010