

<b>Minutes from the ORDINARY MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at: 8pm on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b> in the Council Chamber, Cwmdauddwr Old School Community Centre.								
0225/01	<b>The meeting opened at 8.35pm</b> <b>ATTENDING:</b> Cllr C. Walton (CW), Chairing. Cllrs A. Davies (AD), C. Evans (CE) D.O. Evans (DOE), R. Smalley (RS), D. Lloyd (DL), J. Davies (JD), P. Roberts (PR), R. Thomas (RT), J. Stuart (JS), H. Hill (HH), O. Harries (OH), the Finance Officer S. Lipscomb (RFO) and Clerk J. Stephens (Clerk) <b>APOLOGIES:</b> C. Hamer (CH)							
0225/02	<b>GUEST SPEAKER(S):</b> Mike Booth (MB), Visitor Attractions Manager, Elan Valley provided a brief update on the current status of the £21.7m Elan Valley Lakes project. He explained the project had reached the planning application stage with an application being submitted on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 25. It is hoped if approved works could start any time between September 2025 or March 2026. Temporary facilities will be made available during works and all existing staff will be retained. MB reiterated the desire to work in partnership with existing local providers wherever possible. Cllrs were clear the project should not displace business in the town and were keen to explore opportunities with MB to seek dual benefit for the Town and the Visitor Centre. <b>Clerk to follow up.</b>							
0225/03	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</b> None							
0225/04	<b>CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS:</b> None							
0225/05	<b>MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS:</b> <i>Street Lamp Banners: (see 0225/16a)</i>							
0225/06	<b>MINUTES:</b> a) The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025 were reviewed and approved.							
0225/07	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA:</b> The following points were noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Banking and Cash Services:</i> AD explained a “Cash Access Assessment” had been completed by LINK. Unfortunately it’s deemed Rhayader has adequate access to Banking Services and Cash either through the Post Office, ATMs or HSBC in Llandrindod Wells. It was agreed AD/The Clerk would continue to raise this with the AM. <b>Clerk to liaise with AD.</b></li> <li>b) <i>Cash Machines:</i> The Clerk explained LINK, who oversee the operation of the ATM machines had checked on the availability of Cash; they found only one instance in the last month where there appeared to be an issue with the ATMs. The Clerk asked that all Cllrs notify her if the ATMs are empty or faulty and it will be reported back to LINK. Ongoing action</li> <li>c) <i>Visitor Levy “Tourism Tax”:</i> Clerk to write to the AM responsible for Tourism to raise concerns over the potential impact. <b>Clerk to action</b></li> <li>d) <i>St John Defibrillator:</i> The new Defib has been presented to St John Ambulance. It was noted by CE that when delivering training an additional Defib would be useful. As the one purchased came in under budget, CE proposed that the remaining amount left from original £500 fund and a contribution from the Mayors Allowance be used to purchase a second one. Agreed unanimously, <b>Clerk to action.</b></li> <li>e) <i>Meeting at St John Ambulance Station:</i> It was proposed to hold a future Council meeting at the St John Ambulance base to use the opportunity to tour the facility. <b>Clerk to organise.</b></li> <li>f) <i>Llangurig /North Road Allotment Field:</i> The Clerk advised she had gone back through the old property documents and was able to confirm the wording on the Covenants relating to the use of the Allotment Field. Noted by all.</li> </ul>							
0225/08	<b>FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:</b> a) The account balances (15/5/25) and payments (20/05/25) to be approved were circulated. <table border="1" data-bbox="354 1864 1352 1936"> <tr> <td>Account</td><td>Bank Balance</td><td>Cost Centre Balance</td></tr> <tr> <td>Current</td><td>£19,987.14</td><td>£89,452</td></tr> </table>		Account	Bank Balance	Cost Centre Balance	Current	£19,987.14	£89,452
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Current	£19,987.14	£89,452						

Certified as a true record

Date

Chair: Councillor C. Walton \_\_\_\_\_

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Toilets	£5,925.62	£5,925.62
Allotment		£2,885.71
Bryntitli		£29,917.45
Investment	£145,972.39	£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)
Recycling		£4,098.34 (Earned Income)

Total in Bank Accounts: £171,885.15

**Internal transfers to approve:**

Current (Precept) to Investment account £15,000

Toilet to Current re HMRC payroll liabilities £57.57

Current to Allotments re plot rent £45

Toilet to Allotment re plot rent £1

Toilet to Current re invoices paid from current in error £215

**Previously approved payments to be signed:**

CURRENT ACCOUNT

Royal British Legion, (payable to the Clerk) VE Day Wreaths £55

Hafod Hardware, compost for the WI Garden £50

MedTree Training Defib, £385.50

**Invoices/ payments to approve:**

CURRENT ACCOUNT

Clerk salary, May 25, as contracted 20 hours per week

RFO salary, May 25, as contracted 9 hours per week

HMRC, May 25

Pryce Marpole, Grass Cutting Apr 25 £30

Pryce Marpole, Grass Cutting May 25 £65

Clr Davies, refund VE Day celebration expenses £56.31

Planning Aid Wales, Training Course for Clr Smalley £50

Office Solutions Wales, VE Day printing £24

Office Solutions Wales, Stationery £63.50

HSBC (DD) charges for period 28/02/25 – 30/03/25 £8

BT (DD) broadband in Chambers Apr 25 £35.94

TOILET ACCOUNT

Caretaker salary, May 25, as contracted 14 hours per week

Amazon (payable to the Clerk) power supply for the CCTV lights £19.33

Nayax Turnstile card processing monthly service Fee Apr 25 £24

Nayax Turnstile card processing fee Apr £30.10

Office Solutions Wales, supplies £179.90

Office Solutions Wales, supplies £123.42

P Walden, repairs at Dark Lane (previously signed) £165

M. Hird, repairs at Dark Lane (previously signed) £50

TLP, Dark Lane Hot Water Blending Valve £264

EE Broadband for CCTV £17.28

HSBC (DD) bank charges for the period 31/03/25—29/04/25 £8

British Gas (DD) Dark Lane CREDIT NOTE Electricity for M/E 01/04/25 -£92.74

British Gas (DD) Dark Lane Electricity bill M/E 01/04/25 £58.18

British Gas (DD) Dark Lane Electricity Bill M/E 01/05/25 £53.04

British Gas (DD) Triangle CREDIT NOTE Electricity for ME 01/04/25 £51.71

British Gas (DD) Triangle Electricity bill ME 01/04/25 £28.06

British Gas (DD) Triangle Electricity bill ME 01/05/25 £26.15

Certified as a true record

Date

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	<p>Dwr Cymru (DD) Dark Lane monthly DD £100 Dwr Cymru (DD) Cwmdauddwr monthly DD £55.50</p> <p><b>Income:</b> <u>CURRENT</u> Precept, 1<sup>st</sup> of 3 tranches £21,697</p> <p><u>TOILETS</u> Cashless Transactions £848 Cash Banked 17/4/25 £250 Cash Banked 16/5/25 £525.61</p> <p><u>ALLOTMENTS</u> Allotments plot fees received £46</p> <p>The balances and payments were approved.</p> <p>b) <i>Funding for the Pump Track, RoSPA Report</i>: The Council were asked to consider payment for the annual RoSPA Report for the Pump Track of £64.89 plus vat. Agreed unanimously, <b>Clerk to action</b></p> <p>c) <i>Funding Requests</i>: A fundraising request was received from Wales Air Ambulance for the Helicopter Upgrade Project was noted.</p>
0225/09	<b>COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES and WORKING GROUPS. None to report</b>
0225/10	<p><b>INFORMATION AND UP-DATES FROM THE LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER.</b></p> <p>In addition to the monthly report, AD highlighted the following:</p> <p>a) <i>Brickwork at Brynheulog</i>: the work is ongoing and has not been left unfinished.</p> <p>b) <i>Crossing on St Harmon Road</i>: AD provided an overview of the meeting with Tony Caine and attended by AD, CE, CW, DOE and the Clerk to explore options to improve the crossing used by school children on St Harmon Road. Tony Caine to consider options and provide feedback to the Council.</p> <p>c) <i>Street Lighting</i>: AD explained PCC are working on a programme to change Street Lighting to more energy efficient &amp; environmentally friendly lighting which will also be Dark Skies compliant. Upgrades to Rhayader lighting are scheduled for this year. Noted</p> <p>d) <i>White Line on St Harmon Road</i>: DOE noted the Centre White Line on St Harmon Road was not in the middle. It was explained this was to allow for the extra width of the roadside parking area.</p> <p>e) AD explained Jake Berriman had now taken over as the new Leader of Powys CC with Raiffe Devlin taking on the remit for Leisure within his portfolio. Clerk to write and congratulate Cllr Berriman on the new Role and invite him to meet with the Council. <b>Clerk to action</b></p> <p>f) <i>Thanks to the Mayor</i>: In her role as County Councillor, AD formally thanked CE for her service over the last year.</p>
0225/11	<p><b>PROJECTS, COMMUNITY ISSUES AND MEMBER DISCUSSIONS</b></p> <p>a) <i>Railings and Road layout St Harmon/Llangurig Road Junction</i>: No further information has been received following the consultation despite a request for the results to be shared with the Council. <b>AD/the Clerk to pursue the matter</b></p> <p>b) <i>VE Day Feedback</i>: JD provided feedback on the family day at the Leisure Centre on the 11<sup>th</sup> May; the day went well with children and families all enjoying themselves. Thanks were extended to JD for making all the arrangements. <b>Clerk to write to the Leisure Centre to thank them for their support.</b> CE explained she was honoured to participate in the Service of Commemoration on the 8<sup>th</sup> May. It served as a reminder to Councillors the importance of these events to the Community and the role the Council should play in Community Leadership.</p> <p>c) <i>Actions from AGM</i>: No additional actions required.</p>

0225/12	<b>HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS: None</b>
0225/13	<b>PUBLICITY and EVENTS: None.</b>
0225/14	<b>PLANNING: None to consider.</b>
0225/15	<b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b> In addition to items already circulated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Invite from the Bracken Trust:</i> The Clerk shared details of a Charity Fundraising Event on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Unfortunately no one is available to attend. <b>Clerk to send apologies</b></li> <li>b) <i>OVW Innovative Practice Conference:</i> The Clerk shared details of the Conference in Builth Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025. Unfortunately no one is able to attend. <b>Clerk to send apologies</b></li> </ul>
0225/16	<b>URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Street Lamp Banners:</i> RT explained PCC have quoted £335.94 to re-hang the Banners following storm damage. Works authorised, <b>Clerk to notify PCC</b></li> </ul>
0225/17	<b>UPDATES FROM THE CLERK:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Welsh Government Toilet Grant:</i> The Clerk explained WG are offering a grant to carry out refurbishment works on toilets in a small number of towns situated on Trunk Roads. Further details to follow.</li> <li>b) <i>OVW Quarterly Brecon &amp; Radnorshire Area Committee Meeting:</i> The next meeting is due on the 18<sup>th</sup> June in Llyswen. <b>CW will endeavour to attend.</b></li> </ul>
0225/18	<b>EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS ITEMS</b> <i>under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (3) it was resolved to exclude members of the public during discussion of the following agenda items: <b>None</b></i>
0225/19	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b> Ordinary Meeting; <b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7pm</b> at Cwmdauddwr Old School.
CLOSE	The meeting closed at 09.45pm

**ACTION POINTS: Actions from the meeting and carried forward from previous meetings:**

Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobile Banking and Cash Services; Liaise with AD to raise the issue with AM</li> <li>• Training Defib; purchase a second unit for St John Ambulance.</li> <li>• WG Visitor Levy "Tourism Tax"; Write to AM and raise concerns</li> <li>• St Harmon Road &amp; Railings: Follow up in conjunction with AD</li> <li>• Organise a Council Meeting in St Johns Ambulance base</li> <li>• Pump Track RoSPA report, confirm payment and ask PCC to include in their inspections</li> <li>• Congratulate Cllr Berriman on his new role</li> <li>• Send thank you letter to the Leisure Centre</li> <li>• Banners, ask PCC to go ahead and rehang Banners</li> <li>• PCSO: Invite to a future meeting</li> <li>• Council owned sites: Ongoing re the Pound at Tanners Row</li> <li>• Document Archives: (ongoing)</li> </ul>
AD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Harmon Road &amp; Railings: Follow up in conjunction with the Clerk</li> <li>• Mobile Banking and Cash Services: Liaise with AD to raise the issue with AM</li> <li>• Road Sweeper Training: (ongoing with PCC)</li> </ul>
CW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toilet door repairs and boxing in - arrange repairs</li> </ul>
DL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorial Stones on North Road Roundabout - lettering: Arrange for it to be repainted.</li> </ul>
CW/DL JS/PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cwmdauddwr Car Park Working group: set up group to include CW, DL, JS &amp; PR to explore options and present a proposal to full Council</li> </ul>