

WELSHPOOL TOWN COUNCIL

BUSINESS FORUM

MINUTES

Of a meeting held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall on Monday 19th January 2015 at 7pm

Present were:

Cllr S Kaye (Chair), Cllr A Bowen, Duncan Alexander, Carol Alexander, Freda Davies, Alan Crowe, Val Edwards, Heather Sherlock, Kaye Derwas, Cllr G Breeze, Yolland Breeze and Simon Ebrey.
and Robert Robinson Town Clerk.

Visitors Linda and Dewi from Art Connection:

A presentation was made regarding the work proposed involving young people and local business. The paper presented is attached.

There are a number of businesses who are already involved including WPG and Derwas. Others are invited to come on board.

There is a workshop day at Severn Farm Ponds on 11th February with a social for business at 5.30pm to 7pm.

The visitors are to meet with the Town Clerk to see if a local plan can be taken forward utilising Town Council land.

1. Apologies for absence:

There was apologies received for absence from A J Flintham, Christine Holmes, Tom Harris, Mervyn Parkes, Heather Parkes and Cllr E Bleivas.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

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

3. Actions from last meeting:

The following were carried over from the last meeting:

- a) Rubbish behind Church Street properties has been removed
- b) The Puzzle Square scheme has been submitted for planning consent and has been passed to the contractor for pricing.
- c) W Waring VC stone has been installed in the Town Hall.
- d) Christmas Lights and Winter Festival events have taken place.
- e) Update was given on the Lidl's planning application.
- f) The Tesco car was application has been withdrawn.

4. Local Bus Services

The Town Clerk updated the meeting on the possible local bus cuts coming soon. The businesses confirmed that the local buses (albeit not well used) are very important to the town's businesses.

5. Budget cuts at Powys County Council

The Town Clerk updated the meeting on the budget cuts and progress with clustering of local councils to try and aid the retention of local services.

6. Tourism for 2015-2016

The Town Clerk confirmed that PCC is not doing any paper booklets for the next year. The Town Council is continuing with its paper based maps and tourist booklets as well as the events booklets.

7. Visit Welshpool Web Site for Tourism

The new Tourism Web Site for Welshpool is now completed and online. The Town Clerk will check the progress of the disability information on the site.

8. Cambrian Rail Line

An update was given on the improved rail service starting in May 2015. The revised timetable has been published. The train timetable booklets will be issued in May with a free railcard giving 3 months off fares for a few months.

9. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be Monday 16th February 2015 at 7pm in the Town Hall.