



Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

Minutes of a MEETING of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE held on Thursday 6th June 2019 at 7.00pm at the Old Church Rooms.

Present: Cllrs Helen Lloyd Jones, Ralph Vaughan, Huw O Jones, Kieran Webster, Kevin Ullah

In Attendance: Julie Hopkins

- 8 To Elect a Chair of the Environment Committee:** Cllr K Webster nominated Cllr R Vaughan as Chair of Environment Committee. Cllr H L Jones seconded this proposal. Cllr R Vaughan was duly elected as Chair of Environment Committee.
- 9 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Myles Vatsaloo, Jim Goodwin (Radyr Woods Warden).
- 10 To make declarations of Interest:** Cllr H Lloyd Jones declared an interest under Minute number 12 Item (ix) (Penrhys Pilgrimage) in that she is the Chair of the Penrhys Pilgrimage Group.
- 11 To note the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd May 2019:** The Minutes of the 2nd May 2019 Environment meeting were approved and signed at the 16th May Full Council meeting as an accurate record and were duly noted.
- 12 To receive an update:** The Chair's Report was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. **Appendix A** (filed with these Minutes). The Report was received and noted. Cllr H L Jones gave the Committee a verbal overview.

(i) Windsor Gardens:

Liquidambar Tree: The damaged Liquidambar tree has been removed and replaced with a new more mature tree and a tree guard has been installed to protect it. Radyr Primary School pupils helped our gardening expert and local resident, Jim Goodwin with the planting of the new Liquidambar tree at Windsor Gardens.

Bench: A suggestion has been made to move the Bench adjacent to the neighbouring property to the top end of Windsor Gardens and install the WW1 Nurse and Tommy Soldier Silhouettes in its place. They were deemed to be a distraction for drivers turning in and out of Windsor Road onto Heol Isaf. We may be able to salvage the concrete base and install a new Planter obtained from Cardiff Council's "Love where you Live" team. This work will be carried out in the next two months.

Action: Assistant Clerk to contact Cardiff Council "Love where you Live" team to ask if there are planters available.

The Clerk has spoken with the R&MCC Handyman as to the logistics of moving the bench and silhouettes. The Handyman will look at this to ascertain the best way of removing the bench and report back to the Clerk. A Recommendation was made to allocate extra hours for the Handyman if required.

(ii) **Granny Park:**

There are two trees which needed attention. The Clerk's office will invite quotes for tree works in the next few weeks. The Azaleas are now in full flower.

(iii) **Radyr woods:**

Tree Works: R&MCC will not be requesting quotes for any tree works at present as the weather has prevented the Radyr Woods Wardens checking the trees. Jim Goodwin (Radyr Woods Warden) will be meeting with Orange Forestry to check that all Red Tree Work has been carried out before the next tranche of work goes out to tender.

Disabled Bench: R&MCC has received communication regarding noise, litter and behaviour arising from youths using the bench in Radyr Woods. R&MCC has visited the site on several occasions and a noise source has been noticed coming from a residential property near Kingfisher Pond. R&MCC could consider writing to Radyr Comprehensive School regarding noise issues from youths and will endeavour to engage with younger people to try and find somewhere for them to socialise. A possible solution could be to replace some of the dilapidated with new ones. These benches are further into the Woods away from the houses which would give better shelter and reduce the noise when the benches are in use.

Recommendation: R&MCC to engage with the youngsters to ask their opinions on what they would like to see happen.

Footpath 49 – This footpath gets very muddy near the Kingfisher Pond. Council has reported this to Cardiff Council Rights of Way Team as needing some attention as there doesn't appear to have been any work done during last Winter.

The Assistant Clerk emailed Cardiff Council PROW Team (Jennifer Griffiths /Rhodri Morgan) to request that improvements are made to the muddy section of Footpath 49. A reply has been received from Rhodri Morgan (CC PROW Team) confirming there is no finance available for path improvements and bids for funding have to be based on priorities and strategies. They are currently working on a path survey which will identify the whole network, and funding can be bid for, based on an as yet to be defined criteria.

(iv) **Pentwyn Park:**

The Retaining Wall Specification was reviewed. A discussion took place as to whether it would be more cost effective to return the wall as suggested by Keystone Structural Engineering and which choice of materials to use. A decision was made to ask Keystone Structural Engineering to revise the Specification to include the return wall and change the London Brick underground to Class B Engineering brick.

Action: Clerk/Assistant Clerk to contact Keystone Structural Engineering to revise the Retaining Wall Specification to include a return wall and change of brick.

Whilst the grass cutting was being carried out in Pentwyn Park recently, it was noticed that a large amount of garden waste has been fly tipped in one corner of the Park. On closer inspection it appears to be a whole Conifer which has possibly come from a residential garden. R&MCC are now looking into this to try and establish where it has come from.

Action: Cllrs H L Jones and K Webster will make enquiries to try and establish the source of the garden waste.

Cllr H O Jones will contact Nicola Grima at Cardiff Council regarding fly tipping.

- (v) **Dan-y-Bryn:** R&MCC will hold back on the next tranche of tree work that needs to be carried out until the previous tranche of work has been completed.

Action: Clerk/Assistant Clerk to contact Orange.

- (vi) **Ffordd Las:** The old flower bed has been cleared and is now ready for planting. The two Primary Schools have received wildflower seeds given by Kew Gardens to sow in the two squares that have been created. The broken bench and all brushwood have now been removed.

- (vii) **Plaque Rhodri Morgan:** Rhodri Morgan lived at 32 Heol Isaf, the house next to the Methodist Church. The owners have been approached and are willing to have a Plaque put on their house.

Action: Clerk/Assistant Clerk to organise the wording and contact Leander Architectural to progress this proposal.

- (viii) **Terms of Reference:** Terms of Reference were agreed at the Annual Meeting on 16th May 2019 and have been circulated to all Members.

- (ix) **Penrhys Pilgrimage:** Workshops on the Pilgrimage have been funded for Radyr Primary and Bryn Deri Primary Schools. Music will be written for the children to sing at a celebration event in Llandaff next year. CEMEX have indicated they would consider improving the Pilgrimage path near Pant Tawel Lane leading to Pentyrch using Section 106 monies from quarry expansions.

- (x) **Heol Isaf – Overhanging Vegetation:** Complaints have been received regarding the overhanging vegetation along Heol Isaf between Radyr and Morganstown. R&MCC have contacted Network Rail who sent a local maintenance protection coordinator to inspect the area on 14th May. Network Rail have confirmed the area in question is managed by the local Council under the Highways Act. R&MCC contacted the Area Inspector at Cardiff Council on 15th May in relation to the complaint and a response was received on 20th May confirming this has now been passed to Cardiff Council Parks Department to either cut back the overgrowth or issue a notice to the landowner.

Cllr Kieran Webster has also raised an issue with overhanging and unmanaged trees. He has received a report from a Resident who lives on Gelynis Terrace in Morganstown that the trees opposite her home are not being managed and causing problems from overhanging branches, the risk of toppling in high winds and vast numbers of leaves during the Autumn. Cardiff Council have confirmed that these trees are not under Cardiff Council ownership and therefore they have no powers to deal with these issues.

Action: Clerk to check with the Land Registry to try and ascertain ownership of this land.

- (xi) **Windsor Road:** The area of road which has no footpath on the bend of Windsor Road has been passed to the Road Safety Team at Cardiff Council as the area in question is not under the ownership of Cardiff Council. R&MCC sent a letter on 15th May to Paul Griffiths, Senior Road Safety Officer at Cardiff Council outlining their

concerns. A reply was received from Nicola Grima at Cardiff Council Planning, Transport & Environment department advising that this issue has previously been investigated and concluded that the issue is a concern, but not of a high enough priority as there is limited funding available for highway improvement works. It will be included in Cardiff Council's database as an Area of Concern and will be addressed if alternative funding becomes available.

- (xii) **Drain at Ash Tree & Walnut Tree Close:** Cllr R Vaughan has cleaned this drain out once again. R&MCC will check this intermittently and contact Cardiff Council if there are any issues. Cllr Ralph Vaughan checked this recently and found that several tyres had been fly tipped into the drain. Cllr Vaughan has passed this onto our County Councillor, Rod McKerlich to request that Cardiff Council remove them.
 - (xiii) **Refill Wales:** The Welsh Government is actively promoting Refill Wales along the Wales Coastal Path. The Chair of the Penrhys Pilgrimage Project is in talks with Refill Wales and Plasdwr to see if the Penrhys Pilgrimage Way could be included as a Refill Wales walk. The scheme would be piloted in Radyr.
 - (xiv) **Community Art:** Radyr Comprehensive School Art Department has won a Grant for a Community Artist to work with Year 9 on a Community art project. The School have chosen the Skate Park at the Mound Field to paint once permission has been given by Cardiff Council.
 - (xv) **CEMEX Quarry:** Between 90 – 100 walkers were welcomed in the Quarry during the Festival Walk and the Quarry are willing to see this become a regular event. There are caves and subterranean lakes called Lesser Garth Cave, also known as Ogof Tynant and Ogof Ffynnon Taf. For more information on the cave system please see the link below. <http://www.ogof.org.uk/lesser-garth-cave.html>
 - (xvi) **Dog Poo:** 1st Radyr Beavers have been given permission from R&MCC to put up dog poo bag dispensers in Windsor Gardens and Pentwyn Park as part of their "Good Deed in the Community" programme. The Beavers have had a positive response from residents. The Community Council is delighted that the Beavers have chosen this good deed for the Community.
 - (xvii) **MUGA (Multi Use Games Area):** A Resident has informed R&MCC that it is possible to have fixed and removable sides around MUGA's. This could be a viable option to have a MUGA in Parc Radyr where the stage is at the Festival Concert.
- Action:** Clerk/Assistant Clerk to investigate this further.
- (xviii) **Ffordd Treforgan:** R&MCC might like to consider placing some benches along the side of this road as it is a long, steep hill to walk. Cllr K Webster to look into this issue.
 - (xix) **OCR Twinning Garden:** R&MCC will check who will be looking after the Twinning Garden once the current "Caretaker" retires from this duty.

Action: Clerk/Assistant Clerk to look into this.

13 **Any other business with prior consultation with the Chair:**

- (i) Cllr H O Jones met with Natural Resources Wales and Cardiff Council to discuss the amount of plastic and rubbish along the banks of the River Taff in

Radyr and Morganstown. R&MCC are awaiting a copy of the document which tells them how to remove the plastic and rubbish that has been produced. Cllr H O Jones was thanked for his work on this project.

- (ii) Cllr K Ullah asked if anyone knew where to get onto the River Taff for canoeing. Canoeists are usually seen accessing the River Taff near the Weir.
- (iii) Cllr K Ullah would like to know where the rest breaks will be along the Penrhys Pilgrimage. These details will be displayed on the information boards.
- (iv) Cllr R Vaughan mentioned the missing blocks in the Motorway Fence behind the Guide Hut had now been reported to County Councillor, Rod McKerlich.

14 To put forward any items for the next meeting: None

15 Date of next meeting: The next Environment Committee meeting will be held on Thursday 5th September at 7.45pm.

Meeting Closed at 8.30pm

