|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MINUTES of the MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at 7.00 pm on MONDAY 25th OCTOBER 2021** as a video conference replacing the planned meeting in Cwmdauddwr Community Centre which was cancelled due a rise in Covid -19 cases locally and nationally. | | | |
|  | | | |
| 0721/01 | **ATTENDING**  Chairman: Cllr. L. Price (LP);  Councillors attending: D.O. Evans (DOE); C Walton (CW); G Williams (GW); A. Davies (AD); : C. Evans (CE); J Stuart (JS); J Narborough (JN); R Thomas (RT). D Davies (DD).  Attending: County Cllr. K. Curry; Karen Compton (press)  **APOLOGIES:** W Davies (WD); V. Jones-Davies (VJD); D Thomas (DT); D Lloyd (DL);  The chairman thanked those attending and asked that a minute of quiet contemplation be taken in memory of Cllr John Les Davis, whose death had recently been announced.  The meeting started at 19.04pm | | |
| 0721/02 | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None | | |
| 0721/03 | **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**   * Thanks To DD for Chairing the previous 2 meetings. * Thanks to Cllrs involved in the planting and tidying around the Clock * Congratulations to the Vintage Club for the successful tractor run. * Thanks to CARAD for the recent/ongoing exhibition which she had attended representing the Council. | | |
| 0721/04 | **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS:** raised since the issue of the agenda.  Rhayader 2000, Visitor Centre Car Parking, Groe Park | | |
| 0721/05 | **MINUTES:** Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27th September2021 were amended to read Round the Lakes Race Committee rather than Rhayader Running Club. They were then approved (DD/RT) | | |
| 0721/06 | **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA:**   * Curb-side parking in Dark Lane – LP had written to Ian Mills (PCC) awaiting update. PCSO had not been contacted as had been self-isolating re Covid-19 * Dolgerddon Update: site meeting with Fay Jones (MP) 12 h October 2021 postponed (fatal stabbing of MP David Amess) new date awaited. * **New bank accounts – Cllrs advised dates of birth and periods of residency at current addresses may be required.** * Better electricity deals The Green Energy Advice Bureau had been contacted -details of past 12 months energy bills being copied. Utilities Aid to be contacted with similar information. * Amend Standing Orders to establish terms and conditions for the Chairman’s agreement to remote attendance by members – text to be finalised for approval | | |
| 0721/07 | **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:**   * Cllr G Williamswill attend the **AGM of Community Support** (2nd November 2021) * Allotments AD thanked VJD for help at allotments while she had been unavailable. * Minutes of the Remembrance Sub Committee held on 21 October 2021 had been circulated and were agreed (JN/GW). * DT, RT and DD with help from members of the Football club to organise distribution of poppies. * **A press release** had been circulated by DT **approved to release.** * Members noted the task allocated in the minutes. | | |
| 0721/08 | **PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY ISSUES**   1. Rhayader CATS Update: None. DD to contact David Pritchard (PCC) for progress. MJJ aware. 2. Broadband Update: Cllr K Curry updated on the meeting held 4th October 2021. Progress being made and finances are now in place. The draft letter to the community has now been completed and has been sent for translation. Noted to be resigned by Cllr LP as RTC Chair at time of posting. Once completed this will be delivered to rural household – Broadband Partners reviewing how town residents will be informed, they have Broadway agreed to produce banners and posters for Rhayader and will be responsible for installing these. 3. Dwr Cymru – no reply to letter regarding water supply. CE had spoken about this at the Elan Valley Open Day. CE to pass contact details to Clerk to re-send correspondence. See also 4. Pump Track: Seat plaques to be fitted after seats are secured. 5. Operation London Bridge: noted as a confidential item. JS event plan had been circulated and it was agreed that he purchase items required within a budget of £300 reclaiming the expenses on presentation of paid invoices/receipts. 6. Sign Survey: Cllr KC had attended a further meeting with Trunk Road Agency – requested check consistency of signs on Trunk Road and East and West Street. KC awaited email form TRA. Ian Mills had completed sign designs . | | |
| 0721/09 | **HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS:**  Highways:   1. Traffic – update of meeting with representatives of the Co-op LP and JN had met with representatives of the Co-op to discuss delivery parking. Three ‘car’ spaces were required to provide loading bay parking. It had been suggested that a planning application to allow time restricted delivery park might be made by the C0-op this would be shared parking for other delivery vehicles. In light of this it was decided a further meeting with Co-op reps and full council would not be appropriate. Contact Co-op to thank them for the meeting. 2. Traffic calming speed counter signs were noted but previous discussions with TRA had indicated these were not acceptable.   Other PCC Matters.   1. Devil’s Gulch Update: This had been raised by members with Dwr Cymru (DC) at the Elan Valley Open Day. KC advised recent update suggested no progress expected until 2022; costs now believed to be £1.5m; anew consultation was expected. KC also advised that the temporary road closure for repairs/tree works would be lifted at appropriate times to allow access for school transport. An email newsletter from Dwr Cymru about the open day had been circulated. A second opinion on diseased trees was likely, Dwr Cymru were not expecting profit from tree felling and some timber would be used on site. 2. Litter and Dog Fouling posters: these had been printed. RT to post around Town. 3. Covid Grants Work: Planning permission application to be considered by PCC 28/10/21 | | |
| 0721/10 | **PUBLICITY AND EVENTS:**   * The Bryntitli Fund had been promoted. * A press release for Remembrance Sunday Ceremony would be issued * Press representative in attendance | | |
| 0721/11 | **PLANNING:** there were no new applications.  Planning decisions for the following were noted:  21/1085/FUL – Elan Valley Hotel approved 17/09/21  21/1018/FUL – adjacent to Cae Pwll, Cwmdauddwr approved 08/10/21 | | |
| 0721/12 | **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 used to prepare a summary of all balances. This was approved along with invoices for payment. ().   **BALANCES AT HSBC**  Rhayader TC (Precept) £ 47,066.38  Recycling Account £ 55,550.14 (inc Ringfenced balances)  Public Toilet Account £ 19,470.71  Allotment Account £ 2,745.64  Bryntitli Fund Account £ 28,159.94  **Internal Transfers to approve**  None 0.00  **Invoices for payment: PRECEPT**  Clerk Oct 2021 time sheet to be approved by DD/LP as per contract 640.01 (IB)  HMRC Oct 2021 244.62 (IB)  SSE 01/12/2020-5/01/2021 (xmas lights?) 135.52 TBC  Signs and Lables inv 19471 341.64    **Invoices for payment: TOILETS**  JAT (cleaning AUG) excludes HMRC 389.19 (IB)  For Information: British Gas (976599639) DL 193.50  For Information: British Gas (162295881) HyB 20.81  For Information; British Gas ()976599640 Triangle 58.45  **Invoices for payment: ALLOTMENTS**  KBS (padlock) 31.98 (IB)  **Invoices for payment: RECYCLING**  None  **Invoices for payment: BRYNTITLI**  None     1. Management Accounts/Budget review: had been circulated before the meeting and was also viewed on screen. Clerk gave a brief explanation. **Balances and spending to be considered in precept setting**. Members thanked the Clerk for the useful overview. It was agreed that funds set aside within the **precept budget for Community Organisations should be paid over**. (RT/DD) 2. To consider/note applications for funding. **None received.** 3. To agree a date to assess Bryntitli Fund applications. Closing date set as 5/11/21 with decisions to be approved at November meeting. 4. Audit update: Audit Wales had advised that many audits had not been completed by them by 30/09/21 as a result all TCCs with unaudited accounts to post public notice to explain this and copies of the unaudited accounts for public viewing. This had been done on notice boards and the website. Noted full audit information takes up much notice board space. The notice and Accounting detail to be left with a note to say the full Annual return available to view at Cllr CE’s offices 4 North Street, Rhayader | | |
| 0721/13 | **GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY and POLICY**   1. Personnel – Clerk/RFO recruitment. Council Clerk and an RFO job description in draft by DD, to be circulated and a video meeting for DD LP JN and Clerk to prepare recommendation for Precept budget. | | |
| 0721/14 | **CORRESPONDENCE:** To receive and consider the following items of correspondence received before the meeting. The following correspondence was noted having been circulated previously with no further comments made at the meeting   1. Regional Learning & Skills Partnership For Mid Wales: Establishment, Governance & Management Report 2. Growth Deal Update Briefing (from PCC) 3. Phase 2 Of Diversity In Democracy 4. Welsh Youth Parliament 5. Powys Community Health Council ‘Access To Dentists During The COVID-19 Pandemic’ report 6. National Lottery – climate action fund 7. Llandrindod Wells Town Council – written to WG re impact of LG&E(W) Act 2021 remote access to meetings. Suggest other councils also write. **Agreed Clerk should email WG** 8. Keep Wales Tidy – new ballot boxes available -noted 9. Welsh Water – drop in event update newsletter – key content discussed during the meeting 10. Dolgerddon Hall – email update from Neil Clutton PCC 11. One voice Wales – amended protocol for low level complaints resolution. 12. British Gas – confirmation of change of address for RTC billing information | | |
| 0721/15 | **COMMUNITY ISSUES, MEMBER DISCUSSIONS**   1. Tree Felling Elan Valley: information update in Dwr Cymru Elan Valley Open Day report 2. KC advised that two Electric Car charging points were to be located in Dark Lane Car Park. This was welcomed. Cllrs aware that many more will be needed but believed the electricity supply infrastructure was unlikely to be adequate at this time. | | |
| 0721/16 | **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.   * Rhayader 2000; a budget had been set in the precept and it was agreed that this be released (see 0721/12b). **RT and clerk to speak regarding VAT/Rhayader 2000 Co-ordinated work.** * Visitor Centre Car parking Charges: had recently risen to £3.00 and comments had been received from residents – some visit for short periods for children to access the play area. A barrier had been installed at the centre and there was concern that this may lock in the evening ‘stranding’ cars inside the carpark. **Cllr AD to contact Dwr Cymru about the parking charges and policy.** It was further agreed that the **Elan Valley Trust be copied into correspondence on this matter** in order that they be aware of RTC concerns and actions**.** * Groe Park: Councillors had been advised that a drain in Groe Park near the play area had overflowed and water/sewerage seeped from a drain cover. This was believed to be a combined sewerage overflow the responsibility of Welsh Water**. Groe Park Trustees and Cllr DT to be advised** | | |
| 0721/17 | **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS ITEMS** *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:* **None** | | |
|  | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**  An ORDINARY MEETING will be held at **7.00 pm on Monday 29th November 2021**  At Cwmdauddwr School (subject to remote access arrangements and prevailing COVID-19 restrictions at the time of the meeting) | | |
| CLOSE | The meeting closed at 10.00 pm | | |
|  | **CERTIFIED AND SIGNED as a true record**  **Chairman: Councillor L Price Date** | | |
|  | |  |
| **Actions Arising from the Minutes:**   1. Curb-side parking in Dark Lane –update PCSO 2. Standing Orders - Chairman’s agreement to remote attendance by members Draft to consider 3. AGM -Community Support – update GW 4. Remembrance Sunday Press Release 5. CATS Update: DD to contact David Pritchard 6. Dwr Cymry contact - CE to pass contact details to Clerk 7. OLB – purchases 8. Contact Co-op to thank them for the meeting. 9. Dog Fouling posters: RT to post around Town 10. Accounts/Budget: Balances and spending to be considered in precept setting. 11. precept budget for Community Organisations should be paid 12. Annual Return to be available at Cllr CE’s offices 13. Personnel: Clerk and an RFO job description drafts to be circulated and video meeting for DD LP JN and Clerk to be arranged DD 14. Rhayader 2000: RT and clerk to speak regarding VAT/ Co-ordinated work. 15. Cllr AD to contact Dwr Cymru about the parking charges and policy 16. Groe Park Drain: Trustees and Cllr DT to be advise | | |