

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual and Ordinary Council Meetings held on Thursday 10th May, 2018 At 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre, New Radnor

1. Present: Cllrs. R. Harris (Chairman) J. Hodge (Vice-Chairman), E. Blackman, M. Cooper, E. Giordano, K. Williams.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Clerk.

Absent: Cllr. N. Dodman.

2. Apologies: None.

3. Election of Chairman for 2018/19: Cllr. Hodge proposed Cllr. Harris and this was seconded by Cllr. Blackman. Cllr. Harris therefore left the room for the election process. Cllr. Hodge presided and Cllr. Harris was elected unanimously. Cllr. Harris returned to the room and accepted the appointment.

4. Declaration of Acceptance of Office - Chairman: This was duly completed by the Cllr. Harris.

5. Declarations of Interest:

Personal Only: None.

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

6. Election of Vice-Chairman for 2018/19: Cllr. Blackman proposed Cllr. Hodge and this was seconded by Cllr. Cooper and agreed by all. Cllr. Hodge accepted the appointment.

7. Appointment of Representatives for 2018/19: These were agreed as follows -

New Radnor Community Centre Committee	Cllr. Williams.
New Radnor Town Trust	Cllr. Cooper.
New Radnor Charities	Cllr. Blackman and Cllr. Dodman.
Radnor Valley School Governor	Cllr. Hodge.
Liaison Councillors, Radnor Ranges	Cllr. Hodge and Cllr. Harris.
Village Website	Cllr. Blackman.
Playground Committee	Cllr. Cooper.
One Voice Wales	Cllrs. Cooper and Hodge.
Radnor Valley Resource and Amenity Centre	Cllrs. Dodman and Giordano.

8. Appointment to Areas of Special Interest for 2018/19: These were agreed as follows:

Health	Cllr. Dodman
Highways/Footpaths/Bridleways	Cllr. Dodman
Planning	Cllr. Harris
Community Activities	Cllr. Hodge
Senior Citizens	Cllr. Dodman
School/Young People	Cllr. Harris
Environment	Cllr. Blackman

9. Annual Review of Council Documents: It was resolved that no change be made to the following Council documents -

Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Formal Complaints Policy

Freedom of Information Documents

Risk Assessment.

The continued serving of agenda via email was confirmed.

Code of Conduct: The continued adoption of the Code of Conduct was confirmed.

Remuneration of Councillors: The Clerk explained that the final report had removed the compulsory requirement to pay £150 per Councillor per year as a lump sum for reimbursement of expenses but this could be adopted if desired. It was however now compulsory to provide for the reimbursement of care expenses (up to £403 per month) on provision of receipts. Following a discussion it was agreed that for the municipal year from May 2018 to April 2019 the following expenses and payments would be provided –

- To provide an annual sum of £150 per year per Member, to be paid six monthly in arrears. Any Member not wishing to accept the allowance should notify the Clerk by the end of September in each year otherwise the payment would be made. Members to note that this payment may be taxable and that they should ensure it was declared.
- To continue to reimburse the cost of travel expenses incurred for travel on Council business outside the Community Council area.
- To note the compulsory requirement of the Remuneration Panel to refund the cost of care expenses up to the stated cost of £403 per month.

General Data Protection Regulation: The additional policies concerning data protection were adopted as circulated as was the amended data security policy. The Clerk explained that the Council might be required to appoint an external person to act as Data Protection Officer and that this would cost between £50 and £100 per annum. This could also be considered to be good practice even if not essential. The Clerk was authorised to appoint an external DPO should she consider it necessary.

Ordinary Meeting:

10. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th April, 2018 were approved as circulated and duly signed by the Chairman, Cllr. Harris.

11. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

11.1 Chairing Skills Course: Booked for Cllr. Hodge.

11.2 Byway Works: The County Council had confirmed that work to the access track would be carried out at the same time as the planned works to the steep section partway along the byway.

11.3 Snow Clearing: The Clerk reported that it would not be appropriate to buy equipment (as discussed at the April meeting). She suggested that the volunteer could approach the County Council to register as a paid contractor and so be paid for their work during periods of heavy snow.

12. Finance:

12.1 Annual Insurance: Members agreed to commit to a new three year agreement with Came and Company to May 2021.

12.2 Payments: The following payments were approved –

Came and Company (annual Insurance)	£335.00
Lee Stephens (internal audit)	£31.50
SLCC Enterprises Ltd (conference fee)	£90.00

12.3 Receipts: The following receipts were noted -

Precept	£2219.33
SLCC Bursary	£37.50
HMRC VAT Refund	£207.68

12.4 Internal Audit Report: The report of the internal auditor for 2017-18 was circulated. No concerns had been raised and no action was required.

12.5 Annual Return 2017-18: The Annual Return, Annual Governance Statement and Statement of Significant Variances for submission to the External Auditors were approved. The certifying of the necessary documentation for the External Audit was agreed and carried out by the Chairman and the Clerk.

12.6 Review of Bank Mandate: Resolved no change be made.

13. Correspondence/General:

13.1 UK Government Call for Evidence on using Tax System to tackle single use plastic waste: No comments to be submitted.

13.2 Mobile Post Office: Confirmation of Opening Hour Changes: Noted.

13.3 Royal Wedding Commemorative Medal Offer: Noted. Agreed not to purchase.

13.4 Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine: Noted.

14. Planning:

14.1 Planning Application Decisions: None this month.

14.2 Planning Applications: None this month.

15. Village Matters:

15.1 Village Benches: The four locations were confirmed. It was agreed to retain the insurance as existing and that a location for a fifth bench would be considered in due course.

15.2 Fly Tipping, Smatcher Hill: This had also been reported to the County Council which had removed the green waste dumped.

15.3 Overgrown Trees A44 and WBIN Car park junction: The Clerk reported that this was on the list to be done but was not a priority as the visibility was currently above the necessary standard. Members reported that the verge was full of rubbish and the Clerk was asked to report this to the County Council and ask for it to be cleared.

15.4 Cornwall Lewis Memorial: Two pieces had fallen off and needed replacing. The Clerk would report.

15.5 Hole Left from Archaeological Dig: The Clerk would write to the landowner and ask for it to be filled.

15.6 Letter re. Harley Valley: Members noted the concerns about engines, car parts etc left in the area however as this was private ground and not affecting the right of way that this was not a matter within the remit of the County Council.

15.7 Radnor Valley Resource and Amenity Centre: Cllr. Giordano reported on the recent committee meeting and on the financial difficulties the Centre was experiencing since the Little Dragons had vacated the building.

16. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 14th June, 2018

Resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 to exclude the Public and Press due to the confidential nature of the following item.

17. Staffing: National Salary Award: The adoption of the revised pay scales for 2018/19 was confirmed.

The meeting closed at 9.13 pm.