

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF MACHYNLLETH TOWN COUNCIL

Held in Y Plas on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008

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

**Also present:** J. H. Parsons - Clerk; M Biffin – Secretary  
A Rowlands – Communities 1<sup>st</sup>

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5200  
TC  
27.10.08

### Apologies

- All Councillors were present for the meeting.

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27.10.08

### Presentation

- Andy Rowlands discussed a seminar he wished to arrange so that the process involved in a Supermarket development could be explained – Mr Rowlands explained it was not discuss the pros and cons of supermarket development but to explain what happens from a first stage interest by a company through the planning process and what the Planning Authority has to consider in any application.
- The proposed date for the Seminar would be 26<sup>th</sup> November and there would be 30 places which would be offered to MTC and would be locally advertised– Mr Rowlands was seeking support from MTC for the seminar to go ahead
- Cllr DW Davies was concerned that certain pressure groups who were not necessarily representative of the community of a whole were attempting to influence whether or not a supermarket be allowed to come to the town – Cllr Rowlands agreed saying that she felt the same and felt people new to the area should wait until they were able to judge the opinion of the majority rather than seeking to impose their own ideas – Cllr MacDermot disagreed and said that everybody should be entitled to express their opinion – Cllr Dunn felt that elected members of PCC did not make the planning decisions as it was done by paid staff and that elected members should support the feelings of the people who elected them – Cllr Dunn said he believed that people would not be interested in the planning process only in the end result of a supermarket being in Machynlleth or not – Cllr Jenkins stated that there had never been a forum for other planning applications so why should this be given special treatment – Cllr Dunn stated that MTC have to be unbiased and must be aware of how their support or objections are perceived – the Clerk stated that MTC must maintain independence and not be involved until any planning application come through – it was **agreed** that if an application comes in between MTC meetings a “Special Meeting” will be called to discuss it.

5202  
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27.10.08

### Minutes

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

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27.10.08

### Statutory Business

- The Clerk reported to the Council and the accounts as presented were **approved** to be sent to the Auditors BDO Stoy Hayward LLP.

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27.10.08

### Mayors Business

The Mayor gave his report as follows:

- 3 October; I met with representatives of the Carclub to agree parking facilities for their 2 community cars.
- 6 October; I met with Leigh Muntun and Kate Doubleday regarding possible Community Garden in the former Rose Garden.
- 8 October; Meeting with Judith Paget of LHB and Patrick Coyle of WAG Clinical Governments Unit.
- 10 October; I had the pleasure of meeting Mrs Myfanwy Rees who was celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- 14 October; Along with Cllrs Williams and MacDermot took part in a meeting facilitated by Communities First regarding the provision of young people's facilities at Y Plas.
- On the 17 of October I was Guest Speaker at the U3A AGM where I was also pleased to present a funding cheque following a successful bid supported by MTC.
- 24 October I was present at the Tabernacle to open this year's Royal British Legion Young Musicians of the Year Concert.

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### Matters Arising

- Policing Numbers **(5199)** – letter received from Chief Constable – it was **agreed** a letter be sent “Under the Freedom of Information Act” asking for policing numbers in Machynlleth
- Parking Tickets **(5197)** – letter to Mid Wales Tourism
- Allotment Ratios **(5193)** – letter from PCC – thanks were given to Cllr Williams for his help in bringing the matter to the attention of PCC – it was **agreed** a letter be sent to Paul Griffiths at PCC with a copy of the waiting list for Plas allotments and reminding him of the “6 person” ratio and asking for details of what is being planned to adhere to this ruling
- Parking in Bank Street **(5161)** – letter from Ms Morgan – Cllr Dunn pointed out that it was PCC responsibility and not MTC - it was **agreed** a copy of this letter be sent to Adrian Jervis at PCC
- Bus Shelter **(5190)** letter to PTA Ysgol Gynradd Machynlleth – no response
- Footpath on Forge Road **(5199)** – letter to PCC
- Hourly Train Service **(5197)** – letter from WAG
- Rent Office **(5199)** – letter from PCC – Cllr Rowlands felt that it was ridiculous to expect the elderly to pay via the internet as many of them did not have access to computers – Cllr Dunn said that the elderly did also need to come to the Rent office to discuss housing issues or to simply pick up bin bags – it was **agreed** a letter be sent to PCC pointing this out.
- Royal House **(5199)** – e mail from PCC
- Street Lighting **(5161)** – various letters and e mails – Cllrs MacDermot, DW Davies and Williams had been around Machynlleth looking at the effect of reduced street lighting had made – a report was given – Cllrs all **agreed** a letter should be sent to PCC suggesting that all lights remain on until a given time in the evening, perhaps 1am, along with our feedback – great concern was expressed for the elderly along with concern for children coming home from school on dark nights – Cllr Jenkins said that she thought that there had been a definite rise in crime recently – Cllr Dunn stated that he had received a letter from Steve Hewson, Dyfed Powys Police containing crime figures but these weren't current and Cllr Dunn too sensed a rise in crime recently – Cllr Dunn also felt that Dyfed Powys

Police were “towing the party line” in so far as the lights went and were supporting PCC – Cllr Jenkins asked if a letter could be sent to Dyfed Powys Police for a comparison of crime figures with the same time last year – Cllr Williams said if MTC were to take over the responsibility of 10 street lights until the end of March 2009 he would give MTC £350 to pay for the energy costs – Cllr Williams’s offer was warmly appreciated but Cllrs Dunn and Rowlands felt that if MTC were to take over lights then PCC would be “off the hook” for not thinking the plan through in the first place – the Clerk stated that he was concerned if we took over responsibility of lighting how it would affect MTC legally.

- 5206**  
TC  
27.10.08
- General Purpose Panel Report**
- The minutes of the last meeting having been previously circulated, were **approved** by Council.
- 5207**  
TC  
27.10.08
- Health Panel Report**
- The minutes of the last meeting having been previously circulated, were **approved** by Council.
  - Cllr Rowlands stated that she hoped people would support the Doctors in what they were trying to do at the Health Centre – Cllr Rowlands also pointed out that the staff at the surgery were not even aware of the proposal for the Practice to accommodate the MIU at the Health Centre.
- 5208**  
TC  
27.10.08
- Town Clock Panel Report**
- The minutes of the last meeting having previously been circulated, were **approved** by Council
- 5209**  
TC  
27.10.08
- Plas Panel Report**
- The minutes of the last meeting having previously been circulated, were **approved** by Council
  - Cllr Jenkins agreed with the Clerk’s advise regarding the TIC but was concerned that things were agreed and not put before the full council – Cllr Dunn explained that the minutes of the Plas Panel were sent out and approved at MTC meetings the same as all the other Panel minutes and that Cllrs were able to raise points or objections just the same as with other reports.
  - Cllr Jenkins asked for a breakdown of maintenance costs – this was given by the Secretary and was **accepted**
  - It was **agreed** not accept the terms being put forward by PCC regarding the TIC and a letter was to be sent confirming this.
- 5210**  
TC  
27.10.08
- County Councillor J M Williams Report**
- The minutes of the last meeting having been previously circulated, were **approved** by Council
  - Cllr Williams stated that page 5/6 of his report regarding Voluntary Sector Funding would have an adverse effect some Voluntary Organisations in Machynlleth
- 5211**  
TC  
27.10.08
- Planning Applications**
- P2008 1087 – Old School Canteen – photovoltaic panels – **Granted**
  - P2008 1447 – 105 Maengwyn Street – erecting of dwelling house
  - P2008 1449 – Maenllwyd, Newtown Road – erection of dwelling house
  - P2008 1476 – 7 Penrallt Street – installation of air conditioning

- P2008 1483 – Y Plas – Listed Building Consent
- P2008 1486 – Y Plas – internal & external alterations
- P2008 1512 – 12 Pentrerhedyn Street – new window, roof lights & solar panels
- E Mail from Cllr Curry regarding responding enquiry about Planning Applications via website.

5212  
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27.10.08

### Statement of Accounts

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

Date		Chq No	Chq Drawn
01/10/2008	R A Gaskell	4963	£ 107.67
07/10/2008	Mr M Holt - Clearing Path	4964	£ 30.00
08/09/2008	R A Gaskell	4965	£ 137.19
15/10/2008	R A Gaskell	4966	£ 213.49
15/10/2008	M Biffin - stamps	4967	£ 48.00
23/10/2008	R A Gaskell	4968	£ 117.57
27/10/2008	Seindorf Arian Aberganolwyn	4969	£ 80.00
	I G Owen	4970	£ 18.09
	BT	4971	£ 91.27
	Severn Trent Water	4972	£ 113.94
	Scottish Power	4973	£ 210.85
	Kimberlees - Refreshments for meeting	4974	£ 20.00
	Colin Wilde	4975	£ 1,243.99
	Mark Rumbelow	4976	£ 461.01

£ 2,893.07

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27.10.08

### Correspondence

- CCTV – letter from Sgt Dunn – it was pointed out and **agreed** that under no circumstances should councillors be accessing CCTV footage.
- CCTV – quotation for work – this was **agreed**
- Royal British Legion – numbers required for attendance to service – 10 Councillors and relatives would be attending and the Secretary will contact the Royal British Legion to inform them
- Report of meeting to discuss Projects at Y Plas – Cllr MacDermot gave her report – Cllr Rowlands thanked Cllr MacDermot for her time and effort – Cllr Williams stated that Clive Thomas of PCC did extensive research of the views of youngsters and what they wanted in Teenzone. Cllr Williams suggested that Clive be contacted to ask for a copy of the report
- Invite to Rural Development Plan Launch
- Names of Councillors elected to Powys' Standards Sub Committee
- PCC Recreation Provision – it was **confirmed** an application had been sent on behalf of MTC
- Dyfed Powys Police – details of the Force Objectives

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27.10.08

### Publications

- Open Space
- Cantref
- Guidance for Community & Town Councils from WAG
- PLHB – Annual Report available on line.
- T R A C C
- Airtrictiy
- Fire & Rescue National Framework 2008-2011

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**Any other business**

- Christmas Fayre – the Rotary Club (Antony Rhodes, Plas Dolguog, 702244) has reformed and will be holding a Christmas Fayre in the Powys Training car park on 26<sup>th</sup> November to coincide with the lights being turned on – they have arranged for Panic Circus to put on street performances and have spoken to the Police and PCC – they would also like approval from MTC – it was **agreed** MTC have no objections
- Richie Gaskell wishes to set up an over 16's five a side Sunday league and has stated that he will organise and run it with the help of local youths – he asks MTC for support by supplying match balls, bibs and whistles – MTC **agreed** and were very pleased with Mr Gaskell's effort in this venture.

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**In Committee**

- Cllr Baldwin asked the question regarding the wages and job specification of a Plas employee – Cllr Dunn provided the information and explained that employees have to complete a time sheet which is cleared by him before being passed on for payment.