

THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

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

GENERAL MEETING

Old Church Rooms on Monday 15th September 2014 at 7.30pm

Present: David Silver [Chairman], Tom Evans [Vice Chairman], Ralph Vaughan [Acting Secretary], David Cargill, Cllrs Judith Marsh & Rod Mckerlich and 30 members.

Apologies: Nick Hawkins (Secretary), Eric Blackwell, John Davies, Marion Drake, Bob & Mary Pearce.

A Talk by the Minister of Health for Wales, Mark Drakeford AM

David Silver introduced the Minister. The Minister outlined his past activities with Education and the Labour Party. He recalled his participation as a Cardiff Councillor, Devolution, Member of the Assembly and, latterly, as the Minister of Health for Wales. He discussed the various pressures that the Health Service faces both in primary and secondary care. There were also increasing numbers of citizens in social care which impacted on financial and resource commitments. He presented the costs involved in all health activities and noted that they were increasing year by year. He noted that the level of patient satisfaction within the Principality was high. Furthermore, research over the last 30 years confirmed this finding. Prof P Ellwood was continuing to monitor and record all aspects of patient lives and care. Currently, the main concerns were the effects that tobacco, alcohol obesity, lack of exercise and poverty were having on the lives of Welsh citizens. There was a pressing need to address these problems as they eventually caused complications in later life - e.g. Diabetes mellitus. In addition, the Minister felt that the patient interface with health workers in the primary sector needed to be subject to an investigation so that it could become more focussed. He outlined the possible future problems associated with both increased patient demands and escalating costs. He foresaw difficult decisions would have to be made in the future in terms of priority and costs. The major problem was the consequences of an aging population.

During the question and answer session, he stated that Wales was a net importer of more elderly citizens and, consequently, the increasing health complications and particularly those associated with social care. He outlined the services that were being developed to deal with the lack of primary care out of hours due to doctors following the contract developed by the Labour Government in 2004. This lack of GPs out of hours was the main cause of the overload experienced at A&E Departments. He stated that Wales was a net exporter of qualified doctors which left the service short of medical manpower as the Principality was not attracting other medical graduates to replace those lost to the service for many reasons. Furthermore, there were no plans to build any new hospitals for the anticipated rise in population - possibly up to 20,000 citizens.

David Silver thanked the Minister for accepting the invitation of the R&M Association, his talk and participation in the ensuing discussion. He presented him with a token of appreciation and also invited him to remain to contribute to the next item on the agenda.

The Cardiff Local Development Plan [CLDP]

Cllr Rod Mckerlich outlined the current status. The plan had been accepted by the Cardiff City Council and it had been forwarded to the Inspector appointed by the Welsh Government. In the interim period, three detailed plans had been developed which involved Radyr, Creigiau and the south of Rhondda Cynon Taf. These plans would come to the planning committee of Cardiff Council before the LDP was approved or otherwise by the Welsh Government Inspector. As these sites are included in the LDP, it seems unlikely that the Cardiff Council could oppose them. They will also attract less community gain money as they are unlikely to go ahead before the new Community Infrastructure Levy is in place, so would only receive Section 106 money. General dissatisfaction was expressed by all members present as all the protests from all sections of North West Cardiff seemed to have been totally ignored. The major complaint was that the lack of the necessary infrastructure had not been addressed. It was noted that the Minister, Cllr Mckerlich and the local Member of

Parliament, Kevin Brennan, had all voiced their objections to the plan, particularly the lack of infrastructure. Members were urged to keep abreast of developments and to give considerable voice to their objections.

Minutes of the previous General Meeting on 16th June 2014

The minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Association finances were sound, with around £6400 in the account. LATCH had received a cheque for £5069 which, together with what they had received direct, gave them a total benefit of £7500 from Association events in 2013/14. David Cargill reported that the donation from Radyr Golf Club would increase this sum to around £12000. The Good Neighbours Scheme, which had recently closed, had kindly donated their remaining balance of £183.37 to the Association with the request that this sum should be spent on an item[s] for the Senior Section of the Community. There were small sums of income and expenditure associated with the Film Nights.

Arts Events

There would be a Film Night on Thursday 23rd October in the OCR starting at 19.30 showing *The Grand Budapest Hotel*; a few tickets (cost £4) were still available. On 10th December the Lighthouse Group would be presenting Dickens' classic ghost story *The Chimes* in Morganstown Village Hall commencing at 19.30. Tickets would be available through the usual sources and on-line.

Christmas Lighting Ceremony, 5th December

The ceremony would follow the usual format. The Secretary was in contact with the local businesses and it was hoped that other organisations would set up stalls to promote their causes and, in particular, the NSPCC (who are the nominated charity for 2015). The first meeting of the organising committee is on 13th October in the OCR.

Festival 2015

The first meeting of the Festival Committee will be held on Monday 29th September in the OCR commencing at 19.30.

General R&M Matters

The next PACT Meeting will be held on Tuesday 30th September in the OCR commencing at 19.00. Both the Agenda and the Notes of the last meeting are available on the R&M Website.

Any Other Business

Nothing raised.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, 17th November, commencing at 19.30 in the OCR. The speaker will be Mr Andrew Williams, the Head Master at Radyr Comprehensive School.