

Minutes from the MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at 7.00 pm on 27th September 2022 in the Council Chamber, Cwmdauddwr Community Centre.	
0522/01	<p>ATTENDING: R Thomas (RT) chairing; V. Jones-Davies (VJD); C. Walton (CW); D Lloyd (DL); W Davies (WD); J. Stuart (JS); D. Thomas C Hamer (CH); C. Evans (CE); D O Evans (DOE); Cllr A Davies (AD).</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Ms Lisa Lloyd (LL); David Davies (DD) Acting Clerk: V L Garwood (Clerk)</p> <p>RT opened the meeting at 7.20 pm after the setting up of the new video conference equipment There were no public requests to attend remotely.</p>
0522/02	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Members were requested to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests they may have in matters to be considered at the meeting.</p> <p>Planning: Cllr A Davies - member of PCC Planning Committee. Planning : Cllr. D O Evans - Trustee of Elan Valley Trust – landlord to the applicant.</p>
0522/03	<p>CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil Service and Community Mourning for the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II – the chairman thanked all those who had been involved in implementing Operation London Bridge (OLB) - actions to be taken on the announcement of the death of the Queen. Council representatives had attended two services the first at the Millennium Stones and the Civil Service at the Church. A candle was lit in remembrance and a condolence book was opened for the community. • JS to arrange winding up OLB. VJD to arrange tidying floral tributes. Thanks were given to Reverent Sharpe for his work in the community during recent weeks.
0522/04	<p>MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS: raised since the issue of the agenda. Chairman agreed to consider the following: Removal of recycling banks (CW) Smithfield Parking Sign. (DOE)</p>
0522/05	<p>MINUTES:</p> <p>a) The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 26th July were update 0422/16a to read ‘Chilmark Consultants’ and then approved. (VJD/CH)</p>
0522/06	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0422/06 – Clerk advised that James Little had been contacted for an update on Devil’s Gulch and other Welsh Water works in the Elan Valley but had been advised by him he was no longer the contact and would advise his replacement in due course. • 0422/06 Speedwatch. AD reported that speed monitoring had taken place and seemed to have a deterrent effect – slowing vehicles that could see the monitoring team. A vehicle speed of 46 mph had been recorded by Cwmdauddwr Church. • 0422/09 – CW had been contacted members of the public regarding the uneven pavements on the bridge. The state of pavement surfaces elsewhere had been previously raised with PCC and it was agreed to again advise them of concerns. AD to contact PCC Highways team

Certified as a true record

Date

Chairman: Councillor D Davies _____.

0522/07	<p>COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES and WORKING GROUPS: None reporting formal meetings. A Remembrance Day Working Group had been chaired by DT and plans for the Remembrance Day Ceremony were underway. DT to Contact Mr Fielding to discuss the Cubs delivering Poppies to households.</p> <p>It was noted that there had been no recent meeting of the Smithfield Trust to which the Town Council Representative had been invited. Clerk to contact the Trust for date of the next meeting.</p>
0522/08	<p>INFORMATION AND UP-DATES FROM THE LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER.</p> <p>County Cllr AD had circulated a short report in advance of the meeting and gave an overview of the information contained.</p>
0522/09	<p>PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY ISSUES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Broadband: there had been no additional registrations. No updated. b) Green Gardens Oak Tree: the PCC to Asset transfer the tree and the land in which it is growing to the Town Council for £1.00 in order that RTC assume public liability and insurance for it. This proposal previously rejected was reconsidered. CH proposed no further intervention by RTC and that any action be left to Powys CC' there was no vote and this proposal was withdrawn. A further proposal 'To contact the RTC insurers for an opinion and costs of cover' was proposed by DT. There were 7 votes for the proposal, 2 against and 1 abstention. Proposal carried – contact Insurers and PCC to advice of this.
0522/10	<p>HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS:</p> <p>Highways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Trees and hedges: AD reported that the tree at the Dderw was to be felled in November. Hedges opposite the Caravan park have been cut. CE advise saplings close to Castle Mound seats had grown up and were obscuring the view. AD noted that the trees were the responsibility of Waun-Capel. There was general agreement that RTC had in the past cut back some saplings and hedge areas. VJD to contact Waun-Capel Trust and advice that RTC would arrange for trimming around the seats if the Trust agreed b) Fly Posting and Banners: members did not deem the banners by the leisure centre to be a hazard. AD advised that PCC officers had indicated that they were happy that posters and banners be managed locally. Members noted to check if notices/posters and banners are out of date. c) Noted that some local traders had been advised by PCC that they should not redirect vehicles that are parked according to local regulations or street marking. d) Members were aware of some comments from residents about on road parking of farm vehicles and trailers on market days. CW stated that as a Market Town care should be taken not to discourage activity by over enforcing parking restriction for legitimate customers of the Smithfield on market days except when public safety is compromised. There was general support for action that encouraged the Market to thrive. e) A PCC proposed yellow line review was not supported by members. <p>PCC Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) CAT update: the named contact at MJJ solicitors was advised to members. CE advised that a rider to the conditions attached to the Heads of Terms had been issued by PCC (it was though this was unchangeable). Cllr AD advised that approval by the PCC portfolio holder continued to be on hold until he received the property valuation. CE had received information on utility

	<p>costs for the property from PCC additionally it was confirmed that the Library provision could continue if RTC hosted the service after a CAT to the Town, current library use to be confirmed by PCC. Members noted that there was little current marketing or promotion of the library service.</p> <p>Clock: Smiths had recently serviced the clock and had advised CW that RTC should request that PCC have the clock stripped and cleaned before it is transferred to the Town Council.</p> <p>War Memorial: The Chains around the memorial were to be repainted but it was noted that the chain fixings needed to be improved/changed. AD agreed to contact Art Metal for ideas and contact PCC with proposals to implement.</p> <p>b) Dolgerddon Update: AD reminded members that PCC advised the leaseholder had not broken the lease and as a result no action in respect of breach could be taken.</p>										
0522/11	<p>PUBLICITY and MARKETING:</p> <p>There had been no local reports issued by the Council. It was noted that the improved video conferencing would be promoted to reporters in order that they can access meetings remotely.</p>										
0522/12	<p>PLANNING: the following applications, previously circulated, were discussed.</p> <p>AD and DOE left the meeting 8.20pm</p> <p>22/1058/FUL Installation of 4k solar PV array. Elan Valley Lodge, Elan Valley, Rhayader</p> <p>The comments of the Powys CC Ecologist and Natural Resources Wales were noted along with those of the other statutory consultees. Councillors noted that further information in respect of Built Heritage had been requested. In view of these comments and requests Rhayader Town Council made no decision to either support or object to the application until the requested information had been received. The Council noted however that the visual impact of the proposal might be lessened by the panels being located on a roof rather than at ground level and this would also address some of the issues raised by the ecologist.</p> <p>22/1549/HH: rear and side extension and drive widening. Kinver, Hazelmere Estate, Rhayader. There were no objections</p> <p>AD and DOE returned to the meeting 8.33 pm</p>										
0522/13	<p>FINANCE:</p> <p>a) To receive and approve the current balance of income and expenditure, together with invoices for payment. Members were content to approve the Chairman to sign the finance sheet and invoices as presented (WL/AD)</p> <p>BALANCES AT HSBC 26/09/2022</p> <table> <tr> <td>Rhayader TC (Precept)</td><td>£ 66,595.36</td></tr> <tr> <td>Recycling Account</td><td>£ 54,772.70 (inc Ringfenced balances)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Public Toilet Account</td><td>£ 10,084.94</td></tr> <tr> <td>Allotment Account</td><td>£ 1,106.59</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bryntitli Fund Account</td><td>£ 21,103.15 (inc 08/2022 receipt 14,424.66)</td></tr> </table>	Rhayader TC (Precept)	£ 66,595.36	Recycling Account	£ 54,772.70 (inc Ringfenced balances)	Public Toilet Account	£ 10,084.94	Allotment Account	£ 1,106.59	Bryntitli Fund Account	£ 21,103.15 (inc 08/2022 receipt 14,424.66)
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Internal Transfers to approve

For info From Current Account to Toilet Account 3,000.00 (TR)

Invoices for payment: PRECEPT

Clerk August 2022 time sheet to be approved by DD 616.66 (IB)
 HMRC August 2022 as approved by DD 169.80 (IB)
 Clerk Sept 2022 time sheet to be approved by DD TBA (IB)
 HMRC Sept 2022 as approved by DD TBA (IB)
 HMRC July 2022 as approved by DD 654.98 (IB)

Info Brighthr Aug 22.14 (DD)
 Info Brighthr Sept 22.14 (DD)
 Info Fastnet 115.66 (IB)
 Info Bank to 30/08/22 8.00 (chg)
 Info Bank to 30/07/22 8.00 (chg)

Starboard systems – Scribe Accounting (3183) approved 02/22 582.00 (IB)

Invoices for payment: TOILETS

Info JAT (cleaning August) excludes HMRC for info 413.96 (IB)
 Info JAT (cleaning Sept) excludes HMRC for info 413.96 (IB)
 Info BG aug 13.94 (DD)
 Info BG aug 19.65 (DD)
 Info BG aug 64.34 (DD)
 Info BG sept 14.91 (DD)
 Info BG sept 19.42 (DD)
 Info BG sept 71.04 (DD)
 Info Adcocks 192284 170.93 (IB)
 Info Adcocks 210767/215959 287.86 (IB)
 Info Welsh Water 1,878.70 (IB)
 Info Welsh Water 3020767049 130.68 (DD)
 Info Welsh Water 3021920771 12.43 (DD)
 Info Bank to 30/08/22 8.00 (chg)
 Info Bank to 30/07/22 8.00 (chg)
 PHS inv 95.76 (IB)
 Wayne Powell (799) elec tests 315.00 (IB)

Invoices for payment: ALLOTMENTS

Info Welsh Water 302076729 19.34 (DD)

Invoices for payment: RECYCLING

Info Mogwai Media (220032) (pump track) 222.48 (IB)
 Bank to 05/08//22 8.00 (chg)

Invoices for payment: BRYNTITLI

Bank to 08/07/22 for info 8.00 (chg)
 Bank to 08/08/22 for info 9.00 (chg)

An payment of £60 to Crumptions for a Wreath for OLB was approved for payment – invoice to be forwarded by RT

The payments to Brighthr were discussed. Noted these were within a two year contract and had been maintained in order to access advice that might arise from the CAT of the library and potential TUPE in relation to any payroll/staff issues. CE advised that potential staff transfers were now resolved with PCC and were no longer in the terms of the CAT. It was noted to, with the Chairman, review the need for Brighthr and to review and cancel the contract.

The contracts PHS and Adcocks for the supply of hygiene services, consumables and cleaning material were noted as essential and as such it was agreed that subject to these being correct, within budget and payments agreed by a member of the Toilet Committee, or Chairman/Vice Chairman of the Council these be paid on receipt and reported to the next Council Meeting (CW/WL)

- b) To note applications for community funding: None
- c) External Audit Update– standard audit ongoing. Full Audit - the council was one of the standard listed councils for full audit in 2022 and the accounts, invoices and all requested additional information had been passed to Audit Wales on 8th September. It was assumed that timetable for the review of these documents was as for the standard audit. Audit would return all docs to Llandrindod for collection.
- d) Declaration of payments to members 2021-22: Update – Clerk advised that only one payment had been made during the year (Mayors Expenses) and would be reported by the closing date of 30th September. Members present confirmed that they had all opted out of receipt of payments.
- e) PCC Claim – Video Conference Project – final letters of support were required to complete the claim. RT and JS to chase these and forward urgently.
- f) Banking – HSBC monthly bank charges were noted. Clerk advised that Lloyds could offer free banking to ‘community/not for profit organisations’ but this had a balance cap. The clerk suggested that the RTC current account and the Toilets remain at HSBC at present but the accounts be combined (income and payments for the two budgets would continue to be recorded separately) and new accounts set up with a free banking provider for the smaller allotments, Bryntitli and Recycling Account. CE suggested using the post office for banking (however, no current accounts are available but ‘high street’ banking can be transacted at the post office). Members were advised that mandated signatory members would need to provide information for opening new accounts (full name, date of birth, nationality, month and year moved to current residence), the clerk asked that those agreeing to be bank signatories forward this information.
- g) Electricity – prices increases; supply. The rising cost of electricity was discussed. An agreement with British Gas until 2023 had been made but may now be subject to change. The Clerk advised that Utilities Aid was giving weekly updates about the volatility of the energy market and that currently it appeared no new long term price agreements were being offered.
- h) Register of Members Interests -there was a discussion about this and dispensations (not set at PCC level yet as the first meeting of the committee had been cancelled due to the death of HM Queen Elizabeth). Members took forms to complete.

	<p>i) Council Clerk Vacancy: RT advised that two applicants had shown an interest in the position. RT and DD had been unable to contact applicant 1 but had interviewed applicant 2 who had been offered the position and accepted. It was planned that she join the next meeting.</p> <p>GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY and POLICY:</p> <p>Training Plan – members were reminded that the Council required a training plan to be in place by the end of November. Information from One Voice Wales had been emailed including a template for training needs assessment – to be circulated by email to members to individually complete for the next meeting in order to combine into a single plan.</p> <p>Vacant Seat: Notices for the Co-option to one vacant seat were to be posted on the notice board. A draft Co-option procedure was discussed but not ratified. JS advised the process of co-option previously undertaken had been noted and he would circulate it.</p>
0522/14	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: A summary of the following correspondence was noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Governance: The section 6 biodiversity and ecosystem resilience duty: . The second round of reports are due at the end of this year. AD to lead on a report b) Local Places for Nature – Breaking Barriers 2nd Round A link for more information: Local Places for Nature - Breaking Barriers The National Lottery Heritage Fund c) St David Awards - National awards for Wales: celebrate the aspirations of Wales and its citizens d) Cost of Living Support - The UK Government - Help for Households campaign, draws together information on the support packages in place to help ease the impact of the cost of living crisis. There are 41 schemes available to support citizens, all of which can be found on the Help for Households website a) One Voice Wales - Brecon & Radnor Area Committee will take place at 7pm on Thursday 6th October at the Strand, Builth Wells. b) Welsh Government – Diversity events planned 5 and 7 December (venues to be confirmed) c) Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales - Community Review Guidance You can find the updated Guidance, an Easy Read version, and a video explaining Communities, on the Commission's website.
0522/15	<p>COMMUNITY ISSUES, MEMBER DISCUSSIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bryntitil Fund to open in October for applications to consider in December. JS to forward reviewed and updated funding.
0522/16	<p>URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA to include items received 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of Recycling banks: PCC had advised that local recycling banks would no longer be operated by the Council, people could use household recycling or take items to the larger Recycling Centres, the nearest being in Llandrindod Wells. Noted that although a small

	<p>payment the loss of local recycling would also stop a payment to the Town Council. CW had spoken with the PCC contracted commercial operators of the local recycling sites and advised that local agreements may be negotiated. CW to further investigate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smithfield Parking Sign. DOE advised that this needs repair. A budget of £150 was agreed and CE/VJD to commission local repair. • Request to purchase land – a solicitors letter had been received proposing the Council sell of a strip of land in North Road. This would facilitate a change of access route to privately owned ground beyond the allotments. It was noted that access already existed from the highway to the land. It was agreed by members that the Council had no wish to sell land at this time.
0522/17	<p>EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS ITEMS <i>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</i></p>
0522/18	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on 25th October 2022, The meeting will be held at Cwmdauddwr School (subject to remote access arrangements and prevailing COVID-19 restrictions at the time of the meeting).</p>
CLOSE	<p>The meeting closed at 9.55 pm</p>

Action Points

- AD to contact PCC Highways team
- DT to Contact Mr Fielding to discuss the Cubs delivering Poppies to households.
- Smithfield Clerk to contact the Trust for date of the next meeting.
- Oak Tree – contact Insurers and PCC to advice of this.
- VJD to contact Waun-Capel Trust and advice that RTC would arrange for trimming around the seats if the Trust agreed
- Members noted to check if notices/posters and banners are out of date.
- AD agreed to contact Art Metal for ideas and contact PCC with proposals to implement.
- Brighthr - It was noted to, with the Chairman, review the need for Brighthr and to review and cancel the contract.
- Video Conferencing Project - letters of support were required to complete the claim. RT and JS to chase these and forward urgently.
- Register of Members Interests - Members took forms to complete and return to Clerk
- Banking – research Post office banking option. Begin account opening enquiries.
- Training Plan – members were reminded that the Council required a training plan to be in place by the end of November. Information from One Voice Wales had been emailed including a template for training needs assessment – to be circulated by email to members to individually complete for the next meeting in order to combine into a single plan.
- JS to circulate process of co-option
- The section 6 biodiversity and ecosystem resilience duty: . The second round of reports are due at the end of this year. AD to lead on a report
- Local contract for recycling - CW to further investigate.
- Smithfield Parking Sign - A budget of £150 was agreed and CE/VJD to commission local repair.
- JS to forward reviewed and updated funding.

Certified as a true record

Chairman: Councillor D Davies _____.

Date _____

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