

20.8.19

## RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2019 AT 7.00PM AT THE OLD SCHOOL CWMDAUDDWR

#### THOSE PRESENT

Chairman	Councillor J. Stuart				
Councillors	D. Thomas	L. Price	C. Evans	R. Thomas	W Davies
	A. Davies	D.O. Evans	C. Walton	J. Narborough	
				V. Jones-Davies	

#### 1. APOLOGIES: Cllr. G. Williams, D. Davies, J. Jones and K. Curry

##### 1a. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chair Cllr. J. Stuart attended and started the local Tractor Run which was very well attended.
- Chair Cllr. J. Stuart, Cllr. V. Jones-Davies and Clerk Julie Davies presented a crystal vase to the winner of the Best Kept Garden to Margaret and Tony Jones, Cae Glas, Rhayader. Dave Holt from Midway Garden Centre, Penybont was also present and gave the couple a gift of a small tree. Photographs were taken for the local paper.

##### 1b. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS

- War memorial
- Triangular Signs on Post
- Water Pressure

#### 2. MINUTES TO BE AGREED

Agreed

#### 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Benches – Cllr. C. Walton spoke to Ellie regarding moving some of the benches in town to different locations. New locations include Lions Yard, Cwmdauddwr, and Smithfield.  
**Action** – Cllr. C. Walton to pursue with Ellie the moving of the benches  
**Action** - Cllr. J. Stuart is to update Council on the benches bought last year for Remembrance Day after speaking to Nick Buchan.
- Closure of the Bridleway at Devil's Gulch.  
**Action** – Clerk to keep Council updated on progress of work at Devil's Gulch.
- Rights of Way on Camp site for walkers.  
Cllr. C. Evans proposed that the Clerk contact PCC regarding retaining the rights, (which have been available to the public for 60 years), to use the walkway along the river. This was seconded by Cllr. A. Davies.  
**Action** – Clerk to contact PCC regarding retaining the rights to use the walkway by the river.  
**Action** - Cllr. C. Evans and Cllr. D. Evans to provide maps of the walkway to support Clerks letter to PCC.

#### 4: REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

None

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Chairman Councillor J. Stuart

Date .....

## 5: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 8.1 Cllr. V. Jones-Davies

## 6: AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 BT removal of public telephone boxes in and around Rhayader – Discussion on use of public phone boxes in the area took place. Figures stating the use of each phone box in a 12-month period were examined. While use was low, it was deemed that removal of the phone boxes would provide risks of not being able to make emergency calls and a greater risk to individual health and safety in the area. Very poor mobile phone signal (none in some areas) in and around the Elan Valley would suggest that the public phone boxes are a necessity in an emergency and for day to day communications.

The 4 phone boxes at risk of being removed are situated in Llanerchcawr, Claerwen Valley, Penygarreg (Elan Valley), and East Street, Rhayader Town.

**Action** – Clerk to send letter to PCC regarding RTC concerns in removal of the phone boxes.

6.2 Parish Pound, Rhayader – The condition of the Parish Pound in Rhayader was discussed. If repaired and maintained there could be a use for the pound.

**Action** – Cllr. C. Walton suggested obtaining quotes for work to be done on the pound with a view to include raising the pounds roof. Before this can happen a list of work required on the pound needs to be compiled. Asset and Project Management Sub-Committee chaired by Cllr. C. Walton will compile the list.

6.3 Handy Person for odd jobs around Rhayader and Cwmdauddwr – The frequency of the work that is required by a handy Person during a year was discussed by Council. It was suggested that a diary of work covering a 12-month period be compiled, and the work then put out to tender to get local contractors involved in work in the town.

**Action** – Cllr. C. Walton to compile a diary from Jan-Dec of all the jobs that required in this period, with a view to the work being contracted out for completion.

6.4 Cwmdauddwr Car Park – Cllr. V. Jones-Davies brought to Councils attention the condition of Cwmdauddwr Car Park. It requires weeding and a general tidy up. Cllr. C. Evans proposed that we get this work done, seconded by Cllr. A. Davies. Contact Mr. Bean for a quote for the work.

**Action** – Clerk to send a letter to Mr. Bean asking for a quote to complete the work.

6.5 Parking in Brynheulog, Rhayader – A discussion took place on parking in general in Rhayader. Maesyderi car parking is the focus of work by PCC at present.

**Action** – Clerk to contact PCC and speak to those involved in the work due to take place in the car park at Maesyderi, to see if there are any plans for Brynheulog. Report back to Council at next meeting.

6.6 Bryntitli Fund – Discussion took place on how to allocate the fund this year. It was proposed by Cllr. C. Walton that application procedure be the same as in previous years. Seconded by Cllr. L. Price.

6.7 Rhayader Road Signs – After a brief discussion, Cllr. C. Walton suggested that we go no further with the purchase of new road signs but contact PCC (Highways) and ask them to maintain and repair the signs that are there now. Cllr. C. Evan suggested that we send photographic evidence of the current condition of the road signs.

**Action** – Clerk to contact PCC Highways to report condition of road signs and request repair and maintenance of the signs.

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6.8 Cambrian Mountain Map – Cllr. R. Thomas informed us that a new map will be printed in the New Year.

6.9 Email/Council Web Page/I.T. issues – RTC new email address is ready to go live (@rhayader.gov.wales) costing £1.86 a month through HOST. Cllr. D. Thomas proposed we pay the monthly fee. Seconded by Cllr. R. Thomas. Agreed by Council.

The website is a work in progress, with a view to be completed by the end of September 2019. Cllr. D. Thomas will be working on this and would like Councillors to suggest what they would like on the site, along with the contractual and legal obligations in providing public access to minutes, agenda's, reports etc. Councillors to contact him directly with ideas.

It was agreed by all Councillors to write to Mr K Fielding, who has been providing I.T services for RTC for several years and thank him for the work he has done in the past to support RTC.

**Action** -Clerk to send letter to Mr. K. Fielding to thank him for previously helping to create RTC website, and for I.T. support he has given RTC over the years.

6.10 Grass Cutting – Council would like to meet with PCC to discuss grass cutting in Rhayader and Cwmdauddwr.

**Action** – Clerk to arrange meeting with PCC and representatives of RTC to discuss grass cutting in Rhayader and Cwmdauddwr.

Cllr. C. Walton announced that the Council lawnmower is almost ready to use, just needs a little fine tuning.

6.11 Martin's Way.

**Action** – Clerk to keep Council informed on this item and to pursue Martins Way further with PCC.

6.12 Clerks Role/ Development Officer – Cllr. C. Walton suggested a separate meeting is required for this item.

6.13 Pump Track Update – Cllr. R. Thomas stated that Pump Track is near completion. There is however an issue with containment and a fence is required around the track. Cllr. R. Thomas would like to request that RTC fund the building of the fence.

Agreed in principal by Council pending costing from Cllr. R. Thomas who will investigate this further and report back at the next Council meeting.

Invitations have gone out for the opening of the pump track which is on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019.

**Action** – Cllr. R. Thomas to investigate costs for building a fence around new pump track.

**Action** – Cllr. R. Thomas to make enquiries about extra litter bins at the pump track.

6.14 Cricket Pavilion and Pitch Update – Discussion took place on CAT application in order to continue with RTC intentions to purchase the Cricket Pavilion and Pitch from PCC.

**Action** – Cllr. C. Evans to draft CAT to pursue this interest in the future.

6.15 Dolgerddon Update – Discussion took place regarding Dolgerddon and its present condition. RTC have been given limited information on the status of the building. Contact is to be made with PCC asking for a FOI (Freedom of Information) request for RTC to have access to information and correspondence regarding Dolgerddon Hall.

**Action** – Clerk to write to PCC requesting FOI (Freedom of Information) for all correspondence since transaction of the lease with the lease holder, all correspondence with insurer, builder, builder's insurance, and all PCC correspondence to date.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 Ventient Energy – Information for Bryntitli Site Visit 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019

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7.2 PCC - Reply regarding Cricket Pavilion and Pitch (linked to item 6.14 on main agenda)

7.3 CARAD – Precept Payment Acknowledgment

7.4 Police and Crime Commissioners Annual Report. Council acknowledged receipt of the report.

## **7A. LATE CORRESPONDANCE**

7.1A Causes for Concern – An anonymous letter sent to RTC listing several local concerns, was minuted. Letter arrived too late to be circulated to Council before meeting.

**Action** – Clerk to circulate copy of letter after the meeting.

## **8. PLANNING**

8.1 Removal of Trees – The Bell, Triangle, Cwmdauddwr, Rhayader. Cllr. V. Jones-Davies left the room. Cllr. C. Walton suggested we approve this planning application in its entirety, seconded by Cllr. A. Davies. Full approval given by Council.

**Action** – Clerk to inform planning of Council approval to planning application

## **9. FINANCE**

9.1 VAT Claim – second of two claims this year being compiled for claiming VAT in September. Noted

9.2 Account Balance information circulated to Council. Totals discussed and agreed by Council

## **10. URGENT BUSINESS**

10.1 War Memorial Meeting 11.9.19 Cllr. J. Narborough and Clerk to attend and report back to Council

10.2 Triangular Signs on Posts. These signs are out of date and damaged. R2000 are responsible for signs.

**Action** - Cllr. R. Thomas and Cllr. J. Narborough to discuss at the next R2000 meeting. If necessary, Clerk will send a letter to request removal of signs if required.

10.3 Water Pressure in the area – Cllr. C. Walton presented a letter he had received regarding water supply to properties in St. Harmon Road. Discussion took place about water supply and water pressure in general across Rhayader, the local school being affected by low water pressure for some time.

**Action** – Clerk to write to Welsh Water with concerns, and to put Welsh Water telephone number on Council Facebook page for public to register complaints

## **11. PRESS RELEASE**

Angling at local Caravan Park. Cllr. J. Stuart to assist Clerk in the press release.

## **12. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Land Registry

Dolgerddon Freedom of Information Update

Bridleway at Devils Gulch Update

I.T/Email/Website Update

## **13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next monthly meeting will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

The meeting closed at p.m. 9.30pm

Julie Davies

Clerk

**Certified as a true record .....**

**Chairman Councillor J. Stuart**

**Date .....**