

# CYNGOR TREF **LLANIDLOES** TOWN COUNCIL

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## **MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, LLANIDLOES ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7PM.**

Present: Councillors Mr J Jones (Mayor), Dr J G Hughes (Deputy Mayor), Mr A Bennett, Mr G Davies, Mrs T Davies, Mr D Craig, Mrs E Leguay, Mrs K Hawkins-Selly, Mr A Morel, Mr G Macarthur, Mr G Preston.

Via Zoom: Councillor Mrs A M Jones.

Youth Panel: Ms L Schultz.

1 member of the Press  
2 members of the public

### **507.1 PRELIMINARIES - MAYOR**

1. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Mr G Morgan and Mrs A Morgan who were on holiday. Apologies were also received and accepted from Ms C Hawkins-Selly who had another engagement with Young Farmers Club.
2. Personal and pecuniary interests in items of business were received and accepted from:

Councillor G Preston in any matters relating to Powys County Council as a County Councillor

Councillor K Hawkins-Selly in any matters relating to Llanidloes Youth Club as a Committee member.

### **507.2 ADMINISTRATION – MAYOR/TOWN CLERK**

1. The minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 July 2024 were approved as a true record.
2. The following planning applications had been circulated via email since the last meeting:
  - i. Affix a connectorised block terminal at the following properties:  
15 Great Oak Street, Llanidloes SY18 6BU

Great Oak Café, Llanidloes, SY18 6BU  
Dresden House, 28 Great Oak Street, Llanidloes, SY18 6BU  
35 Great Oak Street, Llanidloes, SY18 6BU  
34 Great Oak Street, Llanidloes, SY18 6BU  
2 Great Oak Street, Llanidloes, SY18 6BN (emailed on 18.9.24).

- ii. Replacement windows and external doors at The Birch, High Street, Llanidloes, SY18 6DB
- iii. Alternations to building to create a residential flat and additional floor class A3, installation of PV roof panels and all associated works at Bethel Hall, Bethel Street, Llanidloes, SY18 6BS
- iv. Replacement of existing windows at 11 Cambrian Place, Llanidloes, SY18 6BX

No objections were raised.

3. Local organisations/individuals to receive letter of thanks for services to the Community:
  - i. Chamber of Trade in connection with Llani Live event
  - ii. Rev A Gwlachmai for the use of the church for the Powys Teaching Health Board meeting
  - iii. Mr Colin Jones, Sunnyhurst, for voluntary work in the town.
4. Privacy Notice document was considered and adopted.
5. Annual and Biodiversity Reports requirements were discussed. Town Clerk advised Councillors that an Annual Report should be prepared detailing Town Council activity. This had not previously been produced. Additionally there is a legal requirement on Councils to produce a Biodiversity Report every 3 years, the latest should have been completed in 2022 but was overlooked. Proposed that the Annual Report and Biodiversity Report (which can be included in the Annual Report) will now be prepared in April/May 2025. This was accepted.
6. Councillors Questions – with the use of hybrid options for meetings now in place a Councillor indicated that the in person option was prioritised with the hope that joining online would be used where formal attendance was not possible.
7. Agreed date of next Council meeting to be 21 October 2024, 7pm to avoid school holiday week.

### **507.3 ESTABLISHMENT – MAYOR/TOWN CLERK**

1. Update on the following matters was received from County Councillor Mr G Preston:
  - i) New Play Park provision. Meeting had been arranged with local residents who were campaigning for better play park facilities. Further updates will be brought back to Council.
  - ii) Bus Service consultation is in course. Councillors agreed that provision which matched timetables with trains at Caersws would be beneficial.

2. Progress with acquiring a lease on Llanidloes Youth Centre had been delayed as the specification to obtain quotes had not progressed. Town Clerk advised this had now been taken back in hand and quotes for the work would be requested as soon as possible. Submission of funding request to local wind farm charity would now be made.
3. Gro Toilets/Town Hall Toilets – the costs of operating these facilities continued to rise, with the latter showing an estimated annual shortfall of c£3k, the latter, c£5/6k. Councillors agreed a proposal to harmonise the cost of entry to 50p at each unit with an adjustment to longer opening times at the Gro to be implemented.
4. Information on play park provision in Llanidloes had been discussed under item 507.3.1.
5. Information on a proposed housing development of the Sandringham Leather Building on Eastgate Street, Llanidloes had been circulated. A display request in the Town Hall foyer as part of the 28 days consultation period, from JJP Services, was approved.
6. Finalised the purchase of a Talking bench.
7. Email from Ron Bailey re the safety of lithium batteries was considered and agreement given to support this campaign.
8. Yellow Lines/Parking – letters from residents in connection with parking adjustments involving yellow lines in Llanidloes had been circulated. A meeting request to discuss with Powys County Council had been rebuffed. It was agreed that contact would be made again to obtain information regarding disabled spaces provision at the top of Great Oak Street and investigate an area of land near Dolgwenith that might be suitable for a parking area. Councillor Preston advised that he had a meeting arranged with concerned residents of this area.
9. An email from Powys County Council re flower planters near the new signage into Llanidloes was considered. Town Clerk advised that a request to the author of the email for a contact re issuing a licence and indemnity had not received a response thus far so it was agreed to defer until that response was received.
10. The future operation of the Market Hall was deferred to the next Regeneration, Development and Events Committee meeting.
11. Submission of expression of interest form to Powys County Council for transfer of land at Maesydre was confirmed.
12. Emails from residents in connection with provision of cash machines in Llanidloes was considered. This item was outside the remit of the Town Council but a suggestion was made that the Chamber of Trade might produce a list of businesses that provide cash back facilities for residents.

13. It was agreed that the petition, which had over 2,500 signatures, in connection with challenges to Powys Teaching Health Board proposals for Llanidloes War Memorial Hospital should be delivered to the next Llais meeting.

#### **507.4 FINANCE – MAYOR/CHAIR OF FINANCE/TOWN CLERK**

1. Received and approved the following financial documents:
  - i) Bank Reconciliation as at 31.8.24 with CCLA PSDF statement.
  - ii) Aged debtor list as at 31.8.24 - £775.62 outstanding from 1 debtor representing 4 months rent. Councillors confirmed no action to be taken.
  - iii) Actual vs Budget figures to 31.8.24 were considered. Budget needs adjustment re Cemetery and Gro Toilets acquisitions but overall actual position is c£6k better than budget after adjustment for £9.5k rates refund re Library/Museum.
2. Approved accounts for payment awaiting authorisation totalling £9,571.74 + vat.
3. Councillors noted accounts paid through ongoing variable instructions for July 2024 (£12,034.69 inc Vat) and August 2024 (£6,555.03 inc Vat). Councillors were asked to note that Staff NI/PAYE is now paid quarterly rather than monthly following movement to a direct debit system.

#### **507.5 COMMITTEE**

The following was read by the Chair:

Pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following item:

‘Discuss and, if desired, agree the proposal for the operation of Dolhafren Cemetery from 2025 onwards’

The member of the Press and 2 members of the public left the meeting.

A paper prepared by the Town Clerk which detailed the proposed operational arrangements for Dolhafren Cemetery from 2025 onwards was considered and approved.