



Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

Report

Agenda Item 7

Meeting: Environment Committee
Date: 6 October 2022
Report Author: Clerk to the Council

Meeting with Leader of Cardiff Council 21 September 2022

Introduction

1. This report updates Members on progress in relation to the above meeting. The issues discussed primarily related to environmental and planning concerns though some additional matters were also discussed.
2. A paper prepared by the Chairman and Clerk in advance of the meeting is attached to help introduce the topics discussed.
3. The meeting was attended by:

Councillors Tyrone Davies, Huw Onllwyn Jones, Helen Lloyd Jones, and David Silver (part) and Ralph Vaughan (Radyr & Morganstown Community Council) (*RMCC*)

Councillor Huw Thomas (Leader) and Calum Davies (Cardiff Council) (*CC*)
Simon Gilbert (Head of Planning, Cardiff Council)
David Collins (Clerk to the Council, Radyr & Morganstown Community Council)

Key Issues

4. Key Issues are set out below:

Issue	Key issues raised	Action
1. Station Road	Need to revive Station Road. Parking issues, possible 1 way system, pressure from new developments on local economy, traffic management issues. Access to railway station, Active Travel,	Further engagement with Council Planning Department and Neighbourhood Regeneration Team (Rebecca Hooper and Ros Baker) to support the preparation of the emerging District and Local Centre Strategy.

	<p>improved parking (Methodist Church?) Potential match funding discussed. Important to consult widely.</p> <p>Important to consider wider picture in relation to Kings Road, Kings Avenue, Heol Isaf, Windsor Crescent and links to railway station.</p> <p>CC could help identify options.</p> <p>There was potential for public consultation.</p>	<p>This has the potential to also inform replacement LDP Policy, the evidence base for LDP examination, and could be considered as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the new LDP in due course. Also, opportunities to identify potential environmental enhancements should S106 contributions become available from new development. Anticipated timeline: c.2 years to complete the strategy and adopt the replacement LDP. SPG to follow adoption of replacement LDP.</p>
2. Windsor Gardens	RMCC aspired to improve the site	RMCC to approach Mark Tozer at CC benches.
3. Drovers Way Play Area	<p>CCC were inviting tenders to overcome drainage issues. RMCC Chair had met with Parc Radyr Management Committee.</p> <p>Need to ensure 'climate proof' play facilities e.g. plastic not metal.</p>	CC Drainage (Simon Dooley) to advise of outcome of tender process and anticipated timeline for reinstatement.
4. Bethel Chapel	<p>CC could act to secure improvement in condition/safety of site. Informal approach preferred initially.</p>	<p>RMCC to contact owner re. future intentions for the site.</p> <p>CC Planning to consider enforcement action and issue of Section 215 Notice following RMCC discussion with the owner.</p>
5. Active Travel	'Active Travel' could mean a variety of measures not just cycle routes. Important to link community facilities and reduce car usage.	<p>CC Councillors to continue to lobby for improved bus services.</p> <p>CC Officers are working with Transport for Wales on the Bus Network Review that</p>

	<p>The Chairman of the committee has asked that concern over local bus provision is considered by the committee.</p>	<p>will identify potential improvements to bus services including suggestions in relation to the 62 bus service. Such improvements may require changes to legislation that the Welsh Government are in the process of doing through the Bus Bill. In the interim, the Council will seek to support improved bus services through phased s106 contributions secured through developments that are being progressed in the North West Corridor.</p> <p>RMCC to help identify feeder routes e.g. Safe Routes to Schools.</p>
6. RLDP	<p>RMCC concerns at loss of green space and any proposals to reduce car park at railway station</p>	<p>CC to consult on Preferred Strategy in early 2023 to indicate preferred level of growth and key/strategic policies. This will also initiate the formal consultation on "candidate sites"</p> <p>CC Head of Planning agreed to arrange and attend future meetings and workshops with RMCC.</p>
7. Old Church Rooms	<p>Discussion re RMCC's aspirations for the premises.</p>	<p>RMCC to approach Grants Officer (Louise Bassett) re. potential funding or Rebecca Hooper re. s106 money.</p>
8. Young People	<p>There was demand locally for better facilities for young people. RMCC could help fund youth worker/weekly youth provision. Views of</p>	<p>Potential survey by RMCC?</p>

	<p>young people would be important.</p> <p>Problems at Radyr Comprehensive school toilets discussed.</p>	<p>Councillor Thomas to look into issues re. toilets and engage with Councillor Peter Bradbury and relevant Council Officers</p>
<p>LDP Sites</p> <p>Following the above discussions. Members visited a number of key local sites.</p> <p>A local group has been established. Discussions are taking place with the Council.</p>		

Financial Implications

5. The Council would need to ensure that financial provision is in place to meet any actions arising from this report. Budgets have been approved to meet Environmental issues (Code A).

Links to Corporate Objectives

6. The initiatives described in this report will help the Council deliver a number of objectives which are set out in the Council's Annual Report.

Staffing Implications

7. n/a

Risk Management Implications

8. This report crosses several areas of Council activity. Overall risk is managed via the Council's Risk Assessment Schedule.

Legal Implications

9. A variety of powers exist to help address the issues in this report, including the General Power of Competence (Wales) and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Recommendation

10. It is **recommended** that
 - (1) the report is noted.
 - (2) Members consider any issues arising.



Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

Notes in readiness for a meeting between Huw Thomas (Leader, Cardiff Council) and representatives of R&MCC

Venue: Castle Room – Old Church Rooms

Date: Wednesday September 21st 2022

Time: 10-11:30

Background: *Members of Radyr and Morganstown Community Council have invited Cllr Thomas to visit our community to discuss matters of interest to our residents and Members. It has been a long-standing wish that Cllr Thomas might be able to visit us and meet our Members.*

Suggested Agenda/Items for Discussion:

1. Station Road

This is Radyr's mixed-use commercial area which meets an important community need in the heart of Radyr.

Unfortunately, this street needs an injection of vibrancy and a refresh. One of the largest units (formerly the Spar) is now empty and has been for quite some time. Our post office is housed in McColl's General Store but has been hampered by staffing issues and its opening hours are unreliable. The same is true of our local pharmacy.



We do have three “refreshment units” (The Radyr Tap, Slice & Cicchetti's Restaurant) which attract many of our residents.

Ideally, we would like this area to resemble that of Llandaff's main shopping street and/or that of Wellfield Road.

We have received a visit from officers of CCC where we discussed parking, street furniture, enhancement of pavements, the potential for a one-way gyratory system, greater safety measures in the surrounding area (such as zebra crossings near the Station and possible closure of the junction at King's Avenue).

We would be very interested to learn of any options which the local authority might be contemplating to breathe new life into this important location.

Of course, appropriate consultation and the views of residents will be important.

2. Windsor Gardens

Windsor Gardens provides an important area of green space within a largely urban setting. Like Station Road however, it may be timely to look at the prospects to refurbish the site. New planting, landscaping and play equipment may be appropriate. Again, we would be interested to hear about any options under consideration for the gardens.



Just to note that this area is owned by CCC but RMCC manage and are responsible for the upkeep of the park.

3. Drovers Way Play Area

Following flooding of February 2020 this children's playpark has been out of use – indeed its equipment has been removed.

We have good relations with the Parc Radyr Management Committee and have supported their attempt to get the park repaired and equipment reinstated, e.g. we have awarded a grant of £5,000 for new play equipment which we understand is held by CCC.



We are aware that there is currently a tender process currently taking place that should see the park made good and would be interested to receive an update on this process.

4. Bethel Chapel

The condition of this site in Morganstown has been a long-standing cause of concern to local residents. We would be interested to discuss any influence which your Council could bring to achieve any improvements. We understand that action can be taken to enforce against unsightly premises in extreme circumstances. The Clerk to our Council has raised the matter the Head of Planning.



5. Active Travel/Public Transport

Our Members are very interested in proposals to improve active travel locally. We would like to hear your views on any proposals to improve active travel in our community and any proposals to introduce cycle paths. We are also keen to see improvements to the local bus service.



6. Census 2021 and the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP)

We would welcome clarification on the Census results and the Council's projections for local population growth which we understand to show projected growth as slower than anticipated. Presumably this will mean that we shall not need to plan more as many houses as previously thought.



As a Council we also have other issues regarding the RLDP, particularly the two candidate sites – i.e. the one near Rhydlafar and the other on the Station Car-Park at Radyr.

As a Community Council our position is that we believe our area of Cardiff has lost so much land to the initial LDP and that the further loss of these two sites would be unfair and unnecessary.

We would prefer that the sites already granted are fully developed, along with the “Garden City” facilities that were promised. We are also mindful of the burden any further developments would place on local roads and services.

Whilst the RMLDP Group will later focus on the candidate site at Rhydlafar the Community Council would be very disappointed to lose the station carpark.

This carpark helps keep car from our city centre and encourages train travel. It is an area that is well used by the community, not just to park their cars but also in the following ways:-



- *It is used by walkers and runners as a meeting point*
- *It is used by people to meet up and socialise in the open air*
- *It is used by young people to skate and play games*
- *It is used on a weekly basis to provide Thai Meals from a mobile kitchen.*
- *It is used by young drivers to experience driving a car for the first time.*
- *It is used by a local keep fit group.*

7. Old Church Rooms

This is the home of the Community Council and aside from the schools is the largest public building in our area. We are seeking to make it a 21st century building and are currently exploring the following potential enhancements: -



- *Installation of a lift to ensure access for all.*
- *Conversion of a downstairs store into a ground floor meeting room.*
- *Building a replacement outdoor store.*
- *Making the outside more attractive.*

We would appreciate any advice you can give us on access to Section 106 monies and grants that might help us with this process.

8. Young People

The Community Council has a Young People's Working Group and some of our thoughts can be found below. Areas coloured in red are where we would seek the support of the CCC.



POSSIBLE SUGGESTIONS HOW RMCC MIGHT SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE

AGE GROUP	HOW THE RMCC AIMS TO HELP PROVIDE FOR THESE YOUNG PEOPLE	POINTS TO CONSIDER
Pre-school (Under 5)	<p>Help ensure all young children have access to play park/equipment.</p> <p>Ensure the OCR is available and appropriately equipped for this age group – i.e. through appropriately equipping and renting our rooms for nursery/play provision.</p>	<p>Work with CCC to ensure all our play parks are as good as they can be in terms of equipment and state of repair/cleanliness.</p> <p>Work with CCC and local residents to ensure the facilities at Parc Radyr play park are reinstalled and useable – after draining issue are resolved.</p> <p>Discuss at RMCC meeting the potential to install play equipment at Pentwyn Park to provide facilities for those on the “Bryn Deri Estate”.</p> <p>OCR Management Board will need to take the lead here.</p>
Primary School (5-11)	Support our Primary Schools	<p>Work with CCC to ensure our primary schools are adequately funded and have access to funding streams.</p> <p>Note that here we have Community Cllr Governors who can support Governing Bodies and keep RMCC informed.</p>
Secondary School (11-18)	Support our Secondary Schools	<p>Work with CCC to ensure our secondary schools are adequately funded and have access to funding streams.</p> <p>Examine the potential to site a Youth Club – at the school or other equivalent hall –</p>

	<p>Seek to re-establish a Youth Club for this age group in our area.</p> <p>Seek to re-establish Youth Worker Provision in the area</p> <p>Support the building of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) on the hard stand site at Drovers Way common ground.</p>	<p>one night per week for KS3 pupils and one night for KS4/5 pupils.</p> <p>Perhaps CCC could recruit, employ Youth Workers and ensure appropriate child safety checks are in place. RMCC might be able to finance this provision. Obviously, we would need discussions with CCC here and agreement from RMCC.</p> <p>On key dates (weekend, Halloween etc.) help fund a Youth Worker to visit areas where young people congregate to support them and encourage appropriate behaviour. As above this person/persons could be employed/recruited by CCC but paid for by RMCC funds. Again this would need permission of CCC & RMCC.</p> <p>Encourage CCC to carry this out – perhaps RMCC could consider supporting any such project financially.</p>
<p>All Young People</p>	<p>Make OCR available for clubs and events that may be enjoyed by young people of all ages.</p> <p>RMCC should support local clubs who provide activities for our young people through support/grants.</p> <p>Help ensure the facilities afforded to Radyr Rangers at Mound field is appropriate and as good as they can be.</p>	<p>RMCC should ensure its rooms are available and adequately equipped for such groups and it should advertise its facilities for events such as children's parties etc.</p> <p>As left – particularly regarding Radyr Rangers, Cardiff Corinthians, Radyr Cricket Club, Radyr Tennis Club and Radyr Golf Club etc.</p> <p>RMCC needs to work with CCC, Radyr Rangers and TFW to achieve this.</p>

	<p>Ensure land we own affords young people facilities they can enjoy and use.</p> <p>Seek the views of our Young People.</p> <p>Ensure that any green space is protected for the sue of the whole community, including our Young People.</p>	<p>RMCC should survey young people to seek their opinions on things mentioned in this document. Perhaps consider outdoor gym equipment etc. on land we own. Consider how this land can be enjoyed by our young people as well as others.</p> <p>RMCC could consider setting up a Youth Group or seek young people’s views by visiting them at their schools.</p> <p>RMCC should act to ensure that we do not lose any more land to developers.</p>
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GLOSSARY

RMCC – Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

CCC – Cardiff City Council

OCR – Old Church Rooms

TfW – Transport for Wales

Councillor - Tyrone Davies, Chairman

David Collins - Clerk to Radyr & Morganstown Community Council