

RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT 6.30PM ON TUESDAY 10TH MAY 2016 AT THE OLD SCHOOL CWMDAUDWR

THOSE PRESENT

Chairman Councillor D. Jones
Councillors P. Dark W. Davies J. Humphreys M. Lloyd J. Stuart
C. Evans J. Jones J. Narborough C. Walton
D.O. Evans L. Price G. Williams
County Cllr. K. Curry

Prior to the meeting, Mr. David Evans of Rhayader 2000 addressed the Town Council.

He gave a resumé of the current status of the organisation and the projects which it is progressing. He also stated that there is an urgent need to recruit new members.

R2K are debating the way forward for the Newsletter and have temporarily put future issues on hold. To date they had not spent the grant of £750 made by RTC towards funding for the Newsletter. If subsequently the project is shelved the funding will be return to RTC. Editorship is presently in question as is the format and how the newsletter should be made available to the public. Advertising revenue is presently at a very low level. Councillors stated that the newsletter was extremely popular & were insistent that even though it may be distributed electronically, there is a strong need and desire within the community for paper copy and this should not be discontinued .

Mr. Evans said that PCC wished to harness the energy of local groups to provide community driven Town Plans. R2K wished to ask RTC to sponsor such a plan for Rhayader. There is a possibility that PCC may offer some financial support.

He was also keen to develop the Rhayader Collaborative Group. Councillors supported this initiative & it was agreed that RTC should appoint a representative.

Mr. Evans said that R2K relied entirely on volunteers & had no paid members. It continues to manage the Town website and the only income to the organisation was from advertising. However that income should ideally be used to support the website, not to meet R2K's running costs. These amounted to about £1K per year and he asked it RTC would consider adding this to its Precept next year. Councillors agreed to consider this proposal when the new Precept is set.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr. C. Davies.

2. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr. D. Jones said that there had been many enjoyable functions throughout the past year at which he had represented RTC. He was very pleased that taking over responsibility for the Public toilets had gone so well and thanked Councillors for their public spirited assistance in improving the outside of the Dark Lane facility. He warned that to the future RTC will be compelled to be increasingly more involved in delivery of public services or they will be lost. He would particularly like RTC to have more involvement in public events and to provide more assistance to Waun Capel Parc. He thanked Cllr. P. Dark, Cllr. J. Stuart & all the other people who assisted with the Beacon celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday. He wished to particularly thank Cllr. C. Evans for her assistance in her role as Deputy Chair. He also thanked the Clerk.

Cllr Price proposed that Vice Chairman Cllr. C. Evans should be appointed Chairman for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr. G. Williams and was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Evans accepted the appointment and took the Chair. She thanked & congratulated Cllr. D. Jones for his excellent work throughout the last very difficult year and fellow members for their support. She hoped that

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Chairman Councillor D. Jones

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN (CONT)

the Town Council would continue to present a “can do” proactive attitude. She requested that Members actively work to reduce the number of issues being raised under Urgent Business by ensuring that the Clerk is informed at least 9 days prior to the agreed dates of meetings of issues which they wish to be discussed by the Town Council so that they can be properly added to the agenda. To the future, only issues which arise in the interim and which are truly too urgent to wait until the next meeting should be raised under Urgent Business.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Stuart proposed that Cllr. C. Walton be appointed Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr. Dark & agreed by all. Cllr. Walton accepted the appointment.

4. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

With the exception of the Mayor’s ex-officio appointment to the Smithfield Trust, all the following appointments were proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed by the Council.

Committee/organisation	Councillor
SMITHFIELD TRUST	COUNCILLOR C. EVANS (Mayor) COUNCILLOR M. LLOYD COUNCILLOR J. HUMPHREYS COUNCILLOR D. EVANS COUNCILLOR L. PRICE COUNCILLOR J. JONES
PARK TRUST	COUNCILLOR G. WILLIAMS COUNCILLOR C. DAVIES
SCHOOL GOVERNOR	COUNCILLOR C. WALTON
RHAYADER 2000 Ltd	COUNCILLOR P. DARK COUNCILLOR J. NARBOROUGH
LEISURE CENTRE REPRESENTATIVES	COUNCILLOR J. HUMPHREYS COUNCILLOR W. DAVIES COUNCILLOR C. EVANS COUNCILLOR L.PRICE COUNCILLOR C. WALTON COUNCILLOR D. EVANS
COMMUNITY SUPPORT	COUNCILLOR G. WILLIAMS
ONE VOICE WALES	Cllr. C. Evans, as Chair, will receive their communications.
BRYNTITLI TRUST	COUNCILLOR J. HUMPHREYS
DOLLYMYNACH HOUSE	COUNCILLOR J. JONES COUNCILLOR M. LLOYD
HEALTH FOCUS GROUP	COUNCILLOR G. WILLIAMS COUNCILLOR J. NARBOROUGH

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APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES (Cont)

OLD SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/ COUNCILLOR J. JONES
CHARLES PRICE TRUST COUNCILOR L. PRICE

RHAYADER COLABORATIVE GROUP COUNCILOR C. EVANS (MAYOR)
COUNCILOR J. NARBOROUGH
COUNCILOR P. DARK

ELAN LINKS COUNCILLOR C. WALTON

RHAYADER & DISTRICT SPORTS & RECREATION ASSOCIATION COUNCILLOR C. WALTON

Clerk to ensure that all organisations listed are aware of the identity of RTC's representatives.

5. APPOINTMENT OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

The following appointments were proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed by the Council.

Portfolio Area	Councillors	
Education / Schools / Youth	J. Stuart	C. Walton
Sport and Recreation	J. Humphreys	C. Davies
Tourism / Economic Development / Regeneration	C. Evans	P. Dark
Housing	C. Walton	M. Lloyd
Police / Fire	J. Stuart	L. Price
Democracy / Elections	C. Evans	M. Lloyd
One Powys Plan	C. Evans	J. Narborough
Older people / Health and Social Care	G. Williams	J. Narborough
Environment / RoW / Parks	J. Narborough	G. Williams
Recycling	D. Jones	D. Evans
Planning Policy	C. Walton	M. Lloyd
Funding	C. Evans	J. Humphreys
Health and Safety	W. Davies	J. Stuart
Welsh Language	J. Jones	P. Dark

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6. APPOINTMENT OF SUB- COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following appointments were proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed by the Council.

FINANCE & ASSETS SUB-COMMITTEE

Membership to comprise the serving Mayor (Cllr. C. Evans) and Councillors:

C. Evans J. Humphreys C. Walton C. Davies J. Stuart

ALLOTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Membership to comprise Councillors:

L. Price G. Williams D. Jones C. Walton C. Davies J. Stuart

TOWN IMPROVEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Membership to comprise Councillors:

D. Jones J. Stuart C. Evans L. Price P. Dark C. Walton

PUBLIC TOILETS SUB-COMMITTEE

Membership to comprise Councillors:

L. Price (Chair) J. Stuart M. Lloyd D. Jones J. Narborough C. Walton

POPPY APPEAL SUB-COMMITTEE

Membership to comprise Councillors:

D. Jones G. Williams J. Narborough L. Price P. Dark C. Walton W. Davies

7. ATTENDANCE

The record of attendance was noted.

8. ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS

Prior to this meeting Councillors had been provided with copies of the Summary of Income & Expenditure at 31st March 2016 & the associated Analysis of Expenditure by Section Number. The Clerk informed that the Internal Auditor had approved the documents. It was resolved to adopt both documents.

9. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Mr. Stuart Mackintosh of PCC had agreed to meet with RTC to discuss the Library Service. It was resolved to meet with him at 6pm on Wednesday 18th May at the Library after the public consultation drop-in session. Councillors agreed that all information coming from PCC indicated that, along with many other locations, without a cash injection or a radical change in how the service is delivered, Rhayader Library would close. It was further agreed that RTC believed that all avenues should be investigated to avoid that closure. Cllr. Curry said that two areas are of particular concern to PCC, namely the physical state of the building and the footfall. It was agreed that the public should be encouraged to make more use of the Library. Cllr Walton reported that Rhayader School already had plans to take children to the Library more frequently. RTC should also explore if and how they can help with the maintenance of the building and how it might be used outside of Library opening hours for other community activity.

Cllr. Curry reported that Ann Watkins, the owner of the part of Spar where Cashzone propose to install a 24 hour accessible ATM, had informed him that she fully supports the need for such a machine in Rhayader, but she had raised questions with Blakemore, who own Spar, about the physical suitability of the structure to house the machine. She still awaits an answer. The Clerk had spoken with Cashzone who had indicated

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OTHER URGENT BUSINESS (CONT)

that they have not been able to move the project forward because they were awaiting her permission. Cllr. Curry agreed to contact Cashzone & Blakemore in an effort to resolve the apparent impasse. **Cllr Curry to attempt to expedite the situation.**

Cllr Walton suggested that a press release should be issued highlighting the serious problem caused the removal of the cash machine by HSBC. It was resolved to do so. **Clerk to issue the press release.**

It was resolved that the Public Toilets Sub-committee would meet at 5.30pm on Wednesday 25th May 2016.

Cllr. Curry reported that the Business Group & R2K were planning a “Dragon Event” to be held in June.

RDSCS had advised that they would not be organising a “Party in the Parc” to celebrate the Queen’s birthday.

Cllr. Jones said that a landowner was upset that permission had not been sought in relation to the Beacon to pass over their land. Cllr. Stuart acknowledged the oversight and undertook to apologise to the landowner.

10. DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next AGM will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 9th May 2017

The meeting closed at 8.20p.m.

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Chairman Councillor D. Jones

Date