

OLD RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Old Radnor Community Council held Tuesday, 21st September, 2121 at 8.00 p.m. via video conferencing.

PRESENT: Councillors H. Jones (Chairman), E. Jones, M. Jones, Mrs. R. Jones, K. Morgan, R. Burden, J. Stokes, A. Yates.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs T. Price, Clerk.

MIN 35/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Roy Jones, T. Bell, K. Powell (Vice Chairman).

Members agreed to formally extend the absence of Cllr. Bell until 31st December, 2021.

MIN 36/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Personal Only:

Cllr. Ruth Jones, member of Kinnerton Village Hall Committee re. donation to Kinnerton Village Hall.

Cllr. Ruth Jones, member of Kinnerton PCC re. donation to Kinnerton PCC.

Cllr. A. Yates, member of Kinnerton Village Hall Committee re. donation to Kinnerton Village Hall.

Cllr. H. Jones, member of Kinnerton Village Hall Committee re. donation to Kinnerton Village Hall.

Cllr. M. Jones, member of St. Stephens, Old Radnor, PCC re. donation to Old Radnor PCC.

Personal and Prejudicial:

Cllr. M. Jones, related to self-catering accommodation provider re. Welsh Government Consultation on Council Tax, Business Rates and second homes and self-catering accommodation.

MIN 37/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 20TH JULY 2021

Resolved that the Minutes (as previously circulated) represented a true record of events. The Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 38/21 INFORMATION FROM MINUTES

Nothing this month.

MIN 39/21 FINANCE

(1) Payments: The following payments were approved –

Mrs T. Price (salary first quarter)	£691.20
HMRC (tax on above)	£172.80
Mrs T A Price (expenses)	£101.03
Evancoyd PCC (Evancoyd Churchyard Acc) (annual grant)	£125.00
Old Radnor PCC (St. Stephen's Churchyard Acc) (annual grant)	£125.00
Kinnerton PCC (annual grant)	£125.00
Kinnerton Village Hall (annual grant)	£175.00
Evenjobb Village Hall (annual grant)	£300.00
Walton Village Hall (annual grant)	£400.00
One Voice Wales (Annual Fee)	£129.00

(3) Budget Update: Members noted the budget update to the end of September, 2021.

(4) Receipt: The following receipt was noted –

Powys County Council (second precept payment) £2842.00

(5) Update re. complaint – External Audit Fee: The Clerk informed Members that she had chased up the complaint in early August and again in early September. Cllr. M. Jones asked about the response from One Voice Wales and the Clerk advised that it had responded suggesting a formal complaint be made to the Wales Audit Office which had been done. Cllr. M. Jones suggested contacting other Councils to ask for support with the issue but after consideration it was agreed to keep this as a final option should the complaint not be resolved to the Council's satisfaction.

(6) Changes to HSBC Banking Arrangements: Members noted the introduction of charges and considered the availability of other options. The Clerk outlined briefly the charges set by other Banks and the possibility of making electronic payments to reduce costs. It was agreed to remain with HSBC for the time being and to review both the Council's banker and the possibility of making electronic payments at the next Annual Meeting in May.

MIN 40/21 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Quarry Liaison Meeting: Only Cllr. Morgan had attended the meeting due to a number of issues with the meeting link/IT on the night. Cllr. Morgan reported the following matters –
Gore.

- Quarry has finished digging back and will now be profiling the top and digging down. Blasting is likely to increase. Blast monitoring has been installed at the Yatt, the Harp and Sunnybank.
- Footpaths have physically been finished but some paperwork has still to be completed.

Dolyhir

- Work starting on the quarry extension, phase two, (on the Yandro side of the quarry.) Crossing the Stones Lane into the next row of fields.
- The tip facing Yandro will be reprofiled, Top soil from the next area to be stripped will be spread over it and then reseeded.
- The tip will be extended towards Yandro as more overburden is stripped.
- Lewis discussed plans for staffing levels and barriers to separate plant and machinery from footpaths.
- Brook culverted under Dolyhir tarmac plant - (flooding concerns) - a site meeting to be held.
- Desire of Quarry to sponsor local causes noted.

Cllr. Burden reminded Members of earlier discussions regarding complaints made to the Quarry and the need to be open and transparent on the issues reported. It was agreed that this could be raised at the next Liaison Meeting. Members also discussed litter picking in the area and again it was felt that this should be raised at the next meeting with a request for ongoing litter picking in the area.

The Clerk was asked to –

- Chase the site meeting promised.
- Request a next meeting date of 3rd November using a platform other than Microsoft Teams and at a later time (6pm at the earliest).
- To request a half hour set up time before the formal start of the meeting to allow for any IT issues to be resolved.
- Ask that complaints procedures and litter picking be placed on the November agenda.

(2) Willin Brook Works Review: Cllr. E. Jones reported that work had been done but that there was still an issue with water run off and that ideally more work was needed to channel water run-off into the Brook. The Clerk would contact the County Council to ask if this could be done.

(3) Proposed Speed Limit, Kinnerton: Members noted the results from the speed monitoring at Kinnerton with the 85-percentile speed at 42.05 mph and the highest recorded speed being 62.6mph, below the ACPO threshold for enforcement. Under the County Council speed management policy it would not be looking at taking any further action. The Officer had indicated that if external funding could be found then the County Council would consider introducing a 40mph speed limit. The cost of this would be £3303 including road markings and signage. The

Clerk advised that this could be included in the budget for 2022/23 if Members considered it a worthwhile scheme. Members discussed this at some length and it was agreed that given the large percentage of speeds recorded were barely above 40mph, the introduction of a speed limit was not likely to make any difference. Cllr. Ruth Jones stated that there was an issue through the village itself where there was already a speed limit. The Clerk suggested a Community Speedwatch Group and Members were asked to contact her if they wished to look into this further.

(4) Safety of Moor Farm building: The Clerk reminded Members that following a request by Cllr. Ruth Jones an Officer had visited the site in early 2019 and had not raised any issues. Cllr. Yates reported that she was aware that Building Regulations had recently re-checked the site and that they had not had any immediate concerns but would monitor the site for any change.

(5) Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill: Resolved no action be taken.

(6) Review of County Council Wards: Decision of Welsh Government: Members noted the final decisions and that there was no change for the Old Radnor County Ward.

(7) Draft local elections (principal areas) (Wales) rules 2021 and draft local elections (communities) (Wales) rules 2021 - Consultation: Noted. No comment to be made.

Cllr. M. Jones was placed in the waiting room for the duration of the following item.

(8) Welsh Government Consultation on local taxes for second homes and self-catering accommodation: Members discussed this at some length and it was agreed to respond as follows

- Community Council supports the maximum premium on second homes to be raised to 150%
- Community Council supports the introduction of additional regulations to prevent second homes NOT being let out commercially for at least 140 days per year being registered for non-domestic rates rather than Council Tax.

Cllr. M. Jones returned to the meeting.

(9) Ombudsman – Update Code of Conduct Guidance: Noted.

(10) New 40mph signs for Walton: The Clerk informed Members that she had noticed that the signs entering the village from the New Radnor direction were very faded and had reported this to the County Council. New signs had now been ordered.

(11) Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine: Noted.

(12) Review of Parliamentary Constituencies – Initial Proposals Consultation: Resolved no comment be made.

(13) Walton Parish Hall Improvements: Members noted the improvements carried out.

MIN 41/21 PLANNING

(1) No planning decisions were reported this month.

Cllr. M. Jones left the meeting at this point due to his position on the Powys Planning Committee.

(2) Planning Applications: The following application was considered –

21/1564/DIS Grid Ref: E: 315620 N: 260079 Proposal: Discharge of condition 38A (Bat Protection Plan) attached to planning approval P/2014/0672 (APP/T6850/A/17/3176128) Location: Hendy Wind Farm. Resolved no comment be made.

MIN 42/21 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

19th October, 2021. The Clerk explained that due to legislation Councils had to make provision for remote attendance at meetings and could not hold 100% face to face meetings but had to have either wholly remote meetings or face to face/video conferencing meetings combined (known as a hybrid meeting). Given there was no broadband at any of the Halls used for meetings and that this would be needed for a 'hybrid' meeting it was agreed to continue via video conferencing only until the next Annual Meeting in May, 2022 when the situation could be reviewed.

The meeting closed at 9.18 p.m.