

Minutes from the ORDINARY MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at: 6.30pm on the 20th January 2026 in the Old School Community Centre, Cwmdauddwr.																							
1125/01	<p>The meeting opened at 6.30pm. ATTENDING: Cllr C. Walton (CW) Chairing. Cllrs A. Davies (AD), R. Thomas (RT), C. Evans (CE), J. Stuart (JS), D. Lloyd (DL), R. Smalley (RS), H. Hill (HH), N. Bhardwa (NB) and Clerk J. Stephens (Clerk) . Cllrs D.O. Evans (DOE), J. Davies (JD) and O. Harries (OH), attended remotely. Press, Karen Compton attended remotely from 7.20pm APOLOGIES: Cllrs P. Roberts (PR), C. Hamer (CH) and Finance Officer S. Lipscomb (RFO)</p>																						
1125/02	GUEST SPEAKER(S): None																						
1125/03	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None																						
1125/04	CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Chair welcomed and introduced new Council member Namrata Bhardwa.																						
1125/05	MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS: None																						
1125/06	<p>MINUTES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 16th December 2025 were reviewed, it was noted the name of the new Councillor had been omitted in error. Minutes were then approved. b) The Minutes of the Car Park Working Committee meeting held on the 25th November 2025 were reviewed and approved. c) The minutes of the Allotment Committee Meeting held on the 8th January 2026 were reviewed and approved 																						
1125/07	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>Road Sweeper:</i> RT advised he is waiting for 4 quotes. It was noted Powys CC may still be able to offer a Road Sweeper, further details to follow in due course. b) <i>Car Park/ Road Planings:</i> CW is to follow up with Powys CC to arrange for a load to be delivered to the Cwmdauddwr Car Park. CW to action c) <i>Allotments:</i> To carry forward to a future meeting. Clerk noted d) <i>Solar Feed in Tarriff:</i> Action outstanding, it was agreed this would be passed to the RFO to take forward. Clerk to advise RFO 																						
1125/08	<p>FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The account balances to 18/01/26 and payments to 19/01/265 were circulated for approval. <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Account</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Bank Balance</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Cost Centre Balance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Current</td> <td>£24,838.22</td> <td>£100,710.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Toilets</td> <td>£5,731.11</td> <td>£10,131.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Allotment</td> <td></td> <td>£2,160.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bryntitli</td> <td></td> <td>£45,726.19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Investment</td> <td>£173,634.53</td> <td>£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£5,869.74 (Earned income)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Total in Bank Accounts: £204,203.86, Cash held – to be banked £169.45, Grand Total: £204,373.31</p> <p>Internal Transfers to approve: Current to investment: £15,000</p> <p>Previously approved payment to be minuted: Cylch Bryntitli Payment £500</p> <p>Invoices/ payments to approve: <u>CURRENT ACCOUNT</u> Clerk salary, Jan 26, as contracted 20 hours per week RFO salary, Jan 26, as contracted 9 hours per week HMRC, Jan 26</p>		Account	Bank Balance	Cost Centre Balance	Current	£24,838.22	£100,710.37	Toilets	£5,731.11	£10,131.11	Allotment		£2,160.42	Bryntitli		£45,726.19	Investment	£173,634.53	£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)			£5,869.74 (Earned income)
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Certified as a true record

Date

Chair: Councillor C. Walton _____

	<p>Starboard Systems (Scribe), Civic.ly monthly subscription £21.60 A Gallagher Insurance £1,718.92 Rhayader & District Community Support, Memory Lane Transport £36 Rhayader & District Community Support, RTC room hire £30 Office Solutions Wales, stationery £25.07 Contractor Dave Hill, Town Caretaker duties 27/11/25-08/01/26 - 22 hours £330 BT (DD) broadband at Chambers Dec 25 £38.63 Pixelhaze (DC) monthly website hosting £29.99</p> <p><u>TOILET ACCOUNT</u> Caretaker salary, Jan 26, as contracted 14 hours per week HMRC, Jan 26 Office Solutions Wales Supplies £183.32 EE Broadband for CCTV, S/O payment made on account £21.25 PHS Group, sanitary disposal 09/01/26-08/04/26 £171.60 HSBC (DD) bank charges for the period 30/12/25-30/01/26 £6.25 British Gas (DD) Dark Lane Electricity Bill M/E 01/01/26 £121.14 British Gas (DD) Triangle Electricity bill ME 01/01/26 £30.98 Nayax (DD) Service Fee for Dec 25 £24 Nayax (DD) Transaction Fee for Dec 25 £17.11 Dwr Cymru (DD) Dark Lane, previously signed £225 Dwr Cymru (DD) Cwmdauddwr, previously signed £125 Dwr Cymru (DD) Cemetery, previously signed £18</p> <p>Income: <u>CURRENT</u> Powys County Council, final precept payment for 2025-26 received £21,697.00</p> <p><u>TOILETS</u> Nayax income Dec 25 £479.60 Cash £169.45 – yet to be banked</p> <p><u>INVESTMENT</u> Monthly gross interest earned to 05/01/26 £206.64</p> <p>The balances and payments were approved. b) <i>Mayors Allowance:</i> CW explained he had decided forego his Mayoral Allowance and has instead decided to Vire across to be used as a donation to the Rhayader Carnival Committee, the decision was approved by all. RFO to make the payment of £1,250.</p>
1125/09	<p>COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES and WORKING GROUPS. It was noted the Car Park Committee had met but need to arrange a further meeting. The Allotment Committee require a further meeting to discuss the Llangurig Road site.</p>
1125/10	<p>INFORMATION AND UP-DATES FROM THE LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER. AD referred to her monthly report already circulated, additional points noted: <i>Street Lighting:</i> see item 1125/11e below <i>Gate, Cwmdauddwr Common:</i> Comments have been received re the gate, it was noted this gate belongs to the Elan Valley Trust. <i>Bus Shelter, Cwmdauddwr:</i> The shelter requires some repairs and the bench inside is broken. It was agreed quotes would be obtained and presented to Powys CC for consideration. Clerk noted. <i>Community Orchard, CIC:</i> AD and the Clerk met with a couple who are considering the set up of a Community Orchard as a CIC. Further information to follow in due course <i>Congratulations</i> to James Stuart and the Carnival Committee on their Silver Kite Award Karen Compton then joined the meeting. <i>Events:</i> AD noted Powys CC are already working on plans for the Tour de France 2027. RT advised the Rhayader Tourism Partnership are also developing plans and marketing strategy for the Tour.</p>

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	<p><i>PAVO Community Conversations:</i> AD and RT both attended the follow up meeting. Works include a review of information relating to “Emergency Preparedness”, provision for Young People with a suggestion that RTC address the Youth Group and a new Newsletter for sharing information and “What’s On”. The Arches to lead on this with potential funding support from PAVO. The group will meet again on the 16th February 2026.</p>
1125/11	<p>PROJECTS, COMMUNITY ISSUES AND MEMBER DISCUSSIONS:</p> <p>a) <i>Councillor Co-Option:</i> Namrata Bhardwa was welcomed formally as the newly co-opted Councillor. She has completed a short induction with the Clerk and signed the Acceptance of Office form.</p> <p>b) <i>Transforming Towns Shop Frontage Scheme:</i> Following the recent meeting with the Powys CC Planning officer it was agreed the Council would engage the services of a Planning Specialist with a view to providing initial advice and then handle a group planning application. Fees should be eligible as part of the grant however it was agreed the Council could fund up to £2k from the town improvement fund if required. CE to action with the Clerk.</p> <p>c) <i>Allotments:</i> Further information is required on this subject, carry forward to a future meeting.</p> <p>d) <i>Waun Capel Sandy Park:</i> Concerns were raised over the condition of the play area. It was noted work is due to start soon with new fencing around the small playground area and a living willow fence being installed around the wider play area. The Waun Capel Volunteers were commended for their commitment.</p> <p>e) <i>Street Lighting:</i> AD noted residents had raised concerns over street lighting where the light level had been reduced, these have been shared with Powys CC. It was noted residents can also contact Powys CC directly with specific concerns where necessary.</p> <p>f) <i>Town CCTV:</i> It was noted Town CCTV would be beneficial. CW explained it was still not feasible due to poor broadband speed and lack of WiFi capacity in the town. RT explained the Rhayader Tourism Partnership hope to re-visit the issue of town WiFi at some point.</p> <p>g) <i>Events:</i> RT advised Rali Ceredigion had been confirmed for Sept; with plans to meet later in the day at the Smithfield on the 5th Sept. The Snowdonia Mountain Bike Event will take place the 3rd week in September and NB advised she hoped to organise an evening event to celebrate the Diwali Festival which falls on the 8th November.</p> <p>h) <i>Project Updates from the Clerk:</i> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Toilet Refurb:</i> Funding and list of works yet to be agreed by Powys CC. Contractor quotes are higher than expected so funding will not cover all works on the original list. ○ <i>Brilliant Basics Signage:</i> Assistance may be required to support the installation of signage along the Cycle Path. Cllrs proposed the use of some Quad Bikes to move materials. To liaise with the Clerk ○ <i>Rugby Club:</i> Clerk continuing to work with Powys CC to progress the lease. Waiting on a quote for basic repairs to the building for Safety and Security. The first stakeholders meeting is being organised, further details to follow. ○ <i>Pump Track:</i> The Clerk advised an initial quote had been received for remedial works to the Trees at a cost of £4.5k. Not all of the Trees are within the Pump Track Boundary. Clerk to check the list and arrange for a revised quote. Clerk to action ○ <i>Weirglodd:</i> RT explained he has been in contact with Powys CC re potential funding to upgrade the track and Football Club Car Park in order to enable the Football Club to Host a new Parcel Delivery Hub. PCC are offering to expedite the release of these funds on the condition the Town Council take on a new Lease for these 2 distinct areas. This was agreed in principle subject to the conditions of the Lease. Clerk to notify Powys CC. It was agreed the Clerk would also seek to expedite the Lease for the rest of the Weirglodd Site. Clerk to action. <p>i) <i>One Voice Wales AGM:</i> The Clerk reiterated the main agenda items for the forthcoming OVW AGM. Unfortunately there is no one available to attend. Clerk to send apologies</p>

	<i>j) Cross Border Healthcare Funding:</i> The Clerk shared a proposal from Llandrindod Wells Town Council to set up a working group to consider the challenges of Cross Border Healthcare Funding. It was agreed JD would represent Rhayader TC. Clerk to notify Llandrindod Wells TC
1125/12	HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS: AD advised she is meeting with PCC Highways and the Trunk Road Agency on the 3 rd February 2026
1125/13	PUBLICITY and EVENTS: None
1125/14	PLANNING: None to consider
1125/15	CORRESPONDENCE: In addition to items already circulated: a) <i>Marie Curie Appeal:</i> A general funding request has been received. Noted by all
1125/16	URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA: None
1125/17	UPDATES FROM THE CLERK: No further updates
1125/18	EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS ITEMS <i>under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (3) it was resolved to exclude members of the public and press during discussion of the following agenda items:</i> a) Town Security.
1125/19	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Ordinary Meeting; Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 7.000pm at the Cwmdauddwr Old School.
CLOSE	The meeting closed at 9.00pm

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

Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotments: carry forward to a future agenda. • Green Waste: review alternative methods of disposal, decision to be made in February • Mayors Allowance: Liaise with RFO and arrange for payment as specified • Cwmdauddwr Bus Shelter: Obtain quotes for repair. • Transforming Towns; Shop frontage Scheme: Meet with CE & contact re planning support • Pump Track: Check Trees and obtain a revised quote. • Weirglodd: Liaise with PCC to expedite the Draft Lease for the track & the site. • OVW AGM; send apologies • Cross Border Healthcare Costs: Advise Llandrindod Wells TC, JD will be the RTC Representative • Water Harvesting System: arrange meeting with CW and RT in the new year • Council Pound/Garage Repairs: Arrange to meet on site and assess works required. • PCSO: Invite to the February meeting
RFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Panels on Toilets: Follow up on Feed in Tarriff • Reconciliation: share access with PR and arrange date to review
RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Sweeper: Liaise with Town Caretaker on purchase and present a proposal to the Council • Water Harvesting System: To meet with CW and the Clerk in the new year
AD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A470 works and missing railings: Continue to follow up with Trunk Road Agency on issues raised.
CW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Planings: Follow up with PCC and arrange for a load to be delivered to Cwmdauddwr • Clock Posts and Chains: Obtain a quote to replace and likely ongoing maintenance and repair costs • Water Harvesting System: To meet with RT and the Clerk in the new year
DL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial Stones, North Road Roundabout lettering: DL progressing
CW, DL, JS, PR & CH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwmdauddwr Car Park Working group: Initial meeting held, to present proposals to the full Council
Toilet Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband: Consider installation of hard wired Broadband to Dark Lane
Asset Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finger Posts: Poor condition, consider improvements