

Minutes from the ORDINARY MEETING of RHAYADER TOWN COUNCIL held at: 6.30pm on the 30th September 2025 in the St John Ambulance Cymru Base, Rhayader.																							
0625/01	The meeting opened at 6.30pm with a presentation delivered by St John Ambulance Cymru ATTENDING: Cllr C. Walton (CW) Chairing. Cllrs A. Davies (AD), D.O. Evans (DOE), R. Thomas (RT), J. Davies (JD), R. Smalley (RS), H. Hill (HH), O. Harries (OH), Finance Officer S. Lipscomb (RFO) and Clerk J. Stephens (Clerk) C. Evans (CE) and J. Stuart (JS) attended remotely APOLOGIES: D. Lloyd (DL), P. Roberts (PR), and C. Hamer (CH)																						
0625/02	GUEST SPEAKER(S): Nicola Thomas-Botwood representing the St John Ambulance Cymru team. Nicola provided a comprehensive update on the positive developments at the base, now recognised as the main Hub in Powys and registered as Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust First Responders. The team is growing with a further 5 people working through their induction. Working to equip various community groups and pupils with essential lifesaving skills the team have trained 240 people in the last month with plans to expand this further in addition to delivering accredited First Aid at Work and Fire Marshall Training . The presentation ended with a tour of the base and demonstration of equipment. There are plans to hold a Christmas Event in December, it was noted that any funds raised are now ringfenced for Rhayader. The Chair thanked the team on behalf of the Council for an excellent visit and for hosting the meeting.																						
0625/03	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: JD declared an interest in the Funding Request item 0625/11d as an employee of the organisation																						
0625/04	CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Chair passed on congratulations to all those involved in the excellent Rali Ceredigion event.																						
0625/05	MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER URGENT BUSINESS: a) <i>CW – The damaged Chains around the Clock (see 0625/16a)</i> b) <i>AD – Damaged Railings A40/St Harmon Junction (0625/16b)</i> c) <i>Clerk – Urdd sponsorship funding request (see 0625/16c)</i>																						
0625/06	MINUTES: a) The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 19th August 2025 were reviewed and approved. b) The Minutes of the Asset Committee Meeting held on the 19th August 2025 were reviewed and approved																						
0625/07	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA: a) <i>Powys CC Highways team;</i> They will attend the October Meeting. b) <i>Documents:</i> The Clerk advised further review of the documents needs to take place before archiving can take place.																						
0625/08	FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE: a) The account balances to 22/09/25 and payments to 30/09/25 were circulated for approval. <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>£13,458.55</td><td>£100,168.53</td></tr> <tr> <td>Toilets</td><td>£5,066.91</td><td>£5,066.91</td></tr> <tr> <td>Allotment</td><td></td><td>£2,222.59</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bryntitli</td><td></td><td>£29,917.45</td></tr> <tr> <td>Investment</td><td>£163,482.08</td><td>£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Earned Income</td><td></td><td>£5,026.03</td></tr> </tbody> </table> Total in Bank Accounts: £182,007.54 Invoices/ payments to approve:		Account	Bank Balance	Cost Centre Balance	Current	£13,458.55	£100,168.53	Toilets	£5,066.91	£5,066.91	Allotment		£2,222.59	Bryntitli		£29,917.45	Investment	£163,482.08	£39,606.03 (Sports Hall Fund)	Earned Income		£5,026.03
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Chair: Councillor C. Walton _____

Date _____

CURRENT ACCOUNT

Clerk salary, Sep 25, as contracted 20 hours per week
 RFO salary, Sep 25, as contracted 9 hours per week
 HMRC, Sep 25
 Office Solutions Wales supplies, 4765 £21.56
 Office Solutions Wales supplies, 4780 £94.31
 Fastnet Hosting 360 annual renewal £240
 Audit Wales, 2020/21 audit fees £240
 Michael Byrne Grass Cutting 07/09/25 £30
 Michael Byrne Grass Cutting 21/09/25 £60
 Powys CC Green Waste Collections Aug 25 £17.44
 Annual Grass Cutting contribution paid to churches & chapels - total £400
 Community payments completed: Carad, MUGA, Carnival & Groe Trust - total £2,000
 RBS Glass for noticeboard £100.51
 RBS items for repairs £3.62
 D. Hill Town Caretaker Aug 25 £375
 D. Hill Town Caretaker Sep 25 £360
 HSBC (DD) charges for period 31/07/25 – 30/08/25 £2
 BT (DD) broadband in Chambers Aug 25 £38.63
 BT (DD) broadband in Chambers Sep 25 £38.63

TOILET ACCOUNT

Caretaker salary, Sept 25 14 hours as contracted
 HMRC, Sept 25
 Office Solutions Wales, supplies ref. 4744 £126
 Office Solutions Wales, supplies ref. 4804 £177.20
 RBS switch repairs £5.93
 Nayax Turnstile processing fee Aug 25 £46.04
 Nayax Turnstile monthly card service fee Aug 25 £24
 EE Broadband, payment made on account £19.06
 HSBC (DD) bank charges for the period 31/07/25 - 30/08/25 £11.47
 PHS Group (DD) Annual waste handling duty of care £107.70
 PHS Group (DD) Sanitary Disposal, quarterly £171.60
 British Gas (DD) Dark Lane Electricity Bill M/E 01/09/25 £36.48
 British Gas (DD) Triangle Electricity bill ME 01/09/25 £24.69
 Dwr Cymru (DD) Dark Lane monthly DD £100
 Dwr Cymru (DD) Cwmdauddwr monthly DD £55.50
 Dwr Cymru (DD) Cemetery monthly £18

ALLOTMENTS

Office Solutions Wales, noticeboard 4770 £29.39

Income:TOILETS

Card Payments via Nayax Aug 25 £1,291.60
 Cash Banked 11/9/25 £550.92

INVESTMENT

Monthly gross interest earned to 05/09/25 £203.77

The balances and payments were approved.

- b) Grass mowing:** There continues to be negative feedback on the appearance of the Grass Bank alongside the Car Park. It was agreed small areas would be left for Pollinators with wider mown strips around it. Signs are with the Town Caretaker to be installed in the Pollinator areas. **Clerk to action.**

	c) <i>Toilets, Water Harvesting Issues</i>: There continues to be issues with the Water supply. Clerk to arrange meeting with RT and CW to discuss the way forwards. Clerk to action d) <i>Toilets, Solar Feed in Tariff</i>: RT to investigate further. The RFO then left the meeting.
0625/09	COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES and WORKING GROUPS. None to report.
0625/10	INFORMATION AND UP-DATES FROM THE LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER. In addition to the monthly report, AD highlighted the following: a) <i>Road Sweeper</i>: AD explained there were still issues holding up the use of the Road Sweeper. RT proposed the Council purchase its own machine, indicative costs between £1,500 and £2,000. Agreed by all, RT and Town Caretaker to liaise on a suitable model. Clerk to advise the Town Caretaker.
0625/11	PROJECTS, COMMUNITY ISSUES AND MEMBER DISCUSSIONS a) <i>Bryntitli 2025-26 Fund</i>: Councillors agreed to open the fund. 50% of the income will be retained by the Council for its own forthcoming projects. The awards will again be limited to £1,000 per application, closing date Sunday 9th November 2025. b) <i>Bryntitli fund– St Harmon</i>: It was noted some projects in Rhayader directly benefit the community of St Harmon. It was agreed when relevant projects are identified, the Clerk will submit a formal request to St Harmon. Noted c) <i>Bryntitli, general enquiry</i>: The Llanidloes Rotary Club have asked if their Bonfire Night Event would be eligible. Unfortunately it does not directly benefit Rhayader and Cwmdauddwr Communities so not eligible. Clerk to respond. d) <i>Small Grant funding request, Memory Lane Club</i>: JD declared an interest and left the room. A request has been received to fund the groups Christmas Lunch and transport to the venue. It was noted refreshments are not eligible under the grant guidelines, however the £49 transport costs would be covered. Clerk to feedback. e) <i>Transforming Towns Shop Frontage Scheme</i>: Information on the fund and associated admin process had been circulated. Clerk to check if professional costs are eligible that might allow for a project manager. It was agreed the scheme would be advertised to gauge interest. Clerk to action f) <i>Brilliant Basics, Dragon Trail Project Update</i>: The Clerk advise the Project team had reviewed all supplier submissions and selected Platform-One to take the Project forward for their cost effectiveness and most closely matching the project brief. g) <i>Toilet Grant Update</i>: The Clerk provided details of the works proposed. It was noted funds had been allocated for works at the Cemetery. In addition to the works agreed, Clerk to ask for a Maglock to be fitted to the Disabled toilet door to allow for a fee to be charged and to remove the proposed hot water heaters at Cwmdauddwr. Clerk to advise PCC. h) <i>Cemetery Waste Bins</i>: Clerk to ask PCC to change the standard waste bin to a recycling bin and check on the location of the old Rhayader Town Council Green Cast Iron Bins. Clerk to action i) <i>Weirglodd / Rugby Club CAT Update</i>: The Clerk advised the PCC legal department are preparing a draft Heads of Terms for a 99 year lease for consideration. In the meantime it was agreed the Clerk could continue with the project plan actions including the setup of proposed meetings. Clerk to action j) <i>Toilet Turnstile System Warranty</i>: The Clerk shared the cost details of the proposed annual warranty for the turnstile system in Dark Lane. The costs do not represent value for money, it was agreed it was more cost effective to stick to standard call out fees. Noted k) <i>Pump Track, MoU Review</i>: The Clerk advised the Councils insurance provider will not cover the Rhayader and District Sports and Recreation Association Committee. The MoU was reviewed again in light of this; it was noted that the RDSRA were not qualified to carry out a “formal” tree survey which should be the responsibility of the Council however, they should

	still make a visual check of trees on their regular site inspections. It was also agreed the group would be supported with an award of £250 from the Precept Community Support fund. Clerk to action l) <i>Remembrance Service</i>: JD has already made a start on plans and ordered Wreaths, CE to check supplies of Programmes and will arrange to order more if required. CW to contact the Clergy to confirm who is able to officiate. AD to confirm the Power Supply with Mike Lloyd. The Clerk confirmed Keith Fielding will organise the music. Actions noted by all m) <i>Smithfield Trust Council Representative</i>: RS has had to stand down, JD volunteered to take over as the new rep. Agreed by all. Clerk to notify the Smithfield Secretary.
0625/12	HIGHWAYS AND PCC MATTERS: None
0625/13	PUBLICITY and EVENTS : Remembrance Service covered above
0625/14	PLANNING: None
0625/15	CORRESPONDENCE: In addition to items already circulated: a) <i>Cwmduddwr Toilets</i>: The owners of the property opposite have asked if a sign can be put on the toilet building to ask people not to park there. It was thought a sign here might cause people to park opposite and block their entrance. Clerk to ask the owners to put a sign on their fence/gate in the first instance. Clerk to action
0625/16	URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA: a) <i>Damaged Chains around the Clock</i>: It was noted the Chains around the Clock had been damaged again. AD to write to Neil Clutton and ask for them to be repaired with a more robust set, and to repaint the Bells in time for the Remembrance Service. AD to action. b) <i>Damaged Railings A470/St Harmon Junction</i>: A section of railings were damaged in a recent accident reinforcing the need to keep them in place for safety reasons. AD to write and follow up on previous correspondence reiterating the need to retain, repair and repaint the railings. AD to action. c) <i>Urdd sponsorship funding request</i>: The details were noted, Cllrs declined the request.
0625/17	UPDATES FROM THE CLERK: The Clerk has arranged initial online meetings to gather further information on two potential projects for future consideration by the Council: a) Meeting with Menter Mon re their <i>SMART Towns Cymru</i> project 2nd Oct. b) Meeting with YnNi Teg / Severn Wye Energy Agency re their <i>Powys Energy for All</i> Community owned solar energy project 8th Oct.
0625/18	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:</i> None
0625/19	DATE OF NEXT MEETING : Ordinary Meeting; Tuesday 21st October 2025 at 6.30pm at the Cwmduddwr Old School.
CLOSE	The meeting closed at 9.25pm

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

Clerk	• Road Sweeper: Notify Town Caretaker of proposal to purchase a small vehicle in conjunction with RT • Grass Cutting: Arrange to mow wider strips around smaller Pollinator areas and get signs up • Water Harvesting System: arrange meeting with CW and RT • Transforming Towns Shop Frontage Scheme Grant: query funding of professional fees and advertise to gauge interest • Waste Bins: arrange for replacement Bin at the Cemetery and locate old Cast Iron Bins • Pump Track MoU: Revise as agreed and circulate. • Rhayader & District Sports and Recreation Association: annual award of £250 from the
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	Community Support Budget. • Weirglodd/Rugby Club: Organise meetings as per plan • Smithfield Representative: Notify the Secretary, JD is replacing RS • Funding Requests: Respond to all requests as agreed. • Correspondence: Respond to all correspondence as agreed • Toilet Grant: Update PCC on requirements • PCSO: Invite to a future meeting
RT	• Road Sweeper: Liaise with Town Caretaker on purchase • Solar Panels on Toilets: Follow up on Feed in Tarriff
AD	• Damaged Chains: Write to Neil Clutton to replace & upgrade and paint the Bells prior to Remembrance Service • Damaged Railings, A470/St Harmon junction. Ask for them to be retained, repaired and painted
JD,CW, CE & AD	• Remembrance Service: Complete agreed actions
DL	• Memorial Stones, North Road Roundabout lettering: Pass details of paint to the Town Caretaker
CW/DL JS/PR	• 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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