



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

Minutes of a MEETING of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE held on Thursday 3rd May 2018 at **7.45pm** at the Old Church Rooms.

Present: Cllrs Helen Lloyd Jones, Ralph Vaughan, Myles Vatsaloo, Angharad Thomas-Richards

In Attendance: Julie Hopkins, Jim Goodwin (Radyr Woods Warden)

- 1 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr K Ullah
- 2 To make declarations of Interest:** Cllr H Lloyd Jones (Chair of Environment) declared an interest under Minute number 4 in that she is the Chair of Penrhys Pilgrimage Group.
- 3 To note the Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were duly signed at April 19<sup>th</sup> Full Council meeting and therefore noted.
- 4 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 and Cllr H Lloyd Jones gave the Committee a verbal overview.

**Radyr Woods** – Jim Goodwin, Radyr Woods Warden gave a brief update on Radyr Woods.

There was no change regarding the signpost.

Jim Goodwin has received a copy of a Risk Assessment which is some 50 pages long that could be adapted for Radyr Woods.

The Chairman's Oak has now started to grow.

There is a lot of Himalayan Balsam growing in Radyr Woods.

The latest Working Party which took place on April 28th successful.

Footpath 48 is in danger of erosion from water pouring from flushes in Radyr Comprehensive School grounds. R&MCC to notify Cardiff Council Rights of Way Officer that during wet weather water from the flushes in the School grounds are flooding Footpath 48 and they may like to take a look at it.

Radyr Woods Wardens will be submitting a Grant application for 2018-19.

Suggestion was made to look into the feasibility of having an Easter Egg hunt in Radyr Woods next year. Cllr A Thomas-Richards to take this forward.

**Jim Goodwin left the meeting.**

**Planters**

Photographs of all four have been sent to "Love where you Live" Coordinator for Cardiff, who was very pleased.

**Windsor Gardens** – The railings around Windsor Gardens are rusty and can be easily lifted out and will need some attention. The wall is also missing some capping stones. R&MCC to look to the cost of replacing the missing stones.

**Pentwyn Park** – The situation has changed as we now know R&MCC own the boundary which means that we can look at different solutions such as building a retaining wall and putting drainage within the wall to bring any excess water into the park away from the path. R&MCC to get clearance from British Gas and SWALEC that there are no gas pipes or electricity lines in Pentwyn Park and investigate costs of hiring equipment to establish where the drain in the park goes.

**Himalayan Balsam** - We have been asked to consider having a Himalayan Balsam bashing session in July. Just pulling the plant up and leaving it, if done before it has gone to seed is enough to control its progress. Cllr Angharad Thomas-Richards to take this forward.

**Ragwort** – There is a lot of Ragwort in Morganstown and this is dangerous to horses. It may be possible to arrange a Ragwort removal day in August with the help of Keep Wales Tidy. Chair to contact Keep Wales Tidy and map it.

**Outdoor Fitness equipment** - It has been suggested that fitting some outdoor fitness equipment in the community might be appreciated. The feasibility of doing this should be investigated. Cllr R Vaughan asked who would set up the equipment, who would maintain it and who would be liable in the event of any accidents. Cllr H Lloyd Jones will contact County Councillor R McKerlich to discuss these issues.

- 5 **Christmas Tree Receiver:** A quote has been received from Centregreat who installed the Radyr Sidings Christmas tree Receiver for either a Wooden or Steel cover option. A decision was made to go for the Steel option as wood rots.
- 6 **War Memorial location of Flag Pole:** Cllr M Vatsaloo met with Mike Clarke to ascertain the location of the flag pole hole. It was recommended we spray the flag pole cover Green. Cllr M Vatsaloo to take this forward.
- 7 **Footpath Committee.** This could help identify problems on the footpaths. Will look into setting one up.
- 8 **Any other business with prior consultation with the Chair:** None
- 9 **To put forward any items for the next meeting:** None
- 10 **Date of next meeting:** The next Environment meeting will be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 7.00pm.

**Meeting Closed**

## Report for Environment Committee May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018

### Windsor Gardens

#### Gardening

Graeme Moore is aiming to come on Friday. He will mark out an area in the garden where the spoil from digging out the hole for the Christmas Tree support can be used to the garden's advantage. He will also give the garden some more TLC.

#### Notice Board

We have ordered a notice board for Windsor Garden that will be mainly funded from the World War I project.

#### Granny Park

#### Brushwood

This has been removed



The ivy overhanging on the wall has been removed, before and after shown



The Planter that Ann Jones looks after for us is looking lovely. Thank you Ann Mil o ddiolch



### The Sidings

#### Planters

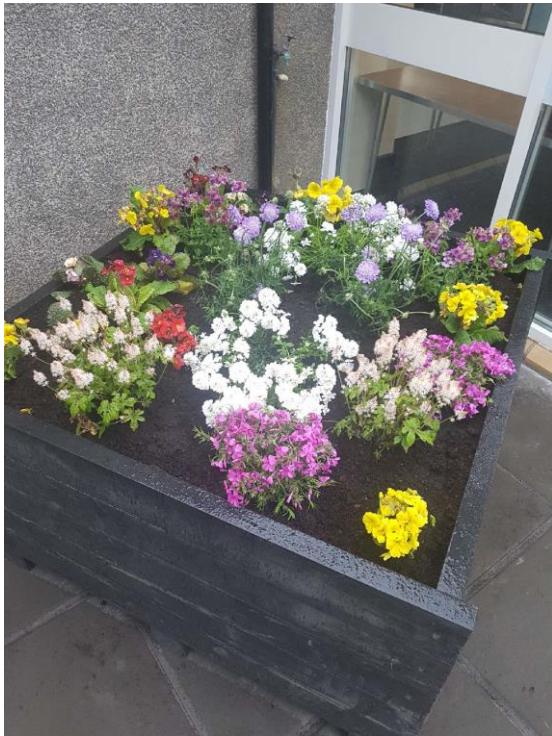
These are also looking good. We've been told that the planting was done as a community exercise. Well done all. Thank you too. We look forward to seeing your summer planting!



### OCR

#### Planter

The planter looks lovely on the new paving stones. Thanks to the Clerk for planting it up.



## **Pentwyn**

### **Path**

The path becomes a set of quite deep puddles every winter.

We have found a drain in the park.

Our situation has changed here as we now know we own the boundary. This means that we can look at different solutions such as building a retaining wall and putting drainage within the wall to bring any excess water into the park away from the path.

In the meantime, we will continue to investigate the possibility of draining one puddle to the drain in the park as recommended by the Welsh Water engineer.

There is equipment that can be hired which would enable us to determine where the drain in the park goes.

**Action:** Get clearance from British Gas and SWALEC that there are no gas pipes or electricity lines in Pentwyn Park. Investigate costs of hiring equipment to establish where the drain in the park goes.

## **Dan y Bryn**

Following our tree work and coppicing the Woods are looking lovely this spring.



### **Benches**

The plastic has arrived for the bench that is mixed materials at present  
**Action** Clerk to arrange the bench is now sorted.

### **Radyr Hawkweed**

We have been advised that there is no longer Radyr Hawkweed in Radyr Woods but there is some in Dan y Bryn.

### **Making the path mobility scooter friendly.**

*We will keep this as a regular comment until we can find a solution that would work. No progress this month.*

## **Radyr Woods**

### **Tree Work**

Tree work has started in Radyr Woods.

We are aware that the Tree Survey outlined work that should be done in the first six months and then in the next two years. We have decided to make sure all the work that was to be done in the first six months has been completed and paid for before we move into the next tranche of work.

### **Signpost**

This has come down during the Christmas period. It is not clear whether it has collapsed because its posts had become rotten or because it was helped to fall. The Radyr Woods wardens will let us know as soon as possible.

*No feedback as yet.*

## **Issues**

The Community Council has asked the Friends of Radyr Woods (known as the Radyr Woods Wardens) for a Risk Assessment.

Environment Protection Act 1990 has a section re litter, which enables an authority to serve a penalty on an offender. There have been cases of fly tipping of school furniture into Kingfisher Pond. Should these offences reoccur, the Act may be of use.

## **Boardwalk**

The damage to two boards over the winter has been put right. The Community Council should consider buying some reserve boards from the same supplier while the same colour is available.

## **Coppicing**

Jim Goodwin reported back that the coppicing done by Cardiff Conservation Volunteers was the best he had seen, which was excellent news

## **Work party**

There was a work party April 28<sup>th</sup>. Some but not all of the steps were mended, a channel to take some of the excess water coming away from the flushes that have sprung up on the school bank was improved.

## **Friends of Radyr Woods otherwise known as Radyr Wood Wardens**

There is a real need for recruitment. They are looking at different ways of reaching out to possible new volunteers.

## **Chairman's Oak**

The Chair of Radyr and Morganstown Community Council will plant an oak during National Tree Week.

**Action** Determine date of planting. Determine whether we are entitled to a free oak. Buy oak, if necessary.

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

There appeared to have been a private Easter Egg Hunt in Radyr Woods. The Community Council may like to consider doing an Easter Egg Hunt for the community.

## **Grant**

The Radyr Woods Wardens will be submitting a grant application for 2018-2019

## **Footpath 48**

This is in danger of erosion from all the water pouring across it from the flushes on the school grounds.

We will need to monitor this. It has been an exceptionally wet year. If we have another equally wet year, next year, ways of taking the water underneath the path in pipes should be considered and the local authority contacted.

### **Ffordd Las**

Graeham Moore has looked at the shrubs and is willing to improve the area.

### **Plaque Rhodri Morgan**

We have contacted Julie Morgan who is very touched with the idea of putting a plaque up. She has promised to let us know which house her brother-in-law feels should carry the plaque.

### **Terms of Reference**

Having terms of reference will be helpful. This is in abeyance for the moment.

### **Penrhys Pilgrimage**

Work is still going on to bring the pilgrims' way into a good walking condition.

### **Ash Path**

The Community Council still needs to place notices at both ends of this path as part of the process of claiming it as a public right of way. We need to discuss the current situation with the Rights of Way Officer again.

### **Christmas Trees and Lights for the Trees**

We have been informed of several options with respect to planting trees and for supplying cut trees this winter, but we have no firm details that we can report on at present.

We are recommending that we order two 20-foot trees for the Sidings and Windsor Gardens and a 15-foot tree for the Granny Park.

We have had a quote from Centre Great who made the Christmas tree foundation in the Sidings. They are based at Ynys Bridge £670.00 if we chose a wooden cover and £755 if we chose a steel frame cover.

**Action** Decision needed on which cover to use and then Clerk to authorise work so it can be done as soon in June.

### **The Mound**

#### **No change from last month but kept on the update report.**

This is on Cardiff Council's land. However, the grass has to be hand raked after it is cut, and we were asked if we could find volunteers to help.

The grass in the field has been cut. The trees on the mound are growing and we have been advised these must not grow too high. We recommend that we remind Cardiff council of the need to keep all the growth on the mound bush rather than tree like. We have not yet reminded Cardiff Council about the growth on the mound.



### **Bench by Woodfield Avenue and Heol Isaf**

**Left on until we are sure we are no longer being invoiced. The invoice used to arrive in January.**

We have had to pay a peppercorn rent to the Plymouth estate for the bench for many years. However, in investigating the trees (See above) it turned out that the Plymouth estate does not own this land any longer. We have flagged this up and we have been advised that we will not need to pay in the future.

### **Willow Tree Close**

Nothing to report but we need to keep an eye on the mole hills to check they have not returned.

### **Rail fares**

Rail fares requesting that Taffs Well should be in the same zone as Radyr to make it less attractive for commuters from outside Radyr and Morganstown to use Radyr Station. prepared a letter re our concerns which the full council endorsed and then sent.

We have had no reply as yet.

We should consider asking our AM to pass our concerns on.

### **Heol Isaf**

**Possible subsidence.** We prepared a letter re our concerns which the full council endorsed and then sent to Cardiff Council. Acknowledgement of our letter which says, "The matter will be investigated and a full response sent in due course".

We will continue to leave this on the agenda until we have had a response that reassures the community council.

### **Naming Pathways and Back Lanes**

A call has been made from Cardiff Council. for any small connecting paths or back lanes to be given names. If anybody has a lane they would like to name, please let us know.

### **War Memorial**

The War Memorial has been cleaned. The responsibility for the War Memorial belongs to Cardiff Council but at present David Barnes cuts the grass and keeps it look good gratis. There is a flagpole receiver close to the memorial which we aim to mark so it is easy to find in November.

### **Himalayan Balsam**

We have been asked to consider having a Himalayan Balsam bashing session in July. Just pulling the plant up and leaving it, if done before it has gone to seed is enough to control its progress.



**Ragwort**

There is a lot of Ragwort in Morganstown and this is dangerous to horses. It may be possible to arrange a Ragwort removal day in August with the help of Keep Wales Tidy



**Footpath Committee**

There are 50 paths in the community. The Community Council could consider setting up a footpath committee consisting of walkers who would be willing to keep an eye on a few designated paths which would enable the Community Council to pass information on quickly if any path has a problem

### **Outdoor Fitness Equipment**

It has been suggested that fitting some outdoor fitness equipment in the community might be appreciated. The feasibility of doing this should be investigated.