

NORTH MONTGOMERYSHIRE LOCAL COUNCIL FORUM

MINUTES

of a meeting held on **Tuesday 27th November 2018**
at 7pm in the Town Hall Broad Street Welshpool

1. Present were:

Cllr F Buckingham (Chair)	Llandysillio Community Council
Cllr E Bleivas	Welshpool Town Council
Cllr H Evans	Welshpool Town Council
Cllr P Pritchard	Welshpool Town Council
Cllr F Veenstra	Welshpool Town Council
Cllr Wyn Williams	Llanfair Caereinion Community Council
Cllr R Dawe	Forden Community Council

2. Apologies for absence received:

Carol Davies	Llandrinio Community Council
	Llandysillio Community Council
Cllr J Kimble	Montgomery Town Council
Cllr M Jerman	Castle Caereinion Community Council

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting approved the minutes of the last meeting as per copy on the web site.

4. Actions taken since last meeting

The meeting noted actions taken since the last meeting as follows:

Llandrindod Wells Meetings

The Clerk did send a letter to Powys County Council objecting to all meetings being held at County Hall – in particular regarding Planning matters. The County Council has agreed that where there are numerous objections to a scheme that a meeting could be held in the local area.

Planning applications

The County Council has accepted that it could have done better with regards to the Old Working Mens Club in Welshpool. This included confirming that presentations in full will be made to any Committee on a Planning Applications.

5. Future of Local Councils

The meeting considered an update on progress towards the review of Town and Community Councils. The full report can be found at the site address here:

<https://gov.wales/topics/localgovernment/communitytowncouncils/review-of-community-town-council-sector/?lang=en>

There is also a link posted with these minutes on the web site.

6. Transport in Welshpool and surrounding areas

The meeting considered an update on the following:

Buses

The buses are likely to come up for review spring 2019. Although longer contracts have been issued to bus companies there are break clauses within them.

Railway services

The new railway station for Welshpool is progressing.

The issues with cancelled trains on the line is not likely to be resolved before the end of the year.

7. Welshpool One Way System

The meeting considered an update on the consultation ending on 3rd December. A plan of the new arrangements was made available at the meeting.

Any members wishes to make their views known through the consultation should do so by 3rd December (Sunday).

8. County Council and Budget Restraints

The meeting considered an update regarding budget cuts. A chart was issued showing the effect of the Welsh Government Grant Aid reductions.

9. Library

A question was asked about the current situation with the Library.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the consultation ends soon and that all must wait for an announcement following that.

10. PAVO

PAVO has sent a letter to the clerk expressing concern over possible budget cuts to grants which will affect smaller organisations. PAVO will make contact with more news for the group to consider early in the New Year.

11. School Dinners

The issue of payment for school dinners in senior schools was raised by the Mid and North Wales Association of Local Councils. The investigation is now to be widespread to see how each authority is dealing with issued of payment for meals. There are reports, from various County Councils, that if there is no money on the payment card that the child does not get a meal. This does not appear to be happening with Junior Schools.

12. Rodney's Pillar

A meeting is being held this evening to look at the report on the condition of this statue. There is concern among some of the Community Councils close to it with regards to its state of repair. No one authority appears to be able to claim ownership of it – CADW is not interested.

The Chair will report in due course on what is happening.

13. Dates of future meetings:

The dates set for 2019 are:

15th January - 16th April - 16th July and 21st October

All meetings are held at Welshpool Town Hall (Council Chamber) at 7pm.