# CYNGOR TREF LLANIDLOES TOWN COUNCIL

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# MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, LLANIDLOES ON 27 JANUARY 2025 AT 7PM.

Present: Dr J G Hughes (Deputy Mayor & Chair), Mr A Bennett, Mr G Morgan, Mrs A Morgan, Mr G Davies, Mrs T Davies, Mr D Craig, Mrs K Hawkins-Selly, Mr G Macarthur, Mr G Preston.

No Zoom contributors.

#### **MEETING NUMBER: 511**

#### **511.1 PRELIMINARIES**

1. The Chair reminded those present that it was Holocaust Memorial Day. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from:

Mayor J Jones Councillor A M Jones Councillor E Leguay Councillor A Morel

2. Received and accepted personal and pecuniary interests in items of business as follows:

Cllr G Morgan – any items relating to Powys County Council as a County Councillor Cllr G Preston – any items relating to Powys County Council as a County Councillor Cllr K Hawkins-Selly – any items relating to Llanidloes Youth Centre as a Committee member.

#### **511.2 ADMINISTRATION**

- 1. The minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2024 were approved as a true record.
- 2. Planning applications for consideration were received as follows:

The following applications had been emailed to Councillors on 24 January 2025:

- a. The Old Mill Bar, 40 High Street, Llanidloes, SY18 6BZ. Town & Country Planning Act 1990. Demolition of function room and erection of three terraced dwellings, including alterations to existing mill and change of use of ground floor to D1. Reference 25/0101/FUL.
- b. The Old Mill Bar, 40 High Street, Llanidloes, SY18 6BZ. Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 Consultation. Demolition of function room and erection of three terraced dwellings, including alterations to existing mill and change of use of ground floor to D1. Reference 25/0102/LBC.

No objections raised.

The following application was emailed to Councillors on 27 January 2025:

a. 11 Cambrian Place, Llanidloes, SY18 6BX. Appeal against refusal for replacement of windows. Ref: CAS-03900-C5C1C4

It was agreed to write to the planning officer supporting the resident's appeal given wooden frames were being used and double glazing to reduce energy costs had been proposed. Conservation area requirements were the reason for refusal.

- 3. Letters of thanks for services to the Community were agreed as follows:
  - 1. Nigel (Shane) Jones Firefighter who had retired after a long and distinguished career.
  - 2. Richard Jarman for hedge work undertaken at Dolhafren Cemetery on a gratis basis.
- 4. Digital Health Check Survey of the Town Council, undertaken by One Wales, was circulated.

Conclusion was that the Town Council demonstrated a good standard of digital maturity and ensured compliance with expectations as set out by legislation. Town Clerk advised that there was a need to ensure that all Councillors used their @llanidloestowncouncil.gov.wales email addresses, particularly to assist in any Freedom of Information requests that might be received. Support offered.

- 5. Training Plan Councillors were advised that the publication of a training plan was required. Town Clerk advised that contact would be made in the near future to agree training requirements on an individual basis.
- 6. Retention and Disposal Policy policy document was circulated. There are many old records within the Town Hall which either require archiving or destroying. Confirmed that any archived documents would be catalogued. CCTV requirements would be investigated. Policy adopted.
- 7. No Councillors questions received
- 8. Date of next meeting 24 February 2025 7pm.

## 511.3 ESTABLISHMENT – MAYOR/TOWN CLERK

1. Information and updates from County Councillors were received as follows:

Cllr G Morgan – no items. Cllr G Preston:

- i. Had attended Sustainable Powys Meeting. 2 presentations had been made. Powys County Council and Powys Teaching Health Board. Both highlighted difficult financial positions.
- ii. A meeting with James Thomson from Powys Council Waste Management re dog mess was planned following complaints.

iii. Active Travel Scheme – Engagement from Powys County Council had been poor with residents in Hillfields being advised after work had started. Meeting with residents had been arranged.

- Llanidloes Hospital computer issues Re Minute Ref 510.3. Town Clerk had contacted Llanidloes Hospital and it transpired that the computer issue was temporary due to a bug which resulted in them not being able access Health Board records. Newtown hospital could so appointment for resident was redirected.
- 3. Llanidloes Youth Centre there is little progress and Councillor Preston agreed to contact Powys County Council to attempt to move the project forward. A further quote for the refurbishment work was awaited and a meeting had been held with a project manager who had offered to assist on a pro bono basis.
- 4. Gro Toilets Lease from Powys County Council had been circulated. Moved that this be forwarded to solicitors for advice and guidance. A condition report was also recommended.
- 5. Old Market Hall a visit to the property had been undertaken by the Chair of the Regeneration, Development and Events Committee and the Town Clerk. There were issues with plaster falling from the internal walls and green mould appearing on the outside. It was obvious that funds would need to be spent before re-opening could be considered. A meeting between Powys County Council and Councillors is to be arranged.
- 6. Office space in Town Hall Council was informed that a tenant had given notice to vacate on 31 March 2025 and this would result in 3 offices being empty. Council agreed that Morris, Marshall & Poole (MMP) could be approached to seek tenants via a marketing campaign.
- 7. Allt Goch Woods tree survey survey results were to hand from a surveyor with a recommendation for some immediate work in the woods to ensure safety. Quotes for this work to be obtained.
- 8. Covid 19 day of reflection 9 March 2025 the Government had suggested this day and Council agreed that the Talking bench could be sited and dedicated on this day by way of acknowledgement. A local craftsman had been commissioned to construct the bench at a cost of £200 (£650 was original cost from Glasdon).

# 511.4 FINANCE – MAYOR/CHAIR OF FINANCE/TOWN CLERK

- 1. Received and approved the following financial documents:
  - i) Bank Reconciliation as at 31.12.24 with CCLA PSDF statement. Reconciliation and bank statements had been verified and signed by Councillor G Morgan as per Financial Regulation 2.6.
  - ii) Aged debtor list as at 31.12.24 totalling £4,809.62 of which £1831 was received after 31.12.24. No action proposed.
  - iii) Actual vs Budget figures to 31.12.24. Better than expected results from Cemetery operations coupled with a non-recurring rates refund of £9.5k had

resulted in better than expected performance. Actual figures were  $\pounds 6.9k$  better than budget.

- 2. Approved accounts for payment awaiting authorisation totalling £4,133.45.
- 3. Accounts paid through ongoing variable instructions in December 2024 totalling £9,736.69 were noted.
- 4. Llanidloes Joint Burial Committee Wales Audit had previously been advised that no internal/external audit was proposed as Committee had been dissolved. Contact received advising that an annual return to 31 March 2024 was required. Return had been prepared and was proposed for acceptance. Motion agreed save 1 abstention. Return signed by Town Clerk and former chair of the Committee.
- 5. Sandringham Leather Building development payment to Town Council of £7,500 for use on green spaces (Victoria Avenue play area) had been agreed with the developer's agent.

### **511.5 COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was 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(s):

The Town Clerk broadly outlined a proposal to restructure operational arrangements within the Town Hall, outlying assets and Dolhafren Cemetery. A formal business plan would be prepared and considered by Finance, Staffing and Town Hall Committee before submission to Council.