

**Minutes of a monthly meeting of Usk Town Council held  
at the Sessions House on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Chairman Cllr Mrs. C. Wilkinson, Cllr A. Leathwood, C. Cllr Strong, Cllr M Evans, Cllr R Galletley, Cllr S. Williams, Cllr A Watkins, Cllr Ken Dancer, Cllr M Howells, Cllr G Roderick  
Cllr Mrs. J Jeremiah, Cllr. Mrs. J Richards.

**1.0 To accept apologies for absence**

All Cllrs were present

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

There were none

**1.2 To Approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

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 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

There were none

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

See report dated 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**1.5 To receive the monthly finance report**

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

a) **To approve and sign the Annual Return for 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

The Year End figures have been internally audited.

**Resolved:** These were approved by Full Council and signed. They will be forwarded to the External Auditor.

**1.6 To receive Planning Applications**

a) **DM/2018/02072 Dan Y Castell 7b Castle Parade NP15 1AA**

Extensions and remodeling work to existing dwelling house **Recommend Approval**

b) **DM/2019 00481 20 Conigar Crescent NP15 1RX** proposed 2 storey side extension with part single storey extension **Recommend Approval**

c)

d) **DM/2018/011963 Penhowe Antiques 37A Bridge Street Usk NP15 1BQ** Ground floor Change of use from A1 to A3. Part first floor change of use from flat to A3. Relocation of front entrance door. New sign above front shop **Recommend Approval subject to measures being taken to make it impossible to view the bedrooms opposite**

e) **DM/2018/00569 18 Maryport Street, Usk NP15 1AE** Proposed change of use of former school playground to car park servicing offices and outbuildings **Recommend Approval**

## **1.7 To receive a report/update on the Future Usk Survey**

Cllr Richards reported the workshops have all been completed bar one. The workshops were not well attended; however, residents were given the opportunity to share their views.

**Resolved:** Following on from the workshop's UTC can draw together conclusions and produce a document to help guide the new Project Manager.

Mon CC and UTC will interview candidates for the position of Project Manager on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

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

### **Usk in Bloom**

UiB wishes to freshen up the Jubilee Arch with the help of the Scouts, in preparation for the Wales in Bloom judging.

**Resolved:** All Cllrs are in favour of this

### **Usk Twinning**

2020 will be a significant year for Twinning with a trip to Graben Neudorf planned for late April/early May, followed by a return visit from Graben Neudorf to Usk in September to coincide with the Usk Show.

The Twinning Association is planning to make available a £500 bursary to any young people's groups who may wish to visit Graben Neudorf in order to help encourage youth participation within Twinning

### **Usk Civic Society**

There are plans to restore the ornate graves of the Wyatt and Nicholls families within the churchyard. Original path around the graves are to be reinstated.

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

### **25.5 Speeding motorbikes, on Monmouth Road between Burrium Gate and Factory Lane**

#### **Resolved:**

- The Police have designated this as a Safety Camera site and visit at least twice a month.
- Operation Darwin is currently up and running, this is an 'All Wales' Road Safety Campaign, supported by the Safety Camera Unit.
- The Neighbourhood Policing Team, will step up their high vis patrols primarily along the B4598 route, during the Spring/Summer months

- Poor signage and lack of car park signs within the Town.

**Resolved:** This was noted and will be reviewed within the Future Usk consultancy

- Kings Head Hotel

Concerns remain about the land in poor amenity state around the building

**Resolved:** It was reported an enforcement order has been served

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

Following on from the workshop's UTC will look to work with consultants of the Future Usk survey. There is a meeting of the Community Communication sub-committee scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup> May

## **.2.1 To receive an update from the Tourism & Events sub - committee**

### **The following was reported**

- Plans for The Summer Festival on July 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> are in progress
- Preparations for a Street Party on Bridge Street on Bank Holiday Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August
- UTC is looking to join the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Association

It has been brought to the attention of UTC that the town of Carmarthen claims to be the oldest town in Wales – UTC members contest this.

**Resolved:** This to be investigated further

## **2.2 To receive a report from the Usk Business Forum (UBF)**

Cllr Dancer reported there are now twenty-eight members within the UBF. Speakers have been invited to the meetings.

**Resolved:** UBF to increase business awareness by advertising and distributing the Town Guides

## **2.3 To receive an update on the Usk Post Office Counter Services**

The Post Office officially opened for business on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 at the Usk Community Hub. There are plans for an official opening to be coordinated by Post Office Counters, Mon CC Communications Team and UTC.

## **2.4 To receive an update on the proposed Usk Park toilets**

Mon CC are in the process of preparing a brief for potential bidders

## **2.5 To discuss Usk Cycle Track**

Cllr Evans reported the current width of the path is 1.1 metres wide and this will increase to a minimum of 2.5mm when complete. There are concerns this will alter the look of the area.

**Resolved:** To seek views from other organisations on the proposed cycle track

## **2.6 To discuss Reindeer article in the Usk & Raglan Diary May 2019 Edition**

An article in the Usk and Raglan New Diary has asked UTC to reconsider using the Cairngorm Reindeer during the Christmas Festival

**Resolved:** UTC will respond to the article

## **2.7 To discuss to the area around the pumping station**

The area around the station is very untidy and neglected, so too is the fence alongside the cricket club.

**Resolved:** Clerk to notify welsh Water and chairman of Usk Athletic Club

## **2.8 Motions for 2019 One Voice Wales Annual General Meeting**

**Member councils are invited to propose a maximum of two motions for debate at the AGM on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019, which must be submitted no later than noon on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019 for consideration by the Conference Agenda Committee**

**Resolved:** This was noted by Members

## **2.8 To discuss correspondence regarding parking at the Usk Memorial Hall car park**

Concerns have been expressed regarding the lack of parking, particularly for users of the hall, in the Maryport Street South/Memorial Hall car park

**Resolved:** Mon CC estimated the cost of repairing the car park to be £100 000.

It was proposed by Cllr Leathwood, UTC contribute £50 000 towards the repair of the car park.

Following a vote, eleven Councillors were in favour of the proposal, one Cllr abstained.

## **2.9 Correspondence**

**From: Abergavenny Town Council Dog Waste Bin Emptying**

## **3.0 Any other Business**

As a number of Councillors will be attending a conference in Conwy on Tuesday 11th June, the next Full Council Meeting on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June will be at the earlier time of 6.00pm

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.40pm