



Usk Town Council

The Sessions House, Maryport Street Usk NP15 1AD

**Minutes of a monthly meeting of Usk Town Council held
At the Sessions House, Usk, on Monday 11th February 2019 at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr A. Leathwood, Cllr C Wilkinson, Cllr G Roderick, Cllr M Evans, Cllr R Galletley, Cllr J Jeremiah
Cllr K. Dancer, Cllr J Richards, Cllr T. Watkins, Cllr. M Howells, Cllr S. Williams, C Cllr Strong RFO Ms. J. Mee
Town Clerk - Mrs. Tracey Huxley

21.9 To accept apologies for absence

All Cllrs were present

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

Item 22.9 Areas of concern around the Town - Cllr Leathwood

Item 24.8 To discuss nominations for Usk Town Community Awards – Cllr R. Galletley

22.1 To Approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2019

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

22.2 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2019

There were none

22.3 To receive a report from the Sessions House Management Committee

See report dated 4th February 2019

22.4 To receive the monthly finance report

The reconciliation for January 2019 showed no erroneous receipts or payments.

- a) **To approve the Annual Budget for 2019/20**
- b) **To approve the Annual Precept for 2019/20**

A Special Meeting of Usk Town Council (UTC) to consider the proposals by the Finance Sub Committee for the Budget and Precept 2019/20 was held on Monday 4th February 2019.

At the meeting due consideration was given to the proposals and recommendations, following which, these were approved by Full Council

Resolved: These minutes were approved as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

22.5 To receive Planning Applications

- 1) **DM/2018/02037** Replace detached dual pitched roof with Marley old English concrete tiles
40 Priory Gardens Usk NP15 1BB **Recommend Approval**
- 2) **DM/2018/02029** Proposed rear single storey extension and alterations to Grade II listed building
19 New Market Street Usk NP15 1AU **Recommend Approval**
- 3) **DM/2019/00093** Change of Use for a section of the building from D1 to A1. To convert part of the internal floor space of Usk Community Hub, presently used as a staff office to use as a Post Office
35 Maryport Street Usk, NP15 1AE **Recommend Approval**



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22.6 To receive a report/update on the Future Usk Survey

Resolved:

- Workshops for the following categories Finance, Work & Business, Housing & Planning - will take place in February. Workshops for HGV/Environment, Events, and Getting Around will take place in March.
- Ongoing issues, Community/Usk New & In the Future, will run in parallel with the workshops.
- UTC will encourage young people with an interest to take part in the workshops

There will be press releases regarding

- Collaboration with Mon CC
- Workshop dates
- Quick fixes which are the plans are already in hand

22.7 To receive an update on the proposed Youth Council

No update.

22.8 To receive Reports from Members serving on other bodies

- Mon CC's proposal to change its school's admission arrangements from the start of the 2020/21 academic year.

Resolved: UTC will offer support to parents regarding the changes

- Tourism and Events Committee

It was resolved to progress UTC's agreement to join Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Tourism
Planned Events

- Poems & Pints evening Royal British Legion - 20th March 2019
- Judicial Quiz at SH - 3rd April 2019
- Combined Concert with Usk Rotary - 23rd March 2019
- Casino Night - 13th April 2019
- Sessions House talks "The Trial of Josef Garcia" - 22nd May 2019
- Golf Event - 1st May 2019 - to be confirmed
- UTC Summer Event - 20th/21st July 2019
- Annual Twinning Quiz - 15th March 2019
- Usk Choral Festival - 30th /31st March 2019

22.9 Areas of concern around the Town

- Parking on the corner of Mill Street Clos, causing restricted access, particularly for recycling & waste collections and access for emergency vehicles

Resolved Clerk to contact Paul Keeble Mon CC regarding this matter

- Poor amenity state State of the Old Smithy Gallery

Resolved: Clerk to contact Mon CC for an update

- The Twyn Square sign on the old HSBC has been painted over

Resolved: Clerk to contact the HSBC owner



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23.0 To discuss the land in poor state of amenity situated adjacent to the Kings Head Hotel and the White House, Old Market Street

Resolved: UTC has been notified Mon CC is investigating this matter.

23.1 To receive an update from the Community Communication Committee

The Community Communication sub-committee is due to meet next Tuesday 19th February

23.2 To receive a report from the Usk Business Forum

Cllr Dancer reported the two new business have arrived in Bridge Street, Gardenia the Bridal Shop and Number 57 have joined the UBF.

The UBF is in the process of producing their leaflet

23.4 To receive an update on the litter picker volunteer scheme

The group met on Saturday 2nd February

Resolved: Tim Southern is moving forward with ideas to engage businesses in supporting a "litter free Usk".

23.5 To receive an update on the promotion of "no plastic" in Usk

No update

23.6 To receive an update on the Usk Post Office Counter Services

The following was been reported

- Mon CC has confirmed the application is progressing significantly
- Mon CC has cleared the Financial Review and moved on to the formal interview stage,
- Planning application is progressing along with staffing structure for the Post Office

23.7 To receive an update on the proposed Usk Park toilets

Resolved:

- Architect drawings have been submitted. UTC is waiting for quotations.
- Roger Hoggins is progressing the proposals with Mon CC

23.8 To receive an update on the changes in opening times to the Usk Amenity Centre

Resolved: The proposed changes are due to be presented to Mon CC budget proposals after which, closure days will be confirmed

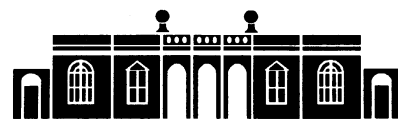
23.9 To update members on new proposed changes to recycling collection services

Resolved: Residents have received notification and will continue to receive further information from Mon CC the changes will be launched on 4th March 2019.

24.0 To discuss correspondence from Llantrisant Fawr Community Council expressing their frustration at the hazard that parked vehicles are causing to forestry and agricultural vehicles passing along Maryport Street to and from Tywn Square.

Following discussion, the following points were raised

- UTC is working collaboratively with MCC regarding the transfer of enforcement responsibilities for traffic and other offences from Gwent Police to MCC.



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- As guided by the electorate and by relevant legislation, a priority for Usk Town Council is to reduce and where possible, encourage the re-routing of large vehicles from the entirety of Usk
- MCC, UTC and councils at all levels must have regard to the Environment Wales Act, 2016
- Agricultural vehicles have grown significantly larger without any evidence to support the need for this locally and in addition, haulier functions are regularly undertaken which cannot be considered as meeting any local farming needs. Usk Town Council will continue to discourage the regular use of HGVs and will continue to lobby MCC to meet its responsibilities under the legislation noted at 3.

Resolved: UTC respond to contact Paul Keeble with the concerns expressed by Llantrissant Fawr CC and UTC's response

24.1 To inform members of the Local Democracy & Boundary Commission for Wales recently published, Review of the Community Arrangements in the County of Monmouthshire - Report and Recommendations

This was noted by Members.

Resolved: UTC to raise objection to the proposed reduction of Councillors from twelve to seven

24.2 To inform members of the Fee Scheme for 2019-20 approved by the National Assembly's Finance Committee. (The Fee Scheme provides the basis on which the Wales Audit Office charges fees).

Resolved: This was noted by Members

24.3 To inform member that the appropriate sum for purposes of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for Community & Town Councils in Wales for 2019-20 is £8.12

Resolved: This was noted by Members

24.4 To consider the Welsh Government Areas for Action following the Independent Review Panel on the Future of Community Town Councils in Wales

Areas of Action are

- **Consider whether and how core training for councillors should be mandatory**
- **Consider the case for developing standards & principles for community engagement**
- **Explore issuing information about community council's plans for the year with the precept notifications**

Resolved: UTC will form a sub- committee to discuss this matter

24.5 To discuss UTC's participation the Usk Agricultural Show 2019 on 14th September 2019

Resolved: It was agreed UTC will take part in this year's Usk Agricultural Show

24.6 To confirm the date of the Usk Winter Festival as 30th Nov/1st Dec (Reindeer Parade - Sunday 1st December 2019)

Resolved: The date for the Winter Festival/Reindeer was confirmed as 30th Nov/1st Dec

24.7 Correspondence

From: Llantrisant Fawr Community Council

From: Mon CC Post Office Application Update

Exclusion of Press and Public



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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 items 24.8 and 24.9

24.8 To discuss nominations for Usk Town Community Awards

Cllr Richards left the room whilst discussion on Usk Town Community Awards was being held

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

Cllr Galletley returned to the main meeting

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

The Chairman informed Full Council that he had received a letter from Jenny Mee, RFO, announcing her retirement in May 2019

There was no further business and the meeting formally closed at 8.30pm