

RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.00PM AT THE OLD SCHOOL CWMDAUDDWR

THOSE PRESENT

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

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr. C. Evans & Cllr. D. Jones.

1a. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr. L. Price thanked everyone who helped to make the Remembrance Day Service such a great event. She had opened the Charity Craft Fare and attended the Vintage Show Presentation Night.

1b. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. Walton wished to discuss the grass by Brynheulog.
Cllr. Williams wished to discuss arrangements for the 2015 Poppy Appeal.

2. MINUTES TO BE AGREED

The minutes to be agreed were those for the meeting held on 21st October 2014. They were agreed to be a true record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5.1 PCC: Wyeside Camping & Caravan site. Unfortunately the people from whom Cllr. C. Davies had received his information have now left the site for this year, so he was unable to collect further information. It was resolved to take no further action unless further complaints are raised in the future.

5.2 PCC: Road marking correspondence. Cllr. W. Davies declared an interest and left the room. Cllr. C. Davies suggested that, for a short distance, the pavement near the entrance to the Bear car park should be widened which would prevent parking and allow a better sight line for vehicles leaving. Cllr. Price believed that arrangements for the work as previously specified was already in place. **Cllr Price to Check with PCC.**

Planning: As a consequence of PCC's insistence that the boundary wall must be built of stone and the extra expense incurred in building round RTC's bench, the owner of Greenfields had insisted that the bench be removed from their property. It was resolved that it be re-sited by the bus stop near Bryngwy. **Cllr Lloyd to ask Ellie Jones to carry out the work.**

The new benches had been installed in the agreed locations. Cllr. Walton suggested that the redundant steps near the Smithfield should be filled in. Although Councillors agreed that the suggestion would be a considerable improvement it was generally agreed that PCC would refuse to do so on cost grounds.

It was noted that BT had installed their new cabinet in their preferred position, presumably with permission from PCC who had completely disregarded RTC's stated preference.

4.1 Business Survey. Despite previous indications, R2K admitted that they do not have enough volunteers to carry out the survey in the required time. Accordingly Councillors agreed to divide the work and complete it by the end November. **Councillors to complete the survey & return to the Clerk by the end of November.**

Certified as a true record

Date

Chairman Councillor L. Price

18th November 2014

3a: REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

Cllr. Williams reported on the RDCS AGM and informed that the shop was “doing well” .

Cllr. Walton had attended the Elenydd Landscape Partnership meeting. Three management groups have been formed. The aim of the Partnership is to achieve World Heritage Site status.

He also reported that investigations into the suitability of the Elan Valley for a road race were ongoing.

Cllr. Curry reported that a survey of foot traffic crossing St Harmon Road had been carried out and another had been planned.

Work had commenced on the School toilets and should be complete by the end of the year.

He also reported that RDCS is renting a unit for storage & repair of furniture.

3b. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. C. Davies declared an interest in the application of the Bowling Club for Bryntitli funding and left the room as appropriate.

4. AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 Bryntitli applications.

Three applications had been received but one of them was not received until a week after the advertised closure deadline. It was resolved that it would be inappropriate to consider this application.

Clerk to inform the applicant of the reasoning behind this decision.

Rhayader Bowling Club: Demolish & rebuild top 2 layers of blocks and replace slabs on 3 sides of the bowling green in Waun Capel Parc. By carrying out this work it will make the banking safer. At the moment some of the blocks are starting to bulge which would eventually lead to the banks collapsing. Amount requested £648.12. It was resolved to make a grant of £648.12. **Clerk to make payment.**

RDCS: “A very Rhayader Christmas” 2014. A day of events and celebration including: Christmas craft workshops,

A Lantern procession, Rhayader Nursery Christmas fair, Switching on town Christmas lights and carol-singing by the clock, Santa’s grotto, Late night opening, Shop window displays, Family competitions and children’s activities. Amount requested £750 . It was resolved to make a grant of £250 to be used only towards the cost of materials. **Clerk to make payment and inform the applicant of the attached conditions.**

4.2 Sports development:

Cllr Walton reported that the recent meeting with the Sports Development Officer had been poorly attended, possibly due to inadequate advertising. However, subsequently more interest had received and it was hoped that the next meeting on 27th November will be better attended. It was agreed to ask the County Times to publicise the meeting in the next issue.

4.3 Public Toilets:

As a result of the meeting on 10th November with the Portfolio Holder Cllr. John Powell and PCC officer Alastair Knox, Councillors were generally agreed that, in common with toilets throughout Powys, PCC were serious in their resolve to close all 3 toilets in Rhayader if RTC or another organisation does to assume responsibility for them.

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AGENDA ITEMS (CONT)

RTC had done its own estimates on the annual costs which adoption would entail and whilst there were aspects where it was considered that the figures which PCC had provided could be reduced if provided locally, there were other areas where no reduction was possible. It was agreed that, by virtue of the proportionally large usage of Dark Lane toilets by the travelling public funding should be sought from WG. Cllr. Curry reported that Kirsty Williams AM was in conversation with Edwina Hart about this aspect. After considerable discussion it was felt that if RTC was offered the Dark Lane Toilets in a package with the car park its net income generating potential along with the grant offered by PCC would present a more viable proposition which would retain the facility for the travelling public without placing an unacceptable burden on local rate payers.

The usage of the Groe & the Cemetery toilets were discussed. It was generally considered that both provided for a genuine need.

It was resolved to write to the CEO Jeremy Patterson, Cllr. Powell & Alastair Knox to inform them of RTC's expression of interest in the possibility running Dark Lane toilets and car park as a joint facility.

Clerk to write as above.

Concern was expressed that grass verges were being cut along the A470 but not when it enters Rhayader.

Clerk to contact TRA to ask that they address the shortfall.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

With the exception of those commented on, all items of correspondence listed on the agenda and received since it was prepared, were noted.

5.1 I.M. Joyce (EVT): Town Council representative. Councillors noted that the Trust's present arrangements do not cater for having a representatives from other organisations on the Trust. However Cllr. Walton would continue to attend Elenydd Landscape Partnership meetings.

5.6 Marie Curie Cancer Care: appeal for funding. Resolved to donate £100 from the Recycling Account.

Clerk to make payment.

5.8 Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales: appeal for funding. Resolved to donate £100 from the Recycling Account. **Clerk to make payment.**

Rhayader Town FC: seeking payment of £500 allocated in 2012. Cllr. C. Davies declared an interest. The money had been allocated as a result of an application by the Club for funding towards ground maintenance equipment. It was resolved to release the funding from the Recycling Account.. **Clerk to make payment.**

R2K: Use of £500 previously given grant towards cost of a computer for Tourism use at the Museum & gallery. Cllr. D. Evans declared an interest. Councillors resolved to approve the change of use. **Clerk to inform R2K.**

6. PLANNING

P 2014 1122 For Section 19 of Planning (LBCA) Act 1990 to vary Condition No.2 (Design) of planning consent P 2014 0414 at Greenfields, South Street, Rhayader, Powys. There were no objections to this application. **Clerk to advise PCC of RTC's comments.**

P 2014 1124 For Section 73 application to vary condition no. 2 attached to planning permission P 2014 0312 (to allow design changes) at Greenfields, South Street, Rhayader Powys. There were no objections to this application. **Clerk to advise PCC of RTC's comments.**

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6. PLANNING (CONT)

P 2014 1076 For Outline: Erection of 7 dwellings (2bed) and associated works at Commodore Yard, east Street, Rhayader, Powys. It was resolved to convene a site meeting at 4pm Friday 21st November.

Clerk to arrange access.

7. FINANCE

Other than payments agreed above, there were no outstanding invoices.

8. URGENT BUSINESS

Grass verge by Brynheulog: Cllr Walton reported that seemingly due to the narrow width of the roadway, the verge had been damaged by a bin lorry in resulting in mud on the road. **Cllr. Price to contact PCC.**

Arrangements for Poppy Appeal 2015: Cllr Williams reported that subsequent to the British Legion discontinuing its Rhayader Branch, no arrangements had been put in place to co-ordinate the Poppy Appeal this year. She had ensured that all receipts had reached the Legion but to ensure that the same situation did not arise in 2015, suggested that RTC should form a working group to organise the Appeal. This was agreed in principal. It was resolved to make arrangements at a later date but well in advance of the event.

9. PRESS RELEASE

Sports Association meeting on 27th November

10. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. Toilets.
2. Signage issues.
3. Sound equipment.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 15th December 2014.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Certified as a true record

Chairman Councillor L. Price

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Date