



## **Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan**

**Minutes of a COUNCIL MEETING held on 25 May 2023 at 7:00pm**

**This meeting was held at the Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr, Cardiff and remotely in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.**

**These minutes are subject to confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on 22 June 2023.**

Present: Councillor Tyrone Davies (Chairman), Councillors Julia Charles, Allan Cook, Helen Lloyd Jones, Michelle Lenton-Johnson, Vina Patel, and David Silver (all in person) and Martin Williams (remotely).

Also: David Collins (Clerk to the Council)

Absent: Councillor Huw Onllwyn Jones

(Public participation is described below.)

### **RMCC23/28 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Huw Onllwyn Jones, (personal)

### **RMCC23/29 Declarations of Interest**

Members were reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda.

Councillor Helen Lloyd Jones declared a non-prejudicial interest in item RMCC23/37 County Councillors' Report as a member of Cardiff Council. She remained in the meeting during the discussions. She would reconsider the nature of the interest matters at Cardiff Council level taking into account all relevant evidence and representations.

### **RMCC23/30 Method of Voting**

It was **Resolved** that the manner of any voting at this meeting and any subsequent meetings will be by show of hands and calling each name alphabetically with a response of "for" or "against" or "abstain."

### **RMCC23/31 Members of the public invited to speak.**

(1) The Chairman welcomed Liz Nicholls, a local resident who wished to address the meeting. Members acknowledged the contribution she had to

recent consideration of the allocation of funds to the Good Neighbours Scheme along with Rev. Ian Yemm. Members also paid tribute to the contribution made to the community by a local resident who was celebrating her 100th birthday.

The Chairman agreed to consult Members of the Planning Committee about a planning application in relation to 41 Heol Isaf. Observations would be sought in time to respond.

- (2) The Chairman also welcomed Richard Davies, Police Community Support Officer. He described current police initiatives and answered Members' questions in relation to issues such as parking and shoplifting. Members agreed that "Police Matters" could become a regular item on future agendas.

### **RMCC23/32 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman reported that, as usual he had made himself available to Members who wanted to discuss any council matters.

He had also liaised and met with the Clerk and Assistant Clerk in order to facilitate the smooth running of the Community Council.

Unfortunately, due to contracting COVID, he was unable to attend Council events on 29 and 30 April 2023. The Chairman thank Cllrs Cook, Charles, Lloyd-Jones, Silver and Patel for supporting our presence at the RMA fete and at the Civic Service. He also thanked former Cllrs Mike Diment and Chris St Ledger for managing our bird box building experience. Particular thanks were given to the Vice Chair Councillor Vina Patel who willingly and ably deputised by delivering the Council's address at the Civic Reception.

The Chairman also update Members on the recent burglary at the Old Church Rooms. He described some of the losses and damage and praised Council staff for ensuring that the incident was managed effectively. He also referred to advice given by the Council's insurers. The security of the premises would be reviewed by the Old Church Rooms Management Board. Members agreed not pursue an insurance claim in view of the limited amount of financial loss.

It was **Resolved** that:

- (1) the report of the Chairman is noted.
- (2) the attendance of the Chairman at events in the community is regarded as approved duty.
- (3) issues arising from the burglary are referred to the Old Church Rooms Management Board.

### **RMCC23/33 Vacancies: Radyr North Ward and Morganstown**

Members noted that notice of the above vacancies had been published on 3 April 2023. No election had been requested.

The Council could now fill the vacancy by co-option. Notice would be published with a period of one month for applications. In the meantime, information has been published in The Chain about the process.

It was anticipated that any co-option would be agreed at the meeting of 20 July 2023.

It was **Resolved** that a panel of the following Members is appointed to consider any applications for the vacancies prior to formal consideration by the Full Council.

Councillors Tyrone Davies, Julia Charles, Vina Patel and David Silver.

#### **RMCC23/34 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on 4 May 2023**

The Chairman introduced the Minutes of the above Council Meeting.

In relation to Minute RMCC23/1 (Election of Chair and Vice-Chair) Members noted comments submitted by Councillor Huw Onllwyn Jones that the decisions of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales to date had been in his favour.

Councillor Allan Cook proposed acceptance of the minutes. Councillor David Silver seconded.

It was **Resolved** that:

- (1) the minutes of the above meeting are confirmed as a true and accurate meeting.
- (2) the amendment of the Terms of Reference of the Publicity & Communications Committee by the deletion of the Chairman of the Environment Committee is approved.
- (3) the appointment of Councillor Julia Charles to the Publicity & Communications Committee is approved.
- (4) a meeting of the Publicity and Communications Committee is held on 14 June 2023 at 2.00 pm. The meeting to take place on a hybrid basis with physical provision having regard to statutory considerations and Guidance (Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.)
- (5) amendments made to the Complaints Procedure are confirmed and the Publicity and Communications Committee is asked to undertake a further review.
- (6) the receipt of new Model Standing Orders is noted and a review is undertaken at a future meeting.

#### **RMCC23/34 Management Accounts**

Members considered Management Accounts 30 April 2023. Variances were reported. Members monitored income and expenditure to monitor budgets during the year. Budget headings would incur income and expenditure as the

year progresses and details will be monitored and reported. Further adjustments may be required as part of the preparation of final accounts.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

#### **RMCC23/35 Bank Statements: 30 April 2023**

**Members considered the following bank statements.**

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| (a) Unity Trust Account *****326<br>Statement 123 | Unity Current Account T2.     |
| (b) Unity Trust Account *****011<br>41            | Old Church Rooms. Statement   |
| (c) Unity Trust Account *****339                  | Instant Access. Statement 104 |

The statements had been verified by Councillor Allan Cook in accordance with Financial Regulations. There were no exceptions arising from this verification will be reported.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

#### **RMCC23/36 Members Allowances**

The Council had approved a system of payments based upon the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report.

The Council was required to make and record a policy decision in respect of when and how the payments are made and whether they are paid monthly, yearly, or otherwise. The Council had approved arrangements for claiming the allowances based on claims.

The policy should also state whether and how to recover any payments made to a member who leaves or changes their role during the financial year.

It was **Resolved** that:

- (1) payments for attendance at meetings etc. are based on claims, as described above.
- (2) other payments are paid annually.
- (3) a benchmarking exercise is undertaken against sums paid by other comparable Councils.
- (4) no action is taken to recover any payments paid to former Councillors Suthers and Vaughan.
- (5) recovery of any additional sums arising from vacancies is considered on a case-by-case basis.

#### **RMCC23/37 County Councillors' Report**

Councillor Helen Lloyd Jones declared a non-prejudicial interest in this item as a member of Cardiff Council. She remained in the meeting during the

discussions. She would reconsider the nature of the interest matters at Cardiff Council level taking into account all relevant evidence and representations.

Members considered a detailed report from County Councillors on recent issues of interest to the local community. Issues raised by Members included TfW proposals, grant funding for drainage at Mound Field, attenuation measures and concerns over access across the railway. Members emphasised issues such as flooding and wildlife protection in the area which would be accessible.

It was **Resolved** that:

- (1) the information is noted.
- (2) Members are invited to attend any site visit in relation to access across the railway.

**RMCC23/38 Standards and Ethics Committee 9 May 2023**

Members received an oral report from Councillor Julia Charles about the above meeting. Issues discussed included the importance of Code of Conduct training. Councillor Charles would liaise with other town and community councils about this.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

**RMCC23/38 The County Council of the City and County of Cardiff (Footpath Radyr 42, Cardiff) Diversion Order 2023**

Members considered information in relation to the above. Councillor Allan Cook elaborated on the proposed arrangements.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

**RMCC23/39 Gelynis Crossing: Footpath Diversion Order**

Members considered a response provided by TfW relating to the request for a halt at Gelynis Farm. It was noted that a halt was not currently being considered by TfW at this location.

The Council was asked to consider the information and confirm if its objection still stands.

(see also Minute RMCC23/37 above)

It was **Resolved** that the Council maintains its objection.

**RMCC23/40 Old Church Rooms (OCR) Board Matters**

The sum of £6564 was currently shown as a liability in the Council's accounts in relation to OCR extension and renovation works. This related to retention less costs to the Council to resolve outstanding defects. The Council considered whether this should remain shown as a liability. In discussing the accounts, Members also confirmed the Council's intention to support improvements at Drovers Way Play Area.

Cardiff Council had advised that Rating Relief was awarded last year but upon closer inspection of the Regulations under which the scheme is provided, i.e., Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, it explicitly excludes both local authorities and precepting authorities, i.e., community councils from being eligible for the scheme. Cardiff Council has confirmed that last year's award will not be reclaimed so the current Non-Domestic Rates Bill is £3691.50. Some of this has already been paid.

Members noted a new electricity bill would be produced, following meter readings taken. The current gas bill shows a balance of £123.63.

It was **Resolved** that:

- (1) the liability described above in relation to historic extension and renovation works is removed as a liability within the Council's accounts.
- (2) additional information referred to above is noted.

#### **RMCC23/41 Radyr and Morganstown Festival**

Members reviewed the success of the Council's participation in the above, including the Civic Service and Reception on 30 April 2023. The Chairman thanked those Members who had supported the event and praised the Radyr and Morganstown Association for their role in delivering a successful festival. Use of the school grounds had added to the success of the event. The Party in the Park had also been a success.

Members considered that, in future years, the Civic Service should be more ecumenical and include representation of other faiths and persons of no faith.

It was **Resolved** that the arrangements for the 2024 Festival are reviewed later in the year.

#### **RMCC23/42 Forward Work Programme: Progress**

Members considered a report on current initiatives and projects. The Environment and Regeneration Committee would consider the question of further benches in Windsor Gardens.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

#### **RMCC23/43 Annual Report**

Members considered the above report. The report reflected Guidance under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

It was **Resolved** that the Annual Report is approved.

#### **RMCC23/44 Date of Next Meeting**

Members noted that the next Full Council meeting would take place on 22 June 2023 on a hybrid basis with physical provision having regard to statutory considerations and Guidance (Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.) This meeting will consider the Annual Statement of Accounts.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

SIGNED

CHAIRMAN RADYR & MORGANSTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL