

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Risca Town Council

Held on Monday 9th September 2019 at

Bethany Church Hall, Risca

Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Tony Davies, Cllr Sally Davies, Cllr Joy Parsons, Cllr Brian Davies and Cllr Louise Stephens

Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell

Also in attendance were PCO Paige Greenhalgh of Heddlu Gwent Police, Nick Morris of Greenleif and local resident Xander Barratt

Cllr Tony Davies as the Mayor chaired the meeting that commenced at 6.35 pm

627 Apologies

Cllr Hazel Dupre, Cllr Brian Hancock and County Cllr Bob Owen

628 Presentations

The Chair, Cllr Tony Davies welcomed Paige from the local Police who gave the Council an update on recent Police activities and crime figures in the Town area. Paige said tackling off road bikes and grass fires had been a recent priority. Fly tipping at the Suflex site, dogs attacking local farm animals, reports of badger baiting and a break-in at the bowls club were discussed. The Chair thanked Nick Morris for his work on the excellent flower baskets display through Commercial Street and Tredegar Street in the Town over the summer. The Council agreed to purchase new sets of basket brackets for those lighting columns that made a gap in the display for next summer. The Mayor thanked Paige and Nick for their presentations. The Clerk introduced Xander Barratt to the Council. Xander had recently responded to the Clerk's advertisement for a youth representative on the Town Council and he wished to learn more of the Council and its business. The Chair invited Xander to stay for the meeting. The Council noted that it looked forward to Xander being a regular youth representative to assist the Council with its many projects for the current year and the future

629 Declarations of Interest

None

630 Residents' addresses

None

631 Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on Mon 9 July 2019

Cllr Davies signed the July minutes as a true and correct record

632 Chair's and County Members' updates

The Chair looked forward to the coming Armistice and Winter Fair projects in the Town. He added that he will make a donation of £100 to Ty Hafan following the sad news of the passing of local resident Izzy. County Cllr Bob Owen had sent a message to say he will give an update at the next meeting

633 Clerk's Report

633.1 Notice Board

The recently appointed local contractor had fixed the replacement lock and the board was now secure

633.2 Finance Report

The current statements were agreed as satisfactory by the Council. The Clerk reported that the second precept from Caerphilly county borough council had been received on 28 August. The Clerk confirmed that the 18/19 External Audit was being processed. The Clerk reported that he will submit a second Bank Mandate to HSBC Bank to update the signature on the Mayor's account. The Clerk reported that HMRC were still considering an income tax element on Cllrs annual allocations and added that he could prepare a new payroll element with the Playworks accountants who are the current payroll manager for the Clerk. The Council considered the suggestion but decided not to pursue it and that each Councillor is to deal with his/her own personal tax liabilities

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

The Clerk advised that all notifications had been circulated. Cllr Sally Davies and the Clerk attended the Town and Community Council liaison committee on 12 June at Maesycwmmmer. The Clerk reported that he and Cllr Tony Davies are to attend the One Voice Wales annual conference and AGM at Pontrhydfendigaid near Aberystwyth on 5 October. The Clerk added that he is considering an overnight hotel stay on Friday 4 October to break up the long journey. The Council agreed to fund this stop over. Cllr Tony Davies and the Clerk attended the Town and Communities Joint meeting with CCBC Members

on 10 July and Cllr Sally Davies and the Clerk attended an OVW Area meeting at the Gelligaer Community offices on 24 July

633.4 Correspondence/financial assistance applications

The Clerk was awaiting Marc Owen the Pastor at Moriah Church’s newly formed charity’s bank details, to transfer the previously agreed amount of £1,000 from its Projects budget to that charity. The Chair reported that the public collection at the Summer Fayre for the LATCH charity had been paid to Kerry Edwards, the local representative. The Clerk reported on the CCBC Property Officer’s request for consideration of Risca Rugby Club’s lease renewal. The Council agreed with the lease renewal on the condition that the land in question will always remain for community leisure purposes and definitely not for housing or other buildings/developments. A number of Councillors reported that they had been lobbied by a local resident to find long term funding for the Park’s toilet block. The Clerk agreed to write to the resident to advise him of the Council’s current situation in relation to the toilet block

633.5 Ty Isaf School

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

633.6 Administration

The Council agreed to postpone a second public participation exercise at the Senior Citizens Hall to next January as the Council are concentrating on the coming Armistice weekend and Winter Fair projects

634 Current Projects Summary

Cllr Mike Parker asked that Standing Orders be suspended at 8.30 pm for the Council to complete the remaining order of business. He reported that his plans with the Town’s sub-committee for the Town’s Winter Fair had progressed well since the Council had received written permission from CCBC to use the Park for the Fair. The Clerk had booked the hiring of the marquee and the coach and horses. The Clerk is to investigate costs for a new flagpole for the Pontymister Gardens. Xander Barratt suggested that his fellow pupils be asked to provide a music slot at the Winter Fair. The Clerk reported that he had paid for 10 Hi Viz vests to be printed for the Fair’s stewards

Project No.	Project Name	Description & Comments	Amount Paid	Amount Pledged
59	ECMO Machine	A series of music evenings is postponed to the spring		??

64	Armistice 2019			
	1/ 11.00 am Sat 9 Nov	Pontymister small cenotaph/gardens		100
	2/ 7.00 pm Friday 8 Nov	Risca Town and Risca East joint concert		950
	3/ 10.30 pm Sunday 10 Nov	RBL organised parade plus PA system programmes and adverts		550
	JOINT EVENT			440
68	Winter Fayre	Sat 30 November – Event Plans are ongoing		4000
		Christmas tree lighting		308
62	Summer flower baskets June to Sep 2019	Local contractor erected and to maintain summer baskets		4000

635 Planning Applications

Case Refs: 19/0568 and 19/0627 were noted

636 Exclusion of press and public

The Clerk reported the long term sickness of a Council Member. The Council noted the information

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed:

Date:
