

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 10th February, 2022 At 7.30 p.m. Meeting held via Video Conferencing

21/93. Present: Cllrs. R. Harris (Chairman), J. Hodge (Vice-Chairman), E. Blackman, E. Giordano, N. Dodman, C. Newnham.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Clerk.

21/94. Apologies: Cllr. K. Williams. County Councillor M. Jones.

21/95. Declarations of Interest:

Personal Only: None.

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

21/96. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January, 2022 were approved as circulated and duly signed by the Chairman.

21/97. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

21/97.1 Rubbish on A44: This had been reported and Cllr. Harris confirmed it had been done.

21/97.2 Dumped Dog Bags: Cllr. Harris confirmed that these had been collected.

21/97.3 CCTV Signs: Cllr. Harris had put these up. No sign had been placed at the Porth as there was no suitable location but he had installed two in School Lane.

21/97.4 Refill Wales Water Station: Cllr. Hodge would investigate the cost of installing an outdoor tap at the Town Hall.

Cllr. Newnham joined the meeting at this point.

21/98. Finance:

21/98.1 Payments: The following payments were approved –

Mrs T. Price (refund cctv signs)	£27.96
Information Commissioner (data registration)	£35.00 (direct debit)
Mrs T. Price (refund ink toner)	£85.90
Upper Bridge Enterprises (website fees)	£175.20

21/98.2 Change of Bank Update: The Clerk reported that the initial four Members were now all registered for internet banking. She had drafted the application form to add three additional signatories and was waiting for some further information before the form could be signed and submitted.

21/98.3 Microsoft Office Costs: Members noted the current costs as –

- Annual Subscription currently £59.99 or by month £5.99.
- One off purchase of Office Home & Student £134.40. Price increases were expected.

21/99. Correspondence/General:

21/99.1 PACE Update: Cllr. Dodman reported on the most recent meeting the Minutes of which had been circulated. The meeting had included the AGM and had also included a review of the progress of current projects.

21/100. Village Matters:

21/100.1 Minor Village Matters: No matters were discussed this month.

21/100.2 Dark Skies Update: Members had all received details of the meeting held on 3rd February. Cllr. Dodman reported that the meeting had been very positive and that a number of actions had been agreed. These were –

- To make the project a communities-led effort by co-opting members of the various communities involved, as well as Community Councillors.
- To contact Bleddfa CC and Old Radnor CC to attempt to involve all CCs surrounding the Radnor Forest.
- To contact local landowners and inform them of the Group's aspirations..
- To obtain more details from IDA with a view to seeking dark sky sanctuary status, and possibly to advance certification as one group of small communities rather than individual ones.
- To begin by obtaining Dark Sky readings in the villages.
- To raise awareness with outside bodies such as environmental groups, wildlife trusts, local schools and other interest groups such as photographers and astronomers.
- To devise publicity strategies involving press, parish magazines, fliers and possibly launch events.
- To look at funding possibilities, including the Regional Tourism Engagement Fund.
- To liaise with and visit Elan Valley and Brecon Beacons projects, bearing in mind the large number of Dark Sky Festival events planned for February and March this year.

The Clerk confirmed that her initial discussions with the street lighting manager had indicated that the lanterns installed during the street lighting upgrade would not be a barrier to dark sky status given they were relatively few in number.

21/100.3 Broadband Project Update: Members were very pleased to report that the minimum number and indeed exceeded. The project was now with the Broadway management for agreement. Once the project was approved the business case and grant application would be produced for submission to Government. The Clerk reminded Members of the need to press for a free broadband service to the community buildings (Village Hall and Hub) for a number of years from installation.

21/100.4 Speeding on A44: The Clerk had chased up James Evans MS and Fay Jones MP. She had also managed to obtain support from the Police and Crime Commissioner for the installation of average speed cameras. She would chase up both the MP and MS.

21/100.5 Community Bases/Village Shops: Cllr. Dodman would discuss this further with the person concerned and report back to the March meeting.

21/101. Planning:

21/101.1 Planning Application Decisions: No decisions this month.

21/101.2 Planning Enforcement Case: Radnor Ranges: Members noted the reply from County Council Planning Officer indicating that there was no action needed.

21/101.3 Planning Applications: No applications this month.

21/102. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 10th March, 2022 via video conferencing.

The meeting closed at 8.11pm.