Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held Remotely via *Zoom*, on Tuesday 06 October 2020 at 7:00 pm

Presiding Councillor S Williams

Present Councillors M Spooner, D Atkins, S Atkins, D Jones, A Melen, E Hastings, A Threlfall, Y James, I Jones, C Jones

Apologies Councillors L Rees, R Stephens, R Lewis

63 OPEN FORUM

No members of the public attended the online Open Forum. Due to this, it was decided that the Open Forum be cancelled. RESOLVED noted.

64 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr C Jones declared an interest in item 6 Planning Applications and item 9 Financial Assistance.

65 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held online on 01 September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

66 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 55 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she had read the allotments lease. It is unclear as to who would be responsible for installing a new water pipe as the lease assumes there are already services on the site. The lease makes it clear that the Community Growers would be responsible for paying for all water and electricity bills. It was agreed that the Community Growers would be responsible for paying for plumbing works at the allotments. It was suggested that a meeting be set up when possible with the Community Growers and Rhos FC to discuss plans further. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 55 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that the Chair had shortlisted 4 applicants for interview for the role of Handyperson. Interviews will take place via Zoom on Monday 12th October 2020. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 55 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that the loss of income fund was from Mynydd Y Betws Wind Farm Fund so would be better spent on a larger project within Alltwen. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 60 Unruly Activity at Rhos Community Centre Car Park – Clerk reported that the shutters had been serviced and the motor had started working again. There is no need for a new motor as previously thought. Members were pleased with this. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 60 Unruly Activity at Rhos Community Centre Car Park – Clerk reported that she had ordered 'No Dogs' bilingual signs for Rhos Playground. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 61 Correspondence – Clerk reported that she had liaised with Paul Hinder, NPTCBC regarding the Mynydd Y Betws Wind Farm Fund. She explained that the fund awards approx. £5,000. It was suggested that the rubber surfacing under the goal-end in Lon Tanyrallt Park be extended. Members agreed that council should apply for funding for this. Clerk to cost. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 62 Any Other Urgent Business – Cllr A Melen suggested that the Caretaker's phone numbers be put on the FAQ page of the website. Clerk to contact Caretaker's to make sure they are happy with this. RESOLVED noted.

67 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RESOLVED that the following accounts be approved for payment –

106B-110B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	2841.54
111B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	1005.81
112B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	471.05
113B	Corona Energy	Gas: Alltwen CC	118.38
114D	Non-dom Rates	Alltwen CC	342.00
115D	Non-dom Rates	Rhos CC	380.00
116B	Avanti	Gas: Rhos CC	106.47
117B	Lliw Building Supplies	Screws, cutting disk, cable locks	89.03
118B	NPTCBC Trade Waste	Alltwen CC	516.42
119B	NPTCBC Trade Waste	Rhos CC	434.88
120B	N. Parr-Williams	Clerk's Quarterly Expenses (Jul-Sept)	160.44
121B	Viking Signs Ltd	No Dogs signs: Rhos Playground	32.86
122B	Alltwen RFC**	Financial Assistance Grant	500.00

RESOLVED that the following receipts be noted –

Rhos CC	August 2020 income	£140.00
Rhos CC	September 2020 income	£880.00

RESOLVED that the sum of £7,000.00 be transferred from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account for payments.

Clerk explained that staff wages had increased due to NALC pay rise effective April 2020. Staff pay includes back pay for April-August 2020. Pay rise agreed. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk stated that she is due an incremental rise in October 2020. RESOLVED that Clerk receive incremental rise. Cllr A Threlfall thanked the Clerk for her work and suggested that her wage-rate be considered in the next meeting of the Finance Committee. RESOLVED noted.

68 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications –

P2020/0741	Agricultural Outbuilding	Gellinudd Farm, Tramway Road, Gellinudd SA8 3HW
P2020/0755	Construction of a new agricultural building for the storage of hay.	Maes Llan Farm Maes Llan Access Road, Cilybebyll SA8 3JN
P2020/0781	Two storey rear extension	22 Maes Y Cornel, Rhos SA8 3DR

RESOLVED that Clerk forward decisions to NPT CBC.

Members would like to comment on the following application –

P2020/0820	Attic conversion, balcony & bi-fold doors	4 Clos Gwenallt, Alltwen SA8 3BD

Members were concerned that this development could overlook neighbouring properties. Concerns were also raised on whether or not the development would affect the roofs of the houses next door on either side. It is unclear from the plans how the roofs will be joined and Council would like clarification on how the neighbouring properties would be safeguarded during the proposed works.

RESOLVED that Clerk contact NPT CBC with comments.

69 MAINTENANCE

Footpaths: Clerk reported that the Footpaths Officer had produced a list of the footpaths in need of further urgent works during October 2020. Clerk read out the list and Members agreed that this work should be carried out asap. RESOLVED noted.

My Green Valley: Chair reported that a volunteer from My Green Valley would like to adopt Gwynfryn Park, Alltwen. They would like to put a sign on the gate/fence with details of this volunteer. Members were pleased with this and gave permission for the sign to be installed. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr C Jones reported that a local representative is already volunteering at the car park area at Alltwen RFC. RESOLVED noted.

It was suggested that a representative from My Green Valley be invited to next month's meeting of council. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr A Melen reported that ex-council member, Gareth Davies, who did a lot of work at Gwynfryn Park is very ill in hospital at the moment. Members were concerned and saddened at this news.

70 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Clerk reported that groups are still running during the county lockdown but that masks are now mandatory for all over 11 years old. Chair reported that at the One Voice Wales Area Committee Meeting it was stated that the legislation regarding Community Centres in relation to Covid-19 was unclear. OVW have put a list of classes and services together to get clarity from Welsh Government as to how/if these should be running during lockdown. RESOLVED noted.

It was suggested that it be reiterated to groups about the importance of ensuring no-one from outside NPTCBC is currently visiting any of the Council's facilities as this would breach NPTCBC lockdown rules. RESOLVED that Clerk contact Caretakers so that they can convey message to group leaders.

71 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

Clerk reported that there had been two applications:

- **My Green Valley** – request for £700. Grant agreed in principle but more information needed before grant is awarded. RESOLVED that this be decided at next Council meeting once more information is received.
- **Alltwen RFC** – request for donation towards commercial chainsaw and strimmer in order to clear an area for community dog walkers at the North of the Rugby field. **RESOLVED that £500.00 be awarded towards this cost and added to this month's Financial Transactions so that work can be carried out quickly, before Winter.

72 REMEMBRANCE DAY 2020

All agreed that two pupils from Alltwen Primary School accompany the Chair to lay wreaths in Pontardawe and Alltwen Triangle. Clerk to order two wreaths and make centrepieces. RESOLVED noted.

Chair reported that she had received a message from a lady in Alltwen suggesting that it would be nice for residents to put poppies (or pictures of poppies) in their windows for Remembrance Day. Members agreed that this was an excellent idea. Clerk to promote on Council Facebook page. RESOLVED noted.

73 CHRISTMAS 2020

Clerk reported that unfortunately, due to local lockdown rules that NPTCBC would not be allowing the Alltwen Triangle Christmas Tree Switch-on Event this year. Members were disappointed with this news but were not surprised due to the current situation with Covid-19. Clerk reported that the lights will be put onto the tree by Centregreat as usual and she has completed and returned the necessary forms for NPTCBC. RESOLVED noted.

Members suggested the following ideas in place of the usual Christmas event:

- A children's Christmas painting competition
- Video/audio/written messages from well-known local people for Facebook and website
- A video message from Santa for Facebook and website
- Photos of 'best dressed' houses to be featured on Council Facebook page

RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that A Jenkins (Footpaths Officer) had again offered to provide Christmas trees for each end of Rhos, off the main road. Council were pleased with this. Clerk will assist him with necessary forms. RESOLVED noted.

Members agreed that there would be no need for Christmas trees in Rhos Community Centre this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. RESOLVED.

74 TREE SURVEY QUOTES – RHOS PARK

Clerk reported that she had received two quotes for a tree survey at Rhos Park:

- The Arb Team: £300.00
- Tenderleaf: £396.00

RESOLVED that the Arb Team be contracted to carry out the survey.

75 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	PCSO J Ford	Online PACT meeting
2	S Griffiths	Playlist for life
3	G Davies, Rhos FC	Friendly Games
4	A Jenkins	Christmas Trees - Rhos
5	Independent Remuneration Panel Wales	Draft Annual Report
6	R Lewis	Rhos Park
7	Cllr R Lewis	BMX track

1 Clerk will set up online PACT meeting with PCSO. RESOLVED noted.

2 Members would like to be involved in Playlist for life. RESOLVED that Clerk contact S Griffiths.

5 Report forwarded to Councillors. RESOLVED.

6 R Lewis sent a message via Facebook asking about making the field behind Rhos Park a dog-walking area. Members had discussed this idea in the past but suggested that R Lewis approach NPTCBC with his idea directly as the Community Council do not own the land. It is owned by NPTCBC. RESOLVED noted.

7 Cllr R Lewis spoke to Clerk over the phone to report that a drainage contractor known to him had visited the BMX track. He suggested that the best thing to do would be to clear the site, put bore holes in the ground for drainage and then build the track up again from its lowest points with scalpings and then top with stone dust and press down the surface. Glantawe Landscapes Ltd offered to do this job for the Council in the past. Clerk had spoken to Andrew and he is still prepared to complete the job. All agreed that this matter needs revisiting. It was suggested that a meeting of the Project Committee be set up to discuss this matter further. RESOLVED noted.

76 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Chair reported that during the One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting it had been stated that the auditors will be looking at employment contracts and terms and conditions of employment during next year's audit. Clerk stated that Council employment contracts are already in place and based on OVW draft model contracts. RESOLVED noted.

Chair also reported that during the meeting OVW had warned Councils again asset transfers. This does not apply to the Community Council at the moment but is worth noting for future reference. RESOLVED noted.

OVW are currently holding free Finance and Law training courses to two Council members. RESOLVED that Clerk forward details of courses to members.

Chair stated that it had also been reported that all Councillors Remuneration payments are taxable. RESOLVED noted.

The meeting ended at 8:45pm.

Signed Dated 02 November 2020