



THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

(A Civic Society affiliated to Civic Trust Cymru)



GENERAL MEETING

Old Church Rooms on Monday 14th September 2015 at 7.30pm

Present: David Silver [Chairman], Tom Evans [Vice Chairman], Nick Hawkins (Secretary), Bob Roberts (Treasurer), David Cargill, Ralph Vaughan, The Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan Dr Peter Beck and Mrs Lyn Beck, Mark Drakeford AM, Marion Drake, Cllrs Mike Diment, Julia Hallinan, Rod Mckerlich & Sue Mckerlich, Chris St Leger & David Suthers, Antonia & Islwyn Wigley, and 25 members.

Apologies: Rhodri Morgan, Kevin Brennan MP, Raymond Rivron, Eric Blackwell, Helena Fox, Colin Johnson, Pat Williams & Chris Wills

Welcome

The Chairman gave a particular welcome to The Lord Lieutenant and his wife and the other invited guests who were attending this special General Meeting incorporating the presentation of the Trophy for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

Minutes of the previous General Meeting on 15th June 2015

The minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Festival account had now been closed. Last year's charity, the NSPCC, had received a cheque for £5600 from the Association. They had also received a further £6K from other sources excluding the Golf Club. The Association had also made a surplus. Balances stood at Current, £3372; Reserve, £2; COIF, £3763; total £7137. He did, though, comment that this figure needed to be viewed in the context of the cost of putting on the May Festival, which was around £6000. The retained amount had been built up over 28 years and could be substantially reduced by a failed Festival - in other words it was a safety net for the Association.

Forthcoming Events

The following events were noted:

Films Nights on 24th September (*Far from the Madding Crowd*); 22nd October (*Royal Night Out*); and 26th November (*Mr Holmes*). All films will start at 7:30pm in the OCR and tickets are £4.

The Railway Children on Friday, 20th November in MVH starting at 7:00pm. This is a new theatrical adaptation by the Fluellen Theatre Company of Edith Nesbit's delightful novel, guaranteed to appeal to children of all ages. Tickets are £9, concessions £8, students £6.

Christmas Lighting Ceremony on Friday, 4th December in Station Road. Planning for this event is underway and there will be a meeting on 8th October to go over the details. The Community Council have already agreed the budget for the provision of the main lights. There is a request for anyone interested in having a stall at this event to contact the Secretary.

Festival 2016. Planning for this event is just starting, with a meeting scheduled for 21st September. There will be the usual wide range of events but planning will be slightly complicated by the fact that the French Twinning visit is scheduled for the final weekend of the Festival.

OCR Redevelopment

The Chairman said that the redevelopment was broadly on schedule. The Garth Room had been returned to service on 7th September, as planned, but there was still some work to be completed, notably to lighting and blackout blinds. Detailed designs were on display and people were available to answer any questions. The new building would be completed to the highest standards with an extra meeting room, better storage, professional kitchen and full wifi, and much more. The work was due for completion in January 2016.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, 16th November 2015, commencing at 19.30 in the OCR. The speaker will be Judith Hall of Cardiff University School of Medicine.

Presentation of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Dr Peter Beck, Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, addressed the meeting. He explained that it was his job to receive the applications for the QAVS, visit and interview the organisations, and write a formal summary for consideration by the selection committee. He read out some of the words he had used - saying how impressed he had been with the energy and forward-looking attitude of the Association, its vital role as an umbrella organisation within a growing community, its continued growth via the adoption of Social Media, and, of course, the significant monies raised for Charitable concerns. He was confident that the Association would continue to grow and prosper and provide a much needed social framework for the Radyr & Morganstown Community. He read out the signed formal citation from Her Majesty:

Elizabeth the Second,

By the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and of Our other realms and Territories Queen, Defender of the Faith, to

Radyr & Morganstown

Community Association

*Making Radyr & Morganstown a great place to live and work,
and fund raising for an annual Charity.*

Greeting!

We being cognisant of the said group's outstanding voluntary work in the community,
and being desirous of showing Our Royal Favour do hereby confer upon it:

The Queen's Golden Jubilee Award

for voluntary service by groups in the community 2015

for such period as the group continues to provide its current service and do
hereby give permission for the authorised emblem of the said Award to be
displayed on the group's letterhead and other public material.

Given at Our Court of Saint James under Our Royal Sign Manual this
second day of June 2015 in the sixty-fourth year of Our Reign.

The Lord Lieutenant then presented the Chairman with the signed citation and an etched glass emblem.

In response, the Chairman said it gave him great pleasure to accept the Award on behalf of the Association, who were both flattered and honoured to receive it. He noted that the Award came after 28 years of hard work within the R&M Community. He talked about the origins of the Association, linked to the purchase of the Old Church Rooms as a Community Centre, and the way it had grown in not only managing the OCR but also running many social events. He echoed Dr Beck's comments in emphasising the work the Association had done in initiating the R&M Website and the adoption of Social Media - both intended to keep everyone informed. He mentioned the annual May Festival and the way it had come to raise substantial amounts for nominated charities. In short, he said that the Association was, and always had been, a hard working group of committed volunteers who cared for the R&M Community, and for its future. So, in receiving the Award, he did so on behalf of everyone who had worked for the Association over the last 28 years. He concluded by thanking the Community Council for making the initial nomination.

Cllr Julia Hallinan, Chair of the Community Council, gave her congratulations to the Association on winning the Award. She noted specifically the excellent work done by the Association in fostering social well being - noting particularly the Festival and the Christmas Lighting Ceremony and the way the Association endeavoured to reach out to all sectors and ages of the R&M Community.

Cllr Rod McKerlich, County Councillor, added his congratulations. He noted that the Community Council had originally put forward three R&M Groups for the Award - a testament to the amount of Community spirit that resides in and is key to the success of the local Community. He mentioned that R&M, whilst being close to Cardiff, had always been bounded geographically on all sides and thus had developed in a unique way. The Association, founded for a single purpose 28 years ago, had nurtured and supported that uniqueness by providing a much needed and valued social infrastructure. He noted, finally, that what makes a community is the volunteers that come forward to make things happen, and for that he thanked the Association most warmly.

In closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked everyone, particularly The Lord Lieutenant, for coming and presented the Lord Lieutenant's wife, Mrs Lyn Beck, with a bouquet of flowers. He then invited everyone to partake of the refreshments.