Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held Remotely via *Zoom*, on Monday 04 January 2021 at 7:00 pm

Presiding Councillor S Williams

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

Apologies Councillors R Lewis, D Atkins, A Threlfall, E Hastings, R Stephens

113 PASSING OF FORMER COUNCILLOR AND CHAIR

Chair announced the sad passing of former Community Councillor and former Chair of Cilybebyll Community Council, Gina Threlfall. Members were saddened at this news and expressed their condolences to Cllr A Threlfall. Chair lead a minutes silence in remembrance of Mrs Threlfall. Clerk said she had spoken to Cllr A Threlfall and he has not decided on a charity for donations as yet. RESOLVED that a £50 donation be given to the chosen charity once known. Clerk will send sympathy card to Cllr Threlfall on behalf of council.

114 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs C Jones declared an interest in item 7 Planning Applications. RESOLVED.

115 ALLTWEN ROOM SWAP & REONVATIONS – SOUTH WALES WOODTURNERS

The meeting was attended by J Zenazzi and H MacMillan from the South Wales Woodturners. They enquired as to whether or not council were still happy to proceed with the project. Members confirmed that they were keen for this project to go ahead. RESOLVED noted.

J Zenazzi stated that lottery funding is being sought for the project. He stated that members will do much of the work themselves and asked whether or not they would be permitted to visit the Community Centre to carry out some work during lockdown. Chair stated that unfortunately, due to the current lockdown restrictions and Welsh Government Guidelines, this would not be possible. Members agreed that works can commence as soon as lockdown restrictions are lifted. RESOLVED noted.

J Zenazzi stated that the group are committed to the Community Centre and hope to stay on for years to come. They have 40+ members and hope to grow once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. Members were pleased with this and thanked the Woodturners for their support.

It was suggested that if the Pool Tables could not be re-homed, then the Woodturners could use the wood to make alternative items. RESOLVED that

Clerk firstly check with the Caretaker to see if anyone would like them and secondly, advertise them on Facebook.

J Zenazzi asked whether or not the Alltwen Heels W.I. would be happy for their cupboards to be moved into the current Woodturing room temporarily whilst works are carried out. RESOLVED that Clerk liaise with Alltwen Heels.

H MacMillan stated that he will relay the discussion to members of the Woodturning group and thanked council for their time.

RESOLVED that this project go ahead as soon as restrictions are lifted.

116 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

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

117 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 100 Tree Planting Project – Clerk reported that she had received communication from Neil Hinds, NPTCBC with regards to meeting the Handyperson, Aled, to visit parks. A date will be arranged once lockdown is over. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 105 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that Sutcliffe Play will commence on extending the safety surface at Lon Tanyrallt park in early Spring. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 105 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she had liaised with Nick Thomas, NPTCBC regarding the trees behind Edward Street, Alltwen. He stated that they are the responsibility of the Community Council but none of them have a TPO. RESOLVED that Clerk firstly find out how many trees would need cutting and if necessary, instruct a tree surgeon to conduct a tree survey.

Further to Minute 108 Maintenance – Clerk reported that the Tree Survey for Rhos Park has been received. She will look through it and put out a tender for necessary works. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 110 Proposed New Primary School – Clerk reported that she has received confirmation from NPTCBC that council's comments will be considered and noted. It was stated that an email from parents had been received asking the council's position on this matter. It was stated that it may not be appropriate at this time to 'object' or 'agree' because the objection phase of the consultation has not yet been opened for comment. Members voted in favour of waiting until this part of the consultation process is open for comment before officially agreeing or objecting proposed plans. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 111 Correspondence – Clerk reported that the meeting with Paul Hinder regarding the proposed new primary school went well and all council's comments were considered. RESOLVED noted.

118 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RESOLVED that the following accounts be approved for payment –

157B-160B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	2,221.27
161B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	772.16
162B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	358.29
163B	Corona Energy	Gas: Alltwen CC	139.34
164D	Non-dom Rates	Alltwen CC	342.00
165D	Non-dom Rates	Rhos CC	380.00
166B	Avanti	Gas: Rhos CC	536.30
167B	NPTCBC	Japanese Knotweed Treatment: Alltwen	245.09
168B	The Arb Team	Rhos Park Tree Survey	360.00
169B	SLCC	Membership Renewal	262.00

Transfer: Authority to transfer the sum of £ 5,250.00 from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account is requested. RESOLVED.

Income:	Rhos CC	CC Hire Dec 2020	£520
	Rhos PF	Hire Dec 2020	£182

119 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications –

P2020/1085	Retention of retaining wall, raised car parking area and garden room	85 Alltwen Hill, Alltwen SA8 3BP
P2020/1101	TPO	26 Corner Meadow, Rhos SA8 3DR
P2020/1102	TPO	4 Penyralltwen Park, Rhos SA8 3EZ

RESOLVED that Clerk forward decisions to NPT CBC.

120 MAINTENANCE

Brynmorgrug Playground: Clerk reported that she had an offer from Sovereign Play to have a look at any play facilities that need upgrading. She arranged that the Handyperson met with their representative at Brynmorgrug Playground. Aled reported that the meeting went very well and that Sovereign Play had recommendations regarding the type of extra equipment that could be suitable for older children. Sovereign Play will send email to Clerk with suggestions and plans. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk stated that she had received a form asking for expression of interest in funding for play from NPTCBC (funded via Welsh Government). It arrived at very short notice, so Clerk completed it and returned immediately. She put together the expression of interest for funding for improvement works to Brynmorgrug

Playground. Forms will be assessed by NPTCBC shortly. Members were pleased with this. RESOLVED noted.

Rhos Park: It was reported that there is a padlock on the furthest gate at Rhos Playground. Clerk will ask Handyperson to remove it as it should not be there. RESOLVED noted.

Car Park – Alltwen Community Centre: It was suggested that the Handyperson line mark the car park in Alltwen Community Centre whilst the centre is closed. Clerk to liaise with Handyperson. RESOLVED noted.

121 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Clerk reported that the Community Centres are currently closed due to the Covid-19 lockdown Welsh Government legislation. Clerk to monitor Guidelines as and when they are amended. RESOLVED noted.

It was suggested that a notice be put on the Council website to explain why the centres are currently closed. Clerk to update. RESOLVED noted.

122 RHOS FC – POSSIBLE SECOND PITCH NEXT TO RHOS PARK

Clerk reported that she, Cllr M Spooner and Gareth Davies (Rhos FC) had met online with David Phillips, NPTCBC on two occasions to discuss the possibility of having a second football pitch next to Rhos Park.

D Phillips stated that NPTCBC would be looking for alternative areas for 'Fields in trust' if they were to lose Ynysyderw Fields in Pontardawe due to the proposed new primary school. He thought that the field in Rhos next to Rhos Park could be ideal for this. He stated that should the school plans go ahead, there could be some funding available towards the project, but he couldn't say how much. He stated that it wouldn't be in the hundreds of thousands needed for the entire project but a contribution towards it.

Cllr M Spooner stated that NPTCBC would prefer to lease the land to the Community Council than directly to the Football Club. Clerk explained that by doing this then the maintenance costs could fall to the Community Council. Cllr M Spooner stated that the only way to avoid this would be by having a watertight lease with the Football Club stating that they would be responsible for all maintenance.

G Davies stated that Rhos FC had looked into funding but that the amount needed would be very difficult to obtain, particularly under the current circumstances. He went on to state that Rhos FC may be able to maintain a second pitch due to the fact that they would save money by not having to hire the 4G pitch at Pontardawe for training etc. Maintenance would be costly on a new pitch (similarly to the current pitch), therefore costings for this would need to be carefully considered.

Cllr Y James asked whether or not the club could get funding of their own to pay for the development of the land. Cllr M Spooner explained that Rhos FC needed a letter of support/permission from NPTCBC stating that the land could be used for this project before they would be able to apply for funding. Unfortunately, NPTCBC are not forthcoming with such a letter.

Cllr R Lewis commented via phone call with Clerk on this matter. He stated that lots of work would be needed on the land to make it a playable surface. He stated that there is sedge and reed on the field that would be sharp if cut and could lead to players grazing or cutting their skin. This would all have to be removed before a playable surface could be achieved.

Cllr A Melen stated that it seemed as though NPTCBC would get the benefit of this with regards to the 'Fields in trust' issue.

Cllr D Jones stated that it would be best to wait on the decision regarding the proposed super-school before making any firm decisions on this project.

It was stated that only a small section of the community of Rhos play football and would benefit from a second football pitch, therefore, to put Community Council funds into such a project could be contentious.

Cllr I Jones stated that planning for such a project would be difficult without firm figures and costings. He also stated that there could be a negative impact on the local community with regards to increased traffic at Rhos Park and possible increased parking issues. He highlighted that residents living close to Rhos Park are already negatively affected by cars parking on the roads outside the park when there are football matches. With a second pitch, this problem could be exacerbated.

It was stated that if the proposed super-school goes ahead, then children from the new school may travel to Rhos to use the pitches. Cllr C Jones stated that there are no plans for this. He suggested that if the project was to go ahead, then a lease directly from NPTCBC to Rhos FC would be preferable.

Chair stated that Council had two options:
1. Take lease with NPTCBC for the field, sub-lease to Rhos FC with watertight full-maintenance agreement.
2. Shelve plans for this project.

Chair put project to a vote. RESOLVED that the project be shelved.

123 REVIEW CLERK'S SALARY & PAYSCALE

Clerk presented figures to Members and left the room.

Members discussed Clerk's salary and agreed to increase Clerk's salary payscale to NJC SCP 25. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk to check with OVW or SLCC whether or not payscales are correct and whether or not pay should be back dated in order with change of NJC salary scales. RESOLVED noted.

124 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	E Weller	Sight loss training – request for convenient dates/times
2	H Macmillan	South Wales Woodturning Club
3	OVW	Public consultation for the Strategy for an Ageing Society
4	Swansea Bay CHC	Priorities letter and Questionnaire
5	Cllr R Lewis	Phone call

1 Clerk will arrange dates for training with E Weller. RESOLVED noted.

3 Clerk to forward to Members. RESOLVED noted.

4 Clerk to forward to Members. RESOLVED noted.

5 Cllr R Lewis spoke to Clerk over the phone. He stated that now that the phone kiosk has been removed from Rhos, people are parking their cars partially on the pavement and busses and larger vehicles are having trouble passing. He stated that bollards had been mentioned in the past and wondered if it would now be possible to add the bollards to this area. Cllr M Spooner will follow up with NPTCBC. RESOLVED noted.

125 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Chair stated that she had received a message on Facebook to ask whether or not a Book Swap cabinet could be put in Alltwen. Members thought this was an excellent idea but were slightly concerned regarding Covid-19 transmission. It was suggested that if this project was to go ahead, a disclaimer notice should be placed on the cabinet. Cllr C Jones suggested making cabinets and placing them in the Alltwen Community Garden. Chair stated that she would be happy to fund this from her Chair's allowance. RESOLVED that council's account with Lliw Building Supplies be used to purchase materials and that the project move forward.

Chair suggested that an information noticeboard regarding the history of Alltwen and its famous residents be placed at Alltwen Traingle near the monument. Members agreed that this was an excellent idea. Chair suggested that Heritage Lottery funding could be applied for to fund this project. RESOLVED that Clerk contact Heritage Lottery and cost notice board.

The meeting ended at 8:40pm.

Signed Dated 02 February 2021