

LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT OF TOWN STUDY STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM, ON TUESDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER, 2015, AT THE OLD SCHOOL, WINE STREET, LLANTWIT MAJOR.

Present;	Councillor	Mrs P. Lancaster (Chairman)
	Councillors	Mr E Hacker. Mrs. S. Hanks. Mr. G. John Mr M Mason Mr D Foster Mr E Williams. Mr M Marsh. Mrs S Geary. Mr G Morgan
	Mrs. H. March. Mr. J. Durrant. Mr A Clark	Llantwit Major History Society. Bethel Baptist Church. Llantwit Major Principality Building Society

Apologies were tendered on behalf of;

Councillor Mr J Evans.
Councillor Mr R Jenkins
Councillor Mrs A Knight.
PC. C Malone.
Ms Mari-Wyn Elias Jones - Town Centres Development Officer
Mrs Janet Moison - Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade

Declaration of Interest Forms.

There were no declaration of Interest Forms.

Councillor Mrs P Lancaster welcomed Mr Andrew Clark as an observer to the Meeting.

Report of meeting held on 20th January 2015.

Committee members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Report of the Town Study meeting held on 20th January, 2015, which had been ratified at the Full Town Council meeting of 29th January, 2015. Noted.

2.

Update by Vale Town Centres Development Officer on the Interpretation Boards and other work being undertaken in Llantwit Major

Committee members had previously been circulated with an email dated 14th September, from Ms Elias Jones detailing an update on Llantwit Major Interpretation Boards.

The email stated that the Interpretation Boards are still being corrected and should be signed off soon. Once this is obtained it will take six weeks to manufacture the Boards. Ms Elias Jones passed on her apologies for being unable to attend this meeting.

Mrs Heather March informed Committee members that she was disappointed with the delay in the production of the Interpretation Boards and felt the Board by the Station was unsightly and does not create a good impression to visitors arriving at Llantwit Major.

Mrs March also felt that the Celtic Cross Markers installed into the pavements around the Town Centre were disappointing. They were too small and didn't draw your attention. Councillor Mr Mason stated that members of the public continually ask him what the Celtic Markers represent.

Councillor Mrs Hanks informed members that she understood all this work should have been completed by March 2015 and it was her understanding that all the work had already been paid for in full.

Recommended: That a letter be written to Mr Rob Thomas (Managing Director, Vale of Glamorgan Council) & Ms Elias Jones detailing the Committee Members disappointment at the length of time the new Interpretation Boards are being taken to be produced and that there is still no date set for completion.

To discuss signage on the outskirts of Llantwit Major

Councillor G Morgan informed Committee members that he felt the signage entering Llantwit Major from any direction was misleading. Signs always direct you towards the Town Precinct. The old part of Llantwit Major is ignored which is a key tourist area of the town which we are trying to encourage growth of.

Mrs H March updated committee members that the signage problem had been addressed by the Committee a few years ago and issues identified then included the cost of new signs (due to needing to be depicted in both Welsh and English) and the location of the signs (they must be placed at specific distance from a junction). She did feel though that it was a topic worth pursuing again.

Councillor G John stated that all Road Signs come under the department of Visible Services of the Vale of Glamorgan Council. Before approaching them he felt the Committee should decide what Signs are required and where they need to be positioned. Councillor Mrs Lancaster suggested the possibility of setting up a small task force to identify and review the signage in Llantwit Major.

3.

Councillor E Hacker stated that he was disappointed with the cleanliness and poor condition of some of the Road Signs. If the signs were improved it would create a better impression of Llantwit Major.

Mrs H March also informed members that the Brown Road Signs for 'Curriers' and the 'White House' were misleading as both were no longer Bed and Breakfast accommodation. Would it be possible to get these signs updated or removed.

Recommended: That a task force of Councillor G Morgan (Chair), Councillor Malcolm Marsh and Mr Andrew Clark identify and produce a report on the Road Sign improvements required for Llantwit Major. The report to be brought back to Town Study Steering Group on 20th January 2016.

Further

Recommended: That all Committee Members note road signs in Llantwit Major that need replacing or cleaning. All signs identified should be forwarded by email to the Deputy Town Clerk. These will be compiled and sent to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for their consideration.

Further

Recommended: That a letter be written to Miles Punter, Director Of Visible Services & Housing, requesting the brown road signs in old part of Llantwit Major displaying 'The Curriers' & 'The White House' Bed & Breakfast Accommodation are taken down as both are no longer run as B&B establishments.

To discuss appearance of Town Centre

Councillor G Morgan informed members that he felt the flowers in the precinct and town centre were an asset to the town however he would like to see more blooms in the old part of the town.

Mrs Heather March informed Committee that through Llanilltud in Flower 35 businesses, this summer, had taken up the grant of flowers for outside their shops. She stated that there were no subsidies available this winter however for the Summer 2016 shops and business will be offered similar grants to display blooms outside their premises.

To discuss inviting Andrew Clark, Llantwit Major Branch Manager Principality Building Society, to sit on the Town Study Steering Group

Committee members were asked to consider inviting Mr Andrew Clark, Branch Manager of Llantwit Major Building Society to sit on the Town Study Steering Group. Mr Clark stated he felt that Llantwit Major had a lot to offer people and as a Manager of a local business he would like to join this group to help encourage further growth and amenities for the town.

4.

Recommended: That Mr Andrew Clark is formally accepted as a Member of the Town Study Steering Group.

Following the acceptance of Mr Andrew Clark onto the group, Mr J Durrant addressed the Committee on his thoughts of Llantwit Major and the improvements that he has seen in the last three years including signage, tourism, economic development and listening to the youth of the community. He questioned where this Committee fits into the wider vision for the town. What are the priorities of the people living here? How do we make it a more pleasant place to live? Mr Durrant stated he would like to see more opportunities linking in with Universities, encouraging more Apprenticeships in the town and further developing the Learning Community. He asked the Committee how can we progress to this next stage.

Councillor G John told members that it was exciting times ahead for the schools in Llantwit Major with the development of the new Learning Community well underway. He stated that the Town Council need to part of this development in taking education forward in the Town.

Committee members also discussed the importance of developing further business opportunities in Llantwit Major, apprenticeships and Job Fairs.

Members emphasised the excellent job being undertaken by the Events Committee and the Llantwit Major Youth Council.

Members agreed that this Committee needs to move forward, encourage new membership if it intends to become a more active Committee in developing the infrastructure of the town. All Members to bring to the next Meeting on the 20th January 2016, ideas this Committee could look into for improving Llantwit Major town and community.

The Deputy Town Clerk produce a list of all existing members of the Town Study Steering Group.

A letter be written to Dr Vince Brown of Llantwit Major Comprehensive School inviting him to become a member of the Town Study Steering Group.

Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 20th January 2016 in the Council Chamber of the Old School.