|  |
| --- |
| **Minutes from the MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at** **7.00 pm on MONDAY 25th APRIL 2022** in Cwmdauddwr Community Centre.  |
| 0122/01 | **ATTENDING**Chairman: Cllr. L. Price (LP); Councillors attending: C Walton (CW); A. Davies (AD); V. Jones-Davies (VJD); D Thomas (DT); J Narborough (JN); R Thomas (RT); County Cllr. K. CurryAttending remotely: D.O. Evans (DOE); Apologies: W Davies (WD); J Stuart (JS).There were no public requests to attend remotely.  |
| 0122/02 | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none |
| 0122/04 | **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS:** raised since the issue of the agenda. Chairman agreed to bring forward item 13b to be discussed after 0122/05  |
| 0122/05 | **MINUTES:** 1. The Ordinary Meeting held on 22nd March 2022were approved. (RT/AD)
 |
| 0122/13 | 1. Appointment of Clerk: It was reported that two applications had been received for the vacancy and both had been interviewed. It was noted that both applicants had training needs and either would require mentoring and support. The interview panel recommended that a provisional offer made to the second Interviewee be approved. This was agreed.
 |
| 0122/06 | **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA:** * A site visit to Dark Lane was held on 31 March 2022. Concerns raised about extending/adding yellow lines and CW advised he did not support this. There had been some discussion with residents. A correspondence item from a resident advised that PCC proposed cutting back Yew hedging to allow parking closing to property walling and thus increase the travelled roadway accessibility – the resident offered to participate in discussions. This was noted

LP to follow up with PCC and arrange further discussion if required. * Claim invoice submitted for grant funding for Transforming Towns Adaptation Grant
* Letter to highways - no update as JS not at meeting
* Elan Valley Social club was congratulated for raising in excess of £4000 towards support for Ukrainian refugees.
 |
| 0122/07 | **COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITEES and WORKING GROUPS:** * AD had circulated an allotments report. AD gave an update about the fence. It was not clear which land owner had responsibility. Agreed that AD contact the executors of the neighbouring land and that the Solicitors who handled the conveyance of the land to RTC be contacted. The need for a further site meeting was discussed, AD to arrange if necessary.
* CW reported that the Dark Lane car park charging points not yet connected. Meter readings to be taken.
 |
| 0122/08 | **PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY ISSUES**1. Broadband: Broadway Partners had proposed a further mailshot, letter being drafted. Councillors agreed to continue promotion on Social Media, an open event be held to encourage people to register and interest was also discussed.
 |
| 0122/09 | **HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS:**Highways: 1. Repairs and road works – a letter of thanks to be sent to Tarmac for the road scalpings donated.
2. Pavements: both the poor surfaces and cleanliness were discussed. The appointment of a Town warden/handy man was discussed, it was noted that a budget for this should be considered and it was noted that this be considered when the Town Plan is reviewed.

Other PCC Matters1. CAT update –Heads of Terms had been received from PCC. These had been passed to MJJ for comments and also circulated to members – CE to co-ordinate comments and correspond with PCC. It was generally agreed that the document was acceptable with some grammatical changes, insurance issues also to be clarified.
2. Dolgerddon Update: Poor progress by PCC regarding resolution of insurance and tenancy was noted as unacceptable and members felt that PCC CEO should be asked to address this. The apparent use of the building by rough sleepers had been reported to PCC.
 |
| 0122/11 | **PLANNING:** Update: Rhydoldog House , Cwmdauddwr, Rhayader, Powys LD6 5HB see also 1121/06. KC reported that planners advised no committee date yet set for determination as PCC still awaited information from the applicant. There had been amendments to the original applications by the applicant and PCC had posted consultation comments from NRW online. It was understood that the woods where the cabins had been proposed may now be felled. 22/0581/FUL: installation of 15m wind turbine and solar array at Airwave OD telecommunications station. Dfp137 Claerwen Valley, Rhayader. and any other applications received since the publication of this agenda. There were no objections to this application.  |
| 0122/12 | **FINANCE:** 1. To receive and approve the current balance of income and expenditure, together with invoices for payment. Balance sheets were circulated and the following balances and invoices were noted and approved (DD/RT)

 **BALANCES AT HSBC 25/04/2022****BALANCES AT HSBC** Rhayader TC (Precept) £ 52,415.48 Recycling Account £ 55,826.55 (inc Ringfenced balances)Public Toilet Account £ 14,397.68Allotment Account £ 1,503.93 Bryntitli Fund Account £ 18,937.34**Internal Transfers to approve**Transfer from Toilet account to General account re HMRC payments info from Allotments savings to current 643.33 (TR) **Invoices for payment: PRECEPT** Clerk April 2022 time sheet to be approved by DD/LP as per contract (IB)HMRC April 2022 as approved by DD/LP (IB)P Marpole (for info) ground maintenance for town improvements 30.00 (ib) KBS March statement 251.28 (IB) Brighthr 22.14 (DD)M Hird (inv 36 re bike racks) 570.00 (IB)P Walden (inv 18 re bike racks) 530.00 (IB)  **Invoices for payment: TOILETS**JAT (cleaning) excludes HMRC 389.39 (IB) **Invoices for payment: ALLOTMENTS**Raymond T Rees inv 4317 240.00 (IB)Raymond T Rees inv 4318 210.00 (ib) **Invoices for payment: RECYCLING** None**Invoices for payment: BRYNTITLI**None 1. General funding requests received during the 2020-21 year from Wales Air Ambulance/Children’s Air Ambulance, Marie Curie, Tenovus, MacMillan, Hope House, Kid’s Cancer Charity were reviewed Noah’s Ark Children’s Cancer Charity, National Eisteddford. . It was agreed that no awards be made noting that funds be directed to local charities and organisations that directly benefit residents.
2. Fencing QOutes - Llangurig Road Field none (see 0122/07)
3. Laptop upgrade for the new clerk was discussed, the current equipment needed upgrading and programme licences needed renewing. A budget of £800 was agreed. DT to research and make recommendations. Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk delegated to purchase.
 |
| 0122/13 | **GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY and POLICY** 1. Elections. Nominations had been published, the election was uncontested. DT offered to set up email for new members. All were reminded Existing councillors retire 9 May, Newly elected councillors take up office 4 days after date of ordinary elections i.e.9 May. The AGM must take place by 23 May Candidates will need to sign declaration of acceptance of office at or before first meeting. Noted to be an agenda item at the AGM. DT to update email addresses and Website Cllr contacts
2. Recruitment – interviews for the post of Clerk had been completed. The post had been provisionally offered and accepted. The Council approved the recommendation of the interview panel.
 |
| 0122/14 | **CORRESPONDENCE:** To consider the following items of correspondence received before the meeting. The following correspondence was noted having been circulated previously with no comments made at the meeting. * The Correspondence summary was noted.
* views to inform the Auditor General’s future audit work programme for 2022-23 and after.
* Woodland Trust Queen’s Green Canopy initiative “plant a tree for the jubilee”.
* Register a business or organisation to help Ukrainian refugees coming to Wales
* See also 0122/06 - resident correspondence regarding Dark Lane.
* Correspondence had been received about noise from businesses operating on the Old Builders Yard and also enquiring if change of use was required and/or given for the use of the site. KC advised that he was aware of the complaint and that PCC environmental health team were monitoring noise. It was understood by members that the site owners had written to their tenants about the complaints and would also contact nearby neighbouring residents.
 |
| 0122/15 | **COMMUNITY ISSUES, MEMBER DISCUSSIONS**:1. Jubilee projects meeting to be re-arranged by JS.
2. Wood carvings: CW advised that Tilhill would issue an invoice for the timber lengths. RT reported that social media asking for ideas how the timber should be used raised ideas including ‘gateway’ for the castle mound, a structure on North Road roundabout, processing to timber for benches. JN reminded members that the Castle Mound was an ancient monument. It was agreed to contact Jen at Elan Valley Visitors centre for contact details of the person working on a similar project there.
3. Town Wi-fi – Clerk had contacted Powys Digital Towns Business Support Programme (based in Newtown) requesting that a presentation be given to the town Council. Contact details to be passed to RT
4. Oak tree – Green Gardens. Powys had commissioned a tree survey which recommended that the tree be removed on safety grounds (although recognising it ‘is an important local tree and one which is highly visible within the immediate street scene providing some maturity to the landscape’. It was unanimously decided that although the proposed timetable for work was short that Powys CC be asked to get a second opinion before committing to the removal of the tree.
5. A request for a seat by Maes y Brenin had been received. A renovated bench was agreed to be provide from within the existing benches budget.
6. A property at the Weirglodd was on the market, It was agreed to contact the seller to gain an understanding of how this might impact on the access to the pump track.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to County Councillor Kelvyn Curry (standing down at the election) for his help and support to the community, individuals and the Town Council during the past 14years. This was agreed by all. She also thanked Cllr Gill Williams for 28 years of service as a town Councillor and Cllr Jane Narborough for 8 years as a Town Councillor and for her time as Chairman during the Covid-19 pandemic. The proposal was unanimously agreed by all members who also again thanked the Chairman Cllr Lee Price for her commitment to the town Council. It was agreed that the contribution made to community life by all 3 Town Councillors and the County Councillor who would be retiring form civic office would be missed.   |
| 0122/16 | **URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA** to include itemsreceived between the date of this agenda and the date of the meeting and also those proposed to and approved by the Chairman at the start of the meeting: See 1121/12b |
| 0122/17 | **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS ITEMS** *under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (3) it was resolved to exclude members of the public during discussion of the following agenda items: Clerk recruitment discussed as an agenda item, no other issues/no public attending. No items to consider* |
|  | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be the ANNUAL MEETING and will held at **7.00 pm on 23rd MAY2022** at Cwmdauddwr School (subject to remote access arrangements and prevailing COVID-19 restrictions at the time of the meeting). A short Ordinary Meeting will be held at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting to deal with urgent and time limited business.  |
| CLOSE | The meeting closed at 9.18 pm |