Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held Remotely via *Zoom*, on Tuesday 06 July 2021 at 7:00 pm

Presiding Councillor M Spooner

Present Councillors S Atkins, C Jones, A Melen, A Thomas, R Lewis, D Jones

Apologies Councillors D Atkins, Y James, I Jones, L Rees, A Threlfall, R Stephens, E Hastings

56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs M Spooner and C Jones declared an interest in item 6 Planning Applications. RESOLVED.

57 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held online on 01 June 2021 be confirmed as correct record.

58 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 47 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she has spoken to Garry Turler (wood carver) about carving a memorial bench for the 10th Anniversary of the Gleision disaster. He is willing to do the works and will check his schedule. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 47 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she and Cllr R Lewis had met at Rhos Park in order to ascertain the best position for the memorial dram. Cllr R Lewis reported that he had spoken to a contractor to move the dram from Nant Helen Open Cast to Rhos Park. If this cannot be done, then it was RESOLVED that a commercial company be hired to move the dram. RESOLVED that the dram should be placed on the grassy area under the trees next to the car park so that it can be seen by all. Cllr R Lewis thanked Cllr D Jones for taking him up to Onllwyn to see the dram.

Further to Minute 54 Correspondence, Clerk reported that she checked the lease for Rhos Pavilion and it states that Rhos FC are responsible for all maintenance costs related to the building. It is therefore their responsibility to fix the roof. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 55 Any Other Urgent Business - Clerk reported that she had contacted Paul Hinder, NPTCBC and he had stated that it would not be feasible to use Section 106 funding for two benches for Rhos Park. He stated that large projects need to be undertaken. RESOLVED that Chair speak with NPTCBC regarding this matter.

Further to Minute 55 Any Other Urgent Business – Clerk reported that Matt Broome, West Wales Trails will visit Rhos Park to have a look at the BMX track in late July. He stated that £20,000 – £25,000 would enable tarmac on the corners and a higher-end track. RESOLVED noted.

59 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Clerk reported that the accounts, annual return and documents for the financial year 2020-21 had now been sent for External Audit. External Audit will take place in September. RESOLVED.

RESOLVED that the following accounts be approved for payment –

54B-57B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	2,756.72
58B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	907.51
59B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	303.23
60D	NPTCBC	Non-dom Rates: Alltwen CC	342.00
61D	NPTCBC	Non-dom Rates: Rhos CC	380.00
62B	Amazon Business	Hand Sanitiser Dispenser & Inks	61.74
63B	Avanti	Gas: Rhos CC	223.17
64B	Glantawe Landscapes Ltd	Treeworks behind Edward Street	900.00
65B	Diabetes UK	Donation	50.00
66B	Lliw Building Supplies	Strimmer Line, pressure sprayer, padlock	38.15
67B	Sutcliffe Play Ltd	Wetpour surface Lon Tanyrallt	6,054.00
68B	Total Gas & Power	Gas: Alltwen May & June bills	476.02
69B	Propest Ltd	Rhos Playing Fields Mole removal	160.00

Income:	Hall Hire	Rhos CC	480.00
	Pitch fees	Rhos Playing fields	136.00
	Hall Hire	Alltwen CC	388.00

Transfer: Authority to transfer the sum of £ 12,000.00 from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account was requested. RESOLVED.

60 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

As Chair had to leave the meeting due to declaration of interest, Cllr A Thomas stepped-in to Chair planning applications. RESOLVED.

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications –

P2021/0351	Two storey rear extension with single storey side extension and a proposed detached garage (Amended drawings received 29 April 2021).	13 Derwen Road, Alltwen SA8 3AU
P2021/0391	Proposed double storey side extension, new car parking	5 Maes Rhosyn, Rhos SA8 3HT

	hardstanding and shed in the garden.	
P2021/0581	Proposed single storey side/rear extension. Works include the partial demolition of an existing single storey side/rear extension, and the full demolition of two outbuildings.	37 March Hywel, Rhos SA8 3HF
P2021/0602	Details pursuant to condition 3 (external materials) of planning application P2020/0780 granted on 14.5.21.	Llety'r Goff Farm Cwm Nant Llwyd Road, Gellinudd SA8 3JE
P2021/0308	Conversion of existing integral garage into entrance hall, removal of existing entrance porch replaced with extension to living room on front elevation. Construction of attached tandem garage to side elevation and construction of detached double car port.	4 Corner Meadow, Rhos SA8 3DR
P2021/0441	Two-storey rear/side extension & extension of existing rear patio area.	97 Neath Road, Rhos SA8 3EH
P2021/0490	Proposed single storey side extension, and increase in ridge height of original dwelling. Works include the provision of an off-road parking area.	40 Waun Daniel, Rhos SA8 3HR
P2021/0499	Retention of garage extension with balcony area above and the conversion of the existing garage to living accommodation.	3 Pen Y Graig Road, Alltwen SA8 3BS

It was decided that further information was required on the following application to ensure the building would be used only for agricultural equipment.

P2021/0516	Construction of new agricultural building for the storage of Machinery.	Land To The Rear Of No 6 Hen Felin, Gellinudd SA8 3HN

RESOLVED that Clerk forward inquiry and decisions to NPT CBC.

61 MAINTENANCE

Playgrounds: Clerk reported that the Handyperson is currently carrying out maintenance tasks within the parks. Once ROSPA have visited, Clerk will compile a list of further works to be carried out. RESOLVED noted.

Footpaths: Clerk reported that the Handyperson stated that there are quite a few footpaths signs missing. RESOLVED that Chair and Cllr C Jones make enquires with NPTCBC to ascertain who is responsible for replacing the signs.

Brynmorgrug: Cllr L Rees reported that he had been contacted by a parent stating that one of the new tyres on the trail had been damaged. RESOLVED that Clerk instruct Handyperson to inspect the equipment.

62 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Clerk reported that both centres are running well. Not all groups have returned but there are some new groups in Alltwen Community Centre which is excellent news. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that the Handyperson and Caretaker of Alltwen Community Centre said that they are prepared and able to build the partition wall within the centre. Members were pleased with this. RESOLVED noted. It was suggested that a fire risk assessment will need to be carried out once the wall is built. Clerk will instruct FPS to visit once the wall is built. RESOLVED noted.

63 KNOTWEED TREATMENT – RHOS PARK

Clerk reported that she had received a quote for knotweed works at Rhos Park of £312.45. Members were happy to proceed with the works. RESOLVED.

64 CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN PONTARDAWE TO REPLACE ALLTWEN, GODRE'R GRAIG AND LLANGIWG PRIAMRY SCHOOLS

Clerk reported that the consultation was now open for responses. Members discussed the issues that they had previously raised in their initial response to the proposal and agreed to re-submit these comments. Members also decided to add the following points to their initial comments:

It was stated that currently (and since September 2020) Cwmtawe Community School have been operating staggered start and finish times as a way of reducing contact between pupils of different year groups due to COVID-19. Therefore, any assessment in traffic impacts should take into account that what we are currently seeing is not a true representation of what occurs usually and potentially post-COVID. The current situation means that we do not see the typical flock of pupils en masse.

It was stated that bus services would be affected by the increased traffic around the school and roundabouts and roads leading towards Pontardawe.

It was highlighted that parents of children attending the temporary Godre'r Graig Primary School and Cwmtawe Community school are presently illegally parking in the car parks of Lidl and Home Bargains. This is being allowed presently but

the question was asked, where would those vehicles park if enforcement action was to be taken to prevent parking? Council would like consideration to be given to this point.

It was suggested that there should have been 3 separate consultations for this project – one for each school involved. It was also stated that the timing of this consultation is questionable as due to the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns, no public meetings have been able to take place which is disadvantageous as it is difficult to gauge public feeling on this. It was stated that lots of people were also pre-occupied with Christmas during the initial consultation and feeling was that lots of people affected haven't had a proper voice on this matter. It was suggested that a new consultation be carried out with public meetings included.

Members voted in favour of Cllr A Thomas' proposal that council submit the initial comments as well as the additional comments in response to the consultation. RESOLVED. It was decided that council would object to the proposals due to the lack of an adequate consultation with public meetings and proper community feedback on the proposals. Members suggested that the consultation period be recommenced once Covid restrictions ease in order to enable public meetings. RESOLVED.

65 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	S James, NPTCBC	Knotweed quote – Rhos park
2	G Lane	Knotweed at Rhos Park
3	Wales Air Ambulance	Letter of thanks for donation

1 Quote accepted by council. RESOLVED.

2 Clerk to contact G Lane to inform him that knotweed treatment will commence asap. RESOLVED noted.

3 It was stated that the fact that Wales Air Ambulance is a charity is ridiculous. Members felt that this service should be funded by Welsh Government. It was suggested that Clerk write to Welsh Government in order to ask the question, why is it a charity? It was also suggested that a campaign could be commenced in order to lobby Welsh Government on this matter. RESOLVED noted.

66 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Chair, Clerk and Councillors stated that they had been contacted by Members of Ebenezer, Rhos as they plan to close the chapel due to low numbers. They wish to sell the chapel but want to retain the cemetery. They requested that the Community Council take over the cemetery. Members stated that they were not against the idea in principle but were concerned that this could set a precedent for other chapels and cemeteries – if more were to close, then it could be awkward for the Community Council to turn down any requests for taking over the cemeteries. It was stated that legalities and maintenance costs (including grass-cutting, repair/replacement of gravestones etc) need to be considered in the first instance. Cllr R Lewis stated that if

the chapel was sold, then there could still be access to the cemetery via Rhos Park. It was stated that Seven Sisters Community Council have recently taken over a cemetery but Members were not sure if the cemetery was still open for burials. Clerk to contact Clerk of Seven Sisters to find out more information. RESOLVED noted. Cllr D Jones stated that he will be meeting with S Jenkins to discuss the sale of the chapel shortly. He suggested that NPTCBC could be approached to take over the cemetery. He also stated that council would need to find out what the position would be on new burials if the Community Council was to take over the cemetery. Increased administration costs and time would also need to be considered. RESOLVED that Clerk contact Craig Griffiths, NPTCBC to enquire as to the legal implications.

Cllr R Lewis stated that the bench at the entrance to Cefn Celfi needs maintenance as there is overgrowth surrounding the bench which makes it impossible to sit on. RESOLVED that Clerk ask Handyperson to cut back the overgrowth.

Cllr C Jones stated that in order to gain funding for the Community Daffodil Planting project that he would need a letter from the Community Council in support of the project. Members agreed that a letter be sent in support of the project. RESOLVED noted.

Chair and Cllr C Jones stated that they will be again awarded £10,000 each from the NPTCBC Members Community Fund this year. Chair stated that she would like to arrange a project for all of Rhos. RESOLVED noted.

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

Signed Dated 07 September 2021