

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Risca Town Council

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus crisis it was held as a 'hybrid' meeting with both in person and remote virtual access on Monday 11 April 2022

Present : Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Ffion Green, Cllr Sally Davies, and Cllr Tony Davies, Cllr Louise Stephens, Cllr Hazel Dupre, Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell attended in person.

Cllr Joy Parsons, County Cllrs Ross Whiting and Bob Owen attended virtually. Also, Risca RBL representative Steve Veysey and Heddlu Gwent Police representative Officer Louise Jenkins attended in person

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

907 Apologies

None

908 Presentations

Police Officer Louise Jenkins updated the Council on the recent policing activities in the Town. Louise reported that very little had been reported over the last couple of months. The new area Sgt is Kate Llewellyn and her colleague Paige is recovering well following her accident last year. Louise added that the recent initiative of 'Farm Watch' was working well. Cllr Sally Davies asked Louise if she can meet separately to discuss a local issue. Steve Veysey of Risca RBL confirmed the Risca RBL plan for an Easter event at Waunfawr Park on April 16 and the belated 100 years centenary event is also set for May 14 at Waunfawr Park. Risca RBL's Falklands War Commemoration Concert at Moriah Church is set for 10 June at Moriah Church. The Council will consider its donation to support the Risca RBL Concert after the May elections.

909 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Stephens declared an interest in the single planning application

910 Residents' addresses

None

911 Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on Mon 14 Mar 2022

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

912 Mayor's and County Cllrs updates

The Mayor announced that he and Cllr Dupre were standing down at the May elections. The Clerk noted his thanks to County Cllr Ross Whiting for his support to the Town Council over the last 5 years as Ross is standing down at the May elections. Both County Cllrs thanked Risca Town Council for including them in their council meetings and activities over the last 5 years. The Clerk also wished to record his thanks to Cllrs Hazel Dupre and Mike Parker for their excellent service to the local community since 2012 as both Town Cllrs are standing down at the May Elections

913 Clerk's Report

913.1 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 and that he may have to redo the audit back up papers that appear to have been mislaid at Audit Wales. The Council agreed for the Clerk to ask Gwyn James, Clerk at Argoed CC, to carry out the internal audits for 2021/2022

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

The Clerk advised the Council that the next One Voice Wales Area virtual meeting was set for Wed 27 April and both he and Cllr Sally Davies are due to attend

913.3 Correspondence

1/ The Clerk reported that he had received an email from the Caerphilly CBC Cenotaph Officer agreeing to the Risca RBL request for a new water supply at Pontymister Gardens and a new flagpole at the Darren Gardens. The Clerk reported that he had not yet had a response from the Caerphilly CBC Street Lighting Engineer on the previous Risca RBL requests for power supplies at both gardens in the Town. The requests are to be pursued following the May elections

2/ The Clerk is still to contact the local Fusion Dance Group to discuss a power supply for a new defibrillator box on the dance centre building

3/ The Clerk is to continue to investigate replacements for the Councils town centre notice boards

4/ The Clerk reported that he had attended at the Risca Library on Mon 11 April and is in negotiations with CCBC for an annual rental fee for 2022/2023

5/ The Clerk reported the coming Local Elections date of Thurs 5 May 2022 and that CCBC had confirmed that it had received nominations for 7 of the 8 Risca Town Council's seats for the next 5 years

6/ The Council considered its previous decision to set aside £1500 towards medical supplies for the Ukraine communities and £500 towards the travelling costs of transporting these essential supplies. Cllr Louise Stephens advised the Council that medical packs could be purchased for delivery to Ukraine. Cllr Stephens and Cllr Parsons offered to purchase 6 packs at about £2500. As the VAT for the packs could be returned to the Council it agreed for the Clerk to reimburse both Cllrs

914 Current Projects Summary

Cllr Sally Davies confirmed that the plans for a Risca Town Council Summer Fair to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee on the afternoon of Sun 5 June 2022 and the Twmbarlwm Society's plan for a Queen's Jubilee Beacon to be lit at 9.45 pm on Thurs 2 June on the mountain, were being pursued. The Clerk is to contact the Council's insurers Zurich, for a cost to revise and update the project's attendance numbers as the Council believe the summer fair event will be very popular with its' residents

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		??
	1/ Power supplies at 2 remembrance Gardens plus a new flagpole at Darren Gardens	2 x Power supplies – Estimated £4000 quotation from CCBC New flagpole Estimated £900 from Town Council		?
	2/ Water supply at Pontymister Gardens	Discussions are ongoing with CCBC and Risca East for joint funding		?
	Queen's Jubilee			
	1/ Summer Fair	Sunday 5 June		9000
	2/ Twmbarlwm Beacon	Thurs 2 June		500

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915 Planning Application

Case Ref: 22/0262 was noted

916 Exclusion of press and public

One personal matter was discussed

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Signed:

Date:
