

THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

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

Minutes of the meeting held in the Morganstown Village Hall on Monday 19th July 2004

- In Attendance:** Nick Hawkins (Chair), Bob Roberts (Treasurer), Julie Williams (Secretary), Ken Williams, Dave Cargill, Chris Dale, Cllrs David Suthers & Sue Philpott, Val Allen (Ty Gwyn Pony Club), Maggie Roberts (Twinning Fellowship/MVH), Jim Ridgway (MVH), Joan Thorley (Senior Citizens), Lorna Clark, Ailsa Bracegirdle (RPMG), Maureen Morgan (WI), Gary Bufton (MVH/Karate) Geoff Saunders, Ivy Williams (MVH), Janet Thomas (MVH) Jerry Bray (Bowls).
- Apologies for Absence:** Caroline Noall (Library), Allan Cook (Arts), Derek Bateman (Drama), Mike Jenkins (Danescourt Community Association), Denise Thomas, Peter & Hilary Borrow, Cllr Jean Monk, Rev Bill Barlow.
- Minutes of the last Meeting (24th May):** Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Lorna Clarke, seconded by Maggie Roberts and agreed by all.
- Matters Arising: Broadband:** Is here! Everyone should be aware. **Claim against the Association:** Unfortunately, solicitors for Mrs Hammond, the lady injured in the accident at the Festival Carnival have issued a claim for damages against the Association. This has been passed to our insurers. **Festival 2005:** There has been an inaugural meeting of the Festival 2005 committee. **War Memorial:** Pleased to see that repair work has been completed. **All other items covered by the agenda.**
- Treasurer's Report:** Bob reported on the financial outcome of the May Festival. After all disbursements, and including the grant from County who had covered the cost of producing the programmes, the Association had made a net profit of £842 on the fortnight. This was slightly less than predicted at the last meeting, however further expenses had appeared since the meeting, notably a required additional payment to the Arts Council for Wales due to the tremendous success of Home Front. However, compared to the forecast profit of £650, this was an excellent result. Additionally, as reported at the previous meeting, £1300 had gone to Noah's Ark – and the Association had received a note of thanks (on notice board). The Association's assets now totalled £4992.60, just under the £5000 reserves limit. The Civic Trust affiliation fee had been paid.
- Community Council Report:** Cllr Suthers informed the meeting that Cllr Ron Eccles had been re-elected as Chairman for the coming year and he was Vice Chairman. The Chairman offered his and the meeting's congratulations to them both. Cllr Suthers reminded the meeting that, at the election on 7th June, Philip Nicholas, Steve Jones, Roy Wynne and Judith Turnbull had stood down and Marcia Watts, Mike Diment and Ray Belt had been elected.
- Police:** PC Andrew Smith reported that, from 1st April to 18th July, there had been 15 burglaries, 21 vehicular thefts, 17 acts of criminal damage and nine vehicular thefts in the vicinity. As vehicular theft had increased, the police had targeted a few individuals and one had been arrested. Youth annoyance problems had lessened recently but Caer Craig and Station Road were still being targeted, mostly by youths from Tongwynlais and Pentreban. The first ASBO warning was in place banning a youth from entering Radyr except for attending school. PC Smith explained the background of the ASBO orders list Cardiff County Council had agreed with the police. However youths cannot be named and shamed until a full ASBO has been issued. At the Youth Meeting on 12th July called by Cllr Marion Drake eight youngsters and various officials discussed the all weather pitch at Radyr Gardens which is to be fitted with goal posts, nets etc. The youths felt the facility would be finished too late for them to enjoy this summer and, as there will be no lighting available, use during the winter would be limited. The dirt bike track by the weir had been removed but one was being installed in Hailey Park. The County Council had arranged for skateboard ramps in the grounds of the OCR every Wednesday during the holidays with a safety officer in attendance. The mobile CCTV cameras promised to be used in strategic sites in R&M had never appeared, despite assurances that 'they were on the way'. It was suggested that, if and when they do arrive, they should be positioned for a time down by the Cricket Club since this is where more damage is being done. **Neighbourhood Watch:** There will be a road show at 7pm prior to the next Association Meeting on 27th September where there will be a presentation by Inspector Palmer, the NW liaison officer. He will be working with PC Smith to re-generate NW in the area. It was hoped the new Inspector covering the area, John Roberts, will also be present.
- Planning: New Health Centre:** The application had still not gone in for new Health Centre and new Rectory. The wish is still to proceed but there are some legal problems. **Sidings 2:** It was noted that the 350 houses being planned for the site made it the biggest single development in Radyr since Castle View. The Association wished to work proactively with both the County and Community Councils to ensure everyone understood and was planning for the significant impact it would have on the fabric of our community. **Radyr Gardens, sewage**

management problems: The original application for temporary septic tanks had been withdrawn and a new application for a temporary treatment works had been submitted by the developers. It was suggested that Jim Ridgway contact County to see if the petition he raised in opposition to the original application could be related to the new application which will be heard on 11th August. **Radyr Arms:** There were no fundamental objections to the proposed development of retirement flats on the RA site but concerns had been raised over the limited parking and (as with Radyr Gardens) the timing of links to the sewage system. 47 flats were being built and the upgrade of the sewage system had not been mentioned. It was hoped that the development would generate some planning gain to be used to upgrade the shopping facilities in Station Road. **One way system in Station Road:** This has been put into action, but local residents were saying it is being ignored. **Llantrisant Road applications:** The Danescourt Community Association had drawn to the Association's attention two planning applications which were outside the remit of the Community Council and the local County Council Ward. One was for 15 houses on the Llantrisant Road and the other concerned the demolition of Radyr Chain Cottage and the erection of a three storey building with 12 apartments. Although this was not within our area it was agreed the Association should write objecting to the applications on the basis of the impact on traffic on the Llantrisant Road. **Quarry:** Questions had been raised on the R&M Website about an increase in noise from the quarry and the fact that it had been hoped this would drop when the quarry dropped its equipment below the skyline. This did not appear to be happening. It was noted that part of the problem was the reduced use of aggregate for road building which meant that output from the quarry had reduced. For detail, members were referred to David Cargill's answer in the Guest book on the Website,

9. **Messages/Ideas:** The WI now had 75 members, two reading groups and a walking group; it did not yet feature on the R&M Website but was considering the matter. They have a number of interesting talks and visits through the year and if anyone would like to join please tell a member. **RPMG:** Rehearsals for 'The Sorcerer' would be starting on Friday, 3rd September in the New School Rooms. **Twinning Fellowship AGM** on the 19th September. **Church Centenary Old Time Music hall** on 2nd October in the MVH. **Centenary Choral concert** on 21st November. **Gardening Club** starts back on 8th September, new members always welcome. **Christ Church Choir** may be doing Mozart's Requiem in November.
10. **Radyr and Morganstown Community Sports Trust:** Roger Hughes (RH), on behalf of the Sports Trust (ST), reported that the intention was to offer the £45,000 presently available from Planning Gain to Cardiff County Council to help to refurbish the old Rugby Club on the Mound Field as a changing facility. The County Council would move the existing temporary changing rooms elsewhere. It was questioned whether better changing rooms were needed as most youngsters came dressed to play and left immediately after the game by car. RH said there were hopes of encouraging the Taffs Well adult team if better facilities were offered. A number of those present considered this was of minimal value to the R&M residents and doubted the wisdom of spending the money on this project.

Ken Williams (KW), expressing a personal view, said that he was surprised at this decision by the ST. They had rejected the proposal in the past, holding the view that the changing rooms were not essential for the children using the pitches and that, if the County Council wished to refurbish their building to make some use of it, they should pay for it out of their own budget not the ST's. RH acknowledged that the building would remain County Council property as the ST would have no income to sustain it. KW expected R&M residents to consider that this use of the planning gain was a far cry from the grand schemes that had been presented to them by the County Council at a number of public meetings since 2000.

RH said that the other aim of the ST when further planning gain became available of the ST was to build a Dutch barn facility down on the field. KW considered this would be an excellent new facility for a wide range of users but could not be built until 2010 due to delays in the Sidings programme. He advocated that the community as a whole, and particularly the Community Council, should regard the potential £307,000 planning gain, the MVH Feasibility Study proposal and the CADW site as a single community project and investigate with the two Trusts what was possible with their help and in the best interest of R&M residents. We were unlikely to get another chance to see if as a community we could provide the residents with a new and better equipped village hall, a multi-purpose Dutch barn sports facility and an attractive picnic and tourist facility on the ancient monument site. The Community Council had a position in the County structure to get things done that he could not achieve as a resident.

The Chairman proposed that an Association sub-committee should be set up to own the Feasibility Study currently being conducted personally by Ken Williams. It would need to have clear Terms of Reference, a definite timescale for completion and membership including representatives from the Sports Trust and the MVH Trustees. The sub-committee would do the study for the community and would report back to the community. This would not put the MVH Trustees or the Sports Trust under any obligation. It would only be a study and the final decision would be theirs if the study showed it was feasible. The proposal was seconded by Maggie Roberts and agreed by a majority. It was further agreed that the membership and Terms of Reference (which will include

timescale) would be worked on over the following weeks and brought back to the next Association meeting for agreement.

11. **Halls: OCR.** Judging for the Cardiff in Bloom competition should be happening around this time. Thanks were expressed to Norman Clewer again for all his hard work on the OCR gardens. Further volunteers to help on the gardens were always welcome: just let the Chairman know. The WI had suggested that a closed loop induction system (for the hard of hearing) should be installed in the Garth Room. A survey would be conducted soon and a quote prepared. This will be dealt with by the Hall Mgt Committee. There is now a notice board in the entrance hall with a fortnightly list of users. Work will be done over the summer in redecorating and also repairing the flagpole which is in danger of falling down. Work will also be put in hand in improving the existing disabled access through the rear door, particularly as the area in front of the Police Office is uneven. ***It was emphasised that all users of the hall and grounds must have their own insurance especially if they are running their own event and using their own equipment.*** The incident involving Mrs Hammond had demonstrated that the OCR public liability insurance only covers equipment and facilities owned by the OCR and used in an approved manner. **MVH:** August is always a quiet period for the hall so there were vacancies if anyone wished to hold a party. The Drama Group had agreed to tackle the under stage area during August. As with the OCR, the MVH Trustees will be asking all users to ensure they have their own insurance.
12. **Future Themes: Website:** There had been a petition for a cyber net café mentioned on the website. It was agreed that this should be responded to there to encourage more youngsters and other residents to use this medium for active public debate. **Conservation:** This will proceed on the basis of a joint Council/Association initiative. **Arts:** This is mainly being discharged via the Festival. For 2005. Four professional shows are hoped for including a Welsh one. Allan Cook will be firming up on his proposal to place 'events notice boards' with or near the Community Council ones. There are cost implications. He had also suggested that, to help promote the heritage of Radyr, the OCR Garth Room should be changed to the 'Dahl' Room and the Association should consider purchasing Dahl memorabilia for display there. Members generally approved. The Drama Society and the RPMG are to be asked to send a representative to the Arts Group, which would be meeting in early September. **Neighbourhood Watch:** (See 7 above). **Youth Involvement:** The aim is to find one or two youngsters willing to co-ordinate with the Executive Committee to provide the Association with a greater insight as to what we should be doing to support and encourage greater youth involvement in the community. A sub-theme is to encourage existing organisations to attract a younger element. The Chairman had recently spoken again to the head teacher of the Comprehensive School and he hoped to be put in touch with suitable youngsters early in the next academic year. It was suggested that one way forward would be to discover what extra-curricular activities take place in the Comprehensive School and to try to link them in with the appropriate organisations in the village. **Litter:** The Chairman had a message from Denise Thomas, a member who lives in Bro Radyr and one of Robin's 'litter pickers'. She had said that she recently went out with a friend and collected five black bags full! She was also concerned about the mess at the back of the school between the playing field and the woods. It was really unacceptable as well as being an eyesore for people who use the woods. Robin Jones had been asked to follow up the matter.
13. **Any Other Business:** The Chairman offered his and the Executive Committee's congratulations to Cllr Marion Drake as she entered her 20th year of representing the community. **Sports Hall at Comp.** The Chairman had been to see the new Comprehensive School Sports Hall and found the facilities good and with seating in the main hall for 300 adults. The Comprehensive School's view was that the main hall is too valuable to be hired to casual groups, but that it could be rented by suitable organised societies. The School would soon be equipping a fitness suite and would like to see local residents using it out of school hours by setting up a formal fitness club. The head teacher had asked the Association to prepare an address list of people who might be invited to a special event in early October to pursue this idea. Anyone interested get in touch with the Chairman or David Cargill. **Open Gardens:** The Chairman had visited the recent Pentyrch 'Open Garden Scheme' and found it well run and interesting. The cost was £5 a head to go around and refreshments were offered in some gardens. £4,000 had been raised for charity. He wondered if something similar could be done in Radyr and Morganstown – perhaps linking it to a resurrected 'Summer Show' such as used to be held in MVH in September. He would ask the Gardening Club to consider the idea. **Welsh Team football:** Jean Monk was dealing with the matter of how the signed football donated by Stan Stennet could be sold for the maximum amount of money (to be donated to the Noah's Ark Appeal). It was currently planned to raffle it to youngsters later in the year. **Radyr Chain:** Jerry Bray was asked to thank the Chain Gang for all their support.
14. **Date of next meeting: 27th September in the OCR, 16/11 OCR, 17/01/05 OCR.**