

RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21st JULY 2020 AT 7.00PM (VIRTUAL DUE TO COVID-19)

THOSE PRESENT

Chairman	Chair Cllr. J. Narborough				
Councillors	D. Thomas	D. Davies	C. Evans	R. Thomas	G. Williams
	A. Davies	D.O. Evans	C. Walton	V. Jones-Davies	L. Price

Observer: County Cllr. K. Curry

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs. W. Davies and Cllr. J. Jones

1a. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor would like to congratulate Rhayader Carnival Committee for the Virtual Stand In Carnival that took place over what would have been carnival week. The virtual events were very well attended. The Mayor said the judging of the overall winners of the virtual carnival was particularly difficult. The winners were the Davies/Reeve family who participated in many of the events and were worthy winners. The Mayor presented the Peter Vaughan Perpetual Trophy to the family.

The Mayor and the Clerk attended a virtual meeting with PCC regarding Covid-19, what has been done during the lockdown and what is planned after the lockdown. Council precept was discussed briefly which will be honoured this year, however, precept setting in the future may change depending on the money allocated to PCC.

The effect Covid-19 has had and will have for the foreseeable future was discussed. Figures and charts were shown which will form part of the minutes when produced.

Feedback of the work PCC have achieved and work that is ongoing was discussed. Some areas had not been receiving regular updates from their County Councillor. RTC had the opportunity to express our thanks to Cllr. Kelynn Curry on the updates and information he has been circulating. Comments were noted.

There will be copies of the minutes of the meeting sent to those who attended, which will be circulated to Council. It was a good opportunity for Town and Community Council's to take part in PCC meetings. It was very well attended.

1b. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. L. Price - Trees, Grass and Community Garden.

Cllr. C. Evans – White lines by the Town Clock

Cllr. C. Walton – Heoly Brennin hill, grass area.

2. MINUTES TO BE AGREED

Minutes of last meeting checked for contents and accuracy. Agreed by Council

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Footpath – PCC forms and related paperwork to be sent to Councillors

Action – Clerk to circulate PCC forms and related paperwork to Council

4: REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

Cllr. R. Thomas updated Council on a recent Rhayader 2000 meeting, regarding plans to promote tourism in Rhayader. As an RTC initiative, in conjunction with R2K, interviews were held to find a

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company to provide a new marketing strategy for Rhayader. The successful company was Spencer David at a cost of £2000. Further meetings will take place with Spencer David to look at setting goals and aims for the marketing strategy with a view to starting in September 2020.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

6 AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 Allotments

Deferred from last meeting. Cllr, A. Davies reported back on several issues deferred from last meeting. Poly tunnel. After checking with PCC as to the positioning of the poly tunnel it was agreed that it can be located on the site of the allotment as opposed to the area outside the allotment.

Rent. The cost of an allotment in Rhayader has not been increased since the allotments began. 3 lots of figures were produced to show how an increase in rent will maintain the allotment for the future. The increase levels were £40, £45, or £50. The average cost of an allotment in the UK is £41. Proposed by Cllr. C. Evans that the rent be increased from £30 to £45. Seconded by Cllr. R. Thomas. Council agreed.

Term of Reference. The allotments TOR had been reviewed by the Allotment Sub-Committee and presented to Council to adopt changes made to the TOR. Cllr. C. Evans proposed to accept the new revised TOR as a RTC official document. Seconded by Cllr. D. Davies. Council agreed.

Grassing Agreement Licence. Deferred from last meeting. Cllr. D. Thomas circulated a new lease document. Council agreed to the new document.

Action - Clerk to update allotment paperwork accordingly and adapt new documents to that of RTC and send out grazing lease.

6.2 Pavement Art

The suggestion of a competition to design characters to paint on the pavements by Cllr. J. Narborough was agreed by Council. Promote the competition on social media for all children to send in their designs in and if possible, relate their designs to a business in town. If possible, involve a local artist to supervise and help the children paint their designs. Cllr. J. Stuart proposed RTC pay up to £250 towards the painting of the designs. Seconded by Cllr. L. Price. Agreed by Council. Getting local businesses to sponsor a design would also be an option suggested Cllr. C. Evans.

Action - Clerk to promote competition on Council social media

Action – Cllr. J. Narborough to contact local artist and investigate further criteria and themes for the competition.

6.3 Parking on Pavements

Cllr. J. Stuart provided Council with a copy of a social media post that raised concerns over people parking cars on the pavement in East Street. They are often left awfully close to entrances of shops and dwellings, frequently with their engines left running. Cllr. J. Stuart circulated copies of several posters prior to the meeting. The posters are asking people to stop parking on the pavements as they are for people not for parking. The idea was to print them off and distribute them to local businesses and on social media to make people think before they park. Proposed by Cllr. J. Stuart and seconded by Cllr. A. Davies. Agreed by Council.

Action – Clerk to print off copies of posters and circulate them appropriately in the town.

6.4 Asset Transfer and Related Issues.

Library/TUPE. Clerk had circulated correspondence from Milwyn Jenkins regarding the Library/TUPE issue, prior to the meeting. Discussion took place regarding the cleaning of the Library. As RTC intend cleaning to be done by the people who use the building before they vacate the building, TUPE does not apply in this case. It was agreed to request MJJ to reply to PCC on RTC's behalf stating this fact.

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Action – Clerk to contact MJJ and instruct them to write to PCC on behalf of RTC.

Cllr. R. Thomas brought the asset transfer of Cricket Field and Pitch to Councillors attention. RTC need an update. After discussion it was agreed for the Clerk to contact PCC, David Pritchard to clarify the position of the cricket field and pavilion.

Action – Clerk to contact David Pritchard for clarification.

6.5 Dolgerddon Hall update and related issues

Cllr. R. Thomas stated that he had correspondence from a member of the public concerned about the jackdaws/crows that were now roosting in the eaves of Dolgerddon Hall, and in the tress in the grounds of the hall. The person had already reported it to PCC, but nothing has been done. It was agreed that contact be made with the Environmental Health Dept. at PCC to report the issue.

Action – Clerk to contact PCC with this concern.

There was no further report from PCC on the hall itself.

Action – Clerk to update at August meeting.

6.6 Remuneration Documents

At a previous meeting Cllr. C. Evans reiterated the importance of reviewing the document each year, so Council are fully informed of the contents of the documents and are in aware of payments available to Councillors and how to make a claim. Also taking each item individually from the table of information provided, we can identify if any action is required by Council. Cllr. J. Narborough went over the document with Council. Not all option forms had been signed and returned to the Clerk. This needs to be done before the end of September when the information must be sent to the Proper Officer.

Action – Clerk to collate information for Proper Officer

6.7 Policy on donations given by RTC

Cllr. R. Thomas asked for clarification of RTC policy on charitable donations. After a brief discussion Cllr. J. Stuart suggested he updated the grant application forms, criteria, Bryntitli criteria etc and possibly streamline the procedure to help when deciding on set amounts. He will investigate what other Councils do and report back for next meeting.

Action – Cllr. J. Stuart to produce drafts of new grant documents and criteria for next meeting.

6.8 Allotment Field, Nantmel, Rhayader.

The Clerk has received a request for H. Vaughn Vaughn & Co acting on behalf of their client who wishes to purchase the strip of land around the allotment field. After discussion, Cllr. J. Stuart proposed that the land is not for sale and RTC will not reconsider, seconded by Cllr. D. Thomas.

Action – Clerk to inform H. Vaughn Vaughn & Co.

6.9 Asset and Project Management Committee Meeting 14.7.20 feedback and Terms of Reference

Cllr. D. Davies reported back on the recent meeting. Minutes from the meeting had been circulated to Council. The TOR was updated, amended, and circulated to Council. It was proposed as an official Council document by Cllr. G. Williams and seconded by Cllr. D. Davies. Council in agreement.

Also, at the meeting the group prioritised CAT list with the Weirglodd being priority followed by the Library. Clock Tower and Dolgerddon Hall were also highlighted. An up to date map of Rhayader, Cwmdauddwr and Elan Valley boundaries was to also be requested.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Documents from H. Vaughn Vaughn & Co (in relation to agenda item 6.8)

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8. PLANNING

8.1 20/0732/FUL Proposed Extension to Sycamore Garage, East Street, Rhayader.
RTC have no comments on this planning application. Accepted.

9. FINANCE

9.1 Bracken trust Fund/Grant Application deferred from last meeting pending financial report. RTC cannot fund this application at this present time.

9.2 Marie Curie Appeal for Support. RTC deferred this request till next Council meeting

10. URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. L. Price. Trees outside Leisure Centre need their caging repaired. Grass outside the Leisure Centre is long and unkept.

Action - Cllr. J. Narborough to speak to PCC regarding caging on trees

Action – Clerk to contact Freedom Leisure regarding housekeeping around the centre.

Cllr. L. Price. Community Garden. Person living in the shed at the community garden.

Action - Cllr. J. Stuart states that Cwmduddwr School have the matter in hand.

Cllr. C. Evans. White lines by the clock and the stop line on North Street. They need repainting.

Action – Cllr. L. Price will contact PCC to repaint lines

Cllr. C. Walton. Strip of grassed land by Heoly Brennin. Are PCC aware that it needs cutting? There is also a gate appeared. Who put it there and for what reason?

Action – Cllr. G. Williams will contact PCC to investigate further with a view to adding the land to the grass cutting schedule and finding out about the gate.

11. PRESS RELEASE

Dolgerddon

12. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

Devils Gulch

Driving Test Centre Closure, Llandrindod

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting will be held at 7pm 18.8.20.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

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Chairman Councillor J. Narborough

Date