

RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH JANUARY 2016 AT 7.30PM AT THE OLD SCHOOL CWMDAUDDWR

THOSE PRESENT

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

1. **APOLOGIES:** All Councillors were in attendance.

1a. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

1b. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS

Glandwr House development, planters, improvements.

2. MINUTES TO BE AGREED

Minutes to be agreed were those for the meeting on 15th December 2015. They were agreed to be a true record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.3 Rhayader parking review: Cllr. Price reported that residents had expressed concern about the proposed parking restrictions in Station Road (RHY02). Councillors agreed that in the interest of safety, they had requested that the double yellow lines be extended by Cae Melin but had not intended that the yellow lining in Station Road should be changed. It was resolved to inform PCC that whilst they are in full agreement with the proposal for Cae Melin, RTC cannot agree that there is a requirement to change the present arrangement in Station Road. The proposal should be amended in line with the above. **Clerk to inform PCC of RTC's comments.**

4.4 Rhayader Town Cemetery:

A reply from Cllr. Powell informed that the increased charges had already been implemented and had been considered necessary because "income received did not cover the cost of the service" and it was expected that by implementing the new charges "significant progress will be made towards full cost recovery in the future".

It was reported that the Cemetery is presently operating on "winter hours" which restrict the time scale when funerals can take place & mean that on Saturdays only morning funerals can be accommodated since the burial process must be complete by 1pm. Councillors were concerned that higher charges are being levied whilst the service received has been reduced. It was resolved to request a copy of the full terms & conditions for burial services at Rhayader Cemetery and the schedule of daily times, throughout the year, when funeral services can take place. **Clerk to write to PCC as above.**

Broadband: The Clerk had contacted Superfast Cymru but they had been unable to set a date when better speeds will be available throughout the area.

Certified as a true record

Date

Chairman Councillor D. Jones

19th January 2016

3a: REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

Several Councillors along with County Cllr. Kelvyn Curry, Kirsty Williams AM & the Clerk met with representatives of HSBC management on 13th January.

HSBC stated that despite the bank being the only one in Rhayader, the decision to close the Rhayader branch was irreversible. The reiterated that existing accounts will be moved to the Llandrindod branch, for which they emphatically assured, there were no plans for closure. Many, though not all, of the services presently available at the Rhayader branch will be available at the Post Office. They promised to inform the local business community in the near future of additional facilities which would be available to them via the PO.

Councillors feared that along with the closure of the Rhayader branch, the only 24 hour accessible ATM in town will be removed. The loss of this machine would be a huge drawback. HSBC said that the facility was run by another organisation. Councillors urged HSBC to ensure that when the building is disposed of arrangements will be made to retain the facility in its present location. HSBC said they would discuss the possibility of this with their service provider.

Kirsty Williams questioned whether the Access to Banking Protocol had been followed and a Community engagement and impact assessment had been carried out. HSBC did not emphatically confirm that this had been done.

3b. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. W. Davies declared an interest in item 6.1& left the room as appropriate.

4. AGENDA ITEMS

4.1. Toilet refurbishment update.

The Clerk informed Councillors of the present situation and the planned schedule of work at Dark Lane. As a condition of the WG funding, a bi-lingual sign must be displayed that the facility is part funded by WG. He had obtained 2 quotations and sought the Council's decision on the offered designs and materials. It was resolved to purchase Option 4 from Semaphore Displays. **Clerk to place the order.** Councillors were agreed that additional signs should be displayed which informed the public that the facility is provided by RTC.

Cllr. Price left the meeting.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

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

5.4 . OVW: Queen's Birthday Beacons. It was resolved that RTC would organise a beacon.

PCC: News Release Dog fouling views wanted. Cllr. Curry urged members to encourage people to take part and to spread the link.

6. PLANNING

6.1 P 2015 1217 for Change of use of land at the rear of The Bear to form a site for 3 Nr (No ?) Holiday Chalets, erection of a single storey extension to the rear to form a private lounge/kitchen at Bear Hotel, East Street, Rhayader, Powys.

After discussion it was resolved to hold a site meeting at 4pm the following day.

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6. PLANNING (CONT)

Applications received after the agenda was prepared:

Cllrs. C. Evans & D. Evans declared an interest and left the room.

P 2015 1234 For Erection of a dwelling house and all associated works (including demolition of workshop) (resubmission of planning permission P 2015 0890) at Land rear of Claremont East Street, Rhayader Powys.

The above application was discussed in conjunction with the item below which relates to the same site.

P 2015 1235 For Conservation Area Consent for demolition of workshop (resubmission of P 2015 0897) at Land rear of Claremont East Street, Rhayader Powys.

There were no objections to these proposals & Councillors recommended approval. **Clerk to inform PCC.**

7. FINANCE

£46.63 RBS – materials for seat repairs. Agreed. **Clerk to process payment.**

8. URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. Narborough expressed concern about construction work which appeared to be taking place at the rear of Glandwr House. Cllr. Price had advised that PCC is looking into the matter.

Richard Shaw had informed Cllr. Walton that he was constructing the two new planters as requested.

It was resolved that the Chair would arrange, as soon as practical, a “Council walk round” as the first step in assessing which aspects of the town’s appearance should be addressed in the coming year. **Chair to arrange.**

9. PRESS RELEASE

- HSBC meeting.
- Dog fouling survey

10. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. Starting times for meetings.
2. Standing Orders.
3. Financial Regulations.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 16th February 2016.

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Certified as a true record

Chairman Councillor D. Jones

Date