

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF MACHYNLLETH TOWN COUNCIL

Held in Y Plas on Monday 29th September 2008

Present: Cllrs. B. Dunn; G Davies; G Jenkins; M Williams; J McDermot; G Baldwin;
K Hubbard; D Lewis; DW Davies

Also present: J. H. Parsons - Clerk; M Biffin – Secretary

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Apologies

- Cllr S Rowlands; E Hughes; C Foster

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Presentation

A presentation was given by Emma Macey and Phil Wheeler of Film 15 – Emma explained that local school children were involved in acting, costume design, set design, lighting, sound and all aspects of film making – Emma said that the children make a film and this was then shown at the Pink Snowball Awards – Emma showed a short excerpt from the film – all Councillors were impressed with the standard shown – Emma stated that many professional experts had given their time – some freely – to assist the children and this was a good grounding for the children to move towards a career in film making – Cllr Williams asked how much such a project cost – Emma said that it was about £30,000 and would like help from Machynlleth Town Council for any assistance, financially or otherwise – Cllr Jenkins said that she was very impressed and was sure that MTC would be prepared to send letters of support – Cllr Baldwin congratulated Emma and the Film 15 Project – Cllr Williams suggested that the Town Councillors should attend the Pink Snowball awards – Cllr Dunn asked if Emma had contacted the Probation Service to offer support to young offenders – Emma said they have had some working on previous Projects – all Councillors felt it was a worthwhile Project and congratulated Emma and the Children.

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Minutes

- The minutes of the last meeting having been previously circulated, were **approved** by Council.

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Statutory Business

- The Clerk stated that he had asked for an extension on the Annual Returns due to Petra's illness and this had been **granted**.

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Mayors Business

The Mayor gave his report as follows:

- 1 August, I attended at the Golf Club for the official opening of their new short-course.
- 5 August; The Plas Panel met – minutes circulated
- 7 August, with Cllr. Williams I met with CEO of Powys LHB
- 20 August; meeting of CAPP. Also present Cllrs. Rowlands & Williams
- 1 September; met with representatives of Royal British Legion to discuss plans for this year's Remembrance Sunday
- 2 September, I *retrieved* the Owain Glyndwr sword from the Tabernacle. It now has its own alcove in the reception area at Y Plas
- 3 September; met with CEO of Health Board and member of Clinical Governance team from National Assembly. Also present Cllrs. Rowlands and Williams

- 4 September; Senior Citizens trip to Carmarthen and Botanic Gardens
- 5 September; attended Machynlleth Community Children's Project AGM
- 6 September: I was at The Tabernacle to welcome a group of Bolivian musicians to Machynlleth. They are expected to play at next year's El Sueno Existe festival
- 9 September; chaired public meeting about health service issues, closure of MIU and the future of the Community Hospital
- 13 September; official opening of Y Plas. A really successful day
- 14 September; Open Doors at Y Plas
- The Clerk stated that he was disappointed by the lack of support from Councillors at the Open Day at Y Plas on Sunday 14th September.

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Matters Arising

- Powys LHB – meeting of Machynlleth Project Board **(5173)** – Cllr Baldwin asked if she could attend the meeting – Cllr Williams said that there was no reason why she could not.
- Hourly Train Service **(5095)** – letter to WAG – Cllr Williams thanked the Clerk for sending a letter to WAG
- Parking in Ffordd Mynydd Griffiths **(4967)** – letter from PCC – Cllr Williams said that people with disabilities should still be allowed to park outside their houses.
- Street Lighting **(5161)** – Letter from PCC – Cllr Williams suggested a small sub-committee be set up to look at the effects of reduced lighting – it was **agreed** and the committee would include Cllrs Williams, McDermot and DW Davies who would report back their findings.
- BT Payphones - Copy of letters from Mick Bates **(5180)**
- Baby Pool – letter from Mick Haynes **(5182)** – it was **agreed** a copy of the letter be sent to Cllr Foster
- Weeds – letter from PCC **(5182)**
- Naming of houses at old Reads Garage site **(5013)** – this was **agreed**.
- Minor Injuries Unit – letter from LHB **(5161)**

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General Purpose Panel Report

- The minutes of the August & September meetings having been previously circulated, were **approved** by Council.
- The bus stop outside Ian Snow's was discussed - Cllr Williams suggested we contact the PTA at Ysgol Gynradd to see if a joint funding application could be sent – this was **agreed** - Cllr Jenkins asked if a cost comparison had been done regarding the removal or retention of the bus stop outside Ian Snow's – Cllr DW Davies said the amount of work involved in removing the bus stop and restoring the pavement would outweigh the cost of buying and installing another one at the school but said no exact cost comparison had been done – Cllr Jenkins suggested one should take place.

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Health Panel Report

- The minutes of the last meetings having been previously circulated, were **approved** by Council.
- Cllr Williams thanked the Mayor for the detailed notes and report he had made regarding the Public Meeting.

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Town Clock Panel Report

- The minutes of the last meeting having previously been circulated, were **approved** by Council

- Cllr Williams was pleased a letter had been sent to Sandra Jones thanking her for her input – Cllr Jenkins requested a letter be sent to Mr Mark Kerr, Chief Executive of PCC praising Sandra Jones – this was **agreed**

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Plas Panel Report

- The minutes of the last meeting having previously been circulated, were **approved** by Council
- Cllr D W Davies praised the Mayor and staff for the hard work and success of the Plas.
- Cllr Jenkins asked if we could find out what the law was on ratios of Allotments to resident was – it was **agreed** a letter be sent to Paul Griffiths at PCC
- Cllr McDermot asked why any community garden scheme would not be allowed to grow vegetable – Cllr Dunn explained that we would encounter complaints from residents that if we had a community garden growing vegetable then why could it not be provided as allotment space – Cllr Baldwin also felt that if the Rose Garden was turned into a vegetable plot it would risk being vandalised – Cllr Hubbard felt that the Rose Garden should remain a tranquil and enjoyable place to relax and would like to be sat amongst vegetable to do this – Cllr Lewis stated that this was the decision of the Plas Panel and fully supported the Mayor

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County Councillor J M Williams Report

- The minutes of the last meeting having been previously circulated, was **approved** by Council

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Planning Applications

- P2008 0356 – Tegfan, 15 Pentrerhedyn – alterations – **granted**
- P2008 1377 – 6 Greenfields – alterations – **granted**
- P2008 1354 – Dyffi Eco Park – change of use to land to skip waste and recycling depot.

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Statement of Accounts

- The accounts were presented to Council and **approved**.

Date		Chq No	Chq Drawn
29/07/2008	R A Gaskell	4930	£ 136.99
	Colin Wilde	4931	£ 1,058.58
	Mark Rumbelow	4932	£ 444.00
31/07/2008	M Biffin	4933	£ 651.34
01/08/2008	I G Owen	4934	£ 44.04
	Travis Perkins	4935	£ 76.30
05/08/2008	R A Gaskell	4936	£ 127.48
06/08/2008	Copyrite (photocopy Charges)	4937	£ 305.07
07/08/2008	B T	4938	£ 252.30
	Scottish Power	4939	£ 478.36
	Kimberlees - Refreshments for meeting and Richies congratulations	4940	£ 52.00
	I G Owen	4941	£ 89.57
11/08/2008	R A Gaskell	4942	£ 117.57
15/08/2008	Inland Revenue	4943	£ 713.55
19/08/2008	R A Gaskell	4944	£ 228.15
26/08/2008	R A Gaskell	4945	£ 122.53

29/08/2008	Colin Wilde	4946	£	1,154.84
	Mark Rumbelow	4947	£	605.19
02/09/2008	R A Gaskell	4948	£	156.81
	Andrew Fleming - Plants for Pots	4949	£	385.00
	E.O.M ltd - CCTV in the Plas	4950	£	183.77
	Tech Services Shropshire Ltd - CCTV in Plas	4951	£	7,990.73
09/09/2008	R A Gaskell	4952	£	132.24
	M Biffin	4953	£	664.16
17/09/2008	R A Gaskell	4954	£	117.57
24/09/2008	R A Gaskell	4955	£	309.40
26/09/2008	Colin Wilde	4956	£	1,155.04
	Mark Rumbelow	4957	£	530.43
	Melanie Biffin	4958	£	418.80
	P Evans - 9 weeks	4959	£	201.60
	Inland Revenue - 2 months	4960	£	1,754.22
	I G Owen	4961	£	149.03
	Travis Perkins	4962	£	3.47

£ 20,810.13

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Correspondence

- Parking Ticket – letter from Mid Wales Tourism – Cllr Williams suggested that a letter be sent to Arriva Trains regarding the letter – Cllr Baldwin stated that MTC had paid for Coach Parking Bays to be installed near the train station but were constantly occupied by Lloyd’s busses.
- Town Twinning – letter from PCC – Cllr Jenkins stated that this had been looked into before and she and other Cllrs had spent a great deal of time and effort on this with no support – the Council were not able to set this up and it had be done by a Steering Committee.
- Bus/Train service – email from Gerwyn Jones
- Tesco – letter to Porthmadog Council asking for comments/feedback of impact – no reply yet
- Tesco – letter from local resident – the Clerk stated that we would receive many different opinions from the people of the town and it would be unwise at this point to make any comments until we were aware of all the facts.
- Registry Office moving – letter from PCC – Cllr Baldwin asked again if the office could be moved to Y Plas – it was stated that we had no room to provide office space at this moment but we were looking into becoming licensed for ceremonies to be held at Y Plas
- Machfringe – request for donation
- Spirit of Miners Exhibition
- No Police Cones – copy of letter of complaint
- Communities 1st – invite to Royal Welsh Showground 20th Nov
- Community Centre – letter to JH Jones
- Royal British Legion – copy of letter – Cllr Dunn was pleased to report the problems regarding last years event had now been resolved.
- Coach drivers year book – advertise this year – it was **agreed** we would advertise this year.
- Training on new Member’s Code of Conduct – form sent
- Machynlleth Town Councillor – request to become Cllr from Mr Nicholas
- Machynlleth Community Children’s Project – renting office in Community Centre – Cllr Williams declared his interest and left the room – it was **agreed** by the Council to allow MCCP to rent space.

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Publications

- Mid Wales Housing Annual Report
- W A G – Frameworks
- Montgomeryshire Pulse
- NSPCC

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Any other business

- Website – Cllr McDermot suggested that the website became more accessible to the people of Machynlleth and that the minutes should be added – Cllr Dunn said that he had spoken to Computersurgeon and the cost will be £20 for the initial set up and then £5 each time the minutes were changed – Cllr Dunn pointed out that the minutes needed to be bi-lingual – it was **agreed** to add this to the website when we have found someone to translate the minutes – the Clerk stated that the minutes could not be added to the website until they had been approved by Council and therefore would always be a month behind.
- Policing – Cllr Dunn stated that the Police were not allowed to reveal how many officers are on duty and as Councillors we should push for more cover and a quicker response – it was **agreed** the Clerk should write to Dyfed Powys Police to find out what cover we pay for in our rates – Cllr Dunn requested it be minuted that he was not influenced or had discussed this with his Son.
- Footpath on Forge Road – Cllr Dunn had received complaints from members of the public about the lack of pavement on the hill by the golf course – Cllr Williams suggested a letter be sent to Adrian Jervis at PCC requesting the installation of a footpath on the right-hand side of the road going towards Forge.
- Rent Office – Cllr Dunn had received complaints from older residents that they had to travel further to pay their rent – it was **agreed** a letter be sent to Geoff Petty at PCC regarding this.
- Steps by Royal House – Cllr Jenkins stated that the steps were very dangerous when wet and someone could slip and seriously hurt themselves – Cllr Jenkins had already spoken to Shane Thomas and it was **agreed** a follow-up letter be sent.
- Transition Bro Dyfi – Cllr McDermot had received details of a course available – Cllrs Williams, Dunn and Lewis expressed an interest – details of the course would be sent to Mark Kerr, PCC and local Community Councils to see if they are interested and the secretary will collate information and report back to Cllr McDermot.