

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF MACHYNLLETH TOWN COUNCIL

Held in Y Plas on Monday 27th April 2009

Present: Cllrs. B. Dunn; S Rowlands; C Foster; E Hughes; G Baldwin; DW Davies; G Davies; G Jenkins; M Williams; K Hubbard

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

5298
TC
27.04.09

Apologies

- Cllrs. D Lewis; S Nicholas

5299
TC
27.04.09

Presentation

- A presentation was given by Eluned Lewis of Airtricity who are involved in wind farm development – Airtricity is a subsidiary of Scottish & Southern Energy providing the renewable energy – Airtricity are working closely with Dulas in identifying areas across Wales suitable for wind farms – a site has been identified at Nant y Moch near Tal y Bont and most of the land used belongs to the Forestry Commission who are acting as managers on behalf of WAG – the target is to contribute 17.5% towards renewable energy in Wales – it is estimated that the planning stage will take place in December 2009 with grid connection taking place by 2013 and the whole development should be fully running by 2015 – there will be public meetings held on 16th, 18th and 19th June – Cllr Rowlands asked what affect it would have on Red Kites – Ms Lewis stated that experts are monitoring the birds and any affects – Cllr Jenkins asked if there had been many complaints from residents already living in an area where there are wind farms – Ms Lewis said that there will always be people for and against wind farms but there are very strong rules about how close turbines can be placed to occupied properties and the impact on any community was always considered very carefully – Cllr Foster asked what form grid connection would take – Ms Lewis said it would be via wooden poles but not pylons – Cllr DW Davies said most people were concerned about the visual impact – Ms Lewis said the turbines had a 25 year life span and could be easily removed without any damage to the landscape – Cllr Baldwin asked if Airtricity had any plans for off shore wind farms in Wales – Ms Lewis said they did not but may be in other parts of the UK - Cllr Dunn thanked Ms Lewis and said he was please public meetings were to be held and the communities would be consulted.

5300
TC
27.04.09

Minutes

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

5301
TC
27.04.09

Statutory Business

- The Clerk stated that the May meeting would be the AGM and would start at 6pm followed by an ordinary Council meeting at 6.30pm

5302
TC
27.04.09

Mayors Business

The Mayor gave his report as follows:-

We were very saddened by the sudden death of Mike Evans, builder of Darowen.

I suggest a letter of condolence be sent to his widow this was **agreed**.

- 15 April met with leader of Welsh Conservatives Nick Bourne and former AM Lisa Francis to discuss matters related to closure of TiC
- 17 April I attended Machynlleth Snooker Club finals where I was very pleased to be able to present the trophies
- 21 April Plas Development Committee meeting where we dealt with a very full agenda. Please see minutes.
- 22 April I attended a Canolfan Hyddgen Management Board meeting as the Town Council representative
- 25 April together with the Mayoress, the Clerk and Cllr. Jenkins I attended the Dyfi Arts Guild launch at Y Plas. We are all very hopeful that this venture succeeds - Cllr Rowlands said that a lot of people are interested in the Art Gallery that may be at Y Plas
- 25 April I attended Machynlleth Pool League finals at the Community Centre where I presented trophies

Cllr Williams thanked the Mayor and MTC for their support of the snooker club

5303
TC
27.04.09

Matters Arising

- Car parking at railway station (**5297**) – a letter was sent which will be forwarded to Mr Crunkhorn who is dealing with the matter.
- MRI Scans (**5289**) – emailed received – Cllr Rowlands was pleased with the support from MTC, Cambrian News and Montgomeryshire Community Health Council, and the matter now seems to have been sorted.
- Machynlleth hospital (**5241**) – letter received from PLHB
- Ambulance response times (**5273**) – email received
- Tesco (**5295**) – the Clerk said all letters should wait for discussion until we receive details of the planning application – this was **agreed**

5304
TC
27.04.09

General Purpose Panel Report

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

- Cllr Rowlands was concerned whether the rods in the drains were the Bowling Club's – Cllr DW Davies confirmed this and said that the rods had been returned – the Clerk said if the sale of the Community Centre proceeds then we must inform the purchasers solicitors of the drain problems – all **agreed**

5305
TC
27.04.09

Health Panel Report

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

- Cllr Williams stated that the Assembly Health Minister proposes a reduction to 7 local health boards and there should be 1 Community Health Council for the whole of Powys – both the Mayor and Cllr Williams had written to WAG and PLHB raising their concerns.

5306
TC
27.04.09

Town Clock Panel Report

The Town Clock Report having been previously circulated, were **approved** by Council

- Cllr Jenkins thanked the Mayor for his support on preparing the ground for the completion of the HLF funding application and they were hoping the bid would be successful – the exterior of the work will start in June – Cllr Jenkins said she had spoken to the local shop owners to discuss

scaffolding and access.

- Cllr Jenkins said that an art exhibition will be placed in the reception area in the new community centre and there will also be a permanent town clock exhibition in Y Plas.
- Cllr Rowlands congratulated Cllr Jenkins on her dedication and hard work with the town clock appeal – all **agreed**

5307

TC

27.04.09

Plas Panel Report

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

- Cllr Jenkins asked that if more staff were employed would it cause Mr Wilde's hours to be reduced - Cllr Dunn stated that it would not reduce his contracted hours but would allow him to work less overtime and be able to take time off more easily – it was **agreed** that we were too reliant on one person and that if he was unavailable at any time it could cause problems.

5308

TC

27.04.09

County Councillor J M Williams Report

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

- Cllr DW Davies said residents in Garth Square have been putting rubbish out for collection a long time before the bin lorries were due, sometimes as much as a week early – Cllr Williams requested that a letter be sent to Adrian Jarvis asking him to contact the residents stating that the bags should not be put out too early.

5309

TC

27.04.09

Planning Applications

- P2009 0112 – Harris Slate – change of use – **Granted**
- P2009 0177 – Owain Pughe's Cottage – change of use
- P2009 0454 – 106 Heol Maengwyn – listed building consent

5310

TC

27.04.09

Statement of Accounts

The Statement of Accounts having been previously circulated, were **approved** by Council

Date		Chq No	Chq Drawn	
24/03/2009	Poppy Appeal	5051	£	16.95
31/03/2009	R A Gaskell	5052	£	135.36
	Clips	5053	£	16.95
	BT - Alarm System in Plas	5054	£	148.00
	Inland Revenue	5055	£	1,315.51
09/04/2009	R A Gaskell	5056	£	224.32
13/04/2009	Severn Trent Water	5057	£	120.44
17/04/2009	R A Gaskell	5058	£	110.54
21/04/2009	R A Gaskell	5059	£	130.80
20/04/2009	Poppy Appeal - Correction	5060	£	1.80
20/04/2009	Scottish Power	5061	£	39.55
	Performing Rights Society	5062	£	46.00
	One Voice Wales	5063	£	258.00
	Metrorod - CCTV Survey & Blocked Drains	5064	£	184.00
	PCC - Rates on Community Centre	5065	£	396.90
26/04/2009	Colin Wilde	5066	£	1,124.38
	Mark Rumbelow	5067	£	370.20
	Mel Biffin	5068		tbc
24/04/2009	Welsh Air Ambulance	5069	£	100.00

	Bobath	5070	£	50.00
	Urdd Gobaith Cymru	5071	£	25.00
	Nat Ass for Colitis & Crohn's Disease	5072	£	50.00
	Owain Glyndwr Centre	5073	£	500.00
	Hope Hospice	5074	£	50.00
	Montgomeryshire Music Festival	5075	£	50.00
	Open Space Society	5076	£	25.00
	Machfringe	5077	£	250.00
	Mach Snooker Club	5078	£	100.00
	Mach Rotary Club	5079	£	100.00
	CAMAD	5080	£	100.00
	PTA Ysgol Gynradd Mach	5081	£	100.00
	Y Tabernacl	5082	£	500.00
	Bro Ddyfi Advice Centre	5083	£	1,200.00
	US Mach	5084	£	100.00
	MCCP	5085	£	500.00
			TOTAL	£ 8,439.70

5311
TC
27.04.09

Correspondence

- Crime figures/street lights – email received from a resident of Ystradgynlais
- T I C – letter from Cllr Dunn
- Filming at MTC – request from a student – it was **agreed** to invite the student along to film a council meeting.
- Dyfi bridge – various correspondence – Cllr Williams said a new bridge would help alleviate the flooding and improve traffic flow – Cllr Dunn agreed and said a new 21st century bridge would help link North and Mid Wales
- Accident by Town Clock – a letter was received from a resident and has been forwarded to PCC
- MTC election procedures – a letter was received from Mr Gareth Jones – it was **agreed** a letter responding would be sent – Cllr Baldwin felt that the Council was very representative of the people of Machynlleth and felt insulted by the comments made by Mr Jones.
- Communities First – working together partnership
- Really Welsh – daffodil bulbs – it was **agreed** Cllr Dunn purchased some bulbs to plant in Y Plas and he would discuss with various groups about planting them.
- CDC Year book – it was **agreed** to advertise again – new car parking details were to be added to the advert.

5312
TC
27.04.09

Publications

There were no publications received this month

5313
TC
27.04.09

Any other business

- Seats on Penrallt – Cllr Baldwin had received complaints from residents about the second bench on Penrallt being used by youths drinking and throwing bottles and stones into the gardens below – this matter was to be discussed further at the next General Purpose Panel meeting.
- New paving – Cllr Dunn requested a letter be sent to the contractors congratulating them on the excellent job they did – this was **agreed** – Cllr Williams asked if a letter could be sent to Adrian Jervis requesting that the

pavements at Penrallt, Pentrerhedyn and Doll Street, all receive the same treatment – this was **agreed**.

5314
TC
27.04.09

In Committee

- It was reported that a resident had contacted MTC with a request to purchase Y Plas land – it was **agreed** that MTC should not sell any Y Plas assets.
- It was **agreed** the Clerk would take advice on rental values of properties of Y Plas
- It was **agreed** MTC staffing structure would be looked at once the new community centre was complete