

THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

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

GENERAL MEETING

Morganstown Village Hall on Monday 16th July 2007 8.00pm

Present: Garry Newbould (Chairman), Julie Williams (Acting Secretary), Bob Roberts (Treasurer), Maggie Roberts, Maureen Morgan, Alison Skidmore, Cliff Skidmore, David Silver, J. Thomas, Nick Hawkins, Ken Williams, Wyn Phillips, Gareth Davidson, Lewis Probert, George Carroll, Jim Ridgway, Val Allen, Ailsa Bracegirdle, Steve Fowler, Jerry Bray, Kieran Webster, David Cargill

Apologies for Absence: Barbara Willis, Bob and Mary Pearce, Derek Bateman, Elizabeth Fraser

Minutes of the previous General Meeting on Tuesday 22nd May 2007

The minutes were approved.

Matters Arising Protocol and bursary for retiring secretary and drama studio at Radyr Comprehensive (see later).

Police Report

The Neighbourhood Watch scheme is proving to be successful and there is an improving situation with regard to youth crime. However young people have gained access to the derelict farmhouse at Cwm farm. It is hoped that parents can instigate a one-way system in Park Road at start and finish of school to ease traffic congestion. Also of note is that cannabis “farms” have been discovered in boarded-up rented properties in neighbouring areas.

Next PACT meeting, 2nd August at 7.00pm (OCR)

Treasurer's Report

May Festival accounts - a total of £2,990 was raised for the NSPCC. £2,500 cheque from the RMA and £490 paid directly to the charity. Expenses included £462 for new outdoor speakers and £508 for the Youth edition of the Radyr chain. No cost for the new cloaks for the Queen and attendants, as they were recycled from curtains at MVH! Despite having no Arts Council Grants this year, a £341 surplus has been made instead of the predicted loss of £2,500.

Bursaries - paid in arrears at the end of the financial year.

May Festival Feedback/Review

The 2007 Festival was a success. In 2008, the fete will be the opening event of the Festival instead of the gymkhana. The Dan-y-Bryn Cheshire Home in Radyr is the chosen charity. It was suggested that the local representatives could take more direct responsibility for fund raising. New ideas include more family-orientated arts events (possibly featuring Roald Dahl) and a “Songs of Praise” evening. There was concern about the number of events and the proportion of the proceeds that should be

donated to the chosen charity. A cheque for £100 will be sent to the St John's Ambulance Brigade as a small contribution towards the cost of their attendance.

Community Halls

Old Church Rooms Finances are in good shape. The fire-safety equipment is being tested in accordance with the Fire Regulations. The electricity meter is being moved to a more accessible location outside the building. New railings are to be installed adjacent to the Wine Press by the Welsh Nursery to enclose part of the garden. The OCR has entered the Cardiff in Bloom Competition again. (Volunteers are needed.) A request was made for a disabled parking bay and once again for new chairs or cushions. Members were reminded that the cost would need to be met by the OCR, as it is self-financing though it does apply for grants via the County Council for improvements when there are insufficient funds. It was suggested that the OCR charge a different rate for community and private users. At the moment there is about 80% occupancy.

Morganstown Village Hall There has been an improvement in the finances. The kitchen still needs to be brought up to standard though the back room has been re-decorated. The garden has been tidied with the help of Pugh's Garden Centre.

Sports and Recreation

Mound Field Development Plans will be discussed at a County Council business meeting in September. It is hoped that the £315,000 available from planning gain can be used towards the project. Marion Drake agreed to hold a meeting with representatives from Radyr Rangers, RMA, the Community Council and the County Council.

Facilities at Radyr Comprehensive Feedback from a recent governors meeting indicated that if the school is to be enlarged, the school would be seeking the involvement of the local community to identify where the funding should be used. Possibilities include up-dating the drama studio and improving access for the disabled. It was noted that the Sports Hall would not be available for certain events during the May Festival since this coincides with exam time.

Young People

Garry extended a welcome to the representatives of the Radyr Comprehensive Green Flag Committee, George and Lewis. They explained that the school is their base and they have the full support of the County Council and the RMA.

It was suggested that a link to their website should be put on the RMA website and that they should be encouraged to represent the young people who live locally and help to put their suggestions into practise.

The youth edition of the Radyr Chain was discussed and concerns rose about them meeting future deadlines for printing. An alternative suggestion was a "stand alone" magazine called "the Link". The finer details and protocols to be decided upon once the committee have become more firmly established.

Arts Committee

Objectives for the forthcoming year are to re-issue a brochure informing the community of the arts activities in the area and to update the Arts page on the RMA website with links where appropriate. There is a possibility that “Under Milkwood” will be staged as party of a Welsh theme for the autumn.

Activity Matrix and Charter

The chair presented the charter for consideration.

Planning

Planning Applications Helena Fox (clerk) is putting all applications on the Community Council website. Appointments can be made to view the plans.

Drysgol Road The final application including demolition of the Lodge has been approved.

32-34 Windsor Road Planning permission refused on the grounds of over-development of the site.

Junction Terrace & Woodfield Avenue Appeals on-going.

Gelynys Farm has been asked by the Council to demolish building-work carried out without planning permission. An appeal has been made against the decision.

Any Other Business

Women's Institute Maureen Morgan is standing down. Alison Skidmore is the new representative.

Protocol A comment was made about the new secretary rather than the retiring secretary taking the minutes and also the omission of an acknowledgement to the latter. The payment of the bursary was also raised.

VAT claim An enquiry was made as to whether the community council could pay directly for repairs to the OCR and MVH and then claim back the VAT. A member of the community council responded that this is illegal and therefore out of the question.

OCR and MVH management committee A request was made for the minutes to be made available for viewing.

Garry thanked Julie very much for taking the minutes, as Liz was unable to attend the meeting.

Next Meeting: Monday 17th September 2007 - 8pm (OCR)