



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 14th February 2022 at 6.00pm

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

19.9 To accept apologies for absence.

Cllr Williams

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

There were none

20.1 To approve the Minutes held on 10th January 2022

The Minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed

20.2 Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held 10th January 2022

There were none

20.3 To receive a report from the Sessions House Management Committee

See report dated Thursday 10th February 2022

There is to be a new tenant in Room 7 from 31st March 2022

20.4 To receive the monthly finance report for January 2021

The reconciliation for January 2022 showed no erroneous receipts or payments.

See finance report dated 10th February 2022

The cost centre report had been distributed to members prior to the meeting.

Resolved: Full Council agreed the following

- To increase the RFO's hours due to extra administration duties following the forthcoming elections. This matter had been anticipated and is included in the Budget for 2022/2023
- £3450 for the replacement of two windows above the top entrance to the courtroom of which have water ingress and irreparable
- To donate £200 Wales Air Ambulance Hospital – (Local Government Act 1972 s.137)

20.5 To receive the following Planning Applications.

- a) **DM/2022/00173** 12 Conigar Crescent Usk NP15 1RX Proposed loft conversion with side and rear dormers to create additional bedroom.

Recommend Approval

20.6 To receive an update on the Masterplan for Usk

The inaugural meeting of the Usk Masterplan Steering Group took place on the 9th Feb 2022

Resolved:

- Terms of reference were agreed.
- There will be bi-monthly meetings



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Short Term Actions agreed upon

- Town Council to consider how to publicize and co-ordinate events. Possibly set up Task & Finish group to prepare a calendar of events
- To investigate reinstalling a permanent loop counter at the site on the end of Bridge Street which would provide continuous traffic data.
- MCC to prepare proposal regarding Town Council part funding a Civil Enforcement Officer
- A separate meeting to be arranged to discuss how best to engage with businesses.
- MCC to consider how to fund Bridge Street design stage. Area to be covered from Gwehelog junction through to The Island, Rugby Club and up Abergavenny Road to edge of town
- Town Council to consider setting up a meeting with regular bus users to inform future discussions.
- A new short-term action to improve pedestrian safety in and from Woodside was agreed.
- To enquire as to whether double yellow lines could be considered on the entrance/exiting of the Memorial Hall

Medium & Long-Term Actions

There was limited discussion on the medium term and long-term action, these will be reviewed. It is expected that future meetings will focus on specific projects/issues rather than all actions. Next meeting will be after the elections on Wednesday 25th May 10.30am

20.7 To receive an update on the Digital Information Board

Resolved: Cllr Williams will conduct a training session for members & staff on 17th Feb at 7pm

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

Resolved: Plans for the proposed markets are progressing

- The site has been cleared.
- All necessary documentation is being dealt with

a) To discuss the 'Licence to Occupy' from MCC relating to the former (UHRC)

Resolved:

- UTC needs to clarify a few issues in the Licence
- Clerk to follow up with MCC

20.9 To receive a report from the Events Committee

- Usk Singing Group to host a St. David's Day Concert on 1st March at 7.30pm at Sessions House in aid of the Usk Mayor's Appeal
- The Casino Night has been re-scheduled for 7th May 2022

21.9 To receive an update on the planned Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Members were informed the lottery funding application has been successful

- The Events Committee are meeting regularly and plans for the event are progressing



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- There had been a well-attended inaugural meeting with residents to discuss plans for the Jubilee celebrations

22.0 To discuss a Memorial for The Platinum Jubilee.

Resolved: Clerk to enquire about an armillary sphere as a memorial for the Platinum Jubilee

22.1 To discuss the Christmas Reindeer Parade 2022

Resolved:

Following discussion, it was resolved in principle to go ahead with the Reindeer Parade UTC to post a request on Facebook asking for volunteers (approx. thirty are required) to help with event

22.2 To receive an update from NRW Discharge of Sewage into the River Usk

Resolved: Clerk to contact NRW to enquire as to what work has been carried out at the pumping station in Mill Street Close and ask why sewage is still being pumped into the River Usk

a) To discuss forming an independent group to help Angela Jones with the campaign to hold Welsh Water account for pollution in the River Usk.

Resolved: Cllrs Howells, Ivin and Evans will look to form an action group with Angela Jones to help campaign against the pollution of the River Usk

22.3 To discuss renewal of membership to the Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Tourism Partnership

Members were informed of updates regarding future activities and administration of Forest of Dean and Wye Valley Tourism.

Resolved: It was agreed to renew membership with Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Tourism

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22.4 To receive an update on Community Speed watch

All the applicants have been vetted.

Resolved: It is hoped the scheme will be up & running soon.

22.5 To receive an update on the Memorial Hall car park

Resolved: Work is scheduled to start on 21st March 2022 for 6 weeks

22.6 To receive an update on Monmouthshire Councils Review of Parking in Usk

No update



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22.7 To inform members the proposed provision & amendments to traffic orders in relation to the following areas have been issued

- Mill St/ Mill St Close- double yellow lines on the junction/entrance
- Maryport St/Clos Croeso – double yellow lines on the junction/entrance
- Castle Parade – outside the fish & Chip Shop -single yellow line

Resolved: Noted by members

22.8 To discuss the poor condition of Chepstow Road, Usk.

This has been reported this to MCC

Resolved: Cllr Strong will chase up with MCC

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 22.9 & 23.0

22.9 To receive an update on the Priory Gatehouse

23.0 To receive nominations for an Usk Community Award

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

23.0 Correspondence – There was none

23.1 Any Other Business – for information

- **Nature and Us** - Natural Resources Wales in collaboration with the Welsh Government is hosting a Wales-wide conversation about the future of our natural environment called Nature and Us.
- **Random Acts of Welshness** - there is an invitation from Welsh Government to celebrate St. Davis's day by doing small acts small act of Welshness -

There was no further business and the meeting ended at 7.20pm