

Newcastle Emlyn Town Council

MINUTES

(365)

The monthly meeting of the Newcastle Emlyn Town Council was held on Thursday 18th March 2010 at 7:30pm in the Teifi Valley Day Centre, Newcastle Emlyn; the Mayor Cllr Peter Lewis presided.

Present: Cllr Cefin Evans, Cllr Pauline Evans, Cllr Odette Little, Cllr Alan Jones, Cllr Hazel Evans, Cllr Kelvin Baker, Cllr Allan Davies, Cllr Maureen Webley, County Cllr Haydn Jones, Vanessa Owens (Clerk), members of the press and public.

(366)

Teleri Jenkins, owner of the delicatessen, represented herself and the hairdressers shop regarding an incident at the weekend where a car had driven into and damaged both properties. The police had been very helpful; but the cctv system had not picked up enough detail to help in any way. She complained that she had put money into the system and when she needed to rely on it the system was not adequate. She questioned why the traders in Newcastle Emlyn had to pay into the system whilst Ceredigion County Council had put in a system for Lampeter at no cost to the businesses?

(367)

Cllr Alan Jones declared his interests relating to this matter.

(368)

Cllr Peter Lewis responded that the town council had put in the best system for the amount of money available and were currently in the process of upgrading elements to improve its efficiency.

Cllr Haydn Jones noted that Carmarthenshire County Council had supported the installation of the system to the sum of £10,000.

(369)

Sgt Wright was welcomed to the meeting. He informed the council that his priorities were the reduction and detection of crime and having an increased visibility on the street. One of the local PCSOs has joined the police force and the Newcastle Emlyn team will be down a member for nine weeks whilst someone is being trained. He had spoken with Sgt Clarke regarding the cctv system; he is waiting on permission to complete the upgrade work. Sgt Wright reported that out of the 11 cameras 2 were not working adequately and he had arranged for the camera on the Emlyn Arms to be temporarily relocated whilst scaffolding is in place. He has arranged for the mobile cctv unit to be in the town at the weekend to work alongside the existing system until it is fully restored.

(370)

Mr Matt Morden, Youth Services Carmarthenshire County Council attended the meeting. He apologised that Chris Davies had been unavailable to attend due to youth presentations that evening. He informed the council that the youth service currently have a youth worker based at the secondary school; that the mobile bus facility visits the town and spends part of the day in the school and part in the town; there is a post 16 worker for the area. With regard to youth club provision the County Council have had issues with past buildings and are now unable to find a suitable new venue. He has visited Ragymuffins and there may be the possibility of a short term opportunity but with it being a private sector venture it raises problems. With regard to long term provision it is unlikely that the County will have capital funding for such a venture and it will be necessary to work with other organisations, such as the Town Council, to access grants.

Cllr Maureen Webley pointed out that the youth service seem to be particularly hard to get hold of and don't seem to be able to establish lines of communication and not just with the town council. She requested statistics for usage of the mobile service. She noted that she had not heard of any post 16 worker in the area so how were the youth supposed to find out and asked where this was based, how it was accessed and requested statistics of use for this service.

Matt Morden responded that the 16 plus service was based in Carmarthen and was on a one to one basis. He is able to provide statistics.

Cllr Alan Jones noted that there was a youth club management committee but the County youth service had just pulled out with no discussion. They are aware that there are problems in finding suitable premises and that there is a need to get together and look at options in providing a building.

Signed _____ Date _____

Cllr Hazel Evans enquired if the County Council had money to rent a venue. Matt Morden responded yes for a suitable venue. He felt that the solution would be a purpose built facility and that the way forward would be for the town and county to work together in putting forward a grant proposal. Cllr Haydn Jones noted that the communication problems with the youth service need to be addressed. Cllr Peter Lewis felt that the meeting had started the ball rolling and hopefully a project could be forthcoming.

1. Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb
Apologies for Absence
2. Datgelu Personal ac Ariannol dan Eitemau Busnes sydd wedi eu Rhestru Isod
To Disclose Personal & Pecuniary Interests in Items of Business listed below
3. I Gymeradwyo Cofnodion Cyfarfod 18.02.10
To approve the Minutes of the Meeting 18.02.10

(371)

Amendments to the minutes: minute 317 altered to read Cllr Hazel Jones requested a copy of the original request for signs in the town from Cllr Haydn Jones; minute 329 Cardigan Road not New Road; minute 337 Cllr Alan Jones noted that there was youth club equipment in storage and could be potentially used at Ragamuffins; minute 358express the need for a NHS dentist in the town. Subject to the amendments Cllr Hazel Evans proposed that the minutes be accepted as correct, this was seconded by Cllr Maureen Webley and passes unanimously. The minutes were signed accordingly.

4. Materion yn codi
Matters arising

Ref 01/08 Car Park Signs

(372)

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that the signs will be looked at and changes as soon as possible.

Ref 04/08 Christmas Lights Traffic/Damage Incident

(373)

Clerk had received approval from Allianz to purchase a new set of Christmas lights; the quote included with the claim was from Festive lighting at £445.00+vat & £15 delivery. Are still awaiting approval on bracket & building repairs.

Ref 17/08 CCTV

(374)

Clerk has not received a response regarding Sgt Clarke completing the upgrade works but Sgt Wright is now looking into the situation with respect to the cctv system.

Ref: 23:09/08 Pavements

(375)

Clerk received an email reply from D T Williams, Carmarthenshire County Council, that they will provide sufficient notice regarding the pavement work. Cllr Haydn Jones has requested that the County have a look at the tree outside Natwest Bank.

Ref: 26 09/08 & 45 02/09 Mart car park

(376)

Clerk had received an email from LloydsTSB Estates to the effect that Jones Lang LaSalle manage their property portfolio, and they have requested relevant legal documentation and will be making an informed decision in due course. Clerk to write back and request a meeting to discuss.

Ref 35 10/08 River Walk

(377)

Clerk has contacted Mr James, Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the Japanese knot weed. Cllr Haydn Jones reported that there has been a large response from all over the county for the local ranger posts and that hopefully people will be in post by May.

Ref 36 10/08 Web site

(378)

Cllr Maureen Webley to be able to add information to the web site.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref:55

Ref 42 02/09 Renting of available unit

(379)

Cllr Peter Lewis had met with Gill Sutton to discuss the terms of rental and show her the premises. In response to this meeting Gill Sutton had made an offer of £170 per calendar month rent to include business rates. The councillors felt that this was far too low and it was agreed that the clerk should contact Alan Thomas and Philip Ling to request valuations. Clerk to contact Gill Sutton and update her on the position and provide opportunity for her to reconsider her offer.

Ref 48 04/09 Attic theatre lease.

(380)

Clerk had met with Cllr Peter Lewis and Cllr Cefin Evans to discuss the lease. Clerk had produced a draft agreement, copies were provided. It was agreed that the clerk should request the solicitor to look over it.

Ref 51/09 Girl Guide centenary

(381)

This project is not going to be undertaken due to other commitments.

Ref 53/07/09 Sewerage issues

(382)

Cllr Peter Lewis and Cllr Hazel Evans had met with Gareth Rees of Carmarthenshire County Council who have contract on behalf of Dwr Cymru. They are aware of the problems in the town but Ofsted have pulled back the money and proposed works in Newcastle Emlyn have been cut. It was agreed to write a strongly worded letter to Welsh Water and Ofsted. Cllr Hazel Evans expressed the importance for town residents to report all issues and problems; unless complaints are logged the problems will not be properly reflected in the statistics. The drain problems at the mart car park are due to 6" drain which can't cope with storm water and sewerage. Cllr Alan Jones requested that these drains are cleaned on 6 monthly intervals.

Ref 56/11/09 20mph speed restriction request

(383)

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that Mr John McEvoy is to organise the monitoring of speed throughout the town and recording equipment is to be placed in about 10 points. Discussions with Ceredigion County Council are in place and hopefully a meeting will be held soon.

Ref 57/11/09 Clock

(384)

The clock has stopped again and is not working at all. Clerk had spoken to Gillette Johnston (Croydon) Ltd to request that they come back out to repair clock; the company should be out in a few weeks in conjunction with another job in the area.

Clerk to make enquiries with Cardigan and Carmarthen as to who services their town clocks.

Ref 59/11/09 Maintenance issues

(385)

Clerk has provided a project outline for consideration and Sara Evans wishes to arrange a meeting to progress the grant application. Cllr Peter Lewis reported that he had attended another meeting with Sara Evans and Pamela Gaunt; the Town Council are to put in an application for improvements to the castle grounds and facilities while Pamela Gaunt wishes to put in interpretation panels and sculptures related to the Dragon festival. It was noted that Pamela Gaunt would require the town councils approval for this project. It was agreed to contact Sara Evans and arrange a meeting for the 12th May at 7:15pm.

Ref 60/01/10 Council vacancy

(386)

Letter received from Carmarthenshire County Council to confirm that there has been no request for an election and the council are able to co-opt.

Clerk had received one letter of application from Mrs Katherine Rich; this letter to be kept on file while the vacancy is advertised.

5. Gohebiaeth
Correspondence

(387)

Information from CWM Community & Environmental Fund

Thank you letter from Dai Lewis Auctioneers

Letter of Introduction from Centregreat group – provide Christmas lights

Email:

Information from OVW Green communities Training 8th March in Llanarthney Hall

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref: 56

Information from OVW on training opportunities in Gwent
 Planning Aid Newsletter from OVW
 Information from OVW regarding Cymru Yfory Supporters Group
 CCW Funding Newsletter from OVW
 Information on Easter Kids Holiday Club from Sue Tabbitt
 Request from Carmarthenshire Life Magazine for photographs of the town
 Information from Carmarthenshire Regeneration Partnership – A strategy for Prosperity 2005 – 2015 Mid term review.
 Information from OVW Fairtrade in your Council
 Consultation documents:
 Dyfed Powys Police Authority Consultation on Employment Targets and publication of Statement of Accounts.
 Online questionnaire www.dyfedpowyspoliceauthority.co.uk.
 Correspondence was noted.

6. Adroddiadau Pwyllgorau
Committee reports

(388)

Cllr Odette Little had been unable to go to the Chamber of Trade meeting.

(389)

Cllr Alan Jones reported that the constitution of the playing fields committee has not been changed since the termination of the lease agreement and the town council are still trustees of the land. Cllr Haydn Jones to look into the castle lease agreement.

7. Ceisiadau Cynllunio
Planning Applications

Letter received from Mr Richard Vale in response to Owen Banks letter and report.

8. Materion Arianol
Financial Matters

(390)

Monthly budget sheet provided

Current a/c bank balance as at 05.03.10 £ 11730.67

Reserve a/c balance as at 07.01.09 £ 0.15

It was agreed to make the following payments:

£275.00 Mr Wyn Davies

£392.00 Mrs Phillips

£166.76 JBH Supplies

£976.99 CCC footway lighting

£14.29 Swallow Office Supplies

£147.72 Biffa

£679.55 Swalec

Receipts:

Rent: £775.00

9. Adroddiadau Timau Cynllun
Project Team Reports

(391)

Cllr Maureen Webley provided a report from Caroline Roberts on her meeting with the Heritage Lottery officer. It was agreed to meet at the Council Chambers on Monday 12th May for the Cawdor Hall Regeneration Committee at 6:30pm

10. Unrhyw Faterion Eraill
Any Other Business

(392)

An invitation had been received from ARUP to a meeting regarding a potential environmental enhancement project in Newcastle Emlyn as part of RDP town and village enhancement. Cllr Hazel Evans expressed that whilst this was a great project for the town it would have been better if more people from the town had been present rather than representatives of organisations; it was a big decision for the town. Various projects had been discussed and an application is being put forward for a half million pound project to develop and improve the riverside walk.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref:57

(393)

Cllr Peter Lewis proposed that Cllr Cefin Evans be elected at Mayor Elect, this was seconded by Cllr Pauline Evans and agreed unanimously.

(394)

Cllr Haydn Jones had received a request from community services regarding opportunities in the town for community work, it was agreed that the castle grounds could be maintained.

(395)

Cllr Alan Jones requested that the Town Council organise the tubs and baskets scheme early this year in an attempt to get the town looking nice and attract people in. Cllr Cefin Evans noted that there had been poor take up last year with some deciding not to take part and others doing their own thing, there was no enthusiasm to join the scheme. It was suggested that the Chamber of Trade be involved, Clerk to contact them.

(396)

Cllr Hazel Evans raised a number of outstanding items: dog fouling – Cllr Haydn Jones informed the meeting that the Welsh Assembly Government allowed for designated areas but not blanket orders so Carmarthenshire County Council are currently arguing this decision; steps opposite Emlyn hall have not been done, Ebenezer Street drain, pavement outside Mr Schaivone and wall outside bus shelter – these items to be chased up with Carmarthenshire County Council

(397)

Cllr Maureen Webley informed the meeting that the capping stones on the wall in the castle car park have been taken off, clerk to report to the County Council.

(398)

Cllr Peter Lewis had received a 3rd place Newcastle Emlyn in bloom certificate for the Clock Tower.

(399)

Cllr Peter Lewis informed the meeting that a 5k walk around the town is to be held on the 28th April.

(400)

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 15th April.

(401)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9:45pm

Signed _____ Date _____
Minutes Ref: 58