

KNIGHTON TOWN COUNCIL /CYNGOR TREF -Y-CLAWDD /

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE 2023 AT THE CIVIC CENTRE, WEST ST., KNIGHTON AND ALSO VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: Cllrs. D. Williams (Mayor), H. Adams-Evans (Deputy Mayor), B. Caine, B. Butler, P. Barrett, T. Taylor, P. Ford, C. Bevan, C. Branford, M. Vaughan, T. Sharp (via video link)
In Attendance: County Cllr. C. Kenyon-Wade, Ms L James (Town Clerk), one member of the public.

The Chairman opened the meeting and invited the member of the public to speak. Robert Edwards of the Knighton Flood Defence Group, spoke to advise the Town Council of the group's ongoing frustration and dissatisfaction with responses from Powys Council regarding Knighton's flood defence vulnerabilities.

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllrs. B. Andrews and S. Vaughan.

2. Declarations of Interest:

No declarations were received at the start of the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24 May 2023 were approved by all as a true and accurate record and have been signed by the Chairman as such.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes / Clerk's Oral Report

- a. The Clerk will invite Nick Venti to the July Full Council Meeting to answer questions about the Articles of Association for the proposed reclassification of the Civic Centre as a Community Interest Company.
- b. Damaged cemetery gate has been reported to Environment Health (confirmed by Cllr. D. Williams).
- c. The damaged grill around tree at the Cenotaph will be made safe by erecting posts and a chain around it (confirmed by Cllr. D Williams).
- d. Pride flags to be ordered this month (in answer to Cllr. Ford's enquiry).

5. County Councillor Updates:

- a. County Councillor C. Kenyon-Wade recently attended the Powys Climate Change Conference and advised the Town Council that there are experts available to map and audit nature recovery in Knighton and to survey Town Council buildings for energy efficiency. Grants are available for both. Cllr. Kenyon-Wade also hosted an initial meeting for the Transforming Towns regeneration project. The meeting was attended by Cllr. D. Williams, Cllr. T. Taylor, M Coxill (former Mayor), Sam Lloyd-Clayton (Powys County Council) and L James (Town Clerk). Knighton can access funds, dependent on feasibility study outcomes. PAVO have advised of the availability of Shared Prosperity

grants. Cllr. Kenyon-Wade is meeting with PAVO about setting up a steering group.

- b. Apologies were received from County Councillor Angelique Williams.

6. Planning:

- a. The planning application below was received shortly before the meeting and briefly discussed. No objections were made.

Reference	23/0782/LBC
Alternative Reference	PP-12169549
Address	The Knighton Hotel Broad Street Knighton LD7 1BL
Proposal	Removal of modern finishes, repair of damaged structure and reinstatement of historically appropriate finishes

7. Finance:

- a. Approval of Annual Accounts for 2022/23: Approved as circulated.
- b. Approval of Monthly Account for May 2023: Approved as circulated.

8. Financial Assistance:

Friends of Knighton School. Clerk to write and confirm.

9. Correspondence

Emails were shared from an elector suggesting use for the former tennis courts and from the developers of the former trouser factory site. Bracken Trust promotional material to be posted on Town Council noticeboards and website.

10. Motions moved:

- a. To agree and purchase benches for Knighton Town. It was resolved to purchase 3 new Plastico benches for the town. One of these is to be used as temporary replacement bench for any benches taken in for repair, starting with the broken bench outside the Knighton Museum. Proposed by Cllr. D. Williams. Seconded by Cllr. H. Adams-Evans.
- b. To agree the resurfacing of the former tennis court site with playground markings of road for children's play. Agreed in principle, dependent on removal of the restrictive covenant within the lease for the area and on the price of resurfacing. Proposed by Cllr. C. Branford. Seconded by Cllr. D. Williams.
- c. To agree the use of the former tennis court site for occasional car boot sale events. It was resolved that the site could be used for occasional table_sale events, acknowledging that there is no convenient access for cars to park on the site. Proposed by Cllr. D. Williams. Seconded by Cllr. B. Butler.

- d. To agree the redecoration (repainting) of the Cemetery public toilets. It was resolved that quotes for the work should be obtained by the Clerk. Proposed by Cllr. D. Williams. Seconded by Cllr. P. Ford.

11. Personnel Committee:

Cllr. P. Barrett reported on the inaugural meeting of the newly formed Personnel Committee. Terms of Reference, Clerk's 6-month objectives and Clerk's training plan were all agreed at the meeting. The group will meet monthly. All documents are available to be viewed by all Council members.

12. Knighton In Bloom:

Judging will take place on 19 July. Awards ceremony to be held at the Civic Centre in August. It was resolved to appoint 3 judges, one for each category. Proposed by Cllr. D. Williams. Seconded by Cllr. H. Adams-Evans. The Clerk was instructed to consult with judges, gather in previous trophies and issue invitations for awards ceremony. Cllr. M. Vaughan requested the stone trough on Station Road be filled be flowers, as it has been missed this year.

13. Mayor's Communications:

Cllr. D. Williams as Mayor advised that since the last meeting he has:

- completed One Voice Wales training event" The Council as Employer".
- attended Powys County Council's climate change conference.
- attended the Transforming Towns meeting organized by County Councillor C Kenyon-Wade as described above in these minutes and plans to visit local business owners as stakeholders of this project.
- accepted an invitation to wave off a vintage car rally from Knighton in October, a donation has been offered for the Mayor to pass on to a chosen charity.

14. Urgent Items:

- a. A discussion took place about parking restrictions needed in Knighton. County Cllr. C. Kenyon-Wade will circulate maps showing proposed parking restrictions for Offa's Road and the Cwm for the Council to agree.
- b. Cllr. M. Vaughan stated Knighton needs more facilities for children's outdoor play. Cllr. B Caine agreed. Confirming Town Council ownership of an area of the Dyke could help move this forward, the Clerk will obtain confirmation.
- c. Cllr. C. Branford advised the Council that the Town Clock Tower needs attention from CADW as there are weeds growing through the stonework which will weaken the structure if not removed. The Clerk agreed to contact CADW.
- d. Cllr. C. Branford sought permission for No Parking signs to be posted at The Cenotaph due to The Cenotaph being a monument of respect and the recent increase in motorcycles and rider parking up there. Council agreed to the posting of signs.

15. Private Session:

The public and member of the press withdrew from the meeting. The Council voted and agreed on its award for Volunteer of the Year.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm