

Minutes of the Meeting of Montgomery Town Council held on Thursday 22nd February 2018 at 7.15 pm in Montgomery Town Hall, Broad Street, Montgomery.

Present: Cllr L Weaver (Town Mayor) Cllr H Andrew (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillors: M Mills, D Jones, C Thomas, J Kibble, C Weston, D Jaunzens.

Mr Till Powis Castle Estates attended the meeting to give updates on the Brades Development and Verlon. He had met with Powys CC highways representative to discuss ideas on how they could develop a new road between Station Road and Pool Road to service the new development, there were a number of ideas discussed but nothing positive at present.

Mr Till requested that council contact PCC with a view to obtaining Traffic Service Data. These developments are for the future.

Absent Cllr W Beavan

MINUTE 155 – APOLOGIES

Cllr D Jones - Work

MINUTE 156 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations

MINUTE 157 – MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Cllr Weaver advised tickets were nearly sold out for the Mayors Ball

MINUTE 158 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved to approve the minutes of the last meeting on 25th January 2018 which were signed by the Chairman following amendments.

MINUTE 159 – MATTERS ARISING

- Paint pots had been removed
- Problem with highway entrance to castle car park had been reported to PCC

MINUTE 160 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P2018/0057 – Erection of single storey extension Cwm Cottage Sarn
No objection

MINUTE 161 – REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCIILLOR

1. Cllr Hayes informed that council tax will rise by 5% 2018-2019.
2. Financial focus for the County Council were Social Services, children's and adults in particular.
3. Powys Recycling had won an award for saving the most quantity of carbon
4. Bins at Recycling Site had been moved slightly, town council need to review the situation prior to arranging a meeting with PCC officers at the site.
5. Resurfacing is ongoing.
6. Nat West representative is talking to bosses regarding mobile banking

MINUTE 162 – HIGHWAYS

- Drains on Conduit need attention, 50% of drains are blocked in the town.
- Letter to resident regarding overhanging hedges in Princes Street and Arthur Street, these hedges are causing pedestrians to walk in the road.

MINUTE 163 – TOWN HALL

- A vast amount of work had been carried out on stage light switches.
- A combination lock will be fitted on the board
- Cllr Mills has completed and sent the initial application for grant funding.
- Financial Forecasts have been sent to WAG
- Cllr Mills advised that a 2.7% interest rate on a £200k loan over 20 years would incur a precept amount of £11.5k per annum.
- Cllr Weston asked if MCBPT needed new trustees and would they be happy for her to advertise this on social media, a representative from the group advised that that would be helpful.
- Cllr Thomas will update guidelines for use of the Town Hall kitchen.
- As advised at January's meeting it is the responsibility of the hirer to ensure they follow suitable hygiene protocol when providing goods for coffee mornings etc.
- Cllr Jaunzens asked whose responsibility was it to empty and clean the dishwasher. Cllr Thomas advised that hirers would be expected to leave the dishwasher in a suitable condition but ultimately the Caretaker would be responsible to make sure the dishwasher was in a suitable condition for the next hirer to use.
- Cllr Jones advised that one of the trestles had been used by Harry Ray during the auction and been left broken. Letter to Harry Ray
- Having read and discussed the letter from market traders it was agreed that users of the Town Hall must accept that work needs to be undertaken from time to time. Councillors are willing to work with traders and listen to any ideas to help them during this time.

MINUTE 164 – TOURISM

- Cllr Kibble requested information for any events during 2018 for the events sheet she is compiling.
- Harp event had been very successful and people from far and wide had attended.
- It is possible that harpists from Paraguay will be visiting in October.
- A number of residents have signed up for the Open Gardens event in June.
- Tour operator guide is at present under discussion.
- A date for the trails launch has yet to be arranged.
- Cllr Weaver thanked Cllr Kibble for arranging the harp event.

MINUTE 165 – DESTINATION MONTGOMERY

- Additional trails are nearly complete
- Brown signs are the next priority for the group.
- Facebook training is ongoing and has been very well received
- Cashflow problem is improving following communications between Cllr Mills and Arwain.
- Page in County Times is excellent, Cllr Thomas reminded everyone that they must endeavor to feed as much news as possible to Mr. Lawson.
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MINUTE 166 – SITING OF PLAQUE FROM BARDS OF WALES PROJECT

- All Councillors and public present were given the opportunity to view the plaque.
- A number of suggestions were made to where the plaque may be best presented to the public.
- Inside foyer at Town Hall. Castle Grounds. Castle Car Park entrance. Information Centre. The Pump (corner of Church Bank and Princes Street).

A proposal was made to place the plaque in the foyer of the Town Hall. Proposal not carried. Proposal for a suitable space to be found on Castle Grounds or car park. Resolved to accept this proposal.

Contact to be made with CaDW.

MINUTE 167 – CHARGING POINTS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

- Cllr Mills has been in touch with a gentleman in Yockleton who has details on how to go forward with this idea, there is funding for this at the moment. Agreed to contact the gentleman and advise we would value his input.
- Recycling site would be suitable for this.

MINUTE 168 – LAW COMMISSION DOCUMENT

Cllr Kibble is looking into this document

MINUTE 169 – COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL

- Cllr Mills had been very successful in obtaining grants for this project amounting to £20k.
- Discussions are taking place between the Council and Paul Hodgson regarding the timings of the County Memorial Service to include lighting of the beacon"
- A communication will be made to councils in Powys asking them for a donation towards the refurbishment of the Memorial.
- Bells will be rung in the morning of Remembrance Sunday 2018 "muffled" and then again at 7pm "un-muffled" to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the 1st World War.

MINUTE 170 – ONE VOICE WALES AND SLCC -SUBS

Resolved to pay both of the above subscriptions for 2018-2019

MINUTE 171 – DATA PROTECTION

A letter had been received from JDH Business Services offering their services as Data Protection officer.

As talks are going ahead at present to discuss this issue no final decision will be made as yet.

MINUTE 172 – FINANCE

	PAYMENTS FEBRUARY 2018	
D/D	British Telecom	6.12
	Positive Energy – electric	183.89
BACS	Salaries	1269.32
	HMRC – Tax	34.80
	Smith of Derby – clock	180.00
	G Smith Expenses	71.20
	Cae Post – Waste	102.00
	Water Plus – Town Hall	113.77
	Water Plus – Toilets	94.28
	Eric Neville – supplies	91.84
	Stannah -Stair Lift Service	177.50
	Dave Phillips Electrical	554.72
	Robin Huw Bowen – Harp Concert	500.00
	E on Toilets	41.22
	DESTINATION MONTGOMERY	
Chq 63	MCCP – Facebook training	100.00
BACS	Staff Salary	915.28
	HMRC – TAX & NI	221.06
	Expenses	195.85

Resolved to accept the above payments

MINUTE 173 – CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was noted

MINUTE 174 – REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL BODIES

- Cllr Kibble had attended a Scrutiny Committee meeting with Carwyn Jones First Minister in attendance. The theme for Visit Wales this year was Year of the Sea, a suggestion was made for a theme on food which appeared to be well accepted.

MINUTE 175 – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Staff Performance - Environmental Health

Cluster Footpath Project

Electric Car Points

Playgrounds