

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Risca Town Council
Due to the current Coronavirus crisis it was held as a remote virtual meeting on Monday 10 January 2022

Present: Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Tony Davies, Cllr Sally Davies, Cllr Brian Davies, Cllr Louise Stephens, Cllr Joy Parsons and Cllr Hazel Dupre

Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell

Also in attendance - Risca Royal British Legion representative Steve Veysey and County Cllr Bob Owen

Chair/Mayor Cllr Mike Parker chaired the virtual meeting that commenced at 6.35 pm

877 Apologies

Cllr Ffion Green and Ross Whiting

878 Presentations

Moriah Church Pastor, Marc Owen addressed the Council to provide an update on the Tredegar Park toilet block. Pastor Owen reported that the toilet block was open to the public for most of 2021 for six days of the week (when allowed by the Govt) except for the Christmas holiday week. He added there had been some vandalism at the block that had been attended to and he was grateful to the Town Council and East Community Council for their continued financial support. He will provide an updated report in May 2022 to include the toilet block's forecasted finances for the 2022/2023 financial year.

Steve Veysey of Risca RBL asked if the Council and the Town Clerk would apply to CCBC for an Armistice/Remembrance parade through the Town in 2022. The Clerk agreed that he would take this role on, providing CCBC again provide the necessary road closures and the public indemnity insurance associated with a parade. Steve also reported that the Risca RBL Branch intended to celebrate the 40 years anniversary of the end of the Falklands War on 14th of July 2022

879 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mike Parker declared an interest in a financial assistance from the local nursery group 'Risca Tots'

880 Residents' addresses

None due to the Coronavirus crisis, the Government lockdown and the current Welsh Government emergency regulations

881 Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on Mon 13 Dec 2021

The meeting acknowledged that the agreed minutes were signed as a true and correct record

882 County Borough Ward Members update

County Cllr Ross Whiting submitted an emailed summary and County Cllr Bob Owen gave the Council a verbal summary of the local topics they were recently dealing with

883 Clerk's Report

883.1 Finance Report

The Clerk reported his monthly account summary to date and the Council agreed the report as satisfactory. The Clerk reported that he had still not received any news on the 2020/2021 Audit Return from Audit Wales. The Clerk reported that he had presented the Town Council's agreed no growth budget for 2022/2023 at its December 2021 meeting to Caerphilly county borough council. CCBC had noted that the Band D council tax rate will be set at £27.79 for the financial year. The Clerk will update the Council's 3-year business plan accordingly

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

The next OVW Area virtual meeting is set for Wed 19 Jan 2022. The Town Council will continue to hold virtual meetings unless otherwise advised by Welsh Government and One Voice Wales

883.3 Correspondence

- 1/ The Council noted that the Clerk was still in discussion with Caerphilly CBC to provide a detailed cost estimate of an electrical supply to be located into both memorial gardens in the Town and the additional request from Risca RBL for a water supply at Pontymister Gardens
- 2/ The Clerk is still to arrange for a new defibrillator and outside housing box for the local Fusion Dance Group

3/ The Clerk had investigated costs for the damaged notice board at the local Well Chemist and the main notice board in the Park. The Clerk is to continue to investigate replacements for both notice boards

4/ The Council agreed for Cllr S Davies, J Parsons and L Stephens to make up a Festive Project sub-group for 2022

5/ The Clerk is to check with CCBC if bus drivers were still allowed to use the disabled toilet in the Park

6/ The Clerk confirmed that he had sent out the financial assistance forms to the 'Risca Tots' group

884 Current Projects Summary

The Council discussed the recent Festive Lanterns and Christmas Trees project and suggested that a Council sub-group ought to consider the project for 2022. The Clerk is to undertake a tender process for its projects as soon as possible

Project No.	Project Name	Description & Comments	Amount Paid	Amount Pledged
	Replacement power supply sockets on lighting columns	As part of CCBC's new Town Wifi project		??
	2021 Festive Lanterns and Christmas Trees			£5000
	Christmas window dressing prizes	3 at £100		300
	1/ Power supplies at 2 remembrance Gardens plus a new flagpole at Darren Gardens	2 x Power supplies – Estimated £4000 quotation from CCBC Also a New flagpole - Estimated £900 from Town Council		?
	2/ Water supply at Pontymister Gardens	Discussions are ongoing with CCBC and Risca East for joint funding		?

885 Planning Applications

The Council were mindful of the ongoing discussions between the two County Council Ward Members and Caerphilly CBC Planning Department over the

plans for the Rolling Mill site and the new Travellers' site at Lylac Ridge. Also, the Council wished to note that it was satisfied with the outline planning application for the former Ty Darren with the very limited information provided to date

886 Exclusion of press and public

None

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm

Signed:

Date:
