

Minutes from the ORDINARY MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at: 7pm on the 29th July 2025 in the Rugby Club, The Weirglodd.

0425/01	The meeting opened at 6.55pm ATTENDING: Cllr C. Walton (CW), Chairing. Cllrs A. Davies (AD), D.O. Evans (DOE), C. Evans (CE), D. Lloyd (DL), R. Thomas (RT), J. Stuart (JS), P. Roberts (PR), O. Harries (OH), H. Hill (HH), R. Smalley (RS), the Finance Officer S. Lipscomb (RFO) and Clerk J. Stephens (Clerk) K. Compton (Press) joined remotely from 7.45pm APOLOGIES: J. Davies (JD) and C. Hamer (CH),																						
0425/02	GUEST SPEAKER(S): None																						
0425/03	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: AD all planning applications, HH planning item 0425/14a																						
0425/04	CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS: CW congratulated the Carnival Committee and all those involved in an exceptional carnival which was enjoyed by all. Well done !																						
0425/05	MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS: a) CW – <i>Motorbike Parking at the Clock</i> (see 0425/16a) b) Clerk – <i>Additional Planning Application for the Elan Valley</i> (see 0425/14c)																						
0425/06	MINUTES: a) The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 17 th June 2025 were reviewed and approved. b) The Minutes of the Allotment Committee Meeting held on the 17 th June 2025 were reviewed and approved																						
0425/07	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA: The following points were noted: a) <i>Mayors Allowance:</i> The Clerk explained One Voice Wales had confirmed this payment is classed as income and therefore subject to tax so should be made through PAYE if taken. Clerk to discuss with the Mayor. b) <i>Memorial Stones, North Road Roundabout:</i> DL to complete shortly.																						
0425/08	FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE: a) The account balances (25/07/5) and payments (29/07/25) to be approved were circulated. <table border="1" data-bbox="354 1192 1354 1444"> <thead> <tr> <th>Account</th><th>Bank Balance</th><th>Cost Centre Balance</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Current</td><td>£18,633.36</td><td>£88,621.85</td></tr> <tr> <td>Toilets</td><td>£6,032.61</td><td>£6,032.61</td></tr> <tr> <td>Allotment</td><td></td><td>£2,247.08</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bryntitli</td><td></td><td>£29,917.45</td></tr> <tr> <td>Investment</td><td>£146,376.30</td><td>£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Recycling</td><td></td><td>£4,617.25 (Earned Income)</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Total in Bank Accounts: £171,042.27</p> <p>New Standing Order: This has been set up for EE until a Direct Debit can be put in place to ensure uninterrupted service.</p> <p>Internal transfers to approve: Toilet to Current for payments made from wrong account £437.63 Current to Investment, Brilliant Basics funding contribution £5,000 Current to Toilets for payment made from wrong account £60</p> <p>Previously approved payments, copy invoices to be signed for records: <u>CURRENT ACCOUNT</u> Cwmduddwr Community Centre, room hire Apr 24 to Mar 25 £365.50 Powys CC, Building regs for Toilet Upgrade £765.00 Nayax onboarding fee £48.00</p>		Account	Bank Balance	Cost Centre Balance	Current	£18,633.36	£88,621.85	Toilets	£6,032.61	£6,032.61	Allotment		£2,247.08	Bryntitli		£29,917.45	Investment	£146,376.30	£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)	Recycling		£4,617.25 (Earned Income)
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Certified as a true record

Date

Chair: Councillor C. Walton _____.

Nayax Processing fee, Dec 24 £16.80
 Nayax Service Charge, Dec 24 £24.00
 Nayax Processing fee, Feb 25 £16.80
 Nayax Service Charge, Feb 25 £24.00
 EE Bill for Nov 24 (payment made to RT) £18.40
 EE Bill for Dec 24 £17.28
 EE Bill for Jan 25 £17.28
 EE Bill for Feb 25 (paid £17.28 on account) £12.26
Invoices/ payments to approve:
CURRENT ACCOUNT
 Clerk salary, July 25, as contracted 20 hours per week
 RFO salary, July 25, as contracted 9 hours per week
 HMRC, July 25
 Office Solutions Wales, Stationery ref. 4671 £11.56
 Office Solutions Wales, Stationery ref. 4686 £71.94
 Midway plants – plants and compost for Clock planters (refund to Clerk) £55.98
 Powys CC, green waste collection REFUND -£8.72
 Powys CC, green waste collection June 25 £8.72
 Caerfagu, repairs supplies ref. 534113 £5.40
 Caerfagu, repairs supplies ref. 534717 £35.52
 RBS, repairs supplies ref. 06711 £40.19
 RBS, repairs supplies ref. 07199 £3.23
 Dave Hill Town Caretaker Services £450
 Michael Byrne Grass Cutting Services 22/6/25 £30
 Michael Byrne Grass Cutting Services 29/6/25 £30
 Michael Byrne Grass Cutting Services 06/07/25 £30
 Michael Byrne Grass Cutting Services 12/07/25 £30
 Michael Byrne Grass Cutting Services 27/07/25 £30
 Michael Byrne Grass Cutting Services for the Pump Track 360.00
 MedTree, defib accessories postage only £4.20
 Microsoft Annual Subscription (payable to Clerk) £84.99
 HSBC (DD) charges for period 31/05/25- 29/06/25 £8
 BT (DD) broadband in Chambers June 25 £38.63
TOILET ACCOUNT
 Caretaker salary, July 25, as contracted 14 hours per week
 Caretaker holiday and sickness cover July 25
 HMRC, July 25
 TLP Construction, ball valve repair £115.20
 Office Solutions Wales, supplies ref. 4658 £219.77
 Office Solutions Wales, supplies ref. 4688 £190.73
 EE Broadband, payment made on account £21.25
 EE Broadband, payment of underpaid amount from previous months £5.43
 Nayax Turnstile processing fee May 25 £36.59
 Nayax Turnstile monthly card service fee May 25 £24
 Nayax Turnstile processing fee June 25 £31.06
 Nayax Turnstile monthly card service fee May 25 £24
 HSBC (DD) bank charges for the period 31/05/25-29/06/25 £18.82
 British Gas (DD) Dark Lane Electricity Bill M/E 01/07/25 £32.76
 British Gas (DD) Triangle Electricity bill ME 01/07/25 £22.10
 Dwr Cymru (DD) Dark Lane monthly DD £100

	<p>Dwr Cymru (DD) Cwmduddwr monthly DD £55.50 Dwr Cymru (DD) Cemetery monthly £18</p> <p><u>ALLOTMENTS</u> Odd Job Tom D Repairs to shed floor £580 N Nicholls Hedge Cutting £150</p> <p>Income: <u>TOILETS</u> Card Payments via Nayax £1,023.80 Card Payments via Nayax £874.39 Cash Banked 26/06/25 £181.41 Cash Banked 21/07/25 £420.71</p> <p><u>INVESTMENT</u> Monthly gross interest earned to 05/07/25 £201.84</p> <p>The balances and payments were approved.</p> <p>b) <i>Annual Local Government Pay Award</i>: The RFO presented the revised salary figures for the Clerk and RFO, these are within the annual budgeted figures.</p> <p>c) <i>Proposal to upgrade Scribe to include Asset Module</i>: The clerk presented a business case to upgrade Scribe, annual cost £216. Agreed unanimously. Clerk to action.</p> <p>d) <i>Totem repair costs</i>: The Clerk & RT provided costs for the repair and fitting of the Totem Screen. Screen £960, electrical works up to c.£250. Agreed. Clerk to action with RT</p>
0425/09	<p>COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES and WORKING GROUPS.</p> <p>a) <i>Toilet WiFi</i>: consider new hard wired telecoms line for Broadband at Dark Lane. Noted</p>
0425/10	<p>INFORMATION AND UP-DATES FROM THE LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER.</p> <p>In addition to the monthly report, AD highlighted the following:</p> <p>a) <i>Church in Wales School</i>: Congratulations extended to the School for a positive Estyn report, an excellent Church Report and the presentation of the Platinum Peace Mala Award. A fantastic achievement by all concerned.</p> <p>b) <i>Highways Team</i>: AD attended a briefing on winter maintenance. The team would like to come and explain their role and plans to the Council. Clerk to invite to a future meeting</p>
0425/11	<p>PROJECTS, COMMUNITY ISSUES AND MEMBER DISCUSSIONS</p> <p>a) <i>Weirglodd Update</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The Pump Track</i>: CE provided an update on the recent meeting of the Rhayader and District Sports Association. Part of the discussion covered the draft MoU which had been updated to reflect insurance requirements. The draft document is being updated before being returned to the Clerk for Council approval at the next meeting. Clerk to follow up <i>Community Asset Transfer (CAT)</i>: The CAT for the Weirglodd site is still outstanding, awaiting further update from PCC. <i>Rugby Club</i>: There is an opportunity to take over the Lease of the Club either in collaboration with the Rugby Club Committee or just the Council. The Pros and Cons were considered at length including the running costs, work required and potential for grants. It was agreed the Council would pursue options to take on the lease. Clerk to contact Powys CC. It was also agreed any funds required for the running costs identified could be taken from the Bryntitli fund. <p>b) <i>Community Investment Company</i>: Cllrs were keen to investigate the options to set up a CIC or similar as a vehicle for generating income to invest in the community but felt it needed a specific project to start with. Cllrs to consider options to take forward at the next meeting. All Cllrs to consider.</p> <p>c) <i>VJ Day</i>: The Clerk explained there is a Service of Commemoration planned in Llandrindod Wells on the 17th August, the organisers will be reading out the list of those fallen in WW2</p>

	and offered to include the fallen from Rhayader and surrounding parishes. Cllrs felt it would still be preferable if a small service could take place in Rhayader if participants were available.
0425/12	HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS: None
0425/13	PUBLICITY and EVENTS: None.
0425/14	<p>PLANNING: AD and HH declared an interest and left the room</p> <p>a) 25/0809/FUL: Land at rear of Claremont, East Street; demolish existing workshop, erection of new 3 bed dwelling and amendments to access. Members of the public joined the meeting to express their concerns regarding the above planning application. It was noted they had not been consulted and no official notices had been displayed by Powys CC Planning Department. Key concerns raised include waste management; the application states the sewage will connect to the existing the system however it is believed there is no current connection; the retaining wall appears to be unstable; privacy issues and the level of noise likely to be generated during the build process. There are significant concerns with access issues; the access is shared between 7 properties so cannot be blocked at any time, there is limited space for any additional parking and there appears to be no scope to achieve the increased splay of 20 meters stated in the application. The Councillors then discussed the plans previously circulated. After discussion the decision was made to oppose the development; There are already issues with Parking on Dark Lane and a previous planning application had been refused in 2016 on the grounds of access issues. There is no evidence of any significant changes to alter this decision. Clerk to notify planning.</p> <p>b) 25/0974/LBC: The Elan Valley Visitor Centre; Proposed extensions and alterations including minor demolition work and all associated works</p> <p>c) 25/0973/FUL: The Elan Valley Visitor Centre; Proposed extensions and alterations including minor demolition work to remove the porch and all associated works. Planned works were considered, after discussion it was confirmed the Council were supportive of the development and the benefits it brings to the tourism economy. There were concerns noted with the impact increased visitor numbers could have on residents in the Elan Village, particularly with parking and it is hoped plans to mitigate against this will be implemented early in the overall development plans. Councilors also noted the requirement to mitigate against any potential environmental impact. Clerk to notify planning for both applications</p>
0425/15	<p>CORRESPONDENCE: In addition to items already circulated:</p> <p>a) <i>One Voice Wales Constitution:</i> A representative is required to attend an online EGM on the 3rd Sept to vote on the new OVW Constitution. The Chair will attend, Clerk to notify OVW.</p> <p>b) <i>PAVO Community Consultation:</i> All Cllrs to complete the online consultation with views on future challenges and opportunities for the community, Clerk to re-circulate email to all.</p> <p>c) <i>Code of Conduct Training:</i> A new training course is available for Councils. It was felt the subject had been covered through the update at the Annual Meeting in May.</p>
0425/16	<p>URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA:</p> <p>a) <i>Motorbike Parking at the Clock:</i> A resident has expressed concerns with Motorbikes parking on the Chevrons at the Clock. The matter was discussed at length and although the Council could sympathise with the concerns raised and are mindful of the challenging parking situation across town it was noted that the Council have also received many positive comments from residents and visitors who enjoy seeing the bikes parked there. The Council will continue to monitor the situation. Clerk to respond.</p>
0425/17	UPDATES FROM THE CLERK: No further updates

0425/18	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 during discussion of the following agenda items: None</i>
0425/19	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Ordinary Meeting; Tuesday 19th August 2025 at 7pm at Cwmdauddwr Old School.
CLOSE	The meeting closed at 9.55pm

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

Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayors Allowance: Discuss with the Mayor • Scribe Accounts Asset Management Module: go ahead and implement • Totem, Screen Replacement: Confirm the Council will cover payment • PCC Highways Team: invite to a future meeting • Pump Track MoU: follow up on the draft document • Rugby Club: Contact PCC and discuss the process for taking on the Lease • Community Investment Company: Add to the next Agenda • Policy Review: Add to a future Agenda • Planning Applications: Feedback to PCC Planning Department • Correspondence: Respond to all correspondence as agreed • PCSO: Invite to a future meeting • Council owned sites: Ongoing re the Pound at Tanners Row • Document Archives: Arrange a date for a review
All Cllrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Investment Company: Consider ideas for a relevant Project to take this forward and bring to the next meeting
AD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Sweeper Training: (ongoing with PCC)
DL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial Stones on North Road Roundabout - lettering: Arrange for it to be repainted asap
CW/DL JS/PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwmdauddwr Car Park Working group: set up group to include CW, DL, JS & PR to explore options and present a proposal to full Council

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Chair: Councillor C. Walton _____.

Date _____