

# **WELSHPOOL BUSINESS FORUM MINUTES**

Of a meeting held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall on  
Monday 17th March 2014 at 7pm

## **PRESENT WERE:**

Cllr S Kaye (Chair)	Welshpool Town Council and FSB
Cllr E Bleivas	Welshpool Town Council
Cllr A Bowen	Welshpool Town Council
Cllr H Evans	Welshpool Town Council
Christine Holmes	Flaunt it
Ian Flintham	Flaunt It
Heather Parks	Lamplite
Melvyn Parkes	Lamplite
Duncan Alexander	Alexanders
Carol Alexander	Alexanders
Freda Davies	Welshpool Projects
Tommy Harris	Nibbles
Alan Crowe	Aces Entertainments
Val Edwards	The Woolpack
Robert Robinson	Secretary

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Kaye Derwas, Simon Ebrey, Yolland & Graham Breeze, Rhian Humphreys and Tony Brooks.

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a correct record.

### **3. Welshpool Town Council Community Plan**

Members were asked to try and get as many surveys forms back as they can so that an assessment can (in particular) be done with regard to the Alcohol Order and the large sculpture. My Welshpool will give a final push this week.

### **4. Main Line Train Service**

The secretary outlined the recommendations to the Minister. A statement on the improved service is expected later in March.

**5. Ally by W H Smith to Puzzle Square**

The Secretary confirmed that agreement had been reached on putting up new lighting and Dean Hammond has been informed so that the works can take place. Once complete the walls will be painted by the Town Council.

**6. Puzzle Square block pavements**

These are still in a poor state. The Secretary will write to the owners offering to replace them with his permission.

**7. Town Centre Sculpture**

Once the results of the Community Plan Survey is known this can be taken forward if there is support.

**8. County Council Budget Cuts**

The meeting discussed the budget cuts and the visit by a County Council Portfolio Holder (Cllr R Harris) at the last meeting.

The group wishes to invite Cllr M Alexander to the May meeting.

**9. Regeneration Meeting**

The secretary outlined the regeneration meeting which will take forward town centre improvements. The group will comprise some Councillors, PCC regeneration officer and two business representatives.

The two business representatives were elected by the meeting as follows:

Heather Parkes Lamplite  
Christine Holmes Flaunt It

**10. Tourism leaflets for 2014**

The secretary introduced the tourism leaflets for 2014. Members were asked to take as many as they wished for distribution at their outlets.

**11. Hopkins Passage**

The subject of pigeons was raised again. It was agreed that perhaps some netting could be put at the end of the passage including the clock. Duncan Alexander will approach Mr Major to gain permission.

**12. Tesco signage**

The need for a Town Centre sign on the wall by the footpath to the Town Centre was requested. The secretary is to take this forward.

**13. Alcohol Control for Town Centre**

The DPPO can be taken forward as soon as the survey results are back from the Community Plan. To date around 290 replies have been received, really we need more. Val Edwards agreed to try and get people to complete them by having a table on the street on Friday.

**14. Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is to be Monday 19th May 2014 at 7pm in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall.

**15. Actions taken forward:**

The following actions are to be taken forward:

- a) Sign in Tesco Car Park - to Town Centre
- b) Table on street to gain Community Plan surveys
- c) Approach to Mr Major to allow netting in Hopkins Passage
- d) Owner to be approached on Block Pavements in Puzzle Square
- e) Cllr M Alexander to be asked to attend the May meeting
- f) Regeneration meeting to be arranged