

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting of Llantwit Major Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Old School and remotely via zoom on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 7.05pm

PRESENT; Chairman – Councillor Mr D Powell) - Deputy Town Mayor

Councillors Mr D Foster)
Dr D Ellis) NORTH WARD
Dr P Dickson)

Mr G John) WEST WARD

Mr G Morgan)
Mr J Lewis) SOUTH EAST WARD

Mrs G Hughes)
Mr J Deakin) BOVERTON WARD
Mr W Norman)
Mrs S Hanks)

PC Jamie Williamson

Note: (Z) - Remotely by Zoom

Apologies were received from:

Councillor G Thomas - Prior Commitment
Councillor Mrs J Norman - Family Commitment
Councillor E Williams - Prior Commitment

There were no Declaration of Interest Forms received.

150. MINUTES

Special Full Town Council Meeting held 19th January 2023

The minutes of the Special Full Town Council Meeting held on the 19th January 2023, had previously been circulated to Council Members.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Special Full Town Council Meeting held on the 19th January 2023 be adopted and accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Full Town Council Meeting held 26th January 2023

The minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting held on the 26th January 2023, had previously been circulated to Council Members. Councillors noted that under Agenda Item Minutes, Full Town Council Meeting held 15th December 2023 it should read ‘the minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting’ and not as previously stated ‘subject to the above amendment the minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting’.

RESOLVED: That subject to the above amendments the minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting held on the 26th January 2023 be adopted and accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Remembrance Day Committee meeting held 7th February 2023

The minutes of the Remembrance Day Committee meeting held 7th February 2023, had previously been circulated to Council Members.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Remembrance Day Committee meeting held 7th February 2023 be accepted as a true record and all recommendations be actioned by the Town Clerk.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Planning Committee Meeting held 10th February 2023

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held 10th February 2023, had previously been circulated to Council Members.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held 10th February 2023, be accepted as a true record and all recommendations be actioned by the Town Clerk.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Fair Trade Forum Meeting held 15th February 2023

The minutes of the Fair Trade Forum Meeting held on 15th February 2023, had previously been circulated to Council Members. Councillors noted that under Item 7, To discuss visits to local organisations it should read 'Traidcraft' and not as previously stated 'Tradecraft'.

RESOLVED: That subject to the above amendments the minutes of the Fair Trade Forum Meeting held on 15th February 2023, be accepted as a true record and all recommendations be actioned by the Town Clerk.

Matters Arising

Councillor Dr Ellis informed Councillors that they had promoted Fair Trade Fortnight by having a stall on the Precinct on the 25th February 2023 and had also distributed Llantwit Major Fairtrade leaflets to all businesses/shops using and selling Fair Trade produce.

Citizen of the Year Committee Meeting held 21st February 2023

The minutes of the Citizen of the Year Committee Meeting held 21st February 2023, had previously been circulated to Council Members.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Citizen of the Year Committee Meeting held 21st February 2023, be accepted as a true record and all recommendations be actioned by the Town Clerk.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

151. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

To receive any questions from members of the public in accordance with Standing Orders and Town Council Public Question Time Protocol

Mr Stephen McGranaghan addressed the Meeting. He stated that following his attendance at the Town Council Meeting on the 19th January 2023 he wished to further address Councillors with reference to the temporary accommodation on the former Eagleswell Primary School Site.

Mr McGranaghan stated he felt Councillor Williams was very defensive when commenting on the Vale of Glamorgan Councils decision regarding temporary accommodation for Ukrainian Refugees. He stated he has now been told that there are to be 98 units on the site. He felt that the Vale of Glamorgan Council should have informed the Town Council of this temporary development and should have had a discussion and undertaken a survey prior to any decisions and work commencing on the site.

Mr Granaghan informed the Meeting that he was still waiting for a response from the Vale of Glamorgan Council with reference to a Freedom of Information Request he submitted. It was now 34 days since the request was made. Mr Granaghan said he believed the Development costs for this temporary accommodation was £18 million and stated his concerns were not about Ukrainian refugees coming to the area but about the long-term plans for the site once the refugees leave.

Mr Granaghan concluded by stating that he felt this whole process had been handled very badly.

Mr David Green then addressed the Meeting and stated he wished to raise his concerns regarding the Application to build a Lidl Store on a greenfield site in Llanmaes, just across from the B4265 from Llantwit Major.

Mr Green queried that at a Planning Committee Meeting held on the 1st September 2022 there was no objection to this Application and noted that Llantwit Major residents support was based on a survey. Mr Green stated that Carney Sweeney have seized on this lack of an objection and welcomed it in a follow up letter the Planning Officer in the Vale.

Mr Green stated that Llantwit Major Town Council Annual Report says it prides itself on objection to Planning Applications that do not meet the requirements of the LDP. He asked then why the Town Council did not object to the Application as it is on a Green Field site and does not meet the LDP requirements MG13, MD1 and MD2. Mr Green asked the Councils for answers to the following questions:

How the Planning Committee reached their decision?

What was the nature/design of the survey. Did Carney Sweeney undertake it?

How were the results analysed and can he have a copy of it?

Mr Green also queried the ongoing consultation re boundary changes in the region and Carney Sweeney figures re Lidl's combined turnover figures.

Mr Green concluded by stating that he felt Lidl could take away over 75% of the convenience goods revenue from the shops in Llantwit Major and queried that Lidl had not met the sequential approach required to identify potential sites. He felt there were other sites available that would not impact on our countryside and local villages and Llantwit Major town centre.

Councillor Powell requested permission to bring forward Agenda Items Vale of Glamorgan Council and Development.

152. VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

To note further update reference the Welsh Government 20mph project

Councillors had previously been circulated with a copy of an email dated 23rd January 2023 with an update on the Welsh Government 20mph project. Noted.

To discuss response from Vale of Glamorgan Council re proposal for Eagleswell School site

Councillors had previously been circulated with a letter dated 23rd January 2023 detailing a response from the Vale of Glamorgan Council re the proposal for the former Eagleswell site.

Councillor Foster in response to the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Mr Granaghan questions stated that it was important that out of our correspondence a public consultation has been set up by the Vale of Glamorgan Council re the former Eagleswell site. He stated Councillors and the general public will now have opportunities to ask Vale Officers their questions and concerns re this temporary development.

Councillor Dr Dickson also endorsed these comments by stating it gave everyone an opportunity to discuss with Vale Officers what has been undertaken under emergency powers and to discuss the pragmatic way forward for the people of Llantwit Major.

153. DEVELOPMENT

To note Planning Application decisions by the Vale of Glamorgan Councils

Councillors had previously been circulated with a copy of the Vale of Glamorgan Councils Planning Application decisions. Noted.

To note correspondence re planning application 2022/00907/FUL Development of Class A1 Foodstore with access, parking, drainage, landscaping and all associated development – Land at Bridge House Farm, Llanmaes Road, Llanmaes

Councillors had previously been circulated with a letter dated 7th February 2023 from Carney Sweeney re planning application 2022/00907/FUL Development of Class A1 Foodstore with access, parking, drainage, landscaping and all associated development – Land at Bridge House Farm, Llanmaes Road, Llanmaes.

Councillor Dr Dickson informed Councillors that the Planning Application re the proposed Lidl development was discussed at a Planning Committee Meeting on the 1st September 2022. He stated that the Planning Committee did neither accept or object to the Application but as a neighbour to Llanmaes made comments on the Application after discussing the application fully and taking into account the views of the residents of Llantwit Major.

He stated that the following comments were raised:

- 1) Proposed development on Greenfield site, alternative Brown field sites could be considered as supported in LDP.
- 2) Concerns re Traffic on a busy junction on the B4265. Vale Highways Department need to consider alternative provisions (i.e., a roundabout) onto the site.

The comments made by the Planning Committee were accepted at the Full Town Council Meeting dated 29th September 2022.

Councillor Dr Dickson stated that the letter received from Carney Sweeney took the comments of Llantwit Major Town Council out of context. He stated the Town Council did not undertake ‘the survey’ as stated in the letter.

Councillor Dr Dickson stated that the wording was made as a reflection of the anecdotal representations made to our Councillors by the general public and via social media when they were made aware of Lidl's wishing to open a store here.

Councillor John stated he was appalled by the decision of the Planning Committee re this Application. He stated as the Application was not in any of our wards and the Town Council should not have made any comments on it.

Councillor John said that the Planning Committee should have said that the application was not in the Ward of Llantwit Major and they did not wish to comment.

Councillor John queried if Carney Sweeney had undertaken a survey and stated they never delivered Consultation Forms to the residents of Llanmaes. Everyone in Llanmaes village should have been consulted. Therefore, the Town Council should not be acknowledging a survey.

Councillor John stated the Vale of Glamorgan Council are confused by the Town Council comments as under MG3 of the LDP states that we protect town centres from fringe developments and should consider if there are similar developments within town centres that can serve similar purposes. He considered this Application would affect Llantwit Major Town Centre.

Councillor John said that if the shopkeepers of Llantwit Major find out about the comments made, the Town Council could live to regret it.

RESOLVED: That a letter be written to the Vale Planning Department detailing the following:

When the Town Council is asked to consider Planning Applications the options generally open to the Council are to 'APPROVE' the application or 'OBJECT'. With reference to Planning Application 2022/00907/FUL, and as a neighbour, on this occasion the Council sought to make 'RELEVANT COMMENTS'.

It is important to note that Carney Sweeney concentrated on our non-objection but fails to indicate the Town Council clearly did not recommend 'approval' of the application to the Vale of Glamorgan Council

The Council did not undertake any form of survey but the decision was a reflection of the anecdotal representations made to our Councillors by the public and on social media, when they were aware of Lidl's wish to develop this site.

The Council disassociates itself from any reference or conclusions made by Carney Sweeney to our 'survey'.

It is important to note that the Council's comments to the Vale outlined the significant planning concerns the Council had. These being:

There are concerns that the proposed development is on a Green Field site and note there are potentially other alternative Brown Field sites that could be considered in the locality, as supported in the LDP.

We have significant concerns about the effects of traffic on the busy junction both during the project development and usage. We feel the Carney Sweeney Report

minimises traffic issues and road safety concerns, specifically ingress and egress to/from the site. Consideration could be given by the Vale Highways Department to the provision of a roundabout to improve access on the B4265.

This, in planning terms, should carry more weight than any perceived public support when arriving at a planning decision.

Councillor John wished it noted that he did not support the contents of the Town Council reply to the Vale of Glamorgan Planning Officer as supported by the members at the Meeting.

To note further correspondence re Planning Application 2008/01155/FUL (Griffith House, Church Lane)

Councillors had previously been circulated with further correspondence dated 1st February 2023, received from the Principal Planner, Vale of Glamorgan Council, regarding the caravan located within Griffiths House/White Rock, Church Lane. Councillor Dr Dickson stated he was pleased to see that all the hard working over many years had finally seen the removal of the caravan from the site.

RESOLVED: That a letter of thanks be sent to the Principal Planners, Appeals and Enforcement for all her efforts in ensuring the removal of caravan with reference to Planning Application 2008/01155/FUL, Griffith House, Church Lane.

154. SIGNING OF MINUTES

Signing of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councillors noted that the Town Mayor would sign the minutes when next in the Town Council office.

155. TOWN MAYOR

Town Mayors events attended 1st February 2023 to 28th February 2023

Councillors had previously been circulated with the Town Mayor events attended 1st February 2023 to 28th February 2023. Noted.

Questions to the Town Mayor

There were no questions to the Town Mayor.

156. YOUTH COUNCIL

To receive Youth Activity Progress Report

There were no Youth Council representatives present at the Meeting.

To note minutes of Llantwit Major Youth Council meeting 26th January 2023

The minutes of the Llantwit Major Youth Council meeting held on the 26th January 2023, had previously been circulated to Council Members. Noted.

To discuss any Agenda Items as highlights by the Youth Council

No agenda items had been highlighted by the Youth Council.

157. **COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Meetings for Month of March 2023

Councillors had previously been circulated with Meetings for the Month of March 2023. Noted.

158. **PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

Members Announcements

Report from Town Clerk

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that a secure WIFI Connection was to be installed in the Council Chamber the following week.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Youth Council had been informed that unfortunately the Town Council would not be able to provide financial support 2023/24.

The Town Clerk stated that she and Councillor Powell had met with a resident of West Street Pool re the pond that had been erected on Town Council Land. An agreement has been made with the resident that once a new pond has been completed in their own back garden the existing fish can be removed from the pond dug on Town Council property. The Town Clerk also confirmed Councillors that a wildlife camera had been installed at West Street Pool.

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that the co-working agreement with the Old School comes to an end on 31st March 2023. She asked for ideas as to what the upstairs of the Old School could be used for following the termination of the co-working contract.

To note January 2023 update from Community Engagement Administrator

Councillors had previously been circulated with an update from the Community Engagement Administrator dated January 2023.

Councillors were informed that work had commenced on Stradling Park . Councillor Powell stated that he and the Community Engagement Administrator had had a very productive meeting with SMK Builders and they had agreed to clear the old Boxing Site and fence off the area.

Councillors were informed that the Food and Drinks Festival planned for June 2023 had been promoted on Facebook and businesses were asked to contact us if anyone is interested in having a food/drink stall at the event.

To discuss Agenda Brief for a representative to attend any meetings re further discussion regarding a Health Centre

Committee members had previously been circulated with an Agenda Brief for a representative to attend any meetings re further discussion regarding a Health Centre.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dr Dickson be the representative of the Town Council to attend any meetings re further discussion regarding a possible new Health Centre in Llantwit Major. Councillor Dr Dickson to bring any findings back to future Full Town Council Meetings.

Action Tracker

Councillors had previously been circulated with an up to-date Action Tracker.

RESOLVED: That the following items be removed from the Action Tracker:

Fence line along Illtyd Avenue, Dredging of Llantwit Major Beach,
Miscellaneous to Llantwit Major Football Club

159. FINANCE

Bank Reconciliation for period 1st January 2023 to 31st January 2023

Councillors had previously been circulated with a copy of the Bank Reconciliation for period 1st January 2023 to 31st January 2023. Noted.

Expenditure for the period 20th January 2023 to 15th February 2023

Councillors had previously been circulated with a copy of the Expenditure for the period 20th January 2023 to 15th February 2023. Noted.

Income for the period 20th January 2023 to 15th February 2023

Councillors had previously been circulated with a copy of the Income for the period 20th January 2023 to 15th February 2023. Noted.

To note changes to depositing cash at the Post

Councillors had previously been circulated with a letter dated 23rd January 2023 detailing changes to depositing cash at the Post Office with our banking provider. Councillor discussed various options regarding this issue.

RESOLVED: That a costings for a Cash Collection Service be sought and findings be brought back to a future Full Town Council Meeting.

Councillor Powell requested permission to defer Agenda Item Recreation and Open Spaces until PC Williamson enters the meeting.

160. CEMETERY

The following Burial matters were noted.

- 1) Burial of Ann Squance (new plot) K10 on 20th January 2023
- 2) Burial of David Richard Juliff (new plot) D32 on 21st January 2023
- 3) Burial of Ian Eric Colston (pre purchased) H5 on 10th February 2023
- 4) Burial of Wyndham Johnson (reopen plot) C227 on 20th February 2023

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the Exclusive Right of Burial Certificate to be issued and sealed on behalf of the Town Council in respect of matters 1 & 2.

**To discuss Vale of Glamorgan Replacement Local Development Plan 2021 -2036
Burial Land Study Review**

Councillors had previously been circulated with an email dated 7th February 2023 reference an Information Request regarding the Vale of Glamorgan Replacement Local Development Plan 2021 -2036 Burial Land Study Review.

RESOLVED: That permission be granted for the Town Clerk to complete the Vale of Glamorgan Replacement Local Development Plan 2021 -2036 Burial Land Study Review.

161. LLANTONIAN HALL

To discuss Agenda Brief re items belonging to the Pensioners Club stored in Llantonian Hall
Councillor had previously been circulated with an agenda brief reference items belong to the Pensioners Club stored in Llantonian Hall. The Town Clerk informed Councillors that she has been trying to trace a committee member of the Pensioners Club to determine if they had/had not folded as they still had items in storage within Llantonian Hall.

RESOLVED: That a Notice be put on all Town Council Notice Boards asking for anyone associated with the Pensioners Club to contact the Town Council office within 21 days to claim items held in storage within Llantonian Hall. If they are not claimed the Town Council may have no alternative but to dispose of them.

Further

RESOLVED: That a decision of how to dispose of these items (if not claimed) will be determined at a future Full Town Council Meeting.

PC Williamson remotely entered the meeting.

Councillor Powell asked for permission to receive Community Constable Report

162. COMMUNITY CONSTABLE**To receive Community Constable**

PC Williamson reported that the figures for February (including one week of March) was 40 crimes, which included commercial burglary, 11 violent crimes, 8 public order offences, 2 shoplifting, 4 criminal damage and 1 vehicle crime. There were also reports of antisocial behaviour along Boverton Road and in the Precinct.

PC Williamson stated all actions following a Pub Watch Meeting had been concluded.

PC Williamson also requested that if anyone has any empty plastic bottles please could they drop them into the Police Station as PCSO Cummins needs them for a community garden project.

To discuss email re speeding along Boverton Road and lack of suitable crossings

Councillors had previously been circulated with an email dated 17th February 2023 re speeding along Boverton Road and lack of suitable crossings. Councillors noted that this was a matter for the Vale of Glamorgan Councils Highways Department. Councillors commented that the speed camera that used to be along Boverton Road had been taken away. PC Williams informed Councillors he would try to get Go Safe Camera's to attend this area more often and he will increase police presence/visibility along Boverton Road.

Councillor Deakin stated that cars were still parking by the junction of Boverton Road/Ham Lane East and he had concerns re visibility and safety for both pedestrians and vehicles in the area.

Councillor Powell asked for permission to receive Recreation and Open Spaces, Items 3, 1 and 2.

163. RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES**To discuss proposed demonstration at Seaview Park on 25th March 2023**

PC Williamson informed Councillors that the Police were fully aware of the proposed demonstration as Seaview Park on the 25th March 2023. He stated that as a Local Council there was nothing we could do regarding the demonstration. PC Williamson said a plan was in place for the day and contingency plans would be initiated if numbers are greater than initial intelligence advises. He stated South Wales Police are fully aware of the situation and the operational procedures required to manage this proposed demonstration. PC Williamson asked if any

Councillors receive additional information regarding the demonstration, please could they forward details directly to him.

Councillor Powell thanks PC Williamson for his attendance and he vacated the Meeting.

Councillors further discussed the demonstration and noted that as a public open space they could not stop the demonstration from happening on Seaview Park.

Councillor Dr Ellis asked Councillors if they should attend/not attend the demonstration he felt that representatives should not be there to oppose this demonstration. He requested from the Town Council a consensus if to attend/not attend the demonstration.

Councillor Dr Dickson suggested putting out a Statement on Social Media and the Town Council Website supporting the right of free speech but condoning extreme political views.

RESOLVED: That the following statement be put on the Town Councils Facebook and Social Media sites:

‘Llantwit Major Town Council supports the right for free speech but does not in any way condone extreme political views, especially when the protagonists of these views impact on the wellbeing and safety of this town and its close knit community. This community has demonstrated its ability to support people in distress from whatever background and will continue to do so’.

Further

RESOLVED: That the Town Council do not have a presence at the proposed demonstration on the 25th March 2023. It was noted that Councillors could attend as an individual, but not as a representative of the Town Council.

To discuss Spring 2023 Invoice for Pre-season sand dressing of the Bowling Green

Councillors had previously been circulated with a copy of an Invoice for £545.00 plus vat from Avonmore Associates Ltd for pre-season sand dressing of the Bowling Green. Councillors discussed the Invoice and felt that this was an optional extra on top of the existing annual maintenance contract.

RESOLVED: That Llantwit Major Bowling Club be approached to contribute half the costings for the pre-season sand dressing of the Bowling Green. This being £272.50 + vat.

To discuss open Spaces Hiring Form for a Wedding Reception on the 1st July 2023

Councillors had previously been circulated with an Open Spaces Hiring Form dated 7th February 2023 for a Wedding Reception on the 1st July 2023. Councillor Mrs Hanks stated in future could costings be considered for hiring the Recreation Field if the event is for private hire and not a community event.

RESOLVED: That permission be granted to hire the Recreation Field for a Wedding Reception on the 1st July 2023.

Further

RESOLVED: That costing be investigated for hiring the Recreation Field for a private function and findings be brought back to a future Full Town Council Meeting.

164. WELSH GOVERNMENT**To discuss Review of Community Arrangements of the Vale of Glamorgan**

Councillors had previously been circulated with a copy of the Review of Community Arrangements of the Vale of Glamorgan Terms of Reference. Councillor Foster informed Councillors that he had attended a Meeting when the proposals re the consultation of boundary changes were released. Councillors further discussed Llantwit Major requirements.

RESOLVED: That the following proposals be forwarded to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales:

1. Llantwit Major new boundary line takes in and includes the Northern Access Road (B4265)
2. Request that Town Councillors numbers are increased from 14 Councillors to 15 Councillors.
3. The Walled Garden and Rosedew Farm be reallocated to the South East Ward.

To discuss Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill Consultation

Councillors had previously been circulated with a letter and Consultation Document dated 2nd February 2023 detailing the Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill Consultation. Councillor Dr Ellis queried who was going to fund the statutory obligation to provide outdoor education to all pupils, as part of the Curriculum for Wales.

RESOLVED: That a response is sent to the Welsh Government querying the financial constraints regarding the Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill Consultation. Llantwit Major Town Council supports the Outdoor Education Bill however questions who will be responsible for funding this new initiative (i.e., Schools, Parents, the Senedd).

To discuss National Forest for Wales Program.

Councillors had received an interesting informal presentation from Mr Rhodri Hewitt (National Forest Woodland Liaison Officer) regarding the National Forest for Wales Programme. This detailed all future plans for safeguarding and increasing forestry in Wales. Noted.

To note review of current practice on asbestos management across public sector in Wales

Councillors had previously been circulated with a letter dated 14th February 2023 detailing the review of current practice on asbestos management across public sector in Wales. The Town Clerk confirmed that all Town Council premises hold Asbestos Registers which are adhered to. Noted.

165. MISCELLANEOUS**To note update on Public Liability Insurance Claim**

Councillors had previously been circulated with an email dated 9th February 2023 detailing an update on a Public Liability Claim from Zurich Insurance Company.

RESOLVED: That the proposal put forward by Zurich Insurance Company in reference to the Public Liability Claim, be accepted.

To discuss request for Town Council to become the guardian of the Community Defibrillator in the Precinct

Councillors had previously been circulated with an emailed dated 10th February 2023, requesting the Town Council become the guardian of the Community Defibrillator in the Precinct. Councillors were informed that guardianship would involve checking the Defibrillator once a week to ensure it is in good working order and has not been damaged or vandalised.

RESOLVED: The Town Council agree to take over the guardianship of the Community Defibrillator in the Precinct

SIGNED

DATED

MAYOR