

**LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF TOWN STUDY STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM, ON TUESDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2018 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD SCHOOL, WINE STREET, LLANTWIT MAJOR.**

Present;	Councillor	Mr G Thomas (Acting Chairperson)
	Councillors	Mr D Powell
		Mr G Morgan
		Mr J Evans
Mrs P Lancaster	Llanilltud Fawr in Flower	
Mr A Ecclestone	Llantwit Major Boys Brigade	
Ms Alex Thomas	Vale of Glamorgan Council Youth Participation Worker	
Miss Tia Allen	Llantwit Youth Council	
Mrs H March	Llantwit Major History Society	
Mrs Claire Ingram	Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade	
Ms Jacqueie Jenkins	Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade	
Mr Christopher Edwards	Vale of Glamorgan Council Town Centre Development Officer	
Mrs G Price		

Apologies were tendered on behalf of;

Councillor Dr D Ellis  
Councillor Dr P Dickson  
Mrs T Benfield – Llanilltud Fawr in Flower  
Mr J Durrant - Bethel Baptist Church

Councillor Dr D Ellis was unable to attend the Meeting so the members elected Councillor G Thomas to be Acting Chairperson  
Councillor G Thomas 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 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

Committee members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Report of the Town Study Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018, which had been ratified at the Full Town Council meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. Noted.

**Update from Town Centres Development Officer**

Mr Christopher Edwards informed Committee Members that the average retail vacancy rates in Llantwit Major for the past three years were as follows:

2016 - 5.8%  
2017 – 9%  
2018 – 4%

2.

He confirmed that Llantwit Major Vacancy rates were well below the national Welsh average of 12.8% and the UK average of 9.2%. Mr Edward confirmed that vacancy rates referred to retail shops in the town centre.

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

Mrs Claire Ingram informed Committee Members that Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade was petitioning against bringing in charges to Llantwit Major Car Parks. She confirmed the Chamber of Trade had met with Vale Councillors and were planning to attend the next Vale of Glamorgan Council Scrutiny Meeting to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Mrs Ingram stated that introducing car park charges would be detrimental to Llantwit Major Town Centre vacancy rates.

Mrs Ingram confirmed that the Chamber of Trade had reluctantly agreed to take over putting up the Christmas Street lights around the Town Centre for Christmas 2018. She confirmed that the Events Committee will continue to organise the Christmas Lighting Up Event including the Santa's Grotto, Christmas Market and Lantern Parade.

Mrs Ingram stated the Chamber of Trade would be calling a Christmas Meeting to discuss the Xmas Lighting project. The meeting would consider the following

- a) the involvement of local businesses
- b) coordinating with Mr Hunt re Xmas Lights in the Precinct
- c) organising a Cherry Picker
- d) volunteers to assist with installing the lights around the town

Mrs Ingram informed the Committee that Jacquie Jenkins was organising Remembrance Poppies for display in the shops and businesses around the town on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

#### **To discuss update on litter issues in and around the Town Centre**

Committee Members had previously been circulated with correspondence from the Town Council and local businesses on litter in and around the Town Centre. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that letters had been sent to all Public Houses and Shops along the Boverton Road to ensure that their premises pavements are properly maintained and cleaned on a regular basis. Members noted a very positive response to the Committee's request and were particularly impressed with the improvement around the Old Swan Inn, The White Lion and outside the Sports Shop and the Principality Building Society,

#### **Update on Sculpture Project**

Gwyneth Price updated Committee Members on the Sculpture Project. Mrs Price showed Members a design she had created for the Sculpture incorporating a woman on a bicycle, a man, a child holding a toy aeroplane and a dog. She envisaged the Sculpture being made out of steel approximately 2m in height by 4m in length. Committee Members all agreed this was an excellent design. Committee Members confirmed the planned location for the Sculpture was the boundary of the Recreation Ground Field, Boverton Road near the

3.

Roundabout leading into the Town Centre. Members questioned whether planning permission would be required?

**Recommended:** That Mrs Price contact the company in Llandow re cost of steel and quote to cut out sculpture.

Further

**Recommended:** That Mrs Price to enquire the price to create CAD File of sculpture.

Further

**Recommended:** That the Deputy Town Clerk discuss with the Vale of Glamorgan Council Planning Department requirement for planning permission for the proposed Sculpture and position on Recreation Ground.

Further

**Recommended:** That the Deputy Town Clerk organise a Small Sculpture Sub Committee Meeting once the above recommendations have been actioned.

**To discuss quotation for displaying tourist banners around the town**

Committee Members discussed quotations and designs for placing tourist banners around the town. Committee members queried whether planning permission would be required. Councillor Morgan suggested placing flags attached to the existing wall brackets on shop/business fronts that were put up by 'The Lions' for holding Christmas trees.

**Recommended:** That Mrs C Ingram to organise a walk through the town with Chamber of Trade and Town Study Steering Group to look at feasibility of placing flags on existing wall brackets throughout the town.

Further

**Recommended:** If, following walk around town, the Group recommend proceeding with this proposal the Deputy Town Clerk to obtain costings for flags, liaise with Treganna Design to produce a design for the flag and give costings & proposals to Mr C Edwards to look into S106 monies available to fund the project.

**To note updated details on Nation Tributes Celebrations for Llantwit Major**

Committee members had previously been circulated with the minutes dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 of the Nation Tributes Celebrations Committee Meeting. Councillor Thomas stated that since this meeting there had been a proposed venue change for the lighting of the Beacon at 7pm on the 11/11/18. Subject to the Old Swan Inn giving permission it is planned to place the beacon in the back garden of the Public House, the closet, safest point to the Cenotaph. The lighting of the beacon will then coincide with the church bells ringing at 7.05pm. Committee Members were also informed that a piper would play at the Cenotaph on the 11/11/18 at 6am. Noted.

**To note 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 by the Town Study Steering Group. Members discussed the litter outside Greggs and the COOP particularly over weekends. Patricia Lancaster stated that Beer Glasses were found in the flower beds when the beds were cleared of the summer plants.

**Recommended:** That a letter be written to the Vale of Glamorgan Council requesting more Litter bins be installed around the town. Also to ask if the street cleaner shift pattern could be amended to include working on a Sunday when the litter issue is more problematic.

Further

**Recommended:** That the Youth Council also write a letter to the Vale of Glamorgan Council requesting further bins be installed around the town centre to assist with reducing the litter problem.

**For information – Update on Water Refill Points throughout the town**

Committee members had previously been circulated with details of businesses that have become Water Refill Points throughout the town.

Jacque Jenkins informed Committee Members that she would produce an up to date list of all businesses that are now Water Refill Points. She confirmed they had met with the Welsh Minister for Environment that was using Llantwit Major as a model for making Wales a 'Water Refill Nation'.

**To note completed and ongoing projects undertaken by Llantwit Major Town Council**

Committee Members had previously been circulated with a report of all completed and ongoing projects undertaken by Llantwit Major Town Council. Noted.

**To note update on pavements in Llantwit Major**

Committee members had previously been circulated with a letter dated 31st August 2018 from the Vale of Glamorgan Council re the pavements in Llantwit Major. Committee members were very disappointed with the response and Councillor Morgan expressed his continuing concerns re the condition of Stallcourt Avenue.

**Recommended:** That a further letter be written to the Vale of Glamorgan Council requesting that the next time the pavements of Llantwit Major are inspected the Town Council be invited to inspect them as well. Also request to know the cost of resurfacing the island at the bottom of Stallcourt Avenue that was undertaken during the summer months.

5.

**To discuss Agenda Brief re Community Projects**

Committee members were previously circulated with an Agenda Brief detailing ideas for Community Projects for 2019. Committee members discussed organising a competition in Llantwit Major for the best front garden. Members thought that Llaniltud Fawr in Flower and the Horticultural Society could be involved with the judging.

Committee members also discussed a photographic competition of favourite places in Llantwit Major. Tia Allen stated the Youth Council had already taken many photographs of Llantwit Major for their map detailing points of interest around the town. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the winning photos could be part of LMTC Website and postcards of the winning photos could be produced. Committee noted that the proceeds from any sale of postcards could go towards the Mayors chosen charities.

**Recommended:** That the Deputy Town Clerk to liaise with Llaniltud in Fawr and the Horticultural Society re organising a best front garden competition.

Further

**Recommended:** That the Deputy Town Clerk look into costs of producing postcards and organising a photographic completion for 2019. Bring findings back to the next Town Study Steering Group Meeting.

**To note the 'Visit the Vale Trade Group' Facebook Page**

Committee members were updated by Mr Christopher Edwards re the Facebook page 'Visit the Vale Trade Group. The Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade stated they will publicise the Vale Trade Group site on their Facebook to encourage Llantwit Major Businesses to join.

**To discuss Business Improvement District (BIDS)**

Committee members were updated by Christopher Edwards re the Welsh Governments Business Improvement District (BIDS). Mr Edwards informed members that it was a funding process in which business could improve the town and increase trade. He was working with Barry Town businesses at present on a BID and would bring findings/ success back to a future Meeting. Heather March stated that a BID could be used for Tourism within the Town, working with other Vale Towns to open Tourist Centres within the Vale at weekends.

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

Mrs P Lancaster asked if any progress had been made on further progressing Llantwit Major as a Dementia Friendly Town.

**Recommended:** That the Deputy Town Clerk liaise with Councillor Mrs J Norman on the latest position re Llantwit Major becoming a Dementia Friendly Town and bring findings back to the next Town Study Steering Group Meeting.

**Date of Next Meeting.**

The next meeting will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7pm in the Council Chamber.