



Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

Minutes of a MEETING of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE held on Thursday 2 July 2020 7.00pm

**This meeting was held remotely via Zoom in accordance with the Local Authorities
(Coronavirus)(Meetings)(Wales) Regulations 2020**

Present: Cllr Ralph Vaughan (Chair), Cllr Huw Onllwyn Jones, Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones, Cllr Allan Cook

In Attendance: Lynne Thomas (Clerk), Julie Hopkins (Assistant Clerk), Jim Goodwin (Chair of Radyr Woods Wardens)

- 1 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Myles Vatsaloo
- 2 To make declarations of Interest:** Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones (Item 60(vii) Penrhys Pilgrimage), Cllr Allan Cook (Item 60(vii) Penrhys Pilgrimage)
- 3 To note the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 February 2020:** The Minutes of the 6 February 2020 Environment meeting were approved and signed at the 20 February Full Council meeting as an accurate record and were duly noted.
- 4 To receive an update:** The Chair's Report was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. The Report was received and noted. Cllr Ralph Vaughan gave the Committee a verbal overview.
 - (i) Radyr Woods:** Jim Goodwin gave a brief update on Radyr Woods. The woods are in good condition. There is a lot overgrowth and litter on the footpaths, some of the steps require attention and also one of Chairman's Oak has died. Jim reported that a mini BMX track has been built at the back of houses close to the top car park. The Hazel trees that had been felled by an unknown person did not appear to be a problem. A Working Party is needed but this cannot go ahead at present due to the current Covid-19 situation and Government guidance needs to be sought on this. The Bronze Age hearth has become overgrown and requires strimming before CADW pick up on this. No money is being received from CADW at present. There are concerns regarding anti-social behaviour around Radyr but there is no evidence of this in Radyr Woods.

Action: The Clerks to check Government guidance on the ability for working parties to carry out work in woodland areas.
 - Wood Compound:** Costs for materials and labour for constructing the fence around the container have been received from DB Site Solutions.
 - (ii) Windsor Gardens:** Due to social distancing issues the new notice board will need to be located away from the pavement to enable the Clerks to safely put up notices. Cllr Huw Onllwyn Jones has agreed to take a photograph of the suggested location for the board where it will be easily seen by passing residents.

5 Quotes received for retaining wall at Pentwyn Park: Three quotes were received and discussed for the new retaining wall at Pentwyn Park. Environment Committee agreed to recommend to Full Council Option 2 to also include the supply and fit of fencing to the client's choice.

6 Draft Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Plan: A very detailed Environment Development Plan has been prepared. Once Environment Committee have agreed the Plan it will be fed into the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Plan. If agreed, the Plan will be sent to Members for the Annual Meeting. Environment Committee agreed to recommend both Environment Development Plan and the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Plan to Full Council at the Annual Meeting.

Cllr Huw Onllwyn Jones was contacted by Keep Wales Tidy with the offer of a Wildlife Garden and Sustainable Drainage package. This consists mainly of trees and two raised beds. If we accept this offer R&MCC would need a plan for who will maintain and monitor this. It was agreed we would not accept this offer at present but perhaps offer it to Bryn Deri Primary School to look after if it was located in Pentwyn Park, before we tell Keep Wales Tidy that we will not be accepting their offer.

7 PROW Officer's report on improvements to Footpath 48 (Radyr Woods):

It has been pointed out that prams, mobility scooters and wheelchairs cannot access Footpath 48 into Radyr Woods via the current gate at Woodfield Avenue entrance. A resident from Danescourt has also contacted R&MCC and Cardiff Council about the removal of the gate at the Danescourt end of Footpath 48 saying that the removal of this gate has compounded the problem of cyclists now using the footpath.

A path inspection was carried out by Cardiff Council PROW Officer with recommendations for improvements to Footpath 48 in Radyr Woods. Environment Committee concur with these recommendations and Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones will prepare a response to the Path Inspection report carried out by Cardiff Council PROW Officer on behalf of the Community Council with recommendations to be agreed at July full council meeting.

8 Community Woodland & Local Places for Nature Grant Programmes: Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones will review the papers to see if there is any benefit in applying for grant funding.

9 Any other business with prior consultation with the Chair:

(i) **OCR Twinning:** An email was received from the joint Chairs of the Twinning Society confirming that they can no longer maintain the Twinning Garden due to lack of volunteers for working parties. They confirmed that they will continue to look after the Wine Press. They have asked if the R&MCC Handyman could take over this role. There may be cost implications for R&MCC if the Handyman takes on this role as he may not be able to accommodate this within his 6 hours per week.

Action: The Clerks will look into the cost implications of this.

(ii) **Tree work at 20 Taff Terrace:** A request has been made to carry out tree work at 20 Taff Terrace on an overhanging Oak Tree in Radyr Woods which has a TPO on it. The work will consist of pruning back overhanging branches by 1-2 metres and cutting to suitable growth points. Permission has been sought from Cardiff Council TPO Officer who has agreed. R&MCC agreed to give permission for this work to be carried out.

- (iii) **Bench Ffordd Las:** One of the benches at Ffordd Las has become obscured with overhanging tree branches. The R&MCC Handyman will be asked to trim these back.
- (iv) **Planters:** A thank you note was received from Woodfield Avenue residents for funding Summer bedding plants for their planters and was duly noted.
- (v) **Walks in Radyr & Morganstown:** Cllr Huw Onllwyn Jones suggested that we invite residents to contact R&MCC to share any recommended walks in Radyr & Morganstown with routes, maps or pictures that could be put onto R&MCC website.
- (vi) **Roald Dahl Project:** Cllr Huw Onllwyn Jones, as a private individual, has been in touch with the Roald Dahl Trust regarding a potential project in Radyr & Morganstown. The Trust would be happy to donate money to get a project up and running and for R&MCC to enlist the help of a local artist. A suggestion made was a statue of a character from one of Roald Dahl's books. A consultation with residents would be required before this could go ahead. Environment Committee agreed to discuss at a future Full Council meeting to gauge Council views on this.
- (vii) **Penrhys Pilgrimage:** Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones confirmed that permission has been given by Plymouth Estates to install a Penrhys Pilgrimage information board on the corner of Windsor Road close to the entrance to Drovers Way. Funding for this would be via a grant from R&MCC who would have full control to remove the board if it did not work. Cllrs Huw Onllwyn Jones, Ralph Vaughan and Helen Lloyd Jones to meet to establish the exact location of the board.

10 **Items for next meeting:** None

11 **Date of next meeting:** The next Environment Committee meeting will be held on Thursday 1 October 2020.

Meeting Closed at: 8.45pm