

THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

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

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15th November 2005 at the Old Church Rooms, Radyr

Present: Nick Hawkins (Chairman), Bob Roberts (Treasurer), Julie Williams (Secretary), Ken Williams, Allan Cook, Robin Jones, David Cargill, Val Allan, Lorna Clarke, Wyn Philips, Maggie Roberts, Cllr's David Suthers & Judith Marsh, Rod McKerlich, Steve Fowler, Clive Morgan, Peter Jones, Bob & Mary Pearce, Garry Newbould.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Marion Drake, PC Andrew Smith, Jim Ridgway, Jerry Bray, Maureen Morgan, Betty Fitzgerald, Caroline Noall, Julie Davies, Karen Whitecross, Cllr Margaret Lloyd, Beverley Lewis, Ailsa Bracegirdle, Joan Thorley.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and sent the meeting's best wishes to Jim Ridgway who was in hospital.

1. Minutes of the last meeting (18th July 2005) and matters arising: The minutes were approved. **Matters arising:** **Wales Sings** for the TCT raised nearly £70,000. **Footpath:** An article had been seen in the Echo reporting on its closure. **Sports Hall:** Steven Fowler informed the meeting the Comprehensive School Fitness Suite was open Monday to Friday for four hours every evening. 200 people were going through the Induction process, which cost £10. The usage charge was then £2.50 an hour. The Suite could cater for 20/30 at a time. The school had a Sports Development Officer; there were only a few across Wales. Mr Fowler also confirmed that the swimming pool was still open, but said it was being used by a number of groups and therefore could not be available as a 'drop in' pool.

2. Financial position: The treasurer said he had made an incorrect report at the previous meeting, when he had understated the reserves by £1000. This was due to having moved money between accounts just before the meeting. The current situation was that £50 had been paid to the British Legion for Remembrance Day, £55 to the OCR Management for Hall rental and £154 to the MVH towards the stage lighting. It had been agreed to pay £500 towards the new sound system in the OCR and a grant of £200 to the RTC. The present amounts were C/A: £374.98, Reserve: £237.40, COIF: £5172.75, Events: £117.37, Total: £5902.50. After a discussion it had been agreed to close the events account and place the money in the current account. He anticipated the accounts would be close to the reserve limit by the end of the year as the Christmas trees in Station Road still needed to be paid for.

3. Police Report: A letter had been written to Kevin Brennan. An acknowledgement had been received, but no proper reply. In the absence of PC Smith, the Chairman read out PC Smith's report. 38 crimes had been reported in the R & M area since the last meeting, including 18 vehicle-related and two burglaries. Chris's shop in Park Road had been targeted four times over the last month. Halloween was quieter than it had been for the last three years. PC Smith had brought the concerns over alcohol abuse down on the Taff Trail to the attention of the licensing department at Cardiff's Central Police Station. They would be speaking to the shop owners and managers. The mobile CCTV van was thought to be too obvious to be a successful deterrent in Station Road. **Neighbourhood Watch:** this had now been formally launched with Nick Hawkins acting as Chairman until the formal AGM in April, and with David Cargill as secretary/treasurer. The organisation, which has a constitution similar to the Association's, was totally independent of all other local groups. It currently had 50 members covering 10 areas. There would be a public meeting on 30th January 2006 in the OCR at 7.30pm consisting of an invited panel to discuss crime and crime prevention. The minutes and all information regarding Neighbourhood Watch are to be found on the web. Anyone interested in becoming a member were asked to contact David Cargill (2084 2034).

4. Messages/Ideas: The Chairman highlighted a number of events from the web diary, including the **Christingle service** in Christchurch, a Shopping evening at **Radyr Primary**, the next **Community Council meeting**, the performance of **Maria Martin**, the **Radyr Guides St Andrews Fair**, the **lighting of the Christmas trees**, the new **Radyr Tuesday Club** craft fair and jazz café and a **Band evening**. The **Radyr Library** was involved in celebrating Cardiff's centenary by hoping to encourage 100 new members ... if anyone knew someone who wasn't a member they should be asked to go along to the library before the end of the year – and they would enter into a Prize Draw and be entitled to a free DVD/CD/Video rental. The web diary (available at the Library for anyone without their own facilities) has full details.

5. Community Council: Cllr David Suthers said that the Council Christmas Tree lighting ceremony would take place on Thursday, 1st December at 7pm in the Morganstown Granny Park and at 7.30pm in Windsor Gardens. All residents were then invited back to the OCR for Mulled Wine and Mince Pies afterwards. The Council had written to the local MP deploring the damage to Chris Lloyd's property and the fact that the Community Police Officer was not available as often as it was felt it was needed in this area on Friday nights and weekends. Cllr Suthers then gave the meeting a reminder of the

Community Council plans if the village should have a severe winter. After a brief discussion he said he would arrange for the information to go on the Community web site. He had also attended a meeting at the Quarry. Work would be starting soon on blasting through the tunnel onto the main road. No heavy vehicles were allowed to go through Radyr and it is proposed the number of vehicles leaving the site will drop. Finally, he mentioned that the Clerk to the Community Council's job would be advertised before Christmas. The Chairman thanked Cllr's Suthers and Marsh for attending the meeting.

6. Planning: The Chairman had received an email from Cllr Drake updating the meeting on various planning matters. **Radyr Gardens:** The permission given by the Environment Agency to allow the discharge surplus from the temporary sewage plant had been checked by the Council and declared invalid. A meeting had been arranged with Welsh Water and the Council Monitoring Officer. A naturalised hedge bordering one of the paths had been torn down. This was shown as remaining on all plans, including Bellways own site plans. After discussions with Council officers it had been confirmed the hedge will be replanted. The Association had been asked to write to Council requesting this is done this growing season otherwise Bellway may not reinstate it until the site is completed. Concern was shown by the meeting over the number of regulations and conditions being overturned on this development and it was agreed the Chairman would write regarding both the trees and stating these concerns. **Health Centre:** Cllr Drake had taken up concerns over Welsh Water's refusal to allow the drains of the HC to be connected to the main sewer since it was a replacement build and would not be an extra drain on the sewage system. Contracts were about to be signed. Work may start late November. **New Rectory:** Permission had been granted, but without a garage. **Sidings 2:** As anticipated, recent information received from the developer showed an intention to build up to 450 houses on the site. Cllr Drake had held a meeting with officers together with members of the Association and the Community Council to discuss the implications. She had sent a letter objecting to the further 100 houses and would be inviting the developers to give a short presentation. If a development of this size is allowed to go ahead it will far exceed the number of houses allowed under the DB32 ruling for an estate with only one access. The Association still remained concerned about the lack of an up to date traffic survey. An estate this size will have a significant impact not only on the village infrastructure but also on the traffic going through the village when taken into account with the other developments already being built. A petition was being raised to allow the Association to attend the planning meeting. It was pointed out that both the Radyr Farm and Radyr Gardens developments have walking access if there is an emergency but this will not be available on the Sidings. It was suggested the Llandaff Society should be made aware of the new application as they may also wish to raise an objection. **Station Road:** Cllr Drake was pleased her application for a Community Regeneration Grant had been accepted. Representatives from the Community Council and the Association had been invited to join with the officers to discuss the possibilities of the project. Cllr Drake also intended to ask the Youth Action Form for their input. Mike Young had paid for an artist's impression of the possible changes in Station Road, which was intended to encourage discussion. All village organisations had been asked for their opinion. **Radyr Farm:** Cllr Drake had raised concerns that Crest had not yet complied with the standards of drainage and the conditions of roads and some pavements especially since the Council cannot adopt them until these are complied with. **The Green:** there was still concern over the plans of one resident to extend his property beyond what was felt appropriate for the area.

7. Halls: OCR: The new sound system would be installed on 19th December. Thanks were expressed to the Baptist Church, the WI and the County Council for grants. Cllr Drake had asked the Safety Officer to advise what funds were available to place an additional CCTV camera on the outside of the building; a reply was awaited. The camera would be aimed up Park Road in the hope of catching some of the youths damaging Chris's shop and the library/Health Centre complex. An on-line booking system for the OCR was now operational. It is now possible to see at a glance ([go to www.Radyr.org.uk](http://www.Radyr.org.uk) and follow the links to 'Local Services', then 'Halls and Meeting Rooms') what periods are free and initiate a booking. The building is about to be licensed for the sale of alcohol (with David Cargill and Geoff Saunders as licensees). Users wishing to sell alcohol will need to inform the booking officer in advance and will be charged an additional £15 rental fee. It was noted that a group of youths had again got into the building whilst it was being used and discharged the hall's fire extinguishers. This was obviously illegal, and placed hall users in danger. Fortunately, the perpetrators had been caught on CCTV and a copy of the recording had been passed to the police. Users were reminded that it is recommended that, where possible, they lock the main door. **MVH:** Maggie Roberts said the MVH had had its AGM and a new committee had been chosen, with Derek Bateman continuing as Chairman. The new curtains, made by a committee member, were in place and Maggie was pleased to report the bookings were going well.

8. Themes: Arts: Tickets for **Maria Martin** were going well. The next Festival meeting was on 28th November at 7.30pm in the OCR. **Youth:** Garry Newbould would be talking to students at the Comprehensive School in the next two weeks. Part of the discussion would be their involvement with next year's Festival and supporting the TCT. The RTC was being very proactive and was already planning to take the children ice skating and on a trip. Some parents were being very supportive, but more help was required. **Website:** This continued to be a success, thanks to Robin Williams and the web team. **Conservation:** Cllr Drake had made a comment at the Station Road meeting that the potential redevelopment should take account of the possibility that parts of Radyr might be considered as a conservation area; this is seen as a positive statement. **Sports Trust:** The last proposed meeting was cancelled. Work on the Dutch Barn is supposed to start shortly but, without a meeting to discuss the matter with the community (for whom the ST are supposed to be acting), uncertainty reigned.

9. Any Other Business: A Dentist's workshop will be going behind Chris's shop in Park Road. Residents were reminded that any heavy vehicles seen going through the village should be followed through and their numbers taken and reported to the Police, Cllr Drake and the Community Council.

10. Next Meeting: Tuesday 17th January 2006, 8pm in the OCR.