

Newcastle Emlyn Town Council

(135)

The monthly meeting of the Newcastle Emlyn Town Council was held on Thursday 16 July 2009 at 7:30pm in the Teifi Valley Day Centre, Newcastle Emlyn, the Mayor, Cllr Peter Lewis presided:

Present:

Cllr Cefin Evans, Cllr Hazel Evans, Cllr Odette Little, Cllr Pauline Evans, Cllr Alan Davies, Cllr Alan Jones, Cllr Kelvin Baker, Clerk Mrs Vanessa Owens, members of the public and members of the press.

(136)

Cllr Peter Lewis welcomed Councillor Alan Davies to his first meeting; he had completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

(137)

Narda Mantle requested to address the meeting. She felt that the Cawdor toilets were in a poor state and asked that the Town Council consider establishing a new cleaning contract to go out for annual tender.

(138)

PC Diane Williams reported that a stolen car had collided with a pay and display machine in the mart car park. They had been able to pick the incident up on cctv. A press release is to be made about the discovery of a cannabis factory in the Pencader area. She informed the Council that the next PACT meeting will be held in September at 6:30pm before the Town Council meeting.

1. Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb
Apologies for Absence

(139)

Apologies were received from Cllr Maureen Webley and Cllr Fiona White.

2. Datgelu Personal ac Ariannol dan Eitemau Busnes sydd wedi eu Rhestru Isod
To Disclose Personal & Pecuniary Interests in Items of Business listed below

(140)

Cllr Alan Jones declared his interest relating to financial matters.

3. I Gymeradwyo Cofnodion Cyfarfod 18.06.09
To approve the Minutes of the Meeting 18.06.09

(141)

Cllr Pauline Evans noted that Cefin had been spelt incorrectly in (75).

Cllr Hazel Evans asked that (115) read problems at the steps opposite Emlyn Hall.

Subject to these amendments Cllr Hazel Evans proposed that the minutes were accepted as correct, Cllr Pauline Evans seconded the proposal and it was passed by a majority.

(142)

Cllr Cefin Evans proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd July with Mr Eirian James of Carmarthenshire County Council be accepted as correct, this was seconded by Cllr Hazel Evans and passed by a majority.

(143)

Cllr Pauline Evans proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd July to discuss the letter to Carmarthenshire County Council regarding Cawdor planning application be accepted as correct, this was seconded by Cllr Odette Little and passed by a majority.

4. Materion yn codi
Matters arising

(144)

Ref 01/08 Car Park Signs

A couple of the signs are pointing the wrong way. Cllr Haydn Jones is to check all the signs back to the schedule.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref: 15

(145)

Ref 04/08 Christmas Lights Traffic/Damage Incident

The clerk reported that the insurance company are now in touch with a loss adjuster who will be arranging a suitable date to visit Newcastle Emlyn to assess if legal liability is attached to the town council and whether there is negligence or just an unfortunate incident. Clerk to arrange a suitable meeting.

(146)

Ref 05/08 Dog fouling Castle Grounds

The June PACT meeting had been attended by a resident who complained of the dog fouling at the castle. Cllr Haydn Jones reported that Carmarthenshire County Council is looking to put a control order on all public land in the county which would include the land at the castle. Once the order is in place it will allow for prosecution of individuals not cleaning up after their animals.

(147)

Ref 10/08 Streetlights

The clerk has forwarded the consultation details and town councils recommendation to Mr Nigel Francis of Carmarthenshire County Council.

(148)

Ref 17/08 CCTV Emlyn Square

Clerk has ordered 3 Signs for the town.

CCTV4u have a delay in providing upgrade equipment. Cllr Alan Jones updated the meeting that the parts are due at the beginning of August and that the work would then be completed. HE was given the go ahead to arrange a lift.

Clerk to contact the insurance company and establish detailed breakdown of the CCTV cover.

Cllr Hazel Evans noted that the cctv system is doing what it was meant to do and that the police are able to use it to identify crime.

Cllr Peter Lewis suggested into looking at obtaining grants to further improve the system. Clerk and Cllr Haydn Jones to look into this.

(149)

Ref: 23:09/08 Pavements

A date has not been set for survey of the pavement. Cllr Haydn Jones confirmed that officers were to let him know when they intended to visit the town and would inform the clerk.

(150)

Ref 29 10/08 Mayoral Chain

Cllr Peter Lewis to organise over the summer break.

(151)

Ref 34 10/08 Bus shelter at CK's

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that Carmarthenshire County Council were reluctant to install a shelter at this location due to the Lidl application and the possibility of relocating it. Councillors felt that this was not satisfactory. Cllr Alan Jones noted that the town has already been without the shelter for around two years and even if the Lidl application goes ahead it will be months before the road changes are done. Clerk to write to Mr Alex Side.

(152)

Ref 35 10/08 River Walk

Cllr Haydn Jones provided detailed maps and proposal for diversion of the river walk from Mr Eirian James. The Council were in full agreement to go ahead with the proposal. Some concerns were raised about a proposed surface but it was agreed that the plan needed pushing forward and details can be discussed later.

(153)

Ref 36 10/08 Web site

Cllr Hazel Evans provided an update of the web site which is in setting up stage. Clerk to meet with Cllr Evans to discuss. Councillors to provide any ideas of what to include.

(154)

Ref:37 01/09 Councils rubbish

First collection was eventually made by BIFA and clerk has had no further reports of any problems.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref: 16

(155)

Ref: 43 02/09 HUTS exhibition boards

Mr Wyn Davies has completed the treating of the wood surrounds on the Huts display boards. Cllr Peter Lewis reported that one of the boards has been damaged, HUTS have agreed to repair.

(156)

Ref: 45 02/09 Safe access to market car park

Cllr Fiona White provided a written report of the meeting. It had been a satisfactory meeting with some positive ideas to improve pedestrian safety in the car park.

Suggestions were made by Cllr Pauline Evans and Cllr Alan Davies that the right of way for vehicles be altered. Cllr Haydn Jones suggested getting officers from the county council to have a look; Cllr Cefin Evans suggested that the best time would be while school is finishing about 3 o'clock.

(157)

Ref 46 03/09 Slate seats

The slate seats have been sealed with a special coating that will help to reduce vandalism.

(158)

Ref 47 03/09 Flower planter

The planters have been moved as requested.

(159)

Ref 48 04/09 Attic theatre lease.

The lease is being drawn up by the solicitor.

(160)

Ref 49 05/09 Flower baskets

The baskets were up in time for the Dragon Festival. Cllr Cefin Evans reported that the window boxes have been ordered and will be in place soon.

Cllr Peter Lewis reported that Wyn Davies is still experiencing problems in obtaining a suitable water supply for watering the flowers. Cllr Peter Lewis to approach the mart; it was agreed that the town council would meet the related costs. Town Council to look into arranging a source for next year.

(161)

Ref 50 06/09 Toilets

Clerk had received cleaning schedule information from the contractor, it had not been received in time for circulation to all the councillors prior to the meeting so it was agreed that a separate meeting to discuss was necessary.

Cllr Haydn Jones had received an email from officers at Carmarthenshire County Council that a spot check inspection of the toilets in Newcastle Emlyn had found them to be in good order of cleanliness.

(162)

Clerk to contact the Chamber of Trade and agree dates for them to attend and report to the Town Council.

5. Gohebiaeth Correspondence

(163)

Thank you letter from Eisteddfod Gadeiriol Castellnewydd Emlyn a'r Cylch 2009
Information on Switchover Help Scheme

J Parker – bulbs catalogue

Consultation document:

Draft Housing Sustainability Strategy Consultation Period 2nd July to 18th Sept 2009

Correspondence was noted.

6. Adroddiadau Pwyllgorau Committee reports

(164)

Cllr Maureen Webley provided a written report of the Dragon Festival success and continued links with community groups. Cllr Peter Lewis agreed that it had been an excellent weekend. He had attended the welcome to the Portuguese theatre group and offered his thanks to Ken Jones for his contribution during the walk around.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref: 17

(165)

Cllr Fiona White provided a written report for the playing field committee; it included a request for assistance with their problems disposing of the large amounts of rubbish being generated. Cllr Haydn Jones reported that he is in discussions with Carmarthenshire County Council to pick up the rubbish. Clerk to contact Wyn Davies to see if the Town Council bin has any spare capacity.

(166)

Cllr Odette Little reported on the recent Chamber of Trade meeting held on 14th July at Emlyn Sports. Items discussed were membership fees; minutes to be put on J Cludlow website; constitution to be drafted; letters re Cawdor application to be taken to Carmarthenshire Planning Department; mart and effect on traders; cctv and possibility of upgrading system.

(167)

Cllr Cefin Evans had attended the Community Network meeting in Emlyn Arms. He reported that it was a very interesting meeting with around 100 people ranging from children to retired. It was a good mix and they all got involve in how each other felt within their community. Cllr Evans expressed how proud he was in the way the children had presented themselves at the meeting; he felt that the town council should contact them in the future to discuss their needs.

Cllr Haydn Jones had also attended the meeting and fully agreed with Cllr Cefin Evans and felt it would be good for the council to meet with the youngsters.

(168)

Cllr Alan Jones reported that the Teifi side show had been a good day and very well attended despite the weather. Cllr Peter Lewis had had an enjoyable afternoon. Cllr Haydn Jones reported that the evening entertainment had been very good.

7. Ceisiadau Cynllunio Planning Applications

(169)

W/21313 Resubmission of W/19461 for the construction of 1 No Dormer bungalow Locgnagar, Quarry Ffinane, NCE – *no observations*

Granted – W/19894 & W/19897 Lowering of threshold step & vestibule area & construction of internal ramp enabling level access Nat West, Sycamore St, NCE

Granted – W/18835 & W/18834 Extension to existing building to provide 2 additional bedrooms, one self contained 6 Market Sq, NCE

(170)

Email received from Planning officer that there is no date set for the Cawdor application and they are waiting receipt of requested information relating to the application.

8. Materion Arianol Financial Matters

(171)

Current a/c bank balance as at 07.07.09	£8590.25
---	----------

Reserve a/c balance as at 07.07.09	£1342.86
------------------------------------	----------

Items agreed for payments

£546.66 Mr Wyn Davies

£673.95 H C Jones

£64.88 Swallow Office Supplies

£276.00 Absolute Marquees

£53.60 SLCC

£25.49 Trefhedyn

£10.00 Cllr Hazel Evans

£34.59 J Kedward

Receipts

£465.00 Rent

£2132.82 Carmarthenshire County Council

£6242.40 Carmarthenshire County Council

Cllr Maureen Webley received cheque from S Colburn re unit rent. Clerk to arrange standing order with him.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref: 18

Grant request from Teifside Agricultural Show Society
 Grant request from Emlyn Pool Management Committee
 Old request from HUTS

Grant request from Shelter Cymru

The grant requests were held over to the finance meeting to be held on Monday 27th at 6pm at the Council Chambers.

9. Adroddiadau Timau Cynllun
Project Team Reports

(172)

Clerk and Cllr Maureen Webley had contacted Alan Thomas; the tower clock and related work has been completed satisfactorily but not entirely happy with work at the lower level some of which is to be redone. Clerk has received an interim invoice from Mr Elias, via Mr Alan Thomas, which is to be forwarded to arrange payment. Alan Thomas has spoken with the CADW project officer and they are happy with where things are at this point.

10. Unrhyw Faterion Eraill
Any Other Business

(173)

Letter received from CCC that all correspondence excluding planning should be addressed to Marie Bennett Williams Business support Officer, TCC@cararthenshire.gov.uk

(174)

Details of National Training Programme for Community & Town Councils; councillors to contact clerk with requirements as soon as possible.

(175)

Clerk reported on the SLCC Conference in Llandudno. The Welsh Assembly Government were promoting the xchange Wales idea which in principle is brilliant for large town or county councils but not practical for a small town council, have introduced a Welsh Purchasing Card which allows the town council to pay for its purchases/services and receive a cash rebate on all spend. Welsh Audit office provided a Good Governance Good Practice presentation. SLCC have a new resource – The Councillor at £11.95 a copy and provides all relevant information to being a Councillor. Clerk picked up a copy of the new Local Council Administration Arnold Baker at reduced cost of £53.60.

(176)

Cllr Hazel Evans reported that the very heavy rain had caused sewerage problems surfacing through the drains into the streets and private properties. It was agreed to write to Welsh Water.

(177)

Cllr Hazel Evans noted at the recent meeting to discuss the mart car park she had spoken with Mr John McEvoy about the wall outside the bus shelter which needed rebuilding.

(178)

Cllr Pauline Evans reported the problem of water settling outside the school and that the hedge running alongside the pavement needed cutting back; clerk to write to Carmarthenshire County Council.

(179)

Cllr Odette Little reported water pooling behind the bottle banks in the mart car park, probably the result of blocked drains.

(180)

Cllr Alan Jones requested that the town council take an interest in the recently announced redundancies at Subuto. It was agreed to send a letter asking what their long term intentions are and what the future holds for Newcastle Emlyn.

(181)

Cllr Peter Lewis asked that a letter be sent to Carmarthenshire County Council thanking the Tidy Town project for the recent cleaning in the town.

(182)

Cllr Peter Lewis asked if there were town shields in the Council chambers.

Signed _____ Date _____

Minutes Ref: 19

(183)

Date of the next meeting is Thursday 17th September 2009.

(184)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9:20pm.

(185)

The Town Council went into committee:

Cllr Alan Jones left the meeting.

Cllr Peter Lewis had received a letter of resignation from Mrs H C Jones with immediate effect.

The issues of the toilet cleaning in Newcastle Emlyn were discussed and it was agreed that the town council wished to keep the toilets open. Cllr Peter Lewis to ask Mrs Jones if she would be prepared to reconsider. In the event of Mrs Jones not continuing Cllr Peter Lewis is to approach Mr Wyn Davies about taking on the cleaning on the short term whilst the town council draws up a schedule and contract proposal to be put out to tender.

Cllr Haydn Jones reported that this is not a unique situation in Newcastle Emlyn and that there are problems throughout the County.

Cllr Kelvin Baker suggested that pay locks be put onto the doors. Cllr Haydn Jones responded that Carmarthenshire County Council had been looking at this but the provision of new locks and doors was quite expensive.

Town Council to meet and discuss the toilets and related cleaning after the finance meeting on Monday 27th July.

Signed _____ Date _____
Minutes Ref:20