

**Minutes of a monthly meeting of Usk Town Council held at  
The Sessions House, Usk, on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllr G Roderick, Cllr A Leathwood, Cllr C Wilkinson, Cllr Ms. I Brown, Cllr M Evans,  
Cllr J Jeremiah, Cllr J Richards, C. Cllr B Strong  
Town Clerk - Mrs. Tracey Huxley, RFO Ms Jenny Mee

**1.0 To accept Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Tony Watkins and Roger Galletley

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

Cllr Richards -Planning Application DC/2017/01324

Cllr Strong - Planning Application - Proposed Public Path Order Public No3(part), Usk at Usk Church in Wales Primary School

**1.2 To Approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

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

**1.3 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

There were none

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

See report dated 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**1.5 To receive the monthly finance report**

The monthly reconciliation for April 2018 was unavailable due to the Council's visit to Graben – Neudorf.

**a) To approve and sign the Internal Audit**

**Resolved:** This was approved and signed by the Chairman

**b) To approve remuneration for the Internal Auditor**

**Resolved:** Remuneration for Mr. John Evans the Internal Auditor was approved by Full Council

**1.6 To receive Planning applications**

- a) **DM/2018/00413** Construction of a rear dormer roof extension, insertion of Velux roof lights to the front elevation and a front single storey extension **3 St. Mary's Way, Usk NP15 1BX** **Recommend Approval**
- b) **DM/2018/00620** Erect a 1.8m feather ridge fence around a piece of land to prevent the land being used as a dumping ground for rubbish **Conigar House, Porthycarne Gate, Porthycarne Street NP15 1RU** **Recommend Approval**
- c) **DC/2017/01324** Replacement of window at rear of flat with French doors **14 Manor Court, Baron Street, Usk NP15 1DQ** **Recommend Approval**
- d) **DM/2028/00625** Rear single storey extension to existing detached building 6 Blestium Drive, Usk, NP15 1TS **Recommend Approval**
- e) **Highways Act 1980 – Section 119. Proposed Public Path Order Public No3(part), Usk at Usk Church in Wales Primary School** **Recommend Approval**

### **1.7 To receive a Report from the Traffic & HGVs Committee**

**Resolved:** To await the outcome of the Future of Usk Survey

### **1.8 To receive Reports from Members serving on other bodies**

#### **❖ Usk Memorial Hall**

Cllr Wilkinson reported that the Memorial Hall Committee decided against allowing public use of the toilets for visitors to the new Usk park

**Resolved:** Cllrs will need to give consideration to an alternative solution

#### **❖ Twinning Association**

The recent visit to Graben – Neudorf and been very well received. Our hosts had been extremely hospitable and the trip enjoyed by everyone.

The German evening arranged by Jan and Diane Richards had been a huge success.

#### **❖ Usk Civic Society**

It was reported that the original site for the Alfred Russell Wallace statue has been declined by Mon CC.

**Resolved:** UCS to meet with Mon CC to discuss an alternative site.

### **1.9 Areas of concern around the Town**

#### **The pedestrian area adjacent to the Co-op and Number 49.**

A resident has raised the issue of cyclists failing to dismount on this path 49 which is dangerous.

**Resolved:**

Clerk to contact Mon CC with a request for signage requesting cyclists to dismount

### **2.0 To receive an update from the Community Communication Committee**

Cllr Brown reported that there had been 525 responses to the Usk Survey.

**Resolved:** Mon CC are currently collating the results

### **2.1 To receive an update from the Events Committee**

#### **❖ The Great Usk Bike Off**

**Resolved:** A number of last year's bikes have gone out to local businesses

#### **❖ Wheels Art Project**

**Resolved:** Mon CC are encouraging residents/groups to take part in this activity

### **2.2 To receive an update on the proposed gas works by Wales and West Utilities**

**Resolved:**

Cllr Richards reported that Phase 3 of the Gas Works are almost complete.

Phase 4 will include the closure of Mill Lane.

WWU have given reassurance that roads will be swept on completion of the works

### **2.3 To receive a report from Usk in Bloom to include**

#### **a) Painting of the litter bins in Usk**

Usk in Bloom has put in a request to paint the litter bins

**Resolved:**

UTC raised no objection to this and are very grateful to the volunteers involved.

b) **Refurbishment of the Riverside Shelter, Conigar Walk**

The riverside shelter on Conigar Walk is in need of refurbishment.

**Resolved:** Mon CC have agreed to paint the shelter and it was agreed by UTC to replace one of the benches

**2.4 To receive an update on the Usk Christmas Markets**

**Resolved:** The terms and conditions for operating the markets were not accepted by a third party. Therefore, UTC will investigate the possibility of coordinating the markets

**2.5 To receive an update on the proposed Summer Festival the weekend of 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Resolved:** The terms and conditions were not accepted by a third party therefore the summer festival will not go ahead

Plans for Community Picnic and the Big Usk Busk on the weekend of the 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> July are progressing well.

**2.6 To receive an update on the Usk Litter Action Group**

Cllr Leathwood reported he had attend a meeting with Mon CC and other litter groups, which had been very constructive. Apparently, current legislation makes it difficult to prosecute people throwing litter from a vehicle.

**Resolved:**

The litter groups are seeking to raise a campaign to change the current the law.

Cllr Leathwood will contact Nick Ramsay and other leaders of Unitary Authorities across Gwent in order to highlight the need for change.

**2.7 To receive an update on the promotion of “no plastic” in Usk**

It was reported that there is a great deal of interest in the promotion.

**Resolved**

Awaiting a further meeting

**2.8 To receive an update on the Usk Shopper’s Initiative**

**Resolved.**

The Usk Shopper’s Initiative voucher prizes were awarded today and over twenty local businesses have been involved.

**2.9 The proposal to allow two none voting council seats for youth members**

Councillor Leathwood proposed that UTC advertise for two 15-26-year old positions on the Council. These would be none-voting positions, but the holders would be able to contribute to discussion.

**Resolved:**

It was decided a sub- committee will form in order to discuss the proposal. Cllrs Leathwood, Brown and Richards will form the sub-committee

**3.0 To appoint a Dementia Friendly Liaison Officer within Usk Town Council**

**Resolved:**

Councillor Watkins was elected as a Dementia Friend for UTC.

### **3.1 To receive an update on Air Quality within Usk**

Cllr Leathwood recently attended the Air Quality meeting

#### **Resolved**

He reported Usk, for the second year running, had not exceed limits, however, monitoring will continue.

### **3.2 To discuss attendance at the forthcoming Usk and Surrounding Area Cluster meetings at County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk**

- Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 6pm
- Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 6 pm

#### **Resolved:**

Cllr Brown and Richards will attend the meetings

### **3.3 Correspondence:**

**From: David Davies MP Re: Traffic Speeds in Usk**

**From: Mon CC Summer Reading Challenge 2018**

#### **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 item 3.4

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

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

### **3.5 Any other Business** *Any other business is at the discretion of and with prior notice to the Chairman*

For Information only

Dementia Friendly meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> May at Sessions House

Kidney Wales Walk for Life 3<sup>rd</sup> June - all proceeds in aid of Kidney Wales Foundation

There was no further business and the meeting formally closed at 8.50pm