

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

21/103. Present: Cllrs. R. Harris (Chairman), J. Hodge (Vice-Chairman), E. Giordano, N. Dodman, C. Newnham, K. Williams.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Clerk.

21/104. Apologies: Cllr. E. Blackman. County Councillor M. Jones.

21/105. Declarations of Interest:

Personal Only: None.

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

21/106. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th February, 2022 were approved as circulated and duly signed by the Chairman.

21/107. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

21/107.1 Refill Wales Water Station: Cllr. Hodge had spoken to one plumber but not made any progress. Cllr. Williams suggested he contact a local plumber who might do the work free of charge for the community and this was agreed.

21/108. Finance:

21/108.1 Payments: The following payments were approved –

Mrs T. Price (Salary final quarter)	£715.20
HM Revenue & Customs (tax on above)	£178.80
Mrs T. A. Price (expenses)	£42.60
Upper Bridge Enterprises (ssl certificate work etc)	£138.00

21/108.2 Budget Update/Review of Reserves: Members noted the budget update and analysis of free and allocated reserves. The Clerk reminded them that two larger items were as yet unpaid – the arrears of pay due for 2021-22 and the invoice for the external audit.

21/108.3 Risk Assessment: Members reviewed and approved the risk assessment as circulated.

21/108.4 Review of Asset Register: Members reviewed and approved the risk assessment as circulated.

21/108.5 One Voice Wales/SLCC Joint Conference (June 2022) and associated bursary application for 50% of costs: Attendance by Clerk agreed. The Clerk would complete the paperwork.

21/108.6 Letters of Thanks: The letters of thanks from Tenovus Cancer Care and Macmillan Cancer Support were noted.

21/108.7 Final Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel: The Clerk reported that the only significant change to the draft report was the change to the £150 annual allowance. This had been made optional for smaller Councils in the draft report but had now returned to being a mandatory payment.

Members confirmed the remuneration to be available for the 2022/23 financial year to be unchanged and as follows –

- Annual Allowance £150 (mandatory)
- Care Costs (mandatory)
- Travel Costs (optional).

21/108.8 External Audit Return 2020-21: Members had all received a full copy of the completed annual audit return which had been completed with no issues or concerns to raise.

21/108.9 Donation Request - Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod: Members agreed a donation of £100 to be made from free reserves.

21/108.10 Annual Pay Award 2021-22: Members noted this as 1.75%. The Clerk had calculated the arrears due and would pay this in April.

21/109. Correspondence/General:

21/109.1 PACE Update: Cllr. Dodman reported that he had been unable to attend the last meeting but reported from the Minutes which had also been circulated to all. Members raised concerns about sewage capacity in New Radnor, given the current issues with phosphate levels in rivers. The Clerk confirmed that she had made enquiries in the Summer and Welsh Water had confirmed that there were no issues with capacity.

21/109.2 Welsh Water Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2022 Consultation: Resolved no comment be made.

21/109.3 Nature and Us – National conversation about Wales' natural environment: Members were encouraged to look at the survey and complete it. Cllr. Williams had heard of a scheme to provide a free tree for each household but had not been able to find any more information. Cllr. Newnham found reference to it online and the Clerk agreed to investigate further and include an item on the next agenda to discuss if it would be possible to collect trees for the village as a whole and distribute them.

7.4 Letter from James Evans MS re. visiting the community: Noted. The Clerk reminded Members that Mr. Evans had offered to visit to discuss the speeding on the A44. It was agreed that this could be considered after the next meeting with the police and crime commissioner.

7.5 Reminder re May Elections and Possible Change of May Meeting Date: The Clerk reminded Members of the closing date for nomination papers and advised that depending on whether the election was contested or not it might be necessary to move the May meeting. She would advise as soon as possible.

21/10. Village Matters:

21/110.1 Minor Village Matters: The following matters were raised –

- Broken hand rail, War Memorial: Clerk to report.
- Pieces missing from Cornwall Lewis Memorial: Clerk to report. Cllr. Williams would supply photographs.
- Clearing of Dog Waste Bags, School Lane: Cllr. Williams reported that this had actually been carried out by two village residents not the County Council as previously thought. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to the couple.

21/110.2 Dark Skies Update: Cllr. Dodman reported that the project was proceeding and that the other Community Councils were fully involved. The next meeting was planned for 14th March in Penybont and a Presteigne resident was attending to talk about light meters and taking readings. The Group had decided that applying for dark sky status for the Radnor Forest was probably not achievable but that applying for each village settlement was better. It was agreed to add one outside representative from New Radnor to the project group.

21/110.3 Broadband Project Update: The Clerk reported that the project was proceeding through internal approvals at Broadway Partners however the removal of Welsh Government funding from 31st March was a disappointment. Broadway was still assessing the implications but at the last project meeting had not raised any concerns for the viability of the New Radnor project.

21/110.4 Speeding on A44: Further meeting with Police and Crime Commissioner on 22nd March. All Members welcome to attend.

21/110.5 Community Bases/Village Shop: Defer to April.

21/111. Planning:

21/111.1 Planning Application Decisions: The following decision was reported –

21/1997/FUL Football Pitch off A44: Approval 24th February.

21/111.2 Planning Applications: The following application was discussed –

22/0337/HH Grid Reference: E:320657 N: 260623 Proposal: Oak framed outbuilding containing ground floor garage & garden store with workshop within loft space. PV panels on south elevation roof. Site Address: Holly Cottage, New Radnor, Presteigne, LD8 2TN. Resolved no objections be raised.

21/111.3 Update re. Enforcement Case - Old Station Caravan Park: Members noted the report from the Planning Officer and were pleased to learn that the site was being monitored. Cllr. Harris raised concerns that in the recent storms one van had blown over and others were moving to the extent that ballast had to be placed on the hitches to prevent further accident. The Clerk was asked to speak to the County Council on whether there was a requirement for anchorage points to secure the vans to the ground.

21/112. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 14th April, 2022 via video conferencing.

The meeting closed at 8.34pm.