

RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28th JULY 2015 AT 6.30PM AT THE OLD SCHOOL CWMDAUDDWR

THOSE PRESENT

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

In the absence of Cllr. D. Jones Cllr. C. Evans took the Chair.

Prior to the monthly meeting County Cllr. Steven Hayes, Portfolio Holder Regeneration & Planning & Ms. Sue Bolter, Head of Regeneration, Property & Commissioning addressed the Council
Cllr. Hayes gave an overview of PCC policy & procedures for disposal of assets. He emphasised that when assets are disposed of, legally PCC must obtain the best value for them. He outlined reasons for disposal, the criteria determining which assets are disposed of & the mechanisms used for disposal. He indicated that the process could take between 4 months & 3 years, dependant on a particular asset.

He stated that “income generators” would be far less likely to be transferred. Councillors were therefore at a loss to understand why PCC had appointed agents to seek offers for the lease of the Campsite. He said that this was due to a decision taken the full Council a year ago.

Cllr. Stuart said that RTC was shocked to learn, via PCC website, that PCC were advertising the Hafan Resource Centre for sale. Councillors was disappointed that it had not been offered to them as an Asset Transfer prior to the decision being taken to sell it. Cllr. Hayes stated that PCC would be happy to receive expressions of interest for any of their properties.

Cllr. Hayes stated that PCC was unlikely to asset transfer properties unless they were connected to services and/or linked to community benefit(s).

Cllr. Hayes & Ms. Bolter left the meeting.

Further discussion took place about how RTC should react to the sale of Hafan. It was resolved to contact the Dentist to seek his views prior to approaching PCC. **Cllr. Narborough to speak with the Dentist.**

Ms. Nicola (Nicky) Davies, PCC HGSS Project Officer, joined Councillors to discuss the transfer of toilets, so item 4.1 was address at this point. See below for details.

Cllr. C. Evans had to leave the meeting and Cllr. L. Price took the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr. D. Jones, W. Davies, D. Evans & C. Davies.

1a. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements but Councillors wished chairman Cllr. D. Jones a speedy recovery.

1b. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. J. Jones - Vehicles on Cwmdauddwr car park, Cllr. Walton – street clean-up & North Street pavements, Cllr. G. Williams – trees in East Street, Cllr. M. Lloyd – bollard by the Clock, Cllr. Price – ivy in on wall at Police Station pitch.

Certified as a true record

Date

Chairman Councillor D. Jones

28th July 2015

2. MINUTES TO BE AGREED

The minutes to be agreed were those for the meeting held on 23rd June 2015. They were agreed to be a true record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.4 Poppy Appeal: Cllr. Price reported that with Cllrs. Narborough, Walton & the Clerk, she had met Mr & Mrs., Peter Roberts. The system used for collection and the stock kept at Crosfield House were discussed at length. The group agreed to inspect the stock and meet the collectors.

4.4 Register of Interests: The Clerk had prepared a register of declarations of interest made by Councillors at meetings in 2014. This was agreed to be a true record. Clerk will contact Alan Samuel to make suitable arrangements to enable him to add this and other required information to the Town Council area of the Website. It was agreed that a register be compiled for the current year but not displayed until complete.

Clerk to do as above.

Best Kept Garden: The Clerk reported that Cllr. C. Davies had made arrangements with George McManus to judge the Best kept Garden. Both trophies had been received from Welsh Royal Crystal.

3a: REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORTS

Cllr. Walton reported that the School headmistress will be shared between Rhayader & Nantmel and that a new Secretary has been recruited.

Cllr. Williams reported that the RDCS continues to do well and that a garden party to raise funds for the minibus is arranged for 8th August.

Cllr. Dark reported that in the absence of a Chamber of Trade, R2K were planning to set up a Business Group.

Cllr. J. Jones was pleased to note the recent co-operation between the Churches.

3b. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 Toilets.

Nicky Davies joined Councillors to assist their discussion. She had previously supplied a copy of the Draft Terms for Lease and referred to the licence which would be issued in the event of the Lease not being ready prior to take over. Councillors remarked that a lot of preparatory work had been undertaken towards their adoption of the toilets but to date the lease/ licence had not been discussed with PCC.

Cllr. C. Evans undertook to look over both documents and discuss her findings with Councillors before re-approaching PCC. Nicky mentioned that RTC could, if they wished, extend the period of the grant period from 3years to 5 years. She undertook to supply details of how this could be accessed. Councillors said that although, subject to a the drains being shown to be satisfactory by the survey due to take place on 10th August, they would wish to push on with the takeover, considering the number of thing which need to be done and which cannot be started until satisfactory survey results are received, the suggested date of 1st September would seem somewhat premature. They suggested that 1st October might be more realist. Ms. Davies left the meeting.

As PCC were offering Hafan House for sale Councillors debated on whether they should send a letter of interest. It was believed that the Dentist was looking into purchasing it and it was suggested that the needs of the community may be better served by such an arrangement. It was agreed that Cllr. Narborough would speak with the Dentist to clarify the situation before RTC did anything further. **Cllr. Narborough to progress.**

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4 AGENDA ITEMS (CONT)

4.2 Campsite.

Dealt with above in discussions with Cllr. Steven Hayes & Ms. Sue Bolter (see above)

4.3 Rhayader Newsletter.

A request had been received from R2K for funding to cover costs of producing the next 2 issues of the newsletter (Item 5.2). Councillors agreed that the Newsletter was well received by the public and served a very worthwhile function and that a grant of £250 should be made. However, RTC had an established procedure for dealing with applications for funding over £100, namely, such grants will only be made after receipt of a completed application form. It was therefore further resolved that the grant should not be paid until a completed application form is received. To enable the next issue to be produced on time the Clerk was instructed to inform R2K of the procedure & authorised to make payment after receipt of a completed application form. **Clerk to contact R2K and act according the above instructions.**

4.4 Citizen of the Year 2015

Nominations had been received for 4 people. After a vote Shirley Jones emerged a clear winner. It was resolved to invite Shirley to the August meeting to receive the trophy. **Clerk to make the invitation.**

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.

Elan Valley Dark Skies Park Status (late correspondence): Councillors were delighted to learn that the Elan Valley estate had achieved International Dark Skies Status & resolved to send a letter of congratulations. **Clerk to write.**

6. PLANNING

P 2015 0587 Full: Erection of a dwelling at land at Ty Nant, Elan Valley, Rhayader, Powys. There were no objections to this application & Councillors recommended approval. **Clerk to inform PCC.**

7. FINANCE

7.1 Bank mandate. The clerk reported that the mandate held by the Bank required revision. It was resolved that a new mandate be prepared comprising all councillors who were agreeable to be signatories. **Clerk to process.**

7.2 £287.30 – RBS – Paint & sundries for bus shelter. Agreed. **Clerk to process.**

£127.95 - Welsh Royal Crystal – Trophies. Agreed, **Clerk to process.**

8. URGENT BUSINESS

Vehicles on Cwmdauddwr car park: Cllr. Jones reported that two had been parked there permanently for over 3 months. In response to his request the Clerk had contacted PCC who said that they would deal with it. Cllr. Lloyd said that such actions by PCC normally take quite a time to resolve. Consequentially it was resolved that if they were not removed PCC should be contacted in mid August. **Clerk to process.**

Street clean-up & North Street pavements: Cllr. Walton remained concerned about the poor standard of upkeep provided by PCC. He also reported that another lady had tripped on the pavement in North Street. Cllr. Lloyd reported that he had tried unsuccessfully to get PCC to replace the missing pavement bollard by the Clock. **Cllr. Price to contact Brian Price of PCC.**

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8. URGENT BUSINESS (CONT)

Trees in East Street: Cllr. Williams reported that overhanging trees in Dolgerddon grounds were obstructing the pavement. Cllr. Price reported that ivy on the old Police Station wall was also obstructing the adjacent pavement. **Cllr. Price to contact Brian Price of PCC.**

9. PRESS RELEASE

- EV dark Skies.
- Hafan Resource Centre.
- Congratulate ion to Carnival Committee

10. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

No new business was proposed for the next meeting.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 18th August 2015.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Certified as a true record

Chairman Councillor D. Jones

4 of 4

Date