

# RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 AT 7.00PM AT THE OLD SCHOOL CWMDAUDDWR

### THOSE PRESENT

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

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. W. Davies, J. Connelly, C. Walton J. Stuart & D. Evans.

### 1a. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr. L. Price congratulated Girl Guide Cymru getting into the Guinness Book of Records with over 1468 guides dancing with umbrellas. She had very much enjoyed the Carnival and the Vintage Show and congratulated all those involved in a another successful Carnival. She thanked Cllr. D. Jones for opening the Charity Shop at RDCS and the Rhayader Players Concert in her absence. She also thanked him for watering the island flower beds and thanked Glen Douglas for planting Cwmduddwr Square.

2. **MINUTES TO BE AGREED** The minutes to be agreed were those for the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014. They were agreed to be a true record.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**3 North Street Roundabout:** Cllrs. Humphreys & Dark left the room. The Clerk had sent letters to the Eagles & Evans Motors. To date no replies had been received. Whilst Councillors remained of the opinion that the signs should be removed from the Roundabout, there was considerable understanding that these two businesses, along with others who were situated off the main thoroughfares were at a disadvantage when trying to attract "passing trade". It was agreed that the use of alternative means to entice potential customers to seek out such businesses needed to be investigated.

**5.1 (22<sup>nd</sup> May) RYMCA Dolgerddon:** Cllr. Curry reported that discussions are on-going between several organisations.

**3a Representatives Reports:** Cllr. Connelly had informed the Clerk by e-mail that she had installed a sign for the TIC in the Arches.

### 3a: REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

RTC members of Leisure Centre Consultative Committee had met with PCC. Cllr. Curry gave an overview of the meeting to Councillors prior to publication of the minutes of that meeting. It was agree to discuss the issues at the August meeting.

### 3b. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. C. Davies declared an interest in item 6.1 & Cllr. Curry declared an interest in all planning issues. Both left the room as appropriate.

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Date .....

Chairman Councillor L. Price

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#### 4. AGENDA ITEMS

##### 4.1 Waun Capel Parc.

Cllr. Lloyd gave an report about grass cutting in the Parc, which is of a standard far below what is acceptable. It was suggested that PCC appear to be doing the minimum they possibly can. Cllr. C. Evans suggested that the Parc Trust may well benefit by seeking legal advice with regard to PCC's obligations under the terms of the lease and with regard to reasonable expectations in light of previous standards of maintenance.

Cllrs. Williams, Humphreys & Lloyd (all Parc trustees) left the room whilst discussion continued.

It was re-iterated that RTC supported the Parc Trust in principal in its efforts to re-establish an acceptable standard of maintenance by PCC. It was resolved to write to both the Trust & PCC to express RTC's concerns about the condition of the Parc and the number of complaints it continues to receive about this from members of the public. **Clerk to write to both organisations.**

##### 4.2 Town Improvements.

A report was given on behalf of the Town Improvement Group informing Councillors that: the cast iron waste bins are being painted; it was intended to ask Ellie Jones to install the 5 new benches (two near the Smithfield, replace the damaged one near the post box at Maes-y-Deri, one by the start of the Elan Valley Trail in Cwmdauddwr and one by "Wynn's wall" using the existing one from there to replace the broken bench by Dderw); to accept the quote from Ian Mcphee to repaint a further 4 benches.

A letter received from Bryan Lawrence commented on the condition of the Riverside Walk. The Group were in agreement with most of his observations. They recommended that money from the funds allocated for improvements be used to pay for 3 days work from Hugh Rees to clear the overgrown vegetation along the whole length of the Riverside Walk. This was agreed, as was the suggestion to have 3 separate 1 day cuts next year to ensure it stays accessible throughout the growing season.

A letter received from Greenfingers Landscape Ltd detailed what they were offering to do with regards to the North Street island next year. It was resolved to write to thank them for their offer and suggest that details are discussed at a later date. **Clerk to write.**

It was resolved to observe how the perennials supplied by PCC develop and decide the best course of action in the new year & the Island be put on the agenda for August.

##### 4.3 WW1

Cllr. Price reminded Councillors that the Commemorative Service would take place at the Clock at 10.30am on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August followed by refreshments in the Wye Lounge.

##### 4.4 Facebook / Social Media.

Two letters had been received referring to a message put on Facebook by a Councillor. Both supported the surgery but acknowledged that waiting times were sometimes protracted.

Cllr. Dark said that he now recognised that in hindsight he should have been more careful, as a Councillor, about what he posted on Facebook and will be so in future. He explained that the matter had now been resolved to the mutual satisfaction of Dr. Thompson and himself.

Copies of the WG document: "Social Media: A Guide for Councillors" (item 5.4) were distributed to all Councillors present for their reference.

##### 4.5 Rhayader Allotments.

Quotations had been received from Welsh Water to make the connection from the main to the site and Ellie Jones to supply & install the internal infrastructure. The quotations jointly amounted to £2198.50 + VAT. It was resolved to authorise the work to be started. Funding will be from the Allotment Account. **Clerk to**

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#### **4. AGENDA ITEMS (CONT)**

**make arrangements.** It was resolved that when installed, the metered supply would be monitored to compare the cost of water used in relation to the plot rentals received.

##### **4.6 Citizen of the Year 2014.**

Ten nomination papers had been received for a total of 8 nominees. After a series of votes Dr. Joy was declared the overall winner and named Citizen of the Year 2014.

**Cllr. Price to arrange for presentation of the Trophy**

##### **4.7 Garden of the Year 2014.**

Judging of local gardens was carried out by Lisa Higginbottom with Cllr. Dark as driver. Gardens at 11 addresses were shortlisted and judged in 4 categories: design; plant knowledge; colour; garden maintenance. The winner, having the highest rating was at "Siteley" on Bryngwy. The owners (Mr & Mrs. Turford) were declared to be winners of the Best Garden 2014.

**Cllr. Price to arrange for presentation of the Trophy**

Cllr. Lloyd left the meeting at 9.50 pm.

#### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

**5.2 Kirsty Williams AM: Dates for meeting.** It was resolved to suggest the meeting be held on 4<sup>th</sup> September.  
**Clerk to arrange.**

**5.3 Cllr. J. Connelly: Notice of resignation.** Councillors were sorry to learn of Jackie's resignation but respected her reasons. It was resolved to send a letter of appreciation for the proactive work she had undertaken during her period in office. **Clerk to write to Cllr. Connelly & also inform PCC of the vacancy.** Cllr. Connelly had been RTC's representative for R2K. It was resolved that Cllr. Dark should now assume this role. **Clerk to inform R2K.**

**5.7 OVW: WG White Paper: Reforming Local Government – consultation.** **Cllr Price & Clerk to respond.**

PCC: A sustainable Library Service for Powys – Consultation. Resolved to add to August agenda.

#### **6. PLANNING**

**6.1 P 2014 0628** For Householder: Erection of a garage & widening of an existing vehicular access at Gwinllan, St Harmon Road, Rhayader, Powys. There were no objections to this application.

**6.2 P2014 0537** For Householder: erection of wood balcony (retrospective) at Wengen, Station Road, Rhayader. Councillors declined to comment on this application

**P 2014 0749** for Householder & **P 2014 0751** for LBC: Construction of garden wall around the southern boundary of cartilage of listed building at Greenfields, South Street, Rhayader, Powys. There were no objections to these applications.

**Clerk to inform PCC of RTC's comments on all the above applications.**

**7. FINANCE:** There are no outstanding invoices.

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**8. URGENT BUSINESS**

Cllr. C. Davies expressed concern at the appearance of the Campsite and had also received complaints from regular visitors about the falling standard of the facilities & maintenance. It was resolved to express RTC,s concerns to PCC and ask for an explanation. **Clerk to write.**

Cllr. J. Jones reported that a collection of flags was being offered to the Town Council. It was resolved to contact Carad to discuss putting them on public display. **Cllr. Price to contact Carad.**

**9. PRESS RELEASE**

- Benches
- Riverside Walk
- Vacancy

**10. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING**

1. Waun Capel Parc.
2. North Street Island.
3. Leisure Centre
4. Library Service Consultation.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next monthly meeting will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

Certified as a true record .....

**Chairman Councillor L. Price**

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Date .....