

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NEYLAND TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020 AT THE BETHESDA CHURCH HALL, NEYLAND AT 7.00PM.

PRESENT: Cllr W McGarvie (Mayor)
Cllr P Davies
Cllr S Hancock
Cllr M Harry
Cllr P Hay
Cllr S Churchill
Cllr A Pollard-Powell
Cllr J Sutton
Cllr P Wonnacott

APOLOGIES: Cllr J Bevan
Cllr B Phelan

The Town Clerk was in attendance (Mrs Jane Clark)

2517 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr M Harry attempted to discuss a matter that was not on the agenda and was advised that it was not possible to discuss matters at this point in the meeting.

2518 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2020 were proposed and seconded. They were agreed as a true record.

The following matters were raised:

- a) Minute 2446d) A stone mason has agreed to repair the dam at no charge and all that is needed now is to get the silt dug out with a digger, which is in hand. All that can be done as been done and all those who had helped were thanked for their time and effort.
- b) Minute 2503: Members asked who was carrying out the review and Cllr Harry advised that he would follow this up with Cty Cllr Paul Miller.

2519 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor submitted the following report and had attended the following meetings in January:

6 TH	Council Meeting
20 th	Annual Dinner of Neyland Table Tennis Club
27 th	Meeting to discuss Biodiversity Plan
28 TH	Meeting with Sheds Cymru Organiser

08/20

I have also had several meetings to discuss the formation of a 'Food Bank', Recycling Problems and litter around the food facilities at Honeyborough.

I have been in touch with the President of Sanguinet Twinning Committee to make them aware of Neyland Council views expressed at the last meeting. She has asked if we wish to continue with the Twinning or would we like to Divorce from the Oath that was made between the Two Councils.

Neyland Judo Club will be travelling to Sanguinet in May and I will be travelling with them (at own cost). A few of the Groups that have been involved in exchanges will keep in contact whatever the situation.

With help I took apart the large table in the old Council Offices. Bethesda only required part of it so I cut the table down to the size they required, and it will be used as a Communion Table.

The remaining pieces I removed to my garage. I removed the varnish and bleached the wood back to original colour, stained and varnished the top. Made a new undercarriage out of the old sections, waxed the legs and reassembled the now smaller table 69inch *48inch. It is a slightly smaller replica of the original but retains all the original characteristics. It is presently in my conservatory and Cllrs need to decide what they wish to do with it. The total cost approx. £70 (which I am not claiming)

We also need to set a date for our Local Heroes Presentation. I suggest some time in March. I would appreciate some help with Refreshments to keep the cost down.

The following points were raised:

- a) Members did not wish to Divorce from the Twinning Oath and want to carry on with our Twinning arrangement.
- b) It was suggested that the other half of the large table from the old Council Chamber should be placed in the new Community Hub with the plaque and could be stored in the Athletic Club until the Hub opens.

2520

UPDATE ON ACCOUNTS

The following financial information was circulated:

- a) The Bank Account Reconciliations Summary showing a balance of £69,184.71 in the Current Acct and £680.28 in the Saver Acct, the Mayor's Account of £1,555.00 and Twinning Account of £1,262.10.
- b) The Financial Statement – Cashbook showing income of £120,496.66(net) and expenditure of £75,819.78 (gross).
- c) The Financial Budget Comparison showing the Budget set, the actual income and expenditure figures and the balance remaining under each heading.

RESOLVED: That the financial information above be accepted.

2521 **UPDATE ON COMMUNITY GARDENS**

The Town Clerk and Cllr J Sutton provided an update on the above, advising that the Hedgerow Removal application had been submitted and is now under consultation. An application for the establishment of Community Gardens has been received from PCC and is partially completed. Some information on quotes for the work is awaited.

2522 **COMMUNITY WORKS GRANT**

The criteria for this grant was discussed and Members put forward a project to improve paths and walks around Neyland such as the footpath behind Gordon Parry Way. It was suggested that Cllr J Sutton will prepare a map of the town showing the paths and he and Cllr P Hay would walk these paths to see which needed improvement.

RESOLVED: **That Cllr J Sutton would prepare a plan and he and Cllr P Hay would look at these to see which needed any work or improvements in order to apply for funding.**

2523 **TO APPOINT REPLACEMENT MEMBER OF VE DAY 75 COMMITTEE & TOWN IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Cllr J Sutton put his name forward as member of this committee and this was accepted. Cllr S Churchill put his name forward for the Town Improvement committee and this was accepted.

RESOLVED: **That Cllr J Sutton be appointed a Member of the VE Day 75 committee and Cllr S Churchill appointed to the Town Improvement Committee.**

2524 **TO APPOINT REPLACEMENT MEMBER ON JOINT BURIAL BOARD**

It was suggested that Cllr P Hay be appointed as council's representative on the Joint Burial Board and that Cllr A Pollard-Powell be appointed as reserve.

RESOLVED: **That Cllr P Hay be appointed as representative on the Burial Board and Cllr A Pollard-Powell as reserve.**

2523 **TO APPROVE REPORT ON S 6 OF THE ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2016**

Cllr A Pollard-Powell had kindly prepared a report on behalf of Council to fulfill our obligation under the above legislation which requires that we must 'seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity so far as consistent with the proper exercise of our function and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems' which had circulated with the agenda. The report was accepted and the Town Clerk agreed to publicise it on the council's website at the earliest opportunity.

RESOLVED: **That the report be accepted and publicised on the council's website.**

2524 **PCC CONSULTATION RESPONSE ON LDP2**

It was suggested that for Members to further consider the consultation document, that this matter be deferred to the March meeting.

RESOLVED: **That this matter be deferred to the March meeting.**

2525 **TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE FROM TONY ORGAN**

Correspondence had been received from Mr Tony Organ relating to Press reporting on court matters relating to Neyland which name offenders as being 'a Neyland man', when they are someone who has recently moved into the town, and which impacts negatively on the town.

This point was noted by Members and the member of the press, present at the meeting, who would pass the comments on to his editor.

RESOLVED: **That the points raised in Mr Organ's letter be noted and passed on to the local Press.**

2526 **RESPONSE FROM PCC REGARDING TO SPEED LIMIT ON A477**

The response from Stephen Benger of PCC had been circulated to Members which advised that PCC are currently undertaking a review of the Burton speed limit which includes the junction with the A477 and to the north. He offered to include the stretch of road through the Honeyborough Roundabout north to the filling station in this review. Members agreed that this would be useful and asked if Mr Benger could attend a meeting so that Members can explain their concerns in more detail before the review takes place.

RESOLVED: **That PCC be asked to include the stretch of road through Honeyborough Roundabout north to the filling station in their speed review and ask Mr Benger if he could attend a meeting with members to further discuss their concerns.**

2527 **UPDATE ON ACTION PLAN**

The Town Clerk had circulated an updated list of actions included on the Neyland Action Plan which were discussed as follows:

- a) The Walk Neyland trail was ongoing with a design for a leaflet under production.
- b) Skatepark at Brunel Quay – the site was not agreed by PCC.
- c) The installation of a defibrillator in High Street was awaiting funding.
- d) Temporary allotments at Honeyborough cemetery – site not appropriate, new site found. Application for funding on-going.
- e) Provision of information board for business at Brunel Quay – to be actioned.

- f) New benches for town and upgrading of damaged benches – ongoing.
- g) Council’s involvement in Carnival. Cllr P Davies is on the carnival committee and will report back with updates.
- h) Celebration of VE Day 75 on 8th May 2020. Committee formed to discuss plans.
- i) Dog fouling signs – to be followed up.
- j) Neyland Town Council promise – discuss at March meeting.
- k) Publication of newsletter – no action yet.
- l) Purchase of additional speed sign for the Promenade – discuss at March meeting.
- m) CCTV for High Street etc. – meeting arranged with Police Commissioner.
- n) Christmas lights – these will be reviewed in April/May.
- o) Road Safety issues – discussion with PCC on speed limit on A477.
- p) Encourage more visitors to town by enhancing bio-diversity – ongoing.
- q) Climate Emergency – awaiting information from PCC.
- r) New recycling arrangements – already implemented and advice day held.
- s) Plastic-free Neyland – ongoing.
- t) Arranging a ‘Meet Your Councillor’ event – will be incorporated in next CAB advice day.
- u) Involving young people in council business – not actioned yet.

The following points and suggestions were made:

- i. That funding for a defibrillator be sought from the local windfarms and should be followed up with John Laing. Local MP’s and AM’s be written to for advice.
- ii. That all businesses at the Marina be written to regarding the information boards.
- iii. That benches be replaced in the town – a local family wished to place a memorial bench on the corner of Riga Avenue. It was suggested that all the residents of this street and two properties on Riverside Avenue be written to, to gauge their objections to this as the previous bench was removed due to anti-social behaviour. Cllr S Hancock offered to distribute these letters by hand.
- iv. Also relating to benches, Cllr H Sutton had been approached by Milford Comprehensive School relating to the provision of a special bench to Neyland to encourage people to talk. It was agreed that this be accepted.
- v. Cllr Sutton requested that information relating to recycling collections in Neyland be publicised on our FB page. Information to be supplied by Cllr Sutton.
- vi. Cllr Pollard-Powell suggested that a newsletter could be used to publicise plastic-free initiatives in Neyland. It was agreed that the level of litter around the Honeyborough Roundabout be discussed at the March meeting.

2528

REPORT OF CTY CLLR SIMON HANCOCK

Cty Cllr Simon submitted the attached report (Appendix 1). He also suggested that the old former ‘Coronation Bakery’ sign in Kensington Road be refurbished as it is falling into disrepair. This would be investigated.

2529 **POLICE REPORT**

Nothing to report.

2530 **YOUTH REPORT**

Nothing to report.

2531 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Accounts totalling £5,617.88 were approved for payment.

The Town Clerk was asked to prepare cheques for the charities benefitting from the recent Fun Runs as follows - £100 DAPs, £100 for ICU at Withybush, £100 for HOPE.

2532 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk submitted the following report:

1. I have received information from PACT about their 'Take Me Too' new lift-sharing project. I have circulated this information and if you wish to take part please call 01437 775033.
2. The next meeting of the One Voice Wales Pems Area Committee will be held on Tuesday 11th February at 7.00pm. Cllr B Phelan is our representative, but it would be advisable to have a second representative in case Cllr Phelan cannot attend. Would anyone like to put their name forward please?
3. I have received a letter from Tony Organ regarding an event he is organising to commemorate the career of Mr Percy Evans, who was a successful jockey born in Mastlebridge in 1910. The event will be held in Mastlebridge Hall in April. If you would like to attend, please let me know.
4. I have managed to negotiate a new contract with XLN who provide our broadband and telephone rental and calls and the cost is reduced from £43.04 plus VAT to £29.99 plus VAT for 24 months.
5. I have received two applications for a Town Improvement Grant and would like to call a meeting for next week. What day is best for the members of that committee please. We also need to appoint an additional member of that committee to replace Gareth Lawlor and on the Planning Committee.
6. I have been in contact with Mr David Stephenson from Adventure Playgrounds Wales and I am meeting him at the play park on Wednesday to look at what needs repairing with a medium risk.
7. With regard to the current vacancy on council, I can confirm that no request to call an election has been received so I will be advertising to fill the vacancy by Co-option on Wednesday. There will be a period of 14 working days for interested parties to apply to me and a co-option will take place at the March meeting.

2533 **ANY OTHER INFORMATION**

The following matters were raised:

- a) It was suggested that horses in an area of Neyland were not being properly cared for. Cllr S Hancock would investigate this.
- b) There has been fly-tipping at Church Lakes onto the beach. Cllr J Sutton would report this.
- c) Ateb have approached Cllr Pollard-Powell regarding removal of the litter on the old school site at Charles Street, however NADEE members are not keen to remove it as the new development will be commencing soon and the area will be cleared anyway.
- d) Cllr S Churchill wished to draw members' attention to alternative energy and agreed to put his comments on electric cars in writing for distribution to members.
- e) Cllr Harry wished to advise members that he was not happy with the events surrounding the resignation of Gareth Lawlor. This could not be discussed further.
- f) Cllr P Davies advised that Andrew Miller, who plays for Neyland, had been selected to play for Wales at Lords. It was agreed that a letter of congratulations be sent to him.

2534

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 2nd March 2020 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed..... Mayor..... Date

Signed.....Town Clerk