

THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

(A Civic Society affiliated to the Civic Trust for Wales)

GENERAL MEETING

Old Church Rooms, Radyr, Monday November 30th 2009 7.30pm

Present: Cyril Williams (Chairman), Nick Hawkins (Vice-Chairman), Bob Roberts (Treasurer), Elizabeth Fraser (Secretary), David Cargill, Allan Cook, Neville Evans, Maggie Roberts, Cllr David Silver, Judith Marsh, Chris Wills, Val Allen, Geoffrey Saunders, Alison Skidmore, Cliff Skidmore & Cllr Rod McKerlich.

Apologies for Absence: Sue Thomas, Julie Davies, David Suthers, Wyn Phillips, Bob Pearce, Mary Pearce, Ailsa Bracegirdle, Kieran Webster & Cllr Rachel Granger

Minutes of the previous General Meeting on Monday 12th October 2009

The minutes were approved. Matters arising:

- i. *Speed limit cameras and display on Heol Isaf* - one is faulty, the other is working normally. Statistics will be logged and could lead to a police campaign to issue speeding tickets and/or the introduction of a 20mph limit outside schools.
- ii. *Mound Field* - see below

Treasurers Report

£50 was paid for a wreath and donation for "Remembrance Day". COIF acknowledged receipt of confirmation of our written mandate. Christmas trees are still to come out of the accounts which stand at: C/Ac £1584.85, Reserve £1.38, COIF £4629.99 (total £6216.22). £1000 has been set aside to cover costs for the Village Plan projects. This leaves a reserve of just over the policy figure of £5000.

PACT/Neighbourhood Watch (NW)

A PACT meeting was held last week. Crime figures are down. Parking of cars on the pavements, in particular outside Danybryn is a recurring problem. NW had information on Scams and cold calling. A Village Plan project headed by Ralph Vaughan, will examine how PACT, NW and the police can work together to best effect.

Community Halls

Old Church Rooms: Fully booked until Christmas. The insurers rejected the claim for the drains but the work will still be done. The hot water boiler is due to be replaced at a cost of £600. A working party is being organised by David Silver to carry out odd jobs and repairs over the Christmas break.

Morganstown Village Hall: A new water heater and cooker have been installed. The new kitchen is now complete. Maggie Roberts thanked the Community Council for the grant that paid for the work. New users mean the hall is once again nearly booked up. The Hall will close in February at half term so that the ceiling and lights can be replaced.

May Festival

Festival arrangements are well under way. A full programme includes many Arts events organised by Allan Cook. Next year's Carnival Parade will have the theme of Roald Dahl's story books. David C has applied for grants and is hopeful that at least one application may be successful. Money will be allocated to local groups to make use of recycled materials to make costumes. The builders, "Taylor Wimpey plc" have given £2000 to sponsor events at Parc Radur and the Sidings. A meeting about the latter event was held with the Sidings site manager Peter Pettit who was very supportive of the idea. Many events have been organised for Young People who have been encouraged to participate.

Village Plan Projects

The Association is working on fourteen projects. One of these is to “publicise new and existing facilities”. It is hoped that the local organizations will work with the Association to up-date the website on a regular basis. This may attract new members and inform the community. A further aim is to produce a “Welcome Pack” with an illustrated folder containing local history and information for newcomers to the area. This should be available next Spring, at least in draft form. A great deal of work has been done on “identifying suitable routes for local walks”. Money will be needed to design and print leaflets detailing the paths. The parks department has confirmed that the hanging baskets featuring animals from the Taff Trail are nearing completion and should be in place above the shops in Station Road before the May Festival next year. Kieran Webster and Beverley Lewis have been working with Young People to contribute to the organisation of events in the May Festival. Together with a youth outreach worker they are hoping to have contact with the Twinning Association and to set up a Youth PACT group. The Village Plan document has been completed. It is predicted that printing costs will be too high to distribute to all households but will be available to view on the web and also at the library etc. It should be published in the next couple of months.

Mound Field

While completing a Conservation Management Plan, Cardiff Council discovered an outbreak of Phytophthora Ramorum - “Sudden Oak Death” at the Mound Field Motte site. DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) instructed the Council to burn all affected vegetation. The areas involved will be fenced off. This should not delay the planning needed to ensure that the recommendations of the Plan are carried out once the area has been declared free of the disease (3 - 5 years). Rod McKerlich will be setting up a meeting of active volunteers in January 2010

Any Other Business

Planning Application - Objections have been raised to the proposal to build three, four-storey houses in gardens at the back of Ael y Bryn. This is 1 of 4 disputed applications.

Cllr Rod McKerlich brought us up to date on a number of local issues:

Closure of “Golf Course Lane - Local opinion is divided on placing lockable bollards at either end which can be removed in an emergency. The Highways Department have not yet agreed a budget.

Community Plot on Sidings 2 - If Taylor Wimpey plc (TW) will not agree to a change of use for the community plot then a new library must be built there or the developer will reclaim the land for housing. TW will contribute £400,000 for a library and Cardiff County Council have allocated an additional budget of £950,000. This could be sufficient to build a library modelled on the one in Grangetown, which cost £1.2 million. Most residents do not want the library to move from its existing site. A refurbishment would have to accommodate 28 Health authority workers. This would be prohibitive. An agreeable solution may be to build a new library in the Sidings while retaining the existing facility in some form. Those present at the meeting agreed the proposal that **“the Association should support Cllr Rod McKerlich in a bid to secure the site in Sidings 2 for the community”**.

Late bus to run on a Sunday - At present the last bus from the city centre to Radyr is at around 5.30pm. There will another service leaving at around 10.30pm from the city.

Radyr and Morganstown are getting greener - Recycling has increased from 54% to 58%. Lisvane residents presently recycle 70% of their rubbish. There is therefore room for improvement.

The disused Rugby Club at the Mound Field - “Cardiff Academicals” may not become a temporary tenant since the pitch - part of the Mound Field - has been closed to the public.

Housing Development of 4000 houses on land owned by Plymouth Estates - This proposal, submitted by the Plymouth Estates in conjunction with the Cardiff Local Development Plan (LDP), would be on green-belt land extending from Danescourt, past Radyr to St Fagans. Cllr McKerlich is strongly opposed to it. Cardiff County Council have submitted the LDP to the Welsh Assembly Government for approval. It contains proposals to build all necessary housing on brown field sites only. If it is considered that insufficient housing has been allowed for in the LDP then building on the Plymouth Estates land might have to be considered. If that is the case then representations can be made.

The next meeting is on Monday 22nd February 2010 - 7.30pm (OCR)