

**Minutes of a Meeting of Usk Town Council held at The Sessions House,
Usk on Monday 13th July 2015 at 7.30pm.**

Prior to the meeting PC Rhydian Evans gave the June 2015 crime report for the Usk area.

Present: Cllr D Harding, Cllrs A Leathwood, R. Galletley, Cllr Mrs. J. Jeremiah, Cllrs M Evans, T Watkins, Mrs. C. Williams, G Roderick, C. Cllr B Strong
Ms J Mee - Sessions House Manager/Responsible Finance Officer

5.8 To Accept Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Keenan, Phillips and Mrs. Wilkinson

5.9 To disclose personal and pecuniary interest in items of business listed below:

County Cllr Strong – All planning

Cllr M Evans Planning Application DC/2015/00722, 44 Ladyhill

**6.0 To Approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on
8th June 2015**

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record and duly signed.

**6.1 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on
8th June 2015**

There were none

6.2 To receive the financial statement of accounts for June 2015

Councillors received the list of receipts and payments.

The reconciliation for June 2015 showed no erroneous receipts or payments.

6.3 To receive a report from the Sessions House Management Committee and to discuss a designated smoking area within the Sessions House grounds

- See report dated 6th July

- Regarding a designated smoking area

Resolved:

There is to be a “no smoking policy” in the Sessions House grounds.
As a result of this decision relevant signage is to be put up around the building and notification of this to be included in letting agreements.

6.4 To receive the latest report on the Movement of Prisoners from HMP Usk to HMP Prescoed.

Information regarding this matter is available to all residents on the local Electoral register on request from the Clerk.

Exclusion of Press and Public

By virtue of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public are excluded from discussions on the items listed on the basis that disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Council went into Committee to discuss the Movement of Prisoners from HMP Usk to HMP Prescoed and also to discuss items 6.5 and (see below)

6.5 To Receive an update on the proposed skate park/Borstal Field

Following discussion Council came out of Committee and returned to the main meeting

6.6 Planning Applications.

DC/2015/00648 Conversion of garage into day room and change its current flat roof to lean to type roof **39 Priory Gardens Usk NP15 1BB**
Recommend Approval

DC/2015/00622 Refrigeration Plant & AC installations, redecoration & installations internally & externally **Co-op 51 Bridge Street**
Recommend Approval

DC/2015/00710 Double rear extension – erection of two storey extension to rear of property with bi-folding doors onto patio area, Juliette Balcony to upstairs, extended bedroom and part glass roof to small area of downstairs extension. **Hafod Wen Monmouth Road**
Recommend Approval

DC/2015/00722 **Demolition** of existing double garage. Division of garden to create 2 new dwelling plots. Erection of pair of semi-detached houses adjacent to existing house on Ladyhill; and erection of terrace of 3 single garages at the end of access road to the rear of Ladyhill properties. 1 to be included within remaining cartilage of existing house and other 2 to be allocated to new dwellings. **44 Ladyhill Usk**
Recommend Approval

6.7 To receive a Report from the Traffic & HGVs Committee

Cllr Leathwood along with Gareth Edwards has recently attended an Air Quality meeting with MCC in order to revisit the action plan linked to HGV's travelling through Usk.

Cllr Leathwood reported that it became apparent during discussions that UTC will not be included in MCC's talks with the Police.

Cllr Leathwood therefore asked UTC for authorization to write directly to the Police Constable in order to seek permission to attend the meeting.

Resolved:

- Usk TC granted authorization to Cllr Leathwood to seek permission directly from the Police Constable to attend meetings with the Police and MCC.
- Usk TC to request from MCC the details of dates and times of the lorries travelling through Usk during Lorry Watch. These will then be submitted to the Traffic Commissioner.

6.8 To receive an update on the "Give Dog Fouling the Red Card" pilot scheme.

Resolved:

There is to be a meeting with UTC and Sue Parkinson MCC next week in order to progress the scheme.

6.9 To receive an update on the notice boards outside the Co-op Stores.

- The Notice board is now insitu.
Usk Open Gardens has donated £250 to the notice board. Discussion followed as to whether the height of the notice board should be increased by 1ft.

Resolved:

Following a vote it was resolved that there be no increase in the height of the notice board.

- There is unnecessary street furniture outside the Co-op chained to the bike rack area.

Resolved:

The bike fastened to the Usk map sign along with a zimmer frame is to be removed.

7.0 To receive an update on Community Speed Watch

The scheme is now operational.

It was reported that the Police will take forward the case of a motorist doing 60mph along Abergavenny Road.

7.1 To discuss the state of the Priory in St. Mary's Way

Cllrs Watkins, Galletley and Rodderick will attend a meeting this week with MCC.

7.2 To discuss Usk in Bloom – Champion of Champions and receive an update on Twyn Square

Preparations are ongoing and improvements are being made around the Town.

Resolved:

- The Wishing Well in Twyn Square is under construction.
- Temporary improvements have been made to the grassy bank opposite Usk Primary School. MCC have plans to introduce parking bays along this stretch of road.

7.3 To Review the recent Civic Service

Cllr Harding said that this had been a truly memorable day.

He thanked everyone for their support and in particular Jenny and Lyn for their wonderful catering.

Resolved:

- The rehearsal prior to the Civic Service was considered to very beneficial. This practice will be adopted for future Civic Services.
- Cllr Galletley to bestow the copyright of the music for "The Mayor Elect" to UTC.

7.4 To review the Summer Festival

Reports are that the Summer Festival had gone well.

Resolved:

- The summer festival will undergo a review for next year.
- It is hoped that the Chamber of Commerce will become more involved and there are thoughts about holding the markets on the Owain Glyndawr field. Discussions will take place at a later date.

7.5 To Receive Reports from Members serving on other bodies

❖ 20MPH through Usk

Resolved:

MCC and the Police are to seek approval and it is hoped the 20MPH limit will be introduced by the end of the year.

❖ Greenwall Project

Transition Usk reported that there is a positive impact in growing plants against walls in Bridge Street to help combat the air pollution. Areas in Usk have been identified but this would be a costly exercise and it was considered that property owners may object.

Resolved:

Transition Usk wish to meet with UTC and Usk in Bloom to discuss the possibility of a Green wall project.

❖ Community Engagement.

The sub- committee meets every Thursday following a Full Council meeting.

Resolved:

In order to keep people informed relevant UTC issues are posted in the notice board.

7.6 To Review the recent Velathon

The Police reported that they had received only low impact calls related to the Velathon and that debriefing exercises will address all negative impacts. UTC raised concerns raised regarding the disruption the Velathon caused to local businesses.

Resolved:

In view of the inconvenience, loss of revenue UTC to write to organizers to ask about changing the Velathon route.

7.8 To discuss correspondence from a resident regarding speeding traffic along the Monmouth Road

The Police were notified about a resident's concerns about this stretch of road (specifically between the LADYHILL entrance, and the end of the 30MPH restriction adjoining the Allotments on the GWEHELOG Road).

Resolved:

At a local level, the Police will be looking at the location with the view of assessing it's suitability for a potential speed analysis sight. Then if practicable, and safe to do so, this will be something that they will seek to action in the foreseeable future.

7.9 To discuss the changes in Bridge Street

UTC is aware and that the Newsagents will soon close due to retirement of Conny & Judith Lindwall.

Concerns were raised over the change of use regarding the new Playden premises.

Resolved:

Cllr Strong to make enquiries with MCC.

8.0 Correspondence:

From Correspondence from a resident regarding speeding traffic along the Monmouth Road

From: Ombudsman "Making Complaints serve Wales"

From: One Voice Wales Area Meeting Agenda 9th July 2015

From: Gwent Police regarding speeding traffic along Monmouth Road

From: Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council Review of In-Patient Falls in hospitals in the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area

8.1 Any other business. *Any other business is at the discretion of and with prior notice to the Chairman*

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.00pm