

**LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF TOWN STUDY STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM, ON TUESDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2017 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD SCHOOL, WINE STREET, LLANTWIT MAJOR.**

Present;                      Councillor                      Mr G Morgan (Acting Chairman)

   Councillors                      Mr A Clark  
      Mr D Powell  
      Dr P Dickson  
      Mr J Evans  
      Mr G Thomas

Mrs. H. March.                      Llantwit Major History Society  
Mrs T Benfield                      Llanilltud Fawr in Flower  
Mrs C Ingram                      Llantwit Major Camber of Trade  
Mr. J. Durrant.                      Bethel Baptist Church.  
Mr C Edwards                      Vale of Glamorgan Council Town Centre Development Officer

Apologies were tendered on behalf of;

Councillor Dr D Ellis  
Councillor Mrs J Norman

Apologies were tended on behalf of Councillor Mrs J Norman and Councillor D Ellis (Chair & Vice Chair of the Town Study Steering Group) Councillor G Morgan was nominated to take the Chair at the Meeting.

Councillor Mr G Morgan welcomed everyone to the Meeting. All members at the Meeting formally introduced themselves.

**Declaration of Interest Forms.**

There were no Declaration of Interest Forms received.

**Report of Informal Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

Committee members had previously been circulated with a copy of the informal Report of the Town Study meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2017, which had been ratified at the Full Town Council meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. Noted.

**Update from Town Centres Development Officer**

Mr Christopher Edwards informed Members that he had met with Police Officers in Llantwit Major to review the Anti-Social Behaviour Act / Controlled Drinking Zone. Mr Edwards confirmed to Members that the existing areas under these restrictions are as follows:

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Llantwit Major Train Station  
The Old Town Square  
Lorna Hughes Park  
Windmill Playing Field  
The Precinct

Mr Edwards asked the Meeting if they were in agreement to retain the existing order or whether other areas should be added.

Councillor Morgan stated that he felt the existing order worked well and updated Members, as a retired Publican, on the Rules and Regulations regarding removal of glasses/plastic glasses away Public House premises.

Councillor Evans confirmed, that as the Town Council representative sitting on Pub Watch, there had been no issues regarding this matter.

Mr Edwards also asked the Chamber of Trade to forward to all Llantwit Major business the Business Waste, Duty of Care Regulations to ensure that all Llantwit Major businesses are following the correct procedures.

**Recommended:** That the Anti-Social Behaviour Act / Controlled Drinking Zones remain as per the existing order.

#### **Update on Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade**

Mrs Clare Ingram updated Committee Members on the progress of the Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade. Mrs Ingram stated that the Chamber of Trade Website was now up and running and 75% of Llantwit Major businesses are now members of the Chamber of Trade. Mrs Ingram confirmed that the AGM will be held on the 31st July 2017 in the Meeting Room above the Health Conscious Shop.

She confirmed that the Chamber of Trade had run a Shop Window Competition for Victorian Fair Day. The winner was Gwyneth Morgan Optometrist. Mrs Ingram stated that the Chamber of Trade have become very worried over the lack of support for the Events Committee when putting up the stalls for events in Llantwit Major and therefore they are intending to approach other local organisations (e.g. Rugby Club, Coast Guards etc.) to see if they can offer manpower when Llantwit Major are holding future events.

Mrs Ingram confirmed that the Chamber of Trade intended to hold a Race Night in the Rugby Club in October 2017 to help raise funds for the Christmas Illuminations Event and will hold a Social Event in December 2017.

Mr C Edwards stated he would forward the Chamber of Trade a draft letter to send to Major Retailers re assisting with sponsoring the Christmas Lights.

Councillor G Morgan congratulated the Llantwit Major Chambers of Trades successful first year in operation and their accomplishments so far.

**To note letter from Vale of Glamorgan Council re Public Toilets in Llantwit Major**

Committee Members had previously been circulated with a letter from the Vale of Glamorgan Council, dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017, re the condition of the outside of the Public Toilets in the Town Hall Car Park. Members discussed the Toilet area stating this is the first building Tourists see when parking in the Town Hall Car Park and it does not create a good impression for Llantwit Major. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that no further correspondence had been received regarding this matter from the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

**Recommended:** That a letter be written to Miles Punter, Vale of Glamorgan Council seeking permission for the Town Councils Handy Man to paint the outside of the Toilet Block.

**To note letter from Vale of Glamorgan Council re Llantwit Major Old Town Traffic Issues**

Committee Members had previously been circulated with a letter from Vale of Glamorgan Council dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017 in response to the Town Councils concerns regarding Heavy Goods Vehicles driving through the Old Town and the traffic issues and damage to property this has caused. The Deputy Town Clerk asked Members to let the Town Hall Staff know if any traffic incidents occur within the Old Town. The Town Hall Office Staff will keep a record of all traffic incidents and will forward this back to the Vale of Glamorgan Council in order that they can readdress these issues.

**Recommended:** That the Chamber of Trade ask all local Businesses to record any traffic incidents, with reference to HGV vehicles, that occur in the Town Centre or the old part of the Town. They should note the date and time of incident, vehicle registration number, company name and if possible photographic evidence. All details to be passed on to the Town Hall Office.

**To discuss revised quotation re two new Llantwit Major Tourist Information Boards**

Committee Members had previously been circulated with an email dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 re the revised Quotation cost of £5386.46 for the manufacture and installation of two new Llantwit Major Tourist Information Boards. Members were updated on the original Quotation cost of £3000 which would have been part funded by S106 Monies (£2552.59) that had to be spent on Public Art within Llantwit Major. Members considered whether they should still proceed with the Information Boards as an additional cost to the Town Council of £2386.46. Councillor Clark felt that the existing signs are in poor condition and as we are trying to encourage Tourism to the area feels it is important to proceed with this project. Councillor Dr Dickson stated he considered the additional cost a large amount of money for the Town Council to fund. Councillor G Thomas questioned whether the Town Crest needs to be incorporated on the Sign as this is impacting on the revised quotation cost.

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**Recommended:** That the Town Study Steering Group wish to proceed with the Manufacture and installation of two new Llantwit Major Tourist Information Boards at a cost of £5386.46.  
The revised Quotation figure be put as an Agenda Item onto July's Full Town Council Meeting for further discussion.

**To note update letter from Vale of Glamorgan Council re Untidy Land**

Committee Members had previously been circulated with an email dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 re the untidy land in the Old Town. Members discussed further that the responding email did not adhere to their request to meet with Members at the Site to discuss the matter further. Members feel that the land is right in the middle of the main tourist area of Llantwit Major and this untidy land distracts from the historic heritage area.

Members also discussed a House along Barons Close that is also very untidy and questioned if the Vale of Glamorgan Council could take any action regarding this matter.

**Recommended:** That a letter be written to Justina Moss, Principal Appeals and Enforcement Officer asking for a site visit regarding the untidy land in the Old Town.

Further

**Recommended:** That a letter be written to the Vale of Glamorgan Council asking if any action can be taken re the untidy house and land situated in Barons Close.

**To discuss quotations re wild flowerbeds in Llantwit Major**

Councillors had previously been circulated with a revised quotation for creating a wild flower bed at the Boverton junction, an area of approximately 800 square metres. The Deputy Town Clerk stated the wild flower seeds would cost £660.00, preparation and sowing of the seeds by the Vale of Glamorgan Council £520.00 and Annual Maintenance costs would be in the region of £275.00. All figures quoted are exclusive of VAT. Mrs Tina Benfield confirmed to Members that Llanilltud Fawr in Flower could offer no financial or man power towards this project. Mrs Clare Ingram asked if we could look at asking for sponsorship from external companies to fund this project. Companies suggested included Aston Martin, Boverton Nurseries and the COOP.

**Recommended:** That letters be written to Aston Martin, Boverton Nurseries and the COOP asking if they would consider sponsoring the installation and maintenance of a Wild Flower Bed at the Boverton Road junction.

**Update on Sculpture Project**

Councillors had previously been circulated with the Minutes from the Small Sculpture Committee held on 7th June 2017. Councillor Thomas confirmed that the Rugby Club would have no objections, in principal, to a Sculpture being erected on their land. Noted.

**To further discuss Committee Members ideas for improving Llantwit Major Town and Community**

Mr C Edwards informed Members that Barry Town Council were taking part in a Shop Local Initiative, raising awareness to residents of shopping locally. He stated there was a small amount of funding available to cover this initiative and may be something Llantwit Major Town Council and the Chamber of Trade could consider looking into. The Town Clerk stated she had already asked for information from Barry Town Council on how they are promoting this initiative.

Mrs Tina Benfield informed members of the Llanilltud Fawr in Flower Collection Day on 15<sup>th</sup> July between 9:30am to 1.00pm. Mrs Benfield also asked for an update on the repainting of the Bollards and Street Lights in the Precinct. Members discussed the difficulty of organising this as the Bollards and Street Lights are owned and the responsibility of individual businesses in the Precinct.

Mr John Durrant asked members if they would consider ways in which areas of higher density populations would take responsibility for their environment and community. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Town Council were possibly looking at holding a Public Meeting to try and encourage more Neighbourhood Watch groups within Llantwit Major. Members agreed this will give a good indication on community spirit by the number of residents that attend this Public Meeting. Date and time still to be confirmed.

Clare Ingram stated from a Chamber of Trade perspective they were happy with progress made this year and hope to keep this positive initiative going forward into next year.

Mrs Heather March updated members on Llantwit Major History Society, including dates and times the Old School Room is opened to the general public, the running of the Heritage Centre during the Spring and Summer months and the monthly lectures organised between September to April each year.

Councillor Andrew Clark raised concerns regarding the shorter opening hours of Lloyds Bank within the Town. He stated this is the last Bank still open in the Town and would be disastrous for the Community if this too eventually closed. All members endorsed these sentiments.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the Town Council had 10,000 copies of the Llantwit Major Guide Leaflets reprinted and the Chamber of Trade was going to distribute Leaflets to

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local businesses. She stated that the Town Council were in the process of saving the Red Phone Box situated in the Old Town Square and looking at installing a Defibrillator in the Box. The Town Clerk confirmed that future projects being considered included trying to get the Town Twinning Association back up and running again.

**Recommended:** That a letter be written to Mr Ian Hunt of Filco Foodstores requesting if he would paint the bollards and Street Lights under his ownership. The hope being this would encourage other businesses to follow suit.

**Recommended:** That a letter be written to the Head Office of Lloyds Bank expressing Members concerns regarding the shorter open hours of the Bank and the effect this will have on the community of Llantwit Major.

**Date of Next Meeting.**

The date of the next meeting will be at 7pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 in the Council Chamber of the Old School, Llantwit Major.