

**Minutes of a Meeting of Usk Town Council held at
The Sessions House, Usk on Monday 14th March 2016 at 7.30pm.**

Prior to the meeting Mr. Nigel Russell from Run4Wales updated Full Council and members of the public about the forthcoming Velothon.

Present: Cllr D Harding, Cllr T Keenan, Cllr Mrs. J Jeremiah
Cllrs A Leathwood, R. Galletley, Cllrs M Evans,
Mrs. C. Williams, Cllr. P Phillips, G Roderick, T Watkins, County Cllr B Strong

22.8 To accept Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs. C Wilkinson

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

C. Cllr B Strong – All Planning
Cllrs Galletley and Evans – Allotments

**23.0 To Approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on
8th February 2016**

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

**23.1 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on
8th February 2016**

There were none.

**23.2 To receive a report from the Sessions House Management
Committee**

No report available

23.3 To receive the financial statement of accounts for February 2016

No report available

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

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 23.4 Movement of Prisoners from HMP Usk to HMP Prescoed and also to discuss items 23.5, 23.6, 23.7 and 23.8 (see below)

23.5 To receive an update on the proposed skate park/Borstal Field

Discussed in Committee

23.6 To receive an update on the state of the Priory in St. Mary's Way

Discussed in Committee

23.7 To discuss Community Awards in Usk for 2015/16

Discussed in Committee

23.8 To receive a report on Staff Appraisal

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

23.9 To receive an update on Usk Post Office proposed move to new premises & branch modernization

Resolved:

The Post Office is now occupying new premises despite Usk Town Council's objection to the premises.

It was reported that the HSBC bank is to close.

24.0 Planning Applications.

- 1. DC/2015/01444** Modification or Removal of Condition Variation of condition no. 1 of Planning Permission DC/2010/00755 and condition no. 2 of Listed Building Consent DC/2010/00754 **The Priory Church Street, Usk** **Recommend Approval**
- 2. DC/2015/01456** To extend building footprint of approved extension (DC/2015/00596) to dwelling. **10 Black Barn Lane** **Recommend Approval**
- 3. DC/2015/00167** Inspection of 3x chimney stacks, with potential for removal of stacks to just below roof level and subsequent rebuild. One farther stack has been removed on grounds of unsafe condition. The remaining three are expected to be in a similar state of integrity. Chimneys and stacks will be returned to a fully rendered condition and visually identical to the originals. (DC/2015/01498). **Flat 5 The Lawns, New Market Street, Usk** **Recommend Approval**
- 4. DC/2015/00118** Add dormer window to already converted attic space. Size of dormer to match neighbouring property. Plans to include Velux window on side gable. All construction will be building regulations compliant **31 Mill Street** **Recommend Approval**
- 5. DC/2016/00109** Add dormer window to already converted attic space. Size of dormer to match neighbouring property. Plans to include Velux window on side gable. All construction will be building regulations compliant **58 Mill Street** **Recommend Approval**
- 6. DC/2016/01204** Proposed dwelling on land adjacent to 2 Ladyhill Close, Usk **2 Ladyhill Close** **Recommend Refusal**

24.1 To receive a Report from the Traffic & HGVs Committee including speed limits around Usk

Cllr Leathwood reported the following:

- HGV's
Mon CC will shortly be undertaking the statutory advertisement and consultation for a total prohibition of commercial vehicles using Usk Bridge 08.00 – 11.00 and 14.00 – 18.00 hours, with no restriction at other times.
- 20mph speed limit
The proposals to introduce a 20mph speed limit within the town extending from the school to Usk Bridge.
A draft order is in the process of being prepared this will then go out for public consultation.

24.2 To discuss the One Stop corner and double yellow lines on Maryport Street

Usk Town Council discussed this at the recent Air Quality Meeting with Paul Keeble MCC

Resolved:

Clerk to write to MCC with a request that they introduce an engineering solution i.e. some type of fencing/barrier along this very dangerous corner of the pavement.

24.3 To receive Reports from Members serving on other bodies

There were none

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

Resolved:

Only a few of the leaflets left to be distributed.

Terry Smith is doing a good job patrolling the Town and targeting problem areas.

A meeting of Give Dog Fouling the Red Card group is scheduled for the 19th April 2016.

24.5 To receive an update on Community defibrillators in Usk

Resolved:

It is hoped that UTC will receive the defibrillators soon.

The siting of the defibrillators to be discussed at next month's meeting

24.6 To receive a report from the Allotments at Factory Lane

Following a meeting with the Factory Lane Allotment Association (FLAA) which has now ceased to exist, UTC allotment sub-committee reported the following:-

Resolved:

- All monies to be held by UTC and UTC to pay the all allotment bills
- UTC to examine insurance and public liability – Clerk to do
- The gardening year will remain from the 1st April to assist with UTC financial management.

Plot holders have formed a small Allotment Management Committee to liaise with UTC to be known as **The Factory Lane Plot Holders Liaison Committee.**

24.7 To receive

a) A report from Cllrs attending the Chamber of Commerce meeting

Resolved:

Planned events are progressing well

b) To discuss attendance at the Next Chamber of Commerce meeting on Monday 21st March - 6pm

Resolved:

Cllrs Williams and Roderick will attend the next meeting

24.8 To receive a report from The Usk Festival/Market Committee

Resolved:

The Chamber of Commerce continues to work hard in preparation for the summer festival.

24.9 To receive an update on UTC obtaining a block trading licence on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce

Resolved:

The Finance Committee approved payment for a block trading licence on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce

25.0 To discuss Usk WI commemorative requests

Following a vote it was agreed that the Usk WI may plant a fruit tree (pear) and put up a small plaque in the garden of the Sessions House in order to commemorate 95 years of WI in Usk.

Clerk to request that they consult Cllr Roderick prior to the planting

25.1 To receive an update on Usk Community Speed watch

It was reported that PS Steve Parsons who has been very committed and supportive in overseeing Speed Watch has been taken off this initiative.

Resolved:

There is to be a new co-ordinator Inspector Lee Ford.

25.2 To receive an update on the Velothon 2016

Councillors were updated on the Velothon by Nigel Russell.

Llanhennock Community Council have invited Councillors to attend their meeting on Monday the 4th of April 2016. The meeting will be held at 7 pm, in Llanhennock Village Hall.

25.3 To discuss the car parking facilities at the Borstal Field

Resolved:

The Junior Football Club can now access the car park.

25.4 To accept proposals for nominations for Chairman 2016/2017

Resolved:

Cllr Leathwood proposed Cllr Keenan as Mayor Elect for 2016/2017.

All Cllrs were in favour of this proposal.

25.5 To discuss suggestions from a resident regarding improvements in Usk

The following suggestions have been put forward and discussed by UTC

1. Improving the river bank by providing a hard surface from the road bridge to the cricket ground so that can be used by children, pushchairs, older people, disabled people and others.

Resolved:

In order to carry out this work permission would be needed from the residents in New Market Street and other properties. Any work undertaken would need to be done by Natural Resources Wales as they would be liable for maintenance. All requests for such works will need to be made to the Natural Resources Wales

2. Raising the path at the bottom of the ramp down from the bridge so that it doesn't silt up and get muddy during bad weather and floods.

Resolved:

This is a public footpath so MCC to be contacted to see if this is possible

3. Provide a path alongside the tennis club to allow everyone to walk to the football fields without having to walk through mud and damage the edge of the cricket ground.

Resolved:

Usk Athletic Club would need to be contacted about this.

4. Push for improvements and traffic calming to make the centre of town safer to walk in and provide a safe crossing point near the square.

Resolved:

- Mon CC will shortly be undertaking the statutory advertisement and consultation for a total prohibition of commercial vehicles using Usk Bridge 08.00 – 11.00 and 14.00 – 18.00 hours, with no restriction at other times.
- The proposals to introduce a 20mph speed limit within the town extending from the school to Usk Bridge are soon to go for public consultation

25.6 To discuss the relocation of a Grit bin near Burrium Gate Cllrs have received a report on this.

Residents at Burrium Gate have requested that a salt bin be moved from the verge at the front of the development. However MCC consider the new location to be impractical due to the safety issues of residents having to cross a busy carriageway to salt the entrance to Burrium Gate.

MCC suggest the following

- Replace the orange bin currently on site with a green bin
- Remove the salt bin completely the
- The residents suggest a practical location that everyone is happy with

Resolved:

Cllr Keenan will consider the options

25.7 To receive an update from the Events Committee regarding

- ❖ **The Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations - street party Sunday 12th June 2016**

Resolved:

Plan are progressing

- ❖ **Mayor's Ball 9th April 7.30pm at Usk Conservative club**

Resolved:

Events sub-committee to meet in order to finalize arrangements

25.8 Correspondence:

From: Cairngorm – Confirmation of Reindeer parade 4th December 2016

From: Vale of Usk Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 "Funding"

From: MCC Certificate of registration Gambling Act 2005

From: Usk WI request for commemorative requests

From: Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales annual Report 2016/17

From: Usk Primary School – School and Community AED's - defibrillators

From: Usk in Bloom Auction 23rd March 2016 – request for help

From: Welsh Government Shared Future – Statutory Guidance for the Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015

From: The planning Inspectorate – Developments of National Significance

From: Llanhennock Community Council re: Velothon Wales 2016

From: Welsh Government Local Government Ethical Framework

25.9 For information

- **UTC Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday 17th April at 9.30am at SS Francis Xavier and David Lewis Catholic Church**
- **Monmouth Male Voice Choir Saturday 23rd April 2016 at Sessions House**
- **Kidney Wales Foundation "Walk for Life" Sunday 24th April 2016**
- **The Usk in Bloom Auction will be held on 23rd March 2016 at the Kings Head**
- **Cllr Harding accepted Cllr Phillip's resignation from UTC and thanked him for his contribution to the Council**

26.0 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 formally closed at 8.45pm