

Minutes from the ORDINARY MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at: 6.30pm on the 21st April 2026 in the Council Chambers, Old School Community Centre, Cwmdauddwr.																										
0126/01	<p>The meeting opened at 6.30pm. ATTENDING: Cllr C. Walton (CW) Chairing. Cllrs J. Stuart (JS), P. Roberts (PR), A. Davies (AD), D.O. Evans (DOE), O. Harries (OH), C. Hamer (CH), N. Bhardwa (NB), R. Smalley (RS), Clerk J. Stephens (Clerk) and Finance Officer S. Lipscomb (RFO) Cllr C. Evans (CE) attended remotely APOLOGIES: Cllrs R. Thomas (RT), D. Lloyd (DL), H. Hill (HH) and J. Davies (JD)</p>																									
0126/02	GUEST SPEAKER(S): None																									
0126/03	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None																									
0126/04	CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS: None																									
	MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS: CH – Overgrown Hedge, Cwmdauddwr (see 0126/16a)																									
0126/06	<p>MINUTES:</p> <p>a) The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 24th March 2026 were reviewed and approved.</p>																									
0126/07	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA:</p> <p>a) <i>Picnic Benches/ riverbank ownership:</i> The Clerk clarified the ownership of the stretch of riverbank and confirmed permission had been granted to cut back vegetation. Clerk to liaise with the Town Caretaker on Bench repairs</p> <p>b) <i>The Old Council Pound/Garage:</i> See item 0126/11j</p> <p>c) <i>Bank Reconciliation Check:</i> PR to carry out the reconciliation check by mid-May. PR noted</p>																									
0126/08	<p>FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:</p> <p>a) The account balances to 20/04/26 and payments to 21/04/26 were circulated for approval.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Account</th> <th>Bank Balance</th> <th>Cost Centre Balance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Current</td> <td>£5,151.56</td> <td>£87,847.74</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Toilets</td> <td>£3,753.65</td> <td>£8,153.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Allotment</td> <td></td> <td>£2,543.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bryntitli</td> <td></td> <td>£34,856.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Investment</td> <td>£253,221.49</td> <td>£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£82,617.28 (Toilet refurb/Weirglodd access/ community newsletter)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£6,502.42 (Earned income)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Total in Bank Accounts: £262,126.70</p> <p>Internal Transfers to approve: Current to Investment (PCC) £65,000 Current to Investment (PCC & PAVO) £17,617.28 Investment to Current £10,000 Investment to Toilets £5,000</p> <p>Previously approved payment to be minuted: Wye & Usk Foundation donation £100</p> <p>Invoices/ payments to approve: <u>CURRENT ACCOUNT</u> Clerk salary, Apr 26, as contracted 20 hours per week RFO salary, Apr 26, as contracted 9 hours per week HMRC, Apr 26 Starboard Systems (Scribe), Civic.ly monthly subscription £21.60 Office Solutions Wales, INV 5115 £59.99 Cwmdauddwr Chambers annual rent 2025-26 £318.75 Malwarebytes antivirus (refund to Clerk) £20.99</p>		Account	Bank Balance	Cost Centre Balance	Current	£5,151.56	£87,847.74	Toilets	£3,753.65	£8,153.65	Allotment		£2,543.22	Bryntitli		£34,856.36	Investment	£253,221.49	£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)			£82,617.28 (Toilet refurb/Weirglodd access/ community newsletter)			£6,502.42 (Earned income)
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	<p>Powys County Council preplanning advice statutory fees £332 Powys County Council preplanning advice non-statutory fees £300 Michael Byrne, 1st grass cut on Roundabout £54 Pixelhaze (DC) monthly website hosting £29.99 <u>TOILET ACCOUNT</u> Caretaker salary, Apr 26, as contracted 14 hours per week @ new rate of pay HMRC, Apr 26 EE Broadband for CCTV, S/O payment made on account £21.25 Office Solutions Wales, INV 5048 Supplies £221.90 Office Solutions Wales, INV 5136 Supplies £47.95 British Gas (DD) Dark Lane Electricity Bill M/E 01/04/26 £57.98 British Gas (DD) Triangle Electricity bill ME 01/04/26 £17.38 Nayax (DD) Service Fee for Mar 26 £24 Nayax (DD) Transaction Fee for Mar 26 £23.59 Dwr Cymru (DD) Dark Lane, previously signed £225 Dwr Cymru (DD) Cwmdauddwr, previously signed £125 Dwr Cymru (DD) Cemetery, RFO advised the monthly amount had been increased to £22 AD to ask Powys CC why RTC pay for water usage as Powys CC run the Cemetery. AD to follow up</p> <p>Income: <u>CURRENT</u> Powys CC - Toilet refurbishment Grant £65,000 PAVO – Community Newsletter Grant £2,617.28 Powys CC – Weirglodd Access Road Funding £15,000</p> <p><u>TOILETS</u> Nayax income Mar 26 £664.40 Cash Income £220.73</p> <p><u>ALLOTMENTS</u> Annual fees to date this month £390. All plot holder fees now received</p> <p><u>INVESTMENT</u> Monthly gross interest earned to 05/04/26 £226.43</p> <p>The balances and payments were approved</p>
0126/09	<p>COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES and WORKING GROUPS.</p> <p>a) <i>Footpath Volunteers Group</i>: PR provided an update on the groups plans including the works scheduled for the Rhayader area in the coming months. b) <i>Cross Border Healthcare Group</i>: JD to provide an update, carry forward to the next meeting c) <i>Allotment Committee</i>: AD reported the committee had met, see item 0126/11k for proposal</p>
0126/10	<p>INFORMATION AND UP-DATES FROM THE LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER.</p> <p>Monthly report has been circulated, points to note:</p> <p>a) AD noted the fantastic work carried out by the team at Waun Capel including the installation of a new Willow living fence, tunnel and arbour b) AD explained the CiW School had participated in the prestigious All Wales Online Eisteddfod and scored the highest points out of all the competitions and were the overall winners. Clerk to write and congratulate them</p>
0126/11	<p>PROJECTS, COMMUNITY ISSUES AND MEMBER DISCUSSIONS:</p> <p>a) <i>Transforming Towns Shop Frontage Scheme</i>: Powys CC confirmed the grant application has been successful subject to contract conditions yet to be specified. Further information to follow in due course, Clerk to follow up with the planning consultant and Powys CC planning officers. b) <i>Toilet Refurbishment</i>: Quotes for all works have been obtained. At Cwmdauddwr this will cover repair of external render, external repainting, Solar PV, internal painting, new lighting,</p>

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	<p>hot water supply, new steel sinks and taps and new baby changing unit. At Dark Lane works will include new wall covering, new cubicles, new external doors, new door with payment functionality on the Disabled Toilet, new lighting throughout, new steel sinks and taps, and plumbing works to the Water Harvesting System to resolve low pressure issues. The grant fund is £65k. The total works are expected to total £68k. The difference can be funded from the toilet account and cost savings that will be made as a result of the works. Additional £3k approved. Clerk to action. It was noted there could be considerable fees for the contractors to place skips at Dark Lane. AD to discuss options with Powys CC</p> <p>c) <i>Y Weirglodd</i>: The Clerk provided an update on the proposed Lease for Y Weirglodd Site. It was agreed the Council would proceed with the Lease however this would be subject to the full terms and conditions contained in the Lease. The Clerk will also request details of the current agreement with the Grazier and ensure the Pump House is excluded from the arrangement. Clerk to notify Powys CC. It was noted Powys CC had paid the £15k towards the track improvements, dependant on completion of the Lease. Final quotes are being sought by RT to ensure best value for money and quality of work, the Council agreed to go ahead with the works as outlined. The placement of the Inpost Locker at the Football Club was discussed and approved by the Council.</p> <p>d) <i>Rugby Club Y Weirglodd Community Hub</i>: The Clerk confirmed a grant application prepared by RT had been submitted to the Pride in Place Investment Fund (PiPIF)</p> <p>e) <i>2026-2028 Biodiversity Action Plan</i>: The updated plan was reviewed and approved. Clerk to add to website and copy to One Voice Wales</p> <p>f) <i>Pension Policy</i>: The new Pension Policy was reviewed and approved. Clerk to update files and add to the website</p> <p>g) <i>Grass Cutting</i>: The cost of grass cutting has increased mainly due to rising fuel costs. Revised budget costs of an additional £87 per annum were provided by the RFO and approved by the Council. Clerk to notify the contractor.</p> <p>h) <i>Email Capacity Upgrade</i>: The Clerk explained the electronic storage capacity had been reached, the option to double the capacity for an additional £20 per month was approved. Clerk to action</p> <p>i) <i>Town Investment Plan</i>: Further consideration is required to update the plan to reflect the Councils future aims and priorities for the town, Cllrs to review the previous Town Council Business Plan to carry forward any previous ideas. Clerk to circulate. It was noted the Rhayader Tourism Partnership had undertaken a community consultation exercise to update their strategy and had valuable information that should be incorporated into the plan. Clerk to request a copy for circulation to the Council. To be added to the next agenda</p> <p>j) <i>Repair & Maintenance of Council Assets</i>: AD reiterated the need to actively maintain Council Assets. Quotes have been obtained for repairs to the <i>Council Pound/Garage on Tanners Row</i>. It was agreed the Pound would be emptied, the old roof and doors removed and the walls cleared of ivy. A further assessment of the condition could then take place and further works costed out. The Clerk to liaise with the Town Caretaker. CW to follow up on the contents.</p> <p>k) <i>Llangurig Road Allotment Field</i>: AD explained a request to rent the field on Llangurig Road had been received. The Allotment Committee had met to discuss this and issues with the condition of the fencing. The Council agreed to allocate up to £2k for the works to clear the overgrown vegetation, cut back trees and repair the fence, this will come from the main Council Budget. There is an additional £655 available to cover cost to repair the gate from the insurance claim. Allotment Committee to action (AD)</p> <p>l) <i>Powys CC Housing Allocation</i>: AD confirmed she had circulated the information requested. Noted by all, no further questions were raised.</p>
0126/12	HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS: None
0126/13	PUBLICITY and EVENTS: None

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0126/14	PLANNING: None
0126/15	CORRESPONDENCE: In addition to items already circulated: a) <i>Donation Request, Kids Cancer Charity:</i> A general donation request has been received. Noted by all. b) <i>Eisteddfod Proclamation Ceremony:</i> To be held in Llanidloes on the 9 th May. Noted by all
0126/16	URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA: a) <i>Overgrown Hedge, Cwmdauddwr:</i> CH explained the overgrown hedge in Cwmdauddwr was encroaching on the Christmas Tree display area which had caused some difficulties. CH to contact owners.
0126/17	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> None
0126/18	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 12th May 2026 Annual Meeting at 6.30pm followed by the Ordinary Meeting at 8.00pm at the Council Chambers, Cwmdauddwr Old School.
CLOSE	The meeting closed at 8.30pm

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

Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bench repairs: Liaise with the Town Caretaker • Congratulations letter to School • Shop Frontage Improvement Scheme, follow up with PCC, planning and planning consultant • Toilet Refurb: Move forward with works as per quotes in conjunction with the Toilet Committee • Weirglodd: Liaise with PCC to obtain the draft copy of the Lease. Request details of current grazing licence and ensure the Pump House is excluded. • Biodiversity Report: Update website and issues to OVW • Pension Policy: Update website • Grass Cutting: Confirm arrangements with the Contractor • Town Investment Plan: Circulate the old RTC business plan, liaise with the RTP on their strategy document, add to the next agenda • Old Council Pound, Tanners Row: Liaise with Town Caretaker on works • Elan Valley Trust: Ask the Trust to consider a town council representative. (awaiting response) • Monks Trod: add to the next agenda • Pump Track: Liaise with Football Club on works to trees.
RFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar feed in Tariff: Complete paperwork for British Gas Contract.
RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Sweeper: Liaise with Town Caretaker on purchase and present a proposal to the Council (pending update from PCC)
AD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilet Refurb: Contact PCC re Car Park costs during the refurb • Cemetery Water Costs: Check with PCC on responsibility for costs • Llangurig Road Field: Allotment Committee to obtain quotes for fence/gate repairs & vegetation
CH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overgrown Hedge, Cwmdauddwr: contact the owners
CW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Council Pound, Tanners Row: Arrange for contents to be removed. • Clock Posts and Chains: Obtain a quote to replace and likely ongoing maintenance and repair costs
DL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial Stones, North Road Roundabout lettering
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