

21st May 2019

RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21st MAY 2019 AT 6.30PM
SPEAKER – Dafydd Wyn Morgan – Cambrian Mountains

Dafydd started his presentation by thanking Rhayader Town Council for contributing and support for the Cambrian Mountains Map 2018.

Forty companies have expressed an interest in adding their name to a second edition of the map, but that will be down to resources. There is a digital version of the Cambrian Mountains Map on their website.

Project Cambrian has run for 2 years and will finish at the end of 2019. A series of events were arranged to discuss the production of a map to promote the Cambrian Mountains destinations. Official status was the aim and this project has paved the way for this to happen, Dafydd informed Councillors.

Therefore signage, labels, and packaging on local produce, is important getting the Cambrian Mountains out there in the future. Logo's are very important on packaging, as tourist are more likely to buy local produce. Six Dark Sky Discovery Sites have been identified, and six communities have been given Dark Sky Status, one being the Elan Valley. At these sites you can see the Milky Way and Uranus with the naked eye, this is the criteria for Dark Sky Status.

Legs 11 - walking routes that have been established in the area, Rhayader has one of these routes.

There is a report on suggested recommendations for the Rhayader area, which the Council will receive a copy soon.

Cllr. C. Walton asked if there would be national park status for the Cambrian Mountain area? Dafydd stated that idea has come to an end, however there could be something based on an idea used in France called Parc Naturels. There are currently feasibility studies taken place into what landscape status best fits the Cambrian Mountains.

THOSE PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor J. Stuart

Councillors: J. Narborough D. Davies A. Davies V. Jones-Davies J. Jones
C. Walton G. Williams

Observer: County Cllr. K. Curry

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs. R. Thomas, L. Price, D. Thomas, D. Evans, C. Evans and W. Davies

1a. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Chairman announcements this month

1b. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS

- Rhayader 2000
- The Old Mill, Rhayader
- Website
- Road Signs

2. MINUTES TO BE AGREED

- Minutes of Rhayader Town Council AGM May 2019 - Agreed
- Minutes of Rhayader Town Council April Meeting 2019 – Agreed

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3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- St. Harmon Road Safety – Cllr. K. Curry stated work is to be done but due to finances this may not take place until 20/21. However, work is being done to find alternative funding which means the work could be take place sooner.
- Gullies and Gutters require further cleaning.
Action – Clerk to contact PCC requesting road sweeper, and further cleaning of gullies and gutters.
- Dolgerddon - Lease holder has agreed to reinstate the building. Several complaints have been raised about the current height and safety of the trees on the Dolgerddon site. If it is agreed with the lease holder, then PCC will carry out the work.
- Problem with sewage pipes in Dark Lane from Catholic Church up to the Vicarage. Council made aware of the issue which requires further investigation by PCC.

4. REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

- Cllr. A. Davies referred to the School Report regarding the under 5's and school budget. The main concern for the school is the budget, and the under 5's still have nowhere to go which is also a concern at present.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Item 6.9 Cllr. C. Walton

6 AGENDA ITEMS

- 6.1 Ladies OVO Bike Race 14th June 2019 – Stage 5 of the race is from Llandrindod Wells to Builth Wells coming through Rhayader. Colour for the tour is green with some pink as to raise awareness of Breast Cancer.
Action – Clerk to contact organisers for Tour Pack to promote the race in Rhayader
- 6.2 Maintenance of Town Benches – Cllr. V. Jones-Davies expressed concern over the condition of the town's benches. It was suggested the benches be upgraded and completely refurbished. There are no spare benches in storage.
Cllr. J. Stuart revisited the idea of employing a town handy person, as this would form part of their work. Further discussion required on this issue.
It was proposed by Cllr. D. Davies to go to tender to complete work on the benches. This was seconded by Cllr. V. Jones-Davies.
Action – Cllr. V. Jones-Davies to provide Clerk with description of what is required to get the benches back to an acceptable state, and Clerk to advertise locally to get the work done.
- 6.3 Pupil Consultation Meeting 22.5.19 – Reminder of the meeting and time of 2.30pm
- 6.4 Penralley House, Traffic on South Street – Cllr. K. Curry informed RTC that the matter is in hand.
Action – Clerk to reply to letter received as noted by RTC.
- 6.5 Rhayader Under 5's Seeking New Venue – Options for new venue were highlighted in previous Council meeting. Both Cricket Club and Junior Football Club are happy for the under 5's to use the pavilion. Time and funding restraints may be a problem.
Action – Cllr. D. Davies to find out who owns the building to aid negotiations.

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- 6.6 Youth Ambassador, Role and Contribution to RTC and the Community – Cllr. J. Stuart and Cllr. A. Davies met with Luke Nichols to discuss the role of Youth Ambassador to Rhayader Town Council and its Community. This is a pilot study with a view to Luke engaging with youngsters and making people and Council aware of what young people need in our area. Luke will report back to Council after he has met with 3 groups that he knows, finding out what they need, where could they go, promoting the MUGA etc.
- 6.7 A Place for Sport – Funding Opportunity – This item raised concern about grants and funding and the Clerks role in this area of work.
Action – Clerk to contact Tim Davies, PAVO, and invite him to talk to Council on the issues around applying for grants and funding.
- 6.8 Advert for Plumber and Painter Project at Rhayader Cemetery – Clerk informed Council that the advert had been displayed in various places and the deadline had gone with no interest shown in the work.
It was proposed by Cllr. G. Williams that the Toilet Committee approach tradesmen they know in town with a view to getting the work done. Seconded by Cllr. D. Davies.
- 6.9 Wyeseid Caravan Park Update – Work at the site seems to be at a standstill. Concerns have been raised by Anglers Association who couldn't fish off the banks.
Action – Clerk to write to Caravan and Camping Club asking for a progress report.
- 6.10 Grass Cutting Update – Cllr. G. Williams raised that there are concerns about the state of the roadside verges in town, and the number of weeds that are about the town. The grass cutting is of poor standard.
Action – Clerk to Invite PCC operative to a forthcoming meeting to discuss these issues.
- 6.11 Bike Park Update – Cllr. C. Walton informed Council that the contract to do the work has been given, the Ecologist Report has gone in to Planning. Park layout diagrams were passed round to Council showing that the park layout is of an exceptional standard. Work due to start in June 2019 and hopefully finished by August 2019. Grant money arriving soon.
- 6.12 3G Update – Cllr. D. Davies informed Council that the feasibility study, lease and planning work are all in hand.
- 6.13 Library Update – Agenda item for next meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence this month

8. PLANNING

No Planning this month

9. FINANCE

9.1 RTC Audit – Clerk informs Council that audit is ongoing, accounts are now with internal auditor

9.2 Bike Park Grant – In hand

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10. URGENT BUSINESS

10.1 Dolgerddon Update – Cllr. K. Curry reiterated what had been said earlier in the meeting and stated the work on the building will take time. There are legal options PCC can peruse, while doing this the building will be left as it is.

There was a site visit to look at the trees on the Dolgerddon land a few weeks ago. PCC will cut them if lease holder agrees.

10.2 Rhayader 2000 – Charitable Status. It was resolved that the Clerk would write to Rhayader 2000 showing support in them becoming a charity.

Action – Clerk to write to Rhayader 2000

10.3 Mayor's Chain needs repairing. Chair Cllr. J. Stuart to take to jewellers to be repaired. – Proposed by Cllr. D. Davies that the chain be repaired. Seconded by Cllr. G. Williams. Agreed by Council.

10.4 Cambrian Mountain Signs. RTC agreed to put small Cambrian Mountain signs on the new Welcome to Rhayader signs.

Cllr. C. Walton proposed partially funding the signage for Cambrian Mountains but would need price, and approval of full Council. Cllr. K. Curry reported that Cllr. R. Thomas is ready to go with the Rhayader signs. Cllr. A. Davies suggested that Cambrian Mountain signs should be stand alone as their logo may change in the future. Further discussion required on this item.

10.5 The Old Mill, Rhayader. Cllr. C. Walton suggested that RTC consider purchasing the property for development as a working mill/turbine, as an income stream for RTC.

Cllr. C. Walton proposed we investigate this quickly as there is a lot of interest in the property. Seconded by Cllr. D. Davies.

Action – Cllr. C. Walton to investigate further the options of RTC purchasing the Old Mill and report back at next meeting.

10.6 Website – There is some confusion over our website pages and who can access and input on to them. At present the website isn't working properly. Cllr. A. Davies proposed that Cllr. D. Thomas have a look at the website with a view to fixing, updating, and doing some general maintenance work on the site. Seconded by Cllr. D. Davies.

Action – Cllr. D. Thomas to look at all aspects of RTC website pages as an ongoing project and to report back at future meetings.

11. PRESS RELEASE

No press releases this month

12. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

None

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 18th June 2019.

The meeting closed at 9.40p.m.

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Chairman Councillor James Stuart

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Date.....