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| **RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL****MINUTES of the MEETING held as a VIDEO CONFERENCE on MONDAY 26th JULY 2021 AT 7.00 pm**This meeting was held within the context of Welsh Government regulations in respect of Covid-19 Safeguarding in place at the time of the meeting.  |
| The Town Council Meeting Commenced at 7.03 pm.  |
| 0421/01 | **ATTENDING**Chairman: Cllr. L. Price (LP). Councillors attending: C. Evans (CE); (GW); A. Davies (AD); J. Stuart (JS); D Davies (DD); G Williams (GW) J. Narborough (JN); V. Jones-Davies (VJD); D Lloyd (DL); R Thomas (RT). C. Walton (CW); D Thomas. D.O. Evans (DOE) – joined at 20.44; **APOLOGIES:** W Davies (WD); Attending: County Cllr. K. Curry (poor internet connection) |
| 0421/02 | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None |
| 0421/03 | **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:** * Virtual Carnival – many thanks to all involved, particularly JS and committee members. The event was very successful.
* Thanks was given to Cllr KC for sharing information that supported the Town Council during the month.
* Thanks given to those involved in the National Health, Social Care and Frontline Workers Day. The the participation of the children was successful and heart-warming.
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| 0421/04 | **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS:** raised since the issue of the agenda.* Parking (JS) it was agreed to discuss specific issues about East Street under agenda item 9
* Email – Groe Trust – previously forwarded to members
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| 0421/05 | **MINUTES:** Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 26th JUNE2021 were **approved and agreed** as a true record (JN/GW) |
| 0421/06 | **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA:** * Speedwatch: PCC Cllr Claire Mills had indicated a willingness to speak about her experience with speed watch in other Communities. JN reiterated that the PCSO’s had received no interest from community members in participating in a speed watch project.
* Litter bins: JN advised that litter bins on the Abbeycwmhir lane and also by the industrial estate were required. It was noted that PCC were leaving bins ’open’ after emptying. Contact Nigel Hicks (PCC) regarding collections and the potential to move underused bins to different, needy locations.
* Cement tipped on riverbank: LP had contacted the neighbouring property owners who advised that they had been in touch with NRW.
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| 0421/07 | **COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITEES and WORKING GROUPS: to receive consider and agree minutes, reports and recommendations from these. And to receive updates and information on PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY ISSUES:****Representative Members reported the following:** There had been no formally recorded meetings of Council Committees, Sub-committees or working groups but members had progressed actions on projects and issues discussed at the previous meeting of the Town Council. Cllr JN reported attending the local Police meeting where it was reported that problems with minor vandalism had diminished. The PCSO would be doing a community work project with young people over the summer. No concerns had been raised by the public with PCSOs concerning traffic speeds.Cllr GW gave a short report about Waun-Capel Park. Now being very well used. The £500 given by the Town Council was to be used with other funds raised for a ‘sweeper’ machine. Grants had been applied for to repair fences. GW noted and thanked A Samuel for help given to complete the applications. **GW offered to contact the Press with an update about the Park.** Cllr AD had attended a meeting with other councils about woodlands and community orchards. She noted a need to set up a meeting with the Allotment users. There was a short discussion between councillors about security locks at the allotments**. It was agreed that JS and AD to liaise and purchase locks (costs to be refunded by the Council) if required (JN/GW).**  |
| 0421/08 | **PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY ISSUES**1. Rhayader CATS Update: Project status was discussed. CE had spoken with MJJ solicitors who awaited instructions – these depend upon the receipt of information from Mr Pritchard (PCC) who had been contacted and noted an intention to reply. An overview of correspondence between PCC. MJJ and RTC had been collated and MJJ had been contacted.
2. Broadband Update: Cllr KC had circulated emails since the last meeting the agave an overview of ongoing work. It was anticipated that WG would continue to fund actions for better broad band access.
3. Pump Track: Update – **plaques** to recognise the sponsors of seats were discussed. **RT to sources and agree use with sponsors**. Client Care Letter – clerk advised that this was incorrectly addressed and **MJJ had been asked to re-issue.**
4. Water Supply – email from fire service previously circulated and noted. No response had been received from Dwr Cymru. There was a discussion about the general water supply to the town. It was believed that there was an inadequate power supply to the pumping station and that there were significant leaks in the supply. **Agreed to invite a representative of Dwr Cymru to a Council meeting in order that community concerns could be discussed.**
5. Rhayader 2K would co-ordinate a working group to assess signs
6. Grass Cutting: Use of the ride on mower - Insurers had been contacted and work was underway to check that the mower was ‘approved for road use’ it could then be insured for that purpose. It was noted that a risk assessment for use should be put in place.
7. Fly-tipping: continues to be a problem at the Allotments – PCSOs have been advised.
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| 0421/09 | **HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS:**Highways: 1. Town Traffic Issues: Traffic hold ups in East Street caused by the use of shopping trollies by the Co-op store to safeguard parking outside for delivery vehicles – this also caused additional parking pressures elsewhere. Members noted the need to accommodate deliveries but were concerned that trollies were not regularly collected or removed by staff when deliveries had been made. **Write to Co-op manager to advice concerns.** Parking restrictions in other areas were discussed including double yellow lines and access to the Groe.  **The damage to property by HGVs to be reported to the Highways Agency.**
2. Speed watch - County Councillor Claire Mills to be invited to a future meeting.

Other PCC Matters1. Devils Gulch Update: Cllr Curry had circulated emails indicating funding is still being pursued to address this. AD noted the Ramblers had advised their concerns that regarding ‘road use’ for walkers. **It was decided to advise Peter Davies (wo had acted as chair at an Earlier meeting) of the lack of progress to resolve this and the concerns of community groups. A formal update and timetable for action would be requested.**
2. Dolgerddon Update: RT had contacted PCC seeking to escalate the issue to the Portfolio Holder and CEO as officers had indicated that progress requests from RTC were considered as ‘vexatious’.
3. Dog Fouling: JN advised that PCSOs had received no complaints. It was again confirmed that this was an issue to be considered in the School Litter Awareness project and it was suggested that the **Events Committee consider a School Holiday Project**
4. Car Parks: It was agreed that resumed access to the Smithfield for public parking was a huge asset to the Town. **Letter of thanks to be sent to the Smithfield Trust**. Members were aware that a shearing competition was being planned to take place on Cwmddaudwr Carpark**. It was agreed that members contact the organisers to ensure that they had insurance, had undertaken a risk assessment and redirected parking.**  Opportunities for additional parking was discussed and the potential to create some parking on the strip of land entering the Groe. **DT to contact the Trust to discuss.**
5. Covid Grant Work: A further project had been completed and funding claim submitted (Rhayader Blades). The electric supply for the Totem was in place but planning still awaited. PCC will install when permissions in place.
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| 0421/10 | **PUBLICITY AND EVENTS** * Shearing competition and tractor run were noted.
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| 0421/11 | **PLANNING:** No Applications had been received. There was a short discussion about the impact of phosphate control legislation on multi property developments and lack of foul and waste water treatment capacity. **Noted as a point to be addressed by Dwr Cymru when asked to attend a meeting (see 0421/08d) . Development to be noted in the 5-year plan.** No other planning applications had been received after the publication of the agenda.  |
| 0421/12 | **FINANCE:** 1. To receive and approve the current balance of income and expenditure, together with invoices for payment: Balance sheets for each account had been circulated along with a summary of all balances. These were approved along with the following invoices (JS/VJD).

**BALANCES AT HSBC** Rhayader TC (Precept) £ 37,264.16 Recycling Account £ 30,041.62(Excludes Ringfenced balances)Public Toilet Account £ 22,092.65Allotment Account £ 3,056.46Bryntitli Fund Account £ 15,631.50  **Internal Transfers to approve**None 0.00**Invoices for payment: PRECEPT** Clerk (July 2021) time sheet to be approved by DD/LP as per contract £757.60 (IB)HMRC July 2021 £ 323.58 (chq) KBS (fittings for benches) June 2021 statement 39.85 (IB)M Hird (benches) inv 98 60.00 (IB)P Walden (benches) Inv 85 40.00. (IB)BrightHR 22.14 (DD)(for info P Marple July 21 – £25 (IB) approved within Ground maintenance budget)**Invoices for payment: TOILETS**Adcock 194122 103.10 (IB)JAT (cleaning JULY) excludes HMRC 389.39 (IB)British Gas (997398317) DL 317.02 (IB)British Gas (988464587) C 54.74 (IB)**Invoices for payment: ALLOTMENTS**Rhayader Skip Hire inv SK334 252.00 (IB)PCC Remove portaloo 30.00 (IB)**Invoices for payment: RECYCLING** PTP (picnic benches) Inv 25172 1,498.80 (IB)Mogwai Media 220.04 (IB)Midway Plants (from plants budget) 113.25 (IB)Promultis 7,707.60 (chq)View Creative 5,268.00 (chq)**Invoices for payment: BRYNTITLI**None1. To consider/note applications for funding: None
2. A printed copy of the Annual Governance Statement (approved at the 28th June 2021 meeting) had now been signed by the Chairman.
3. To receive the Internal Audit Report 2019-20. The 2019-20 papers had been passed to Mrs Price as an Internal Auditor to review, this was expected to be completed in the next few days and the outcome would be circulated to the Chairman and Vice Chairman to consider. **It was agreed that any issues raised be added to the 2020-21 Audit Action Plan.**

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| 0421/13 | **GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY and POLICY** 1. Rhayader Five Year Plan: a short review of the current plan had been circulated by the Chairman the meeting set for **14th July 2021 had been cancelled. It was agreed to meet at 6.30pm on Monday 2nd August.**
2. Section 151 of the Local Government Measure 2011, Community and Town Councils Statement of Payments made to Members – clerk advised the record of 2020-21 payments was being prepared for submission.
3. Personnel – Clerk/RFO recruitment: it was agreed to have a discussion about this at the 5 Plan meeting on the 2nd August.
4. Clerk advised that the Notice of the appointment of dates for the Exercise of Electors Rights would need to be posted on the website and public notice boards by 6th August 2021. **JN agreed to place the notices on the public boards, Clerk to circulated.**
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| 0421/14 | **CORRESPONDENCE:** To receive and consider the following items of correspondence received before the meeting. A correspondence summary document had been circulated with the agenda 1. RNID’s Live Well with Hearing Loss project: volunteers sought to provide support and friendship as part of the befriending project. – Noted
2. **The Woodland Investment Grant** funding to create new woodlands and enhance and expand existing woodlands.  open for applications until the end of August – Noted
3. Powys County Council Covid Community Recovery Grant: Applications will be dealt with on a first come first served basis and scored against a criteria. Closes on 31 July - Noted
4. The National Lottery Heritage Fund Welsh Government funded ‘Local Places for Nature: Breaking Barriers’ open for applications - Noted
5. Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales: Page 9 Xiii) Rhayader is recommended to have the Welsh Language name of **Rhaeadr Gwy** and the English Language name of **Rhayader**. In the Draft Proposals the Commission proposed the Welsh Language name of Rhaeadr Gwy as prescribed in the Powys (Communities) Order 2008. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name should be Rhaeadr in the in the Welsh Language. The Commission received no representations in regard to the proposed name. - Noted
6. One Voice Wales new Nature forum and Green Hwb hosted on Microsoft teams. **Agreed AD to represent RTC on this group.**
7. An email letter from the Groe Trust presented at the meeting was discussed under urgent business.
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| 0421/15 | **COMMUNITY ISSUES, MEMBER DISCUSSIONS and URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA as an urgent item: 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. The following Urgent Items were discussed.* Traffic problems in East Street (see 0421/09a)
* Groe Trust – an email had been received to advise of the increased need for litter picking because of use of the Groe for recreation. As a community organisation the Trust would be eligible to apply for funding support from both the Bryntitili Fund and the Council small grants scheme. The clerk was asked to check if the annually agreed precept award had been released for the 2021-22 period. And it was agreed that if this was yet to be that the clerk be given permission to make the payment (DD/JN). It was noted that DT was a Trustee of the Groe Trust.

Member Discussions for information:* JS advised that he would take a lead on a Council plan for Operation London Bridge. Members thanked him.
* AD advised that she was investigating the possibility of planting a Community Orchard. It was suggested that the Renew Wales network could signpost similar projects and a proposal may be eligible for support.
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| 0421/16 | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** An ORDINARY MEETING will be held at **7.00 pm on Monday 23rd August 2021**by Video Conference or elsewhere but to be determined by prevailing COVID-19 restrictions.  |
| CLOSE | The meeting closed at 9.24 pm |
|  | **CERTIFIED AND SIGNED as a true record** **Chairman: Councillor L Price Date**  |
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| Actions Arising from the Minutes:  |  |

1. Speedwatch: contact Cllr Claire Mills for a date to speak
2. Contact Nigel Hicks (PCC) - collections and the potential to move underused bins to different, needy locations.
3. GW to contact the Press with an update about the Park.
4. JS and AD to liaise and purchase locks (costs to be refunded by the Council) if required (JN/GW).
5. Write to Co-op manager to advice concerns re parking .
6. Devil’s Gulch - advise Peter Davies of lack of progress to resolve and the concerns of community groups. Request he co-ordinate formal update and timetable for action.
7. Bench plaques RT to sources and agree use with sponsors.
8. Water supply - invite Dwr Cymru to a Council meeting in order that community concerns be discussed.
9. Shearing Competition - members contact the organisers to ensure that they had insurance, had undertaken a risk assessment and redirected parking.
10. Events Committee consider a School Holiday Project to keep the town clean and tidy.
11. Letter of thanks to the Smithfield Trust for use of car park.
12. DT - contact the Groe Trust to enquire about potential parking
13. Five Year Plan - 6.30pm on Monday 2nd August.
14. Notice of the appointment of dates for the Exercise of Electors Rights to be posted on the website and public notice boards by 6th August 2021.
15. OVW Nature forum and Green Hwb - AD to represent RTC on this group.
16. JS to plan for Operation London Bridge