

Minutes from the MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at: 7.00 pm on the 18th April 2023 in the Council Chamber, Cwmdauddwr Community Centre.	
1222/01	<p>The ordinary meeting opened at 7.10pm</p> <p>ATTENDING: D. Davies (DD) Chairing. Cllrs. A. Davies (AD); V. Jones-Davies (VJD); C. Walton (CW); J. Stuart (JS); D. Lloyd (DL); D.O. Evans (DOE); R. Thomas (RT); C. Evans; K. Cronin (KC); W. Davies (WD); L. Lloyd (LL); Finance Officer V. Garwood (VLG) and J. Stephens (Clerk)</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Cllrs D. Thomas and C. Hamer</p> <p>There were no public requests to attend.</p>
1222/02	<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. RT,CE,AD,CW,DOE and DD declared an interest in Planning items 1222/12</p>
1222/03	<p>CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> This is the last meeting with DD as Chair. Following comments made last month, DD posed the question “ Why are we all here as Town Councillors?” he felt everyone should be there to pull in the same direction, taking action to benefit the town, help residents and make the town a better place. All Cllrs need to be on board with this collective view, it was noted some comments made last month did not appear to support this. DD re-iterated the need for Cllrs to put their efforts into the Councils Plans, that’s what Cllrs sign up to when standing. JS shared a Facebook memory showing the Cllrs of that time refurbishing the toilets, everyone was present. This was a timely reminder of what could be achieved when everyone pulled together. CE noted that a lot of work is taking place within the Sub-committees which was positive. DD hoped these committees made the best use of peoples strengths. LL felt that if a Cllr took on a specific role, they should commit to that role until the AGM. AD congratulated DD on raising what could be a delicate subject; Cllrs may have differing ideas on what the role entails so it should be made very clear of expectations. AD asked Cllrs not say they are “too busy”. Everyone is busy but volunteers their time as there is a clear commitment to engage with the work of a Cllr, not just attendance at a monthly meeting. AD felt everyone should sit on one Sub-committee. VJD asked that attendance figures are published. CW echoed AD’s comments, everyone leads busy lives and has a heavy workload; it’s important to look forward, to make time and be pro-active. DD summed up by asking everyone to take this on board moving forward.
1222/04	<p>MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS: raised since the issue of the agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> AD: Emma Coates fundraising publicity (see item 1222/11b), Cwmdauddwr Car Park Noticeboard (see item 1222/16d) and enquiry re the Allotment Field (see item 1222/16e) Clerk: Climate and Nature Conference invitation, Invitation from CARAD and PCC Quarterly Town and Community Council Meeting (see items 1222/16 a, b, c)
1222/05	<p>MINUTES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 21st March 2023 were approved.
1222/06	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> DOE asked if it were possible for members of the public to attend meetings remotely. People can do this via Teams if requested in advance so they can be sent a link, but the current technology does not allow for live access in the same way as PCC meetings. Clerk to ensure Agendas are published via the noticeboards

	<p>b) LL advised Trish Buchan has retired from Powys Teaching Health Board</p> <p>c) Freedom Leisure: noted that Theresa is off ill. CE advised she had been made aware of quotes of up to £300 from FL for the hire of the Venue which is putting people off. It was noted figures had finally been made available but were questioned. Clerk to set up a User Meeting with FL and other interested parties. It was noted PCC had commissioned the Leisure review. Clerk to contact David Selby to repeat request for details of the scope of the review. JS explained there was still no response to the Freedom of Information requests from PCC</p> <p>d) Community Awards Event: carry forward to May. Clerk to add to the Agenda</p> <p>e) GP Vacancy: waiting for revised advert from Jane Jones. Clerk to share and send to K Compton to publicise when received</p> <p>f) Insurance for Trustees: Clerk advised the Smithfield Trust will be calling a meeting to discuss further.</p> <p>g) AD advised the query re grazing rights had been rescinded at the request of CH</p> <p>h) IT: Clerk to continue to liaise with Keith Fielding to organise a date for setting up the IT equipment correctly. DL offered to carry out the work if not convenient for KF</p> <p>i) Asset List: work is ongoing, thanks to VJD and RT for help so far. Clerk to continue to update the list</p> <p>j) PAVO: Clerk to rearrange presentation for the May meeting</p>
1222/07	<p>COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES and WORKING GROUPS:</p> <p>a) Minutes from the Allotment Committee Meeting held on the 21st March 2023 were approved.</p> <p>b) Minutes from the Asset Committee Meeting held on the 7th March 2023 were approved.</p>
1222/08	<p>INFORMATION AND UP-DATES FROM THE LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER.</p> <p>See attached notes with updates from Cllr. Davies</p> <p>AD passed on congratulations to the Elan Valley Social Club for organising the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Disaster walking and running event which raised £2,500 for the emergency fund</p>
1222/09	<p>PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY ISSUES</p> <p>a) Library: CE shared concerns regarding the MoU and felt it should be returned to PCC with a list of questions and queries rather than attempt to amend it. It appears the MoU is trying to cover legal as well as operational issues. LL and CE felt there should probably be Three documents; A Legal “Contract” of sale, a Legal “Licence” and then the MoU which is purely operational and subject to change by both parties. RT and AD both felt the MoU needs to better represent the interests of RTC. CE, need to go back to the Legal Department with queries and concerns, need to clarify the situation re TUPE. DD suggested AD might be able to set up a meeting with relevant department at PCC. Catherine from the Library Service is still expecting a meeting to discuss the MoU. CE to take forward with support from LL, AD and the Clerk as required.</p> <p>b) Coronation Plans: AD reiterated proposed plans to include: A Treasure Hunt in shop windows organised by the Arches, The Picnic in The Park at the Groe on Saturday, a Civic Church Service on Sunday morning, a free concert by the Rhayader Players at the Leisure Centre on the Sunday evening funded by RTC and a Big Help Out at Waun Capel on Monday. The Park are paying for a Skip for all the rubbish, The Fire Service are helping to put up Flags. VJD to ask AI to share the information on Facebook. The Triangle are providing the Bar which is being run by volunteers from the Groe Trust. JS keen to organise a small “Commemorative Garden” using Bulbs and Bedding Plants for children to plant up. Mugs have been delivered to the School. Mugs to be made available to children of Primary School age who do not attend school. Clerk to let the school know and circulate notices</p> <p>c) Weirglodd Plans: DD shared news on the potential developments of the site. Referred back to plans, designs and business case prepared prior to Covid including a Facilities Hub and 3G All Weather Pitch. Covid prevented progress although the Pump Track has opened. DD explained James Evans has raised the subject at the Senedd with Rhayader named specifically as centre</p>

	<p>for Grass Roots Sports. DD met Sports Wales, they are keen on both plans. DD has a meeting booked with the Sports Association to discuss further and will then implement a feasibility study. It was noted PCC are not willing to discuss a transfer for this site until the CAT's for the Library, War Memorial and Dolgerdden Gardens are complete. The Rugby Club are keen to hand over responsibility. JS complimented the design but suggested someone contact the planning department to discuss the plans so any potential concerns are highlighted, particularly with regards access given the concerns raised with the Pump Track. CE noted the site is already in use as a sports venue without access issues. CE proposed RTC support the plans, RT seconded. AD congratulated DD on his work. JS noted another organisation is interested in taking on the building and to bear this in mind. CE suggested a discussion with the Rugby Club to see if RTC could take on the lease in the short term. CE asked for clarification on the group leading the bid, DD confirmed it would be the Sports Association.</p> <p>d) AGM Plans: AD asked for details of Sub-committees and current roles in advance of the meeting. Need to be clear on who will be the point of contact for Welsh enquiries. Clerk to circulate information.</p>
1222/10	<p>HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS:</p> <p>Highways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) AD has raised the issue of the Pothole and requested the services of the Gully Cleaner. b) JS asked AD to request PCC close the Rubbish Bins after emptying. AD to action c) AD is currently engaging with PCC Refuse and Recycling. Rhayader should never miss a bin pick up given the refuse team are in Rhayader 4 times a day, every day. d) CE asked for clarification on payment for the repairs to Llangurig Road. AD advised Welsh Gov are paying but has asked for confirmation that it is recharged to the Wind Farm. <p>PCC Matters None</p>
1222/11	<p>PUBLICITY and EVENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Clerk to share the Coronation Plans with Karen Compton. b) AD asked that everyone shares the information on the series of planned fund raising events organised by Emma Coates starting with the "FanZone" on the 13th May. All Cllrs to note
1222/12	<p>PLANNING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 23/0421/HH: Bank House, East Street, LD6 5DL; replacement of defective timber sash windows with UPVC sash windows. RT,CE,AD,CW,DOE and DD declared an interest and left the room, JS stood in as Chair. No objections were raised. Cllrs returned to the room Clerk to notify Planning. b. Pre-planning information for the Telecoms Mast was discussed, Clerk confirmed the Cllrs comments had been noted. Agreed to leave until such times as a formal planning application is lodged.
1222/13	<p>FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE: Presented by VLG</p> <p>VLG explained she is exploring quotes from other utility providers to try and reduce costs.</p> <p>HSBC Account balances and payments as at 18/4/2023 to be approved</p> <p>A bank reconciliation was circulated. It noted the following cash in hand per Bank Statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.00 Petty Cash 52,044.49 Recycling 0.01 Allotment SAVING 19,463.15 Bryntitli 728.57 Allotment A/C 9,978.14 Toilet A/C 53,552.34 Current (precept a/c)

	<p>The balances supported by bank statements were approved along with the following payments (RT/DD):</p> <p><u>Receipts</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>23/03 PCC Covid Grant</td><td>5,658.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>06/04 Ecclesiastical Ins</td><td>417.92</td></tr> <tr> <td>11/04 PCC Recycling</td><td>36.78</td></tr> </table> <p><u>Internal Transfers to approve:</u> From current account to the toilet account</p> <table> <tr> <td>Insurance claim</td><td>417.92</td></tr> <tr> <td>PCC Covid Grant</td><td>5,658.00</td></tr> </table> <p><u>Invoices for payment: PRECEPT</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Clerk Apr 2023 time sheet to be approved by DD</td><td>TBA (IB)</td></tr> <tr> <td>HMRC Apr 2023 as approved by DD</td><td>TBA (IB)</td></tr> <tr> <td>RFO Apr 2023 time sheet to be approved by DD</td><td>TBA (IB)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Office Solutions Wales inv 2823</td><td>77.72 (IB)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Data protection</td><td>40.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>One Voice Wales annual subscription</td><td>432.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>PCC -trade waste Inv 20148188</td><td>80.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>P Marpole March 2023</td><td>70.00</td></tr> </table> <p><u>TOILETS - Invoices for payment:</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Info JAT (cleaning April) excludes HMRC</td><td>413.96 (IB)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Adcocks Inv 228850</td><td>158.18</td></tr> <tr> <td>For info Brit gas HYB</td><td>14.91</td></tr> <tr> <td>For info Brit Gas Dark Lane</td><td>23.44</td></tr> <tr> <td>For info Brit Gas Dark Lane</td><td>120.82 CREDIT</td></tr> <tr> <td>For Info Brit Gas Triangle</td><td>28.23</td></tr> <tr> <td>Wayne Powell Electrical</td><td>102.00</td></tr> </table> <p><u>ALLOTMENTS - Invoices for payment: NONE</u></p> <p><u>RECYCLING - Invoices for payment: NONE</u></p> <p><u>BRYNTITLI - Invoices for payment: NONE</u></p> <p>GOVERNANCE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> CE asked for information showing how much of the Precept for the last financial year was spent. VLG to provide details and breakdown DD: in line with annual pay awards, salaries should be increased for the Cleaner. Carry out a 6 monthly review for Clerk. DD and VLG to organise It was confirmed £1,000 had been budgeted for the Coronation Plans Application for a general donation from Wales Air Ambulance was discussed. Agreed to award £100 (AD/VJD) VLG to arrange payment 	23/03 PCC Covid Grant	5,658.00	06/04 Ecclesiastical Ins	417.92	11/04 PCC Recycling	36.78	Insurance claim	417.92	PCC Covid Grant	5,658.00	Clerk Apr 2023 time sheet to be approved by DD	TBA (IB)	HMRC Apr 2023 as approved by DD	TBA (IB)	RFO Apr 2023 time sheet to be approved by DD	TBA (IB)	Office Solutions Wales inv 2823	77.72 (IB)	Data protection	40.00	One Voice Wales annual subscription	432.00	PCC -trade waste Inv 20148188	80.00	P Marpole March 2023	70.00	Info JAT (cleaning April) excludes HMRC	413.96 (IB)	Adcocks Inv 228850	158.18	For info Brit gas HYB	14.91	For info Brit Gas Dark Lane	23.44	For info Brit Gas Dark Lane	120.82 CREDIT	For Info Brit Gas Triangle	28.23	Wayne Powell Electrical	102.00
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1222/14	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>Correspondence received via email has been circulated and is summarised in the Correspondence List.</p>																																								
1222/15	<p>COMMUNITY ISSUES AND MEMBER DISCUSSIONS: None raised</p>																																								
1222/16	<p>URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA to include items received between the date of the agenda and the date of the meeting and also those proposed to and approved by the Chairman at the start of the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk asked who will represent RTC at the Climate and Nature Emergency Conference in Llandrindod Wells on the 14th June. RT to attend, Clerk to notify PCC 																																								

	<p>b. Clerk shared an invitation from CARAD to attend their Free Family Fun Day on the 22nd April. The Mayor is unable to attend, some Cllrs may attend with their families. Clerk to respond to CARAD</p> <p>c. Clerk reminded Cllrs. of the PCC Quarterly Town and Community Council Meeting scheduled for the 27th April at 6pm</p> <p>d. It was noted the noticeboard in the Cwmdauddwr Car Park needed replacement. CW and VJD to action.</p> <p>e. AD: A request has been received to graze the North Road Allotment Field. Currently unable to rent it out due to the poor condition of the fence. It is believed the fence sits on land currently going through probate. JS was concerned that the land will become overgrown if not grazed. CE suggested a letter be sent to the executors of the estate re the fencing and highlight the current issues re loss of income and danger of stock escaping onto the road. Clerk to write a letter with support from CE</p>
1222/17	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:</i> None discussed
1222/18	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be the AGM on Monday 22nd May 2023 followed by the Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 23rd May 2023 at Cwmdauddwr School
CLOSE	The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Action Points carried forward from previous meetings:

- Town Clock/ War Memorial: CW to continue to discuss possible works on the posts
- Outstanding Training Needs Assessment and Members Interest Forms to be sent to VLG

Action points from April meeting:

- Leisure Centre: Clerk to set up a User Group Meeting
- Leisure Centre Review: Clerk to contact David Selby again for details of Scope of the review
- Community Awards Event: KC to put together a proposal for consideration. Clerk to add to the Agenda
- GP vacancy: Clerk to ask for a copy of the advert and ask Karen Compton to help publicise
- IT, Teams issue: Clerk to contact Keith Fielding to ask him to set up properly or ask DL to assist if KF unable to
- Asset List: Clerk to continue to update the list
- Presentation at next meeting: Clerk to contact PAVO
- Library MoU: CE to progress with support from LL, AD and Clerk as required
- VJD to ask AI to share details of Coronation plans on Facebook
- Mugs: Clerk to contact school and circulate notices re availability of Mugs for children not attending school
- AGM: Clerk to circulate details of Sub-committees and Councillors roles, prior to AGM
- Welsh Language: Clerk to circulate details of Welsh Language requirements
- Rubbish Bins: AD to ask PCC to ensure bins are closed after emptying
- Coronation Plans: Clerk to share details of plans with Karen Compton
- Planning application, Clerk to notify planning department there were no objections
- 2022-23 Precept: VLG to provide information and breakdown of year-end figures
- Salary review: DD and VLG to arrange to review Salaries
- Welsh Air Ambulance donation request; VLG to organise payment of £100
- Climate and Nature Conference: Clerk to notify PCC RT will attend
- CARAD Family Day: Clerk to advise CARAD Mayor is unable to attend but some Cllrs may attend with families
- Notice board: CW and VJD to organise replacement of Cwmdauddwr Car Park Noticeboard
- Allotment Field: Clerk to write to estate executors re field boundaries