

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual and Ordinary Council Meetings held on Thursday 12th May, 2021 At 7.30 p.m.

Meeting held via video conferencing by virtue of the of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

21/01. Present: Cllrs. R. Harris (Chairman) J. Hodge (Vice-Chairman), E. Blackman, M. Cooper, N. Dodman, E. Giordano(part), K. Williams.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Clerk.

21/02. Apologies: None.

21/03. Election of Chairman for 2021/22: Cllr. Williams proposed Cllr. Harris and this was seconded by Cllr. Blackman. Cllr. Harris was elected unanimously. Cllr. Harris accepted the appointment.

21/04. Declaration of Acceptance of Office - Chairman: This would be duly completed by the Cllr. Harris and witnessed by the Clerk.

21/05. Declarations of Interest:

Personal Only: None.

Personal and Prejudicial:

Cllr. Giordano, re agenda item 13.2, consultation of woodland creation, Maesmellan Farm - related to landowners.

21/06. Election of Vice-Chairman for 2021/22: Cllr. Cooper proposed Cllr. Hodge and this was seconded by Cllr. Williams and agreed by all. Cllr. Hodge accepted the appointment.

21/07. Appointment of Representatives for 2021/22: These were agreed as follows –

New Radnor Community Centre Committee: Cllr. Williams

New Radnor Town Trust: Cllr. Hodge.

New Radnor Charities: Cllrs. Blackman and Dodman.

Radnor Valley School Governor: Cllr. Hodge.

Liaison Councillors, Radnor Ranges: Cllrs. Harris and Hodge.

Cornwall Lewis Memorial Liaison Councillor: Cllr. Blackman.

Village Website: Cllr. Blackman.

Playground Committee: Cllr. Cooper.

One Voice Wales (2): Cllrs. Hodge and Cooper.

Radnor Valley Resource and Amenity Centre/Community Hub: Cllr. Giordano.

21/08. Appointment to Areas of Special Interest for 2021/21: These were agreed as follows:

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

21/09. Annual Review of Council Documents: It was resolved that no change be made to the following Council documents -

Council Standing Orders

Formal Complaints Policy

Freedom of Information and Data Protection Documents

Risk Assessment.
Biodiversity Report.
Financial Regulations.

The continued serving of agenda via email was confirmed.

Remuneration of Councillors: The Clerk reminded Members that it was now compulsory to provide for the reimbursement of care expenses (up to £403 per month) on provision of receipts and an allowance of £150 per annum for each Member. It was therefore confirmed that for the municipal year from May 2021 to April 2022 the following expenses and payments would be provided –

- To provide an annual sum of £150 per year per Member, to be paid 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 will be made through the Council payroll and taxed at the appropriate rate.
- 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.

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

Ordinary Meeting:

21/10. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April, 2021 were approved as circulated and duly signed by the Chairman, Cllr. Harris.

21/11. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

21/11.1 Dark Skies Project: The Clerk reported that Penybont CC had responded quickly indicating an interest. She had not yet received any reply from the other two Councils. Cllr. Dodman stated that he understood that the matter was on the next agenda for Whitton Community Council. The Clerk would contact Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council to ask when the matter would be discussed.

21/11.2 Old Station Caravan Park Expansion Works: Members asked the Clerk if an update had been received and the Clerk confirmed that she had not had anything further. Members indicated that work continued. The Clerk would contact the Planning Officer for an update.

21/12. Finance:

21/12.112.1 Payments: – The following payments were agreed

Lyreco (office goods)	£4.25
JRB Enterprises Ltd (dog bag dispenser)	£104.34
L. Stephens (internal audit)	£33.00

21/12.2 Internal Audit: The report of the Internal Auditor on the 2020-21 accounts was received and noted. No action was required.

21/12.3 External Audit Annual Return 2020-21: Members considered and approved the Annual Return, Annual Governance Statement and Statement of Significant Variances for submission to the External Auditors.

21/12.4 Review of Bank Mandate: No change proposed

21/12.5 Receipts: The following receipts were noted –

Powys County Council (1 st precept payment)	£2542.80
HMRC (Vat refund)	£172.57

21/12.6 Bank Balance: The balance of £7845.86 at 30th April was noted.

21/12.7 Renewal of annual insurance policy: Members confirmed the payment for the annual insurance (currently under a three year agreement).

Came & Co (annual insurance)	£348.73
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21/12.8 Requests for Donations - Macmillan Cymru, Hope House and Tenovus Cancer Care: Members considered the applications and noted that there was an increase in applications over the last months due to charities having fewer opportunities to fund raise. However in order to avoid a situation where it was 'first come first served' it was agreed that the Clerk hold all such applications

over for discussion later in the financial year (December/January) when the Council could assess all applications together.

Cllr. Giordano joined the meeting at this point.

21/13. Correspondence/General:

21/13.1 Welsh Government Consultation on Power to Trade: Resolved no comment to be made.

Cllr. Giordano was placed in the waiting room at this point having declared a prejudicial interest in the following item.

21/3.2 Community Council Consultation for GLASTIR Woodland Creation – Maesmellan Farm: Resolved to support the application.

Cllr. Giordano returned to the meeting.

21/13.3 Letter from Fay Jones MP re. covid-19 response by Community Councils: Noted.

21/14. Village Matters:

21/14.1 Street Light Issues: The Clerk confirmed that shields would be placed on the three lights discussed previously. Cllr. Hodge asked that the light at the top of Broad Street also go off at midnight and also that the one at the corner of Rectory Lane be turned off at midnight. The possibility of turning off a further light, mid-way up Broad Street of at midnight was considered and following a discussion it was felt that turning all the lights off at midnight might be a good idea. The Clerk suggested that as this would be quite a major change she advised first checking with the County Council to see if it would agree to this and if so that consultation took place with residents. In response to a concern on the impact for any dark skies application from Cllr. Hodge she added that she had discussed dark skies with the lighting engineer and he felt that the new light fittings, although slightly brighter than was ideal, would, because of their sparsity, not present a problem for any dark skies application. Dark sky status was not a matter of turning all lights off but also of producing softer and warmer light from those lights remaining in place. It was agreed that the Clerk make initial enquiries with the County Council and report back to the June meeting. Cllr. Hodge also felt that too many lights were on in the Clawdd Lane area. This would be reviewed once the County Council had responded.

21/14.2 Public Access Defibrillators: Cllr. Williams stated that the ambulance service was looking to obtain five year plans for maintenance of those units in place. It was agreed to add this item to the June agenda for more detailed discussion.

21/15. Planning:

21/15.1 Planning Application Decisions: None this month.

21/15.2 Planning Applications: None this month.

21/16. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 10th June, 2021. It was agreed to continue via video conferencing for the time being. To be reviewed at the next meeting.

21/17. Report on PACE Meeting: Cllr. Dodman reported that the Group was currently focussing on methods for measuring the carbon footprints of communities.

The meeting closed at 8.17 pm.