

LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL

**REPORT OF TOWN STUDY STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM, ON TUESDAY,
9th JULY 2019 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD SCHOOL, WINE STREET, LLANTWIT MAJOR.**

Present; Councillor Mr G Morgan (Chairperson)
 Councillors Dr D Ellis
 Mrs G Hughes
 Dr P Dickson
 Mr G Thomas

Mrs P Lancaster Llanilltud Fawr in Flower
Mrs H March Llantwit Major History Society
Mr John Deakin
Mr A Ecclestone Llantwit Major Boys Brigade
Ms Alex Thomas Vale of Glamorgan Council Youth Participation Worker
Mr Christopher Edwards Vale of Glamorgan Council Town Centre Development Officer

Apologies were tendered on behalf of;

Councillor Mr D Powell

Councillor Mr R Gant

Mrs Claire Ingram Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade

Ms Jacqueie Jenkins Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade

Mr W Norman

Mrs G Price

Mrs B Field Llanilltud Fawr in Flower

Councillor G Morgan welcomed everyone to the Town Study Steering Group Meeting.

Declaration of Interest Forms.

There were no Declaration of Interest Forms received.

Report of Meeting held on 16th April 2019

Committee members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Report of the Town Study Meeting held on 16th April 2019, which had been ratified at the Full Town Council meeting of 30th May 2019. Noted.

Update from Town Centres Development Officer

Mr Christopher Edwards informed Members that the Vale of Glamorgan Council were about to undertake an economic strategy review of the key town centres within the Vale of Glamorgan. Mr Edwards stated he would bring the findings of the review back to a future

meeting however the aim was to look at the key issues, challenges and strategic priorities for each town.

Mr Edwards also stated that the annual review of vacancy rates within each town was being undertaken, He noted that Llantwit Major had low vacancy rates compared to other towns within the Vale and Wales.

Mr Edwards raised concerns to members re the Christmas Lights Switch On and Event being planned this year in Llantwit Major. He was unsure which organisation was coordinating the event, the newly formed Christmas Committee or the Events Group. He confirmed that the Event Group had applied for a Grant from the Vale of Glamorgan Council for the Christmas Event 2019. He stated the Vale had concerns allocating funding due to the lack of communication between the groups and clarity as to what each organisation was planning to do at the Christmas event.

Councillor Dr Dickson suggested that as the Events Group is a member of the Town Study Steering Group, the Christmas Committee should also be invited to attend Town Study Steering Group Meetings so members can be updated on the event. Councillor Dr Dickson stated a written report from both organisations could be requested as an Agenda Item for a future Full Town Council Meeting.

Recommended: That the Christmas Committee be invited to attend the next Town Study Steering Group Meeting.

Further

Recommended: That the Events Group and Christmas Committee be asked to send a report detailing their plans for the Christmas Event for inclusion on the next Full Town Council Meeting.

Update on Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade

Ms Jacquie Jenkins and Mrs Claire Ingram sent their apologies as being unable to attend Meeting due to prior commitments. The Deputy Town Clerk read a brief email from Ms Jenkins which stated the Chamber of Trade loved the flags flying around the town centre, look forward to the cotton bags and were continuing to try to promote dementia friendly businesses throughout the town.

Update on Sculpture Project

Gwyneth Price sent her apologies as unable to attend Meeting due to prior commitments. The Deputy Town Clerk updated members on the Sculpture Project. She confirmed that Alun Griffiths Ltd, following a risk assessment of the Site, had determined additional metal supports were required to ensure the rigidity of the Sculpture. These had been ordered and delivered and Neil Evans, from Alun Griffiths Ltd, hoped that the Sculpture would be installed on site week commencing 15th July 2019, subject to additional manpower being available.

Recommended: That the Rugby Club be advised of the delay in erecting the Sculpture on the Recreation Field and notified that the proposed date for installation is week commencing 15th July 2019.

Update on placing Flags around the town to promote Llantwit Major

Committee members had previously been circulated with an Agenda Brief and final designs of the flags to be flown around the town to promote Llantwit Major. Councillor Morgan confirmed to members that 10 flags have been erected in the Christmas tree holders on the front of shops, along the High Street.

Councillor Dr Ellis stated he was very impressed with the flags despite the problems with the flags twisting in the wind. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that they had added weights to the bottom of each flag and secured each flag further with rope, but the problem of twisted flags still occurred along the more exposed section of the High Street. Councillor Morgan stated that if any members had ideas to prevent this to contact the Town Hall Staff.

Councillor Dr D Ellis stated it was shame there was not a few more flags around the Precinct and more spaced out along the High Street.

The Deputy Town Clerk stated that if funding could be raised (i.e. by selling other promotional material) there could be a possibility of purchasing additional flags for the Summer 2020.

Members wish it noted they're thanks to Darren Witts from Treganna Design for kindly designing the Flag logo free of charge for the town.

Quotations for alternative products to promote Llantwit Major

Committee Members had previously been circulated with details of alternative products to promote Llantwit Major. The product included Cotton Bags, Car Stickers and Key Rings depicting the 'Love Llantwit Major' design.

Mrs Heather March stated she felt that the Cotton Bags would be the most advantageous product to further promote and sell around Llantwit Major. However, she stated careful consideration would need to be undertaken as where the bags would be sold. Mr A Eccleston agreed that bags would be the most visible promotional material and although the Key Ring concept was a good idea, he felt it would not visually promote Llantwit Major. Councillor Dr D Ellis ask members to consider a different product, pens that have a pull-out scroll depicting contact numbers of local organisation to offer help within the community.

Members discussed further the products, who and where to sell the products and the price each product could be retailed for.

Recommended: That 150 cotton bags depicting 'Caru Llanilltud Fawr' Logo be purchased from Cotton Bag Co. Estimated cost £354.00 exc. vat. Recommend retail price per bag £5.00.

Further

Recommended: That 100 car stickers depicting 'Caru Llanilltud Fawr' Logo be purchased from Trade Print at a cost of £81.54. Recommend retail price per sticker £2.00.

Further

Recommended: That the bags and stickers be sold in the Town Hall and at a Stall at the Christmas Market. The Christmas Stall will be manned by the Youth Council and Town Councillors. If the venture is a success the revenue made can be used to purchase additional bags/stickers and assist with purchasing further flags for around the town,

Update on Front Garden Competition

Committee members had previously been circulated with an Agenda Brief detailing an update on the front garden competition. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed at present there was 5 entries. Members discussed final publicity drive and dates for the judging the front gardens and who will be part of the judging panel.

Recommended: That a final publicity push to encourage residents to enter neighbours into the Front Garden Competition be advertised via Face book, Llantwit Major Hub and Llantwit Major Town Council website.

Further

Recommended: That Mr Tim Prior (Horticultural Society), Mrs Patricia Lancaster (Llanilltud Fawr in Flower), Councillor R Gant and the Deputy Town Clerk make up the Judging Panel. The gardens will be judged the morning of the 24th July 2019.

To further discuss report on the state of pavements around Llantwit Major

Committee Members had previously been circulated with a report detailing the state of the pavements around Llantwit Major. Mr J Deakin raised concerns re the broken paving slab paths in Llantwit Major. He stated many have weeds growing and he considers them to be extremely dangerous and it is a real possibility someone will have a serious injury as a result of the poor condition of the pavements around the town. He noted specific areas and stated that he knew of two people that had nasty falls as a result of the uneven pavements. Mr Deakin felt something must be done about this urgently and suggested that tarmac pavements were a far more robust material to use than paving slabs especially when car's park on paths.

Mrs March stated that although Wine Street to River Walk had been re-laid with paving slabs recently, they are already cracked and broken.

Councillor Morgan thanked Mr Deakin for his comprehensive report and stated that at previous Town Study Meetings it had been agreed to write to the Vale of Glamorgan Council re the state of the pavements in Ham Lane and Stallcourt Avenue. A Vale Officer had come out to inspect this area and had deemed the pavements not to be sufficiently damaged to cause concern.

Recommended: That a letter be written to the Vale of Glamorgan Council stating concerns re the state of the pavements around Llantwit Major. Enclose Mr Deakin's Report and note Councillor Morgan comments re Ham Lane and Stallcourt Avenue.

To note update on footpath in the Cwm Colhugh fields to the beach

Committee members had previously been circulated with an email dated 24th April 2019 from Councillor Gwyn John re increasing the footpath in Cwm Colhugh fields to the beach. Councillor John confirm the meadow is privately owned so there were no plans to extend the footpath. Noted.

To discuss email re disabled parking in coop car park

Committee members had previously been circulated with an email from a concerned resident re disabled parking in coop car park. Committee members noted that since the area had been partly resurfaced parking lines/ disabled spaces had not been painted on. Councillor Dr Dickson queries if legally under the 'Disability Discrimination Act' disabled parking spaces should be provided.

Recommended: That a letter be written to Mr Ian Hunt of Filco Food Stores asking if he would consider painting dedicated disabled parking spaces in the COOP Car Park.

Further

Recommended: That a letter be written to the concerned resident stating that a request has been sent to the owner of the car park asking them to consider painting dedicated disabled parking spaces in the COOP Car Park.

Further

Recommended: That the Deputy Town Clerk review the 'Disability Discrimination Act' re disabled parking and bring findings back to the next Town Study Steering Group Meeting.

To discuss Llantwit Youth Council Litter Report

Committee members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Llantwit Youth Council Litter Report. Councillor Morgan congratulated the Youth Council on an excellent report. Councillor Thomas informed members that the Youth Council had won 1st place for the report at the Young Reporters Award under the Environment Category. Members noted other areas around Llantwit Major still causing concern re litter including along Eagleswell Road by the fencing of the old Primary School, Nicholl Court and by the skateboard ramp at the Windmill Playing Fields. Mr A Ecclestone stated that as the Town Study Committee had been unsuccessful in getting recycle bins for the Town, he hoped the Youth Councils Report may have more success in getting the bins changed down the beach area.

Alex Thomas stated the Youth Councils next phase of this project was to further interact with the Town Council and other young people on the way forward to tackle litter within the town.

Recommended: That a letter be written to the Vale of Glamorgan Council, including a letter

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from the Youth Council and enclosing the Llantwit Youth Council Litter Report asking if additional bins etc can be placed around Llantwit to assist with the litter problem in the specified areas.

Update on Llantwit Major becoming a Dementia Friendly Town

Committee members had previously been circulated with an Agenda Brief and documentation re Llantwit Major becoming a Dementia Friendly Town. The Deputy Town Clerk updated members on the coffee morning and training sessions that have been ran in the town promoting dementia. Thirteen businesses so far had already signed up to become Dementia Friendly businesses. The next Meeting is planned for Friday 26th July 2019 at 10:00am at the Bethel Baptist Church.

To discuss Action Tracker detailing all projects undertaken and outstanding within the Town Study Steering Group

Committee members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Action Tracker detailing all projects undertaken and outstanding within the Town Study Steering Group. Councillor Dr Dickson updated members on the Heritage Gate development. He informed members that Persimmon Homes had been found to be in breach of the Planning Notice and the Vale of Glamorgan Council had undertaken steps to prevent further breaches. They were preventing any work on site prior to 7:45am each morning, only able to work on site till Saturday lunchtime and no work undertaken on site on Sundays. They were also ensuring better sweeping of the roads and continually reviewing traffic lights/road works in place whilst development being undertaken. Councillor Dr Dickson stated he had also met with Mrs Jane Hutt re the breach and a further update meeting with residents was planned in two weeks.

Councillor G Morgan stated that since letters were sent to landlords re the exterior of building's around the Town Centre, he was pleased to see that work that had been undertaken on some of the buildings along Commercial Street.

To note letter from Vale of Glamorgan re Cenotaph, Old Town, Llantwit Major

Committee members had previously been circulated with a letter from Vale of Glamorgan Council confirming receipt of our letter regarding parking around the Cenotaph, Old Town, Llantwit Major. Noted.

To note letter from Vale of Glamorgan re Resurfacing Work for Town

Committee members had previously been circulated with a letter from Vale of Glamorgan Council confirming receipt of our letter regarding re surfacing work for the town. Noted.

To discuss Action Tracker detailing all projects undertaken and outstanding within the Town Study Steering Group

Committee Members had previously been circulated with an Action Tracker detailing all projects undertaken and outstanding within the Town Study Steering Group.

Councillor Dr D Ellis asked if members would consider a future project to look at replacing the four old Town Twinning Signs situated around Llantwit Major.

Councillor Dr P Dickson stated that the sign in Lorna Hughes Park directing residents towards the station is also very old and tatty and could be replaced.

Mr C Edwards advised members of the Great British High Street Awards and Llantwit Major should consider entering a category in the competition for 2020.

The Deputy Town Clerk asked members to consider project ideas that could be applied for under the Stronger Community Grant Fund. She showed members a list of all grants that had been successfully awarded under this scheme.

The above comments were noted and would be discussed at future Meetings.

Date of Next Meeting.

Committee members will be advised of the time and date of the Town Study Steering Group Meetings for 2019/2020:

Tuesday 15th October 2019 - 7pm in Council Chamber

Tuesday 21st January 2020 - 7pm in Council Chamber

Tuesday 14th April 2020 - 7pm in Council Chamber