



Usk Town Council

The Sessions House, Maryport Street Usk NP15 1AD

Minutes of a meeting of Usk Town Council held remotely on Zoom on Monday 10th May 2021 at 6.30pm

Tracey Huxley (Mrs.)

T. Huxley

Present

Cllr C. Wilkinson, Cllr A. Watkins, Cllr A. Leathwood, Cllr Roderick, Cllr M Howells, Cllr Galletley, Cllr H Graz, C Cllr B. Strong, Cllr A Ivin, Cllr M. Evans, Cllr S Williams, RFO Mrs. D. Richards, Town Clerk Mrs. T Huxley

1.0 To accept apologies for absence.

Cllr P. McGowan

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

There were none.

1.3 To approve the Minutes held on 12th April 2021.

The Minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed.

1.4 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held 12th April 2021.

There were none.

1.5 To receive a report from the Sessions House Management Committee

See report dated Thursday 6th May 2021.

1.6 To receive the monthly finance report for April 2021.

The reconciliation for April 2021 showed no erroneous receipts or payments.

a) Christmas Lights

- The Clerk has received 3 quotations for the Christmas Lights. The sub-finance committee recommend the Festive Lighting quotation. The quote comes in just above the budgeted amount and the contract will be for 5 years.
- Cllr Galletley suggested a real Christmas Tree be more favourable to residents. However, following discussion it was decided a real tree will present too many health and safety hazards.

Resolved UTC to accept the Festive Lighting quotation.

b) The purchase of 2 litter bins for the town.

Conigar Walk -the Clerk reported MCC will replace the litter bin, lost during the floods,

Resolved: UTC will fund a further litter bin in the Town

c) Cleaning of the Usk Park Toilets

The Park Toilets are currently used by an MCC operative. Therefore, MCC, will share with UTC, the cost of cleansing, which is £1260 and represents 50% of the total cost.

Resolved UTC will accept this proposal.



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1.7 To receive the following Planning Applications

- a) **DM/2021/00370 Proposed rear extension at 33 Mill Street Usk** including 1 1/2 storeyside extension in place of existing single storey extension. **Recommend Approval**
- b) **DM/2021/00670 Minden 8 Church Street Usk** Alterations to street forecourt and boundary wall; demolition of garden shed; new garden outbuilding. **Recommend Approval**
- c) **DM/2021/00625 17 Old Market Street Listed Building Consent** Enlarged rear extension, 3 no. roof lights to front elevation, reinstate former window dimensions & assoc. works. **Recommend Approval**

1.8 Areas of concern around the Town

Railway Bridge- There are a couple of holes on the Railway Bridge which could potentially be dangerous.

Resolved: Steve Baldwin MCC will contact his operations team to make the area safe.

1.9 To receive an update on the Masterplan for Usk – Digital Noticeboard (DNB)

Resolved:

- Following a site visit from the MCC engineer it was decided to change the installation site and install the DNB next to the current wooden noticeboard outside the Co-op Store.
- A new drawing has been submitted to MCC.
- A site meeting with the DNB company is scheduled later this month.

2.0 To receive an update on the proposed markets on the site of the former Usk Household Recycling Centre (UHRC)

No update. Still waiting to hear from MCC.

Resolved: Clerk to contact MCC

2.1 To receive an update on

a) the traffic light system in Bridge Street, Usk

Resolved: Following meetings with MCC the lights have now been removed

b) noise cameras – No update

2.2 To receive an update on UTC Facebook.

Cllr Williams reported he has been looking to see how UTC can communicate with the town more efficiently and personally to an individual's issue.

Resolved: There will be some minor changes over the coming weeks to both UTC's social media platform & email system.

2.3 To receive an update on matters relating allotment land adjacent to Sessions House.

Resolved: Cllr Roderick, Leathwood & Ivin met with Kyle Robinson from the Land Registry, who will investigate this matter further



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2.4 To receive an update on the Railway Tunnel.

- Stephen Baldwin MCC has reported the land ownership of the tunnel and surrounding area is complicated.
- MCC's first priority is to ensure the tunnel is properly secured and to remove access to the dangerous sections.

Resolved: Further investigations will be required to determine the exact cause of defects and what can be done to rectify them.

2.4 To receive an update on

a) Memorial Hall car park

- Resurfacing is due to start in July 2021.
- MCC will consider applying double yellow lines to the entrance/exit of the car park.

b) Monmouthshire Councils Review of Parking in Usk

No update

2.5 To receive a report from Usk In Bloom

Resolved: The report was noted by Members

2.6 To receive The Clerk's update on

a) The recent Dog Fouling Action Day

Members of UTC were joined by MCC's Environmental Officer to help raise responsibility and awareness amongst dog owners. Owners, were informed of the newly adopted Pooper Snooper App. (The App maps all the dog poo and litter bins in the town, making it easier for dog owners & visitors to find out the location of each bin in the town). The App also provides a method of reporting dog fouling incidents, which can help identify "hot spots" where patrolling could be increased, or a bin provided. The more people who use the App, the greater its usefulness in tackling the problem.

Resolved: Everyone needs to keep reinforcing the message and reminding owners of their responsibilities

b) The path on the Conigar Walk near the bridge

The Clerk has contacted MCC, who is unsure as to where the responsibility lies in raising the level of the path.

Resolved: To await a response from MCC

c) An extra bin on the Conigar Walk-

Resolved: Following a meeting with Nigel Leaworthy MCC, a new bin will be installed along the Conigar Walk in approx. 2-3 weeks

d) Overhanging branch at the Royal British Legion

The branch has still not been taken down.

Resolved: Clerk to contact MCC



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e) The parking of a Western Power pick-up truck adjacent Girlguiding Garden

Resolved. This matter has been resolved and the truck will be parked in the main car park.

2.7 To discuss the repair & maintenance of the Town Clock.

The Clock is in a very poor state of repair.

Resolved: Cllr Strong will contact MCC to request the work to the clock is done as a matter of urgency

2.8 To discuss HGV's "Do NOT Follow Sat Nav" signage on the A449.

Resolved: Cllr Howells will take this forward with MCC

Five residents have volunteered to take part in Lorry Watch.

2.9 To receive an update on the proposed arboretum located on the Borstal Field.

Due to Usk Rotary Insurance only covering works done by Rotarian.

Usk Rotary Club respectively request Usk Town Council considers adding the arboretum project to their existing Public Liability Insurance.

Resolved: Although present UTC insurers have agreed to this, following discussion it was resolved Cllr Ivin will further investigate the Arboretum insurance

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 3.0 a) & 3.0 b)

3.0 To receive an update on

a) The Whitehouse, Old Market Street, Usk

b) The Priory Gatehouse

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

3.1 Correspondence

From: Thank you from the Usk Environmental Group for donation

From: Local resident regarding banners & traffic lights in Bridge street

3.0 Any Other Business

The following was reported.

- Open Gardens to take place this year but in a limited form.
- There is a School Governor vacancy for Usk Primary School – this item to be placed on next month's Agenda.

There was no further business and the meeting formally closed at 8pm