

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Risca Town Council

Held on Monday 24th September 2018 at

Bethany Church Hall, Risca

Cllr Louise Stephens, Cllr Hazel Dupre, Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Tony Davies, Cllr Brian Davies, Cllr Brian Hancock and County Borough Cllr Bob Owen

Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell

Cllr Louise Stephens as the Mayor chaired the meeting that commenced at 6.35 pm

517 Apologies

Cllr Sally Davies, Cllr Joy Parsons and County Borough Cllr Ross Whiting

518 Presentation

Steve Veysey and Mike Harley of Risca Royal British Legion gave the Council a report that their RBL Regional Office had provided them with two statements. One was that the RBL could no longer organise/control/take responsibility for any Armistice parades in the UK and that the Police equally could not arrange/organise/control any Armistice parades either. They added that their Head Office advice was that the local Council were now fully responsible for any such parades. The Council noted their strong disappointment at this news with its extremely short notice and that the WW1 100 years commemoration as a public event being less than 6 weeks away. The Council asked the Clerk to investigate the RBL statements with Caerphilly County Borough Council. Risca RBL confirmed that any plans to refurbish or replace the Cenotaph monuments in the two Risca gardens had been stopped by the RBL Head Office

519 Declarations of Interest

None

520 Residents' addresses

None

521 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Mon 9 July 2018

Cllr Stephens signed both minutes as a true and correct record

522 Chair's and County Members' updates

Cllr Stephens reported that she wished to make a donation from her Mayor's account to a performer in the local Kate Poole's Production team who is currently in poor health. Cllr Stephens also reported that she had also made a contribution to the Risca Comprehensive School's recent initiative for an 'autism base nurture garden'. Cllr Stephens reported that any Council plans for a music evening to support the Lucy Ellis Foundation at Risca Working Men's Club ought to be postponed to next March as other local events by the Foundation are to take place over the next few months

County Cllr Bob Owen reported on the Town Regeneration project that the Longbridge Baths building demolition was due by April 2019 and the earmarked buildings at Brooklands Road site for demolition was due by the summer of 2019. He added that consultation for sheltered housing at the Ty Darren site was due out soon and that planning for new housing on the former Suflex site was also expected for next year. Cllr Owen added that the Caerphilly Council were asking for a new name for the Mill Street housing development site to be suggested. He added that he would ask Caerphilly Council if there were any opportunities for the Town Council to be housed with an office and meeting room based at the redeveloped Brooklands site

523 Clerk's Report

523.1 Notice Board

The new, replacement public board located at the Well pharmacy was put in place in August. Unfortunately the board was immediately vandalised when it was forced open to place a large poster, without the approval of the pharmacy management, by the touring Daredevil group for their stunts night in Newport city centre last July. The Council is seeking compensation for the vandalism by the group

523.2 Finance Report

The current statements are satisfactory. The Clerk confirmed that the External Audit for 2017/18 had been successfully signed as unqualified (with 4 minor issues) by BDO of Southampton for the Wales Auditor General. The Council acknowledged those minor issues. The Clerk reported that the Council were now in possession of an HSBC Debit Card for Council purchases

523.3 One Voice Wales/CCBC/WG/SLCC/TCCLC

Cllr Dupre reported that she had attended the CCBC arranged Well-Being seminar at Newbridge on 13 September and on their progress with an offer from the Health Board professionals to make a presentation to the Council at a future meeting

523.4 Correspondence/financial assistance applications –

The Clerk reported that Bethany Church had asked for a contribution to their recently replaced kitchen's hot water boiler. The Clerk is to investigate the cost of the replacement boiler for the Council's further consideration. The Clerk also reported on an application from Risca Girl Guides for a contribution. However, their submitted application form was not clear on the reason for the amount of the contribution and the Clerk is to investigate this with the Guides organiser.

The clerk reported on a request from CCBC for a shared contribution for a large marquee at CCBC's run Winter Fayre planned for Saturday 1st December in Tredegar Park. Although the Town Council had not budgeted for such a financial involvement in the current year they agreed to the request and the shared cost of £530 is to be funded from a slight shortfall in the overall, pledged projects amount for the year.

The Clerk reported that the two Council funded defibrillators in 2015 (one is located at the local SPAR store and the other is located at Risca St John's Ambulance depot) were now due for replacement batteries and the Clerk and Cllr Parker are to ascertain with both machine keepers who is responsible for the batteries. The Council agreed to arrange for a suitable venue to organise a public participation exercise in January/February 2019

523.5 Ty Isaf School

A date for a future afternoon appointment at the School has yet to be agreed

523.6 Administration

A possible Mayor's medal and lanyard options are still under consideration

At 8.30 pm Cllr Hancock proposed that Standing Orders be suspended so that the Council could discuss their remaining 3 items of business. This was agreed by the Council

524 Current Projects Summary

Cllr Hazel Dupre reported that a joint sub-committee meeting for the 2018 Armistice event was recently held in mid-September and work had progressed for the Friday 9 November Armistice Concert at Moriah Church and adverts were already available.

Cllr Mike Parker noted that he was disappointed with the poor state of the CCBC owned flower planters in the Town Centre this year. The Council agreed

that for next year they approach local businesses for financial sponsorship and management of the planters to ensure they are in bloom from early spring to late autumn. Cllr Parker is to meet with local businesses to seek financial support for both the planters as a new project and for the Christmas Lighting for this December.

Project No.	Project Name	Description & Comments	Amount Paid	Amount Pledged
58	ECMO Machine	A series of music evenings		??
53	Tredegar Park Toilets Block JOINT EVENT	Funding for 16 summer Sunday openings July to September 2018		760
51	Summer flower baskets June to Sep 2018	Local contractor to erect replacement basket brackets on lighting columns and to erect and maintain summer baskets		4000
50	Summer music shows JOINT EVENT	Outstanding last summer's music events by Kate Poole Productions		??
	2018 Christmas Panto	8/9 December 4 performances at £4 per ticket and £12 for a family of 4		6500

525 Planning Applications

Case Refs. 18/0621, 18/0716 and 18/0778 were noted

526 Exclusion of press and public

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed:

Date:

