

WELSHPOOL PROJECTS LIMITED

BUSINESS FORUM

MINUTES

Of a meeting held on Monday 21st July 2014 in the Council Chamber Town Hall Welshpool

Present were:

Cllr S Kaye (Chair), Cllr E Bleivas, Cllr A Bowen and Cllr H Evans (Welshpool Town Council)	
Duncan and Carol Alexander	Alexander's
Freda Davies	Welshpool Projects
Christine Holmes	Flaunt It
Monica and Clive Bailey	Monzies
Simon Ebrey	The Monkey Puzzle Cafe
Tom Harris	Nibbles
Heather Sherlock	M and Co
Rhian Humphreys	Angel, Images and Moto's
V Edwards	The Woolpack
Mark Jones	Sainsbury's
Alan Crowe	Ali Cra Entertainments
Robert Robinson	Secretary

1. Apologies for absence.

The meeting received apologies for absence from Cllr Dr J Morgan, Kaye Derwas and A J Flintham.

2. Minutes of the last meeting.

The meeting considered and approved the minutes of the meeting.

3. Update on actions since last meeting.

The meeting considered an update on the following:

i) Garage in Salop Road (Lighting)

The Secretary had spoken to the planning authority and they confirmed that there was nothing they could do about the changes in lighting at the garage. One sign is now turned off at night since the Powys County Council visit.

ii) Dog signs and weed clearance Puzzle Square.

The dog signs are in place, the overgrowth is being moved as time permits.

iii) Pigeons in passageway.

Majors have given consent to shooting the pigeons. Cllr Dr J Morgan is just checking the health and safety issues for himself.

iv) Banner in Tesco car park.

The new banner is in place.

v) DPPO

The application is making its way through the system.

A discussion did take place around the alcohol related and anti-social behaviour related issues around several areas of the Town.

vi) Christmas Lights Event

The event will be brought forward, as requested at the last meeting, to 6pm.

The idea of more events taking place on the night is being pursued. There is the addition of the large Christmas Tree to be located outside the Royal Oak.

vii) Main Line improved service

The secretary gave a short update on progress towards the improved rail service for May 2015.

4. Update on regeneration plan.

The meeting considered an update on the following:

i) Regeneration plan.

The regeneration plan is progressing with all items on the action list being taken forward.

ii) Grant Aid.

The Secretary confirmed that Powys County Council is willing to put up £15,000 alongside a grant of £15,000 to theme and upgrade Puzzle Square, Boot Street, Hopkins Passage and Hall Street including the markets. This will also in the following year include further funding via the grant aid totalling £24,000.

When the scheme progresses the Businesses will have a chance to comment on it.

iii) BID's scheme.

Letters have been sent to all the businesses in the Town and responses are awaited.

5. Update on Sirolli Project.

The meeting was given a short update on progress with the project.

6. Any other business

The following items of other business were discussed:

6.1 Berriew Street and Berriew Street Car Park

A discussion ranged around the anti-social behaviour around the various places in Berriew Street. The Town Council confirmed that the Police were aware of the problems and are trying to tackle them within their powers.

6.2 One Way System

The one way system was raised with particular regard to the accidents (last one Sunday evening at around 10pm). Accidents happen, however there did not appear to be any officer or official on the Cross stopping cars coming up the main street during the problem period. The Secretary is to take this up with the Local Policing Team.

6.3 Mobility scooters

The subject of the speed of mobility scooters was raised, it was agreed that more awareness of how to use such scooters was needed.

7. Date of next meeting.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 22nd September 2014 at 7pm in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall.

8. Actions to be taken forward:

The following actions are to be taken forward:

- i) Contact to be made with Local Policing Team over both the anti-social behaviour incidents and the one way system management of accidents.
- ii) Take forward regeneration plan.
- iii) PCC to be contacted to suggest a mobility scooter awareness scheme.
- iv) Take forward to action items in item 3 of the agenda.