



MINUTES

(261)

The monthly meeting of the Newcastle Emlyn Town Council was held on Thursday 21st January 2010 at 7:30pm in the Teifi Valley Day Centre, Newcastle Emlyn, the Mayor Cllr Peter Lewis presided.

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

(262)

Cllr Peter Lewis requested a minutes silence in respect of family members of Cllr Pauline Evans and Cllr Kelvin Baker.

1. Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb
Apologies for Absence

(263)

Apologies were received from Cllr Kelvin Baker.

Apologies were received from PC Diane Williams. Unfortunately there was no member of the community police available to attend the meeting.

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 19.11.09
To approve the Minutes of the Meeting 19.11.09

(264)

Cllr Maureen Webley proposed that the minutes of the last meeting were accepted as correct; this was seconded by Cllr Hazel Evans and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed accordingly.

4. Materion yn codi
Matters arising

(265)

Ref 01/08 Car Park Signs

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that the officer who was dealing with the signs for Newcastle Emlyn is now away on maternity leave. It will be necessary for a different officer to visit the town to assess the signs.

(266)

Ref 04/08 Christmas Lights Traffic/Damage Incident

Clerk had contacted the assessor who had received no update from Allianz. Clerk then contacted Allianz who have split the claim into two sections being dealt with by different departments – liability & property. Allianz have admitted liability in respect of Mr Thomas' claim and are waiting on additional information via his solicitors; everything will be settled directly between them and we will be informed when the claim is finalised. The property element of the claim regarding replacement lights is now being dealt with as they are in receipt of the assessors report.

(267)

Ref 10/08 Streetlights

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that the county council required lamp numbers. Clerk to verify this and provide any relevant information.

(268)

Ref 17/08 CCTV

Cllr Alan Jones reported that Sgt Clarke has been moved from working on cctv systems, about a days work is remaining to finish off the upgrade work and we will then be in a position to arrange a maintenance contract.

Signed _____ Date _____

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(269)

Ref:21:09/08 Roseberry House

Carmarthenshire County Council responded that there was no requirement for change of use at this property.

(270)

Ref: 23:09/08 Pavements

Clerk has requested a response.

(271)

Ref: 25:09/08 Mart chains

Cllr Peter Lewis to contact mart organisers.

(272)

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

Clerk had contacted Mr John McEvoy who informed her that that there seems to be a problem with school parents abusing the dispensation parking which in future is going to be strictly enforced. Cllr Haydn Jones suggested that a letter be sent to the school.

Mr John McEvoy confirmed that the bollards have been agreed and will be installed in the next financial year. Cllr Haydn Jones reported that a traffic flow survey is to be done.

Clerk had chased up the cutting back of the hedge.

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that the mart lights have been switched off and are not being put back on as they are too expensive to run and maintain. New lights are to be installed on the building. Cllr Peter Lewis enquired if there will be lights at the bottom of the car park as it will be very dark if not; Cllr Haydn Jones to check on this.

Clerk has written to LloydsTSB via the Newcastle Emlyn branch regarding their rear wall.

(273)

Ref 28 10/08 Picnic Tables

Wyn Davies has made sure that all the picnic tables are secure; he informed the clerk that the town council should consider replacing two of the tables. Clerk had requested quote from Broxap for recycled plastic tables; £394.00 excluding fixings, vat and delivery. There is no available funding in the current budget.

(274)

Ref 34 10/08 Bus shelter at CK's

The shelter was installed before Christmas.

(275)

Ref 35 10/08 River Walk

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that the proposed project is to cost in the region of £70,000 and the county council are hoping to complete it in the next financial year. Convergence money has been received and the adverts for local rangers have been placed.

(276)

Ref 36 10/08 Web site

This is now up and running. Any information/details/web links for inclusion to be referred to the Clerk.

(277)

Ref 42 02/09 Renting of available unit

This is ongoing with Age Concern who have not received confirmation of their funding.

(278)

Ref 48 04/09 Attic theatre lease.

The lease is ongoing.

There has been a burst pipe in the theatre which has caused damage to the shop unit below. Clerk has reported the damage to the insurance company Claim ref: BH2 197298. Council needs to obtain two estimates for the damage and repairs, Cllr Alan Jones and Cllr Cefin Evans to arrange. It was agreed that Cllr Peter Lewis should assess and repair the plumbing in order that the theatre group can start reusing the premises.

(279)

Ref 50 06/09 Toilets

There have been ongoing problems with blockages at the mart toilets.

The cleaner has been experiencing problems getting into town to open and lock the toilets with the recent weather. Cllr Peter Lewis and the Clerk have approached Carrot Cruncher in respect of having a key to the market toilets.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref:43

A complaint regarding the toilets being closed had been received via the county council, clerk to respond. The clerk reported that the area in front of the toilets and entrance to the market had been very badly frozen and provided some health and safety recommendations.

(280)

Ref 52/09 Wall outside bus shelter

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that the county council are aware of the situation and it has been assessed that something sturdier is required at this location. Repairs are imminent.

(281)

Ref 53/07/09 Sewerage issues

Mr Gareth Rees has been unavailable due to a family bereavement but is expected back in work shortly. There is no one else available that covers our area with any decision making authority. Hopefully will be able to schedule a meeting in the next couple of weeks.

(282)

Ref 54/09/09 Castle

It was agreed to approach ND Signs and arrange for notices to be put on the fence.

(283)

Ref 55/09/09 Christmas Lights.

Clerk has received a couple of comments about how good Newcastle Emlyn Christmas lights are. It was agreed to take down the lights on the first suitable weekend.

(284)

Ref 56/11/09 20mph speed restriction request

At the November meeting it was suggested that a 20mph speed restriction be requested for the town. Clerk reported that she had contacted Mr John McEvoy. Whilst there is no funding for Carmarthenshire County Council to pursue such a request under WAG guidelines it is possible to bring in a 20mph zone. He suggested that it may be able to achieve this through the Safe Route in Communities and suggested contacting the relevant officer at the county. Cllr Haydn Jones had also spoken with Mr McEvoy who is to approach his Ceredigion County Council counterpart about a joint application to cover both sides of the bridge and through the town. Councillors made further suggestions to the extent of cover for the 20 mph zone. Cllr Haydn Jones is to go back to the county council and request a plan from them. Cllr Maureen Webley suggested the introduction of flashing lights in conjunction with the reduced speeds.

(285)

Ref 57/11/09 Clock

Cllr Pauline Evans had noted that the town clock was running slow. Clerk had spoken with Mr Wyn Davies who confirmed that there have been continued problems with the clock keeping proper time and that it is now no longer working. Cllr Peter Lewis and the Clerk have contacted Gillett Johnston (Croydon) Ltd who are coming out to service and undertake any relevant repairs; Cllr Peter Lewis to chase this up. Cllr Hazel Evans reported that one of the glass panes has been broken, probably by a snowball.

(286)

Ref 58/11/09 Youth provision

Clerk has contacted officers in Carmarthenshire County Council and is waiting for a response. Cllr Haydn Jones reported that the youth workers are in the school. It was noted that a new internet café is due to open in the town.

(287)

Ref 59/11/09 Maintenance issues

Cllr Haydn Jones provided contact details to obtain safety ring, he county council use torpedo bouys but these would not fit into our cases. The County Council have no rings in stock but are checking on prices. The bins have been relocated onto the bouy posts. Mr Wyn Davies has suggested that these bins be replaced as they are damaged and have missing lids, he has suggested similar to the new one at the castle grounds, clerk had requested a quote from Broxap, £314.00 per bin excluding vat, delivery and fixings. There are no available funds in the current budget. Cllr Peter Lewis to contact Mr Davies regarding possible repairs to existing bins.

5. Gohebiaeth
Correspondence

(288)

Letter received from Dyfed Powys Police introducing Steve Mears, recently appointed Divisional Commander from Carmarthenshire Division.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minute Ref:44

Information from RRU on community fruit & veg co-ops.
 Christmas refuse collection information
 The Voice newsletter from One Voice Wales
 Annual report from Cantref
 Play Time newsletter
 Information from Nottssport – new surfaces
 Letter from OVV re Buckingham Palace Garden Party 20th July 2010 inviting outgoing Mayor to put name forward for a draw
 One Voice Wales Carmarthenshire Area Committee meeting 21st January at 6:30pm
 Information on new South West Wales Association for Play
 Email:
 Invitation received for councillors to attend opening of Plant Dewi family group at the church hall on Thursday 10:30am
 Snow & ice advice to town councils from SLCC
 Invitation from Welsh language board to attend a public meeting in Carmarthen 1st February at 7:30pm
 Letter from French Electrical Services introducing company and inviting quotes for work
 Information regarding Public Leaders
 Consultation documents:
 Draft version of Carmarthenshire Speed Management Strategy.
 Code of Conduct – draft guidance from Public Services Ombudsman
 The correspondence was noted.

6. Adroddiadau Pwyllgorau
Committee reports

(289)

There were no committee reports.

7. Ceisiadau Cynllunio
Planning Applications

(290)

REFUSED -W/21917 Removal top half of existing building Harrisons café, Sycamore St
 REFUSED –W/21918 Demolition of part of bakery & construction of new extension

(291)

Cllr Pauline Evans proposed that the minutes of the special council meeting held on 17th December 2009 to discuss planning application W/22109: Demolition of existing car showroom and office/former motor factors outlet/residential bungalow and construction of a retail convenience store with associated parking and ancillary infrastructure. Land off Tanyard Lane, Newcastle Emlyn be accepted as correct, this was seconded by Cllr Odette Little and agreed by a majority.

8. Materion Arianol
Financial Matters

(292)

Monthly budget sheet was provided

Current a/c bank balance as at 07.01.10 £ 7270.07

Reserve a/c balance as at 07.01.09 £ 0.15

Cllr Alan Jones proposed that the following be accepted for payment; this was seconded by Cllr Maureen Webley and agreed by the councillors:

£530.00 Mr Wyn Davies

£189.00 Mrs Phillips

£19.12 Swallow Office Supplies

£130.07 Biffa

£291.76 JBH Supplies Ltd

£31.20 S V Owens

£118.60 Coopers Arms

£25.46 Tivy Hall

£75.00 One Voice Wales

£170.00 Trefhedyn

£10.00 Cllr Hazel Evans

£36.76 Cllr Peter Lewis

Signed _____ Date _____

Minute Ref:45

Receipts:

£40 from Attic theatre

£930. rent

£6201.67 precept

£525.00 electric meters

(293)

Invoice has been sent to Carmarthenshire County Council for SLA

(294)

Grant request from National Eisteddfod

Grant request from Dai Lewis – Christmas mart; it was agreed to give £100.00

Grant request from Ammanford & District Citizens Advice Bureau

Grant request from Carmarthen Citizens Advice Bureau

(295)

The grant payment from CADW had not been received. Clerk contacted CADW who have apparently sent a cheque to Mr Alan Davies which has not been cashed, this has been stopped and CADW are arranging a BACs payment to the councils current account. Clerk has transferred the funds in the savings account to meet payments due until receipt of grant.

(296)

Cllr Hazel Evans proposed that the minutes of the finance meeting to discuss budget and precept calculations are accepted as correct; this was seconded by Cllr Cefin Evans and agreed by a majority.

(297)

Cllr Odette Little proposed that the finance committees proposal to an increase of £2.50 on the tax base providing an additional £1098.43 on the precept be accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Pauline Evans and agreed unanimously. Cllr Haydn Jones noted that the town council need to look at securing grants for possible additional funding.

9. Adroddiadau Timau Cynllun
Project Team Reports

(298)

Cllr Maureen Webley provided minutes of the last meeting of the restoration group.

She reported that the project definitely requires an experienced person on board to put together a proposal and potential funding. A meeting is to be held with Caroline Roberts on 1st February at 6:30pm in the Council chambers.

10. Unrhyw Faterion Eraill
Any Other Business

(299)

A letter of resignation had been received from Cllr Fiona White who has moved away to start a new job. Letter to be sent to Cllr White. Clerk to notify the county council and arrange to advertise the vacancy.

(300)

Clerk to complete questionnaire on County Council budget 2010-11 to 2012-2013.

(301)

Cllr Alan Jones and Cllr Peter Lewis have compiled an up to date asset register. CCTV system to be included. Register now requires individual prices for insurance and replacement values and actual value taking into consideration depreciation.

(302)

Cllr Peter Lewis informed the meeting that the partnership working meeting had been cancelled due to the bad weather. A date was agreed for 1st February at 7pm after the restoration group meeting.

(303)

Cllr Cefin Evans informed the meeting that there was a problem with dogs fouling on the streets in the town. Cllr Haydn Jones is to contact the dog warden and the clerk is to enquire if the PCSO's have any powers.

(304)

Cllr Hazel Jones noted that the county council have not improved any of the road surfaces and that some are now in a very poor condition with pot holes, they require resurfacing and not simply filling.

(305)

Cllr Pauline Evans enquired about the possibility of a zebra crossing at the main school entrance. Cllr Hazel Evans reiterated that the safe route to school provides the best access to the school and is not being used.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minute Ref:46

(306)

Cllr Alan Jones thanked Cllr Lewis for organising the annual dinner.

(307)

Cllr Alan Jones congratulated the committee involved in organising the Victorian night which had been a success and thanked them for their hard work.

(308)

Cllr Alan Jones requested that a letter be sent to Mrs Val Jackson who has recently received an MBE.

(309)

Cllr Hazel Evans had completed 21 years and Cllr Alan Jones had completed 20 years as a Town Councillor.

(310)

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 18th February 2010

(311)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9:30pm

Signed _____ Date _____

Minute Ref:47