Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held Remotely via *Zoom*, on Tuesday 07 September 2021 at 7:00 pm

Presiding Councillor M Spooner

Present Councillors C Jones, A Melen, E Hastings, A Thomas, R Lewis, D Jones, Y James, I Jones, L Rees, R Stephens

Apologies Councillors S Atkins, D Atkins, A Threlfall

67 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

68 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held online on 06 July 2021 be confirmed as correct record.

69 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 58 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she and Chair met with Matt Broome (West Wales Trails) at the BMX track. Matt will come up with a project proposal of circa £25,000 for council consideration. They would include drainage in the proposal and would link into the current drainage system. Clerk contacted NPTCBC regarding the drainage and will ask for permission to link to the system once project plans are known. Cllr R Lewis stated that a local resident knows the positions of all the old Roman drainage system. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 65 Correspondence – Clerk reported that she had contacted Sioned Williams MS regarding Wales Air Ambulance being a charity. She responded stating that this matter had been discussed previously in the Senedd and that Wales Air Ambulance decided that they would prefer to remain as a charity and be independent from the NHS. Members were surprised at the decision by Wales Air Ambulance but accepted the response and stated that council will continue to support the charity. RESOLVED.

Further to Minute 66 Any Other Urgent Business - Clerk reported that she had contacted the Clerk of Seven Sisters Community Council regarding the cemetery. She was forwarded the number of Cllr Parfit who deals with the cemetery. Clerk will contact Cllr Parfit for advice on the matter. RESOLVED noted. Cllr D Jones stated that he had spoken to S Jenkins on this matter, and she will pass on his comments to the committee. RESOLVED.

Further to Minute 66 Any Other Urgent Business – Cllr A Melen asked Cllr C Jones what the situation was with regards to the daffodil project. Cllr C Jones

stated that Tai Tarian were initially in support of the proposed project but NPTCBC were not in favour of the project as they have plans for green spaces in the county for biodiversity projects. They stated that daffodils are not an indigenous flower, or natural flower, and would not be suitable for their biodiversity projects. Members were very disappointed by this, as daffodil bulbs, once planted, return year after year and are the national flowers of Wales. RESOLVED noted.

70 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RESOLVED that the following accounts were approved for payment in August via email –

63B	Avanti	Gas: Rhos CC (June & July bills)	327.90
70B-73B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	2,597.16
74B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	833.21
75B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	310.17
76D	NPTCBC	Non-dom Rates: Alltwen CC	342.00
77D	NPTCBC	Non-dom Rates: Rhos CC	380.00
78B	Lliw Building Supplies	Dram - items for base, cover etc & items for parks	556.60
79B	Total Gas & Power	Gas: Alltwen CC	120.97
80B	Amazon Business	Rhos CC: Wet & Dry Vacuum	102.93

RESOLVED that the following accounts be approved for payment in September –

81B-84B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	2,852.46
85B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	895.63
86B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	305.21
87D	NPTCBC	Non-dom Rates: Alltwen CC	342.00
88D	NPTCBC	Non-dom Rates: Rhos CC	380.00
89B	AED Donate	Pads for Defibrillator: Rhos CC	44.40
90B	Avanti	Gas: Rhos CC	0.00*
91B	STRI	Pitch Inspections: Rhos Park	744.00
92B	ROSPA Play Safety	Annual Playground Inspections	503.40
93D	ICO	Data Protection Fee	40.00
94B	Westward Limited	Boiler Fault Repair: Rhos CC	93.00
95B	SSE SWALEC	Electric: Rhos CC	278.82
96D	SSE SWALEC	Electric: Alltwen CC	226.62
97B	Earth Anchors Ltd	Memorial Bench and Plaques	882.00
98B	Wayne Duggan	Fertiliser: Rhos PF	407.00

*Avanti account in credit.

Income:	Rhos CC	August 20201	£550.00
	Rhos PF	August 2021	£60.00
	Alltwen CC	July & August 2021	£714.00

Transfer: Authority to transfer the sum of £ 8,000.00 from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account was requested. RESOLVED.

71 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

As Chair had to leave the meeting due to declaration of interest, Vice-chair stepped-in to Chair planning applications. RESOLVED.

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications –

P2021/0851	Proposed demolition of single storey rear extensions and construction of new two-storey and single storey rear extensions.	6 Mill Row, Alltwen SA8 3AD
P2021/0892	TPO T201/W1 comprising of: T1 T4 T8 Goat Willow - Coppice, T5 and T6 Ash - Fell, T2 Goat Willow - removal of deadwood, T3 Goat Willow - Coppice and tidy damage limbs, T7 Goat Willow - tidy.	Gellinudd Hospital, Lon Catwg, Gellinudd SA8 3DX
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 garage and workshop area to side elevation and construction of detached timber structured "car port" for use as an "unofficial" STRCON parking space and for a small car / bicycle store / wood store. (Amended description of works, amendments made to plans & application form received 29/07/2021)	4 Corner Meadow, Rhos SA8 3DR
P2021/0810	Proposed single storey rear extension	67 Gwyn Street, Alltwen SA8 3AN
P2021/0749	Single storey rear extension and dormer window extension to side elevation roof plane	6 Primrose Lane, Rhos SA8 3ES

RESOLVED that Clerk forward decisions to NPT CBC.

72 MAINTENANCE

Lon Tanyrallt See-Saw: Clerk reported that a quote for the new spring had been received, £326.31. Clerk explained that the spring will need to come from

Wicksteed as it is their product – other springs do not fit. Handyperson stated that he will be able to fit the new spring. Members agreed to go ahead with the purchase. RESOLVED.

73 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Rhos Community Centre: Clerk reported that there have been reports of children climbing up to the roof of Rhos Community Centre to retrieve footballs. Members were concerned at this as they could fall off the roof. It was suggested that signage be made stating that climbing onto the roof was not permitted and that the Handyperson will retrieve balls from the roof on a monthly basis. It was suggested that anti-vandal paint be painted onto the top of the wall so that people would not want to climb up to get to the roof. It was suggested that the Clerk check with council's insurance providers to see if this would affect the insurance in any way. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that R Roderick had been to look at the guttering on Rhos Community Centre due to flooding in early August. He suggested putting spirals into the downpipes so that when leaves and other items fall down the pipe, the spiral can be pulled up and all of the alien objects removed easily. RESOLVED that this be costed.

Alltwen Community Centre: Clerk reported that the toilet window was smashed. Quote of £186.00 received for supply and fitting. Members agreed to go ahead with the supply and fitting asap. RESOLVED.

74 GLEISION 10TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Memorial Dram – Rhos Park: Cllr R Lewis reported that the dram is now in its position and is ready for the event. Members thanked Cllr R Lewis for his hard work on this project. Cllr R Lewis stated that he had been able to obtain assistance from many people with regards to this project and thanked them for all of their work.

Clerk reported that she has organised the event for 4:30pm on Wednesday 15th September 2021. Rev. J Shaw has agreed to take lead on the event and the Mayor of NPTCBC has confirmed attendance as well as W Thomas (NUM), brass group and members of the families involved. Clerk stated that S Williams MS will attend if she is not speaking in the Senedd at that time, but J Miles MS has sent his apologies. Clerk also sent an invitation to C Rees MP but has not yet had a response. The press has also been invited as well as BBC Wales and Newyddion S4C. Cllr A Melen stated that she has invited some previous council Members. It was suggested that the event be placed on Facebook inviting members of the public who wish to commemorate. RESOLVED noted.

Memorial Bench – Cycle Path: Clerk reported that she has arranged this event for 6:00pm on Wednesday 15th September 2021 (following on from the dram event). Mayor of NPTCBC has confirmed attendance as well as W Thomas

(NUM), head girl and boy of Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera, brass group and members of the families involved. A small buffet will be held at Godre'r Graig Workingmen's club after the event. It was suggested that a reverend, or minister be asked to lead the remembrance ceremony. Members suggested that this person be chosen by Ystalyfera Community Council. RESOLVED noted.

75 CHRISTMAS 2021 – ALLTWEN TRIANGLE EVENT & CHRISTMAS TREE FOR RHOS

Alltwen Triangle Event: Clerk reported that NPTCBC have asked whether or not the Christmas Event on Alltwen Triangle will go ahead this year. Members decided after much discussion that the event should be planned to go ahead as usual but if Covid regulations change, then a decision can be made to scale back, or cancel, closer to the time. RESOLVED that Clerk complete documents and return to NPTCBC.

Cllr C Jones stated that the first Monday of December is 6th – this could be too late in the month for the switch on event. He suggested that the event could be run on the 1st or 2nd of December instead. Members agreed. Cllr A Melen suggested that the Clerk contact Pontardawe Town Council to make sure events will not clash. RESOLVED noted.

Tree for Rhos: Cllr E Hastings suggested placing a tree in Rhos for Christmas. Chair agreed with this suggestion as did Members. A position would need to be decided upon before Clerk could contact NPTCBC for permission to do this. Areas suggested were on the corner of Neath Road and Plas Road, in place of the old phone box or next to the bus stop on Primrose Lane. RESOLVED that Chair and Clerk discuss this further and a decision be made in the next meeting of council.

76 PROPOSED EXTINGUISHMENT OF FOOTPATH 38

Clerk read out letter from NPTCBC to Members and showed map of the footpath on screen. Members discussed the proposal, and some stated that they never knew that there was a footpath located in this particular area. It was stated that the footpath is shown on the council's footpaths maps and if this was to be extinguished, then the maps would be incorrect. Chair asked whether or not the proposal had gone out for public consultation – the letter did not address this. The question was asked, why has this path not been maintained by NPTCBC? Chair volunteered to visit the area to check whether or not the path is accessible. It was decided that further information was needed before Members could support, or object to the proposed extinguishment. RESOLVED that Clerk contact NPTCBC for more information.

77 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	E David	Footpaths 50 & 51
2	S Owen, NPTCBC	Culvert Watercourse
3	G Davies, Rhos FC	Changing Rooms / Pavilion
4	H McMillan, SW Woodturners	Partition Wall, Alltwen CC
5	Cllrs L. Rees & A. Melen	Himalayan Balsam

1 Clerk passed on information to Handyperson. RESOLVED.

2 Clerk to contact NPTCBC for further information once BMX track proposals are received. RESOLVED noted.

3 Clerk read out email to Members. It was stated that no other groups use the changing rooms in Rhos CC, only Rhos FC use them. It was stated that the initial deal had been for the FC to clean the changing rooms themselves after use. Due to the cleaning being sub-standard and a mess left in the changing rooms, the council decided that the Caretaker would need to spend extra hours cleaning them on a temporary basis for which the council paid overtime. It was decided that due to the low charge for pitch fees (in comparison to the high maintenance costs for the pitches), that Rhos FC should now pay for the extra cleaning needed. Members stated that they are happy to review charges for hire of the pitches in the next meeting of the Finance & Development Committee. RESOLVED noted.

Members agreed that an agreement be drafted with regards to fencing around the pavilion building for use by Rhos FC for storage of goals. RESOLVED that Clerk draft agreement.

4 Clerk reported that she had received a text message from H McMillan, SW Woodturners regarding the partition wall at Alltwen Community Centre. Clerk stated that there had been an altercation between the Caretaker and members of the Woodturning Club as they had just turned up and started building the wall without permission from council. The text stated that the Woodturners were happy to let the Caretaker and Handyperson build the wall as long as council paid for the materials already purchased by the woodturners. Members stated that this would be acceptable only if all receipts for materials were passed on to council. RESOLVED noted.

5 Cllrs L Rees and A Melen had received reports regarding Himalayan Balsam next to footpaths in the area – particularly around Alltwen. Cllr Y James stated that it is fairly easy to remove the balsam by its root. It should them be placed to dry out and die off above ground level (so that it does not spread). She stated that brambles are appearing instead of the balsam. It was suggested that a group of volunteers would be able to remove these fairly easily. It was suggested that Clerk contact the Riverside Trust in order to obtain advice on this matter. RESOLVED noted.

78 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Clerk asked how much monetary donation council would like to make in memory of the sad passing of Mrs Barbara Lanchbury (wife of the former Clerk). Members decided to donate £50.00 to each charity – total of £100.00. RESOLVED. Cllr A Melen stated that there had been a service in Alltwen Chapel in remembrance of those lost due to Covid and other reasons over the last 18 months. Mrs Lanchbury was mentioned in the service. Members were pleased with this. Chair would also like to make a further donation from her Chair's allowance. RESOLVED.

Cllr C Jones asked whether or not council financial support applications will be looked at in the next meeting of council. Clerk confirmed this. RESOLVED that Clerk advertise this funding on Facebook.

Cllr R Lewis stated that there was a lot of traffic in Rhos Park. He suggested that signage be made to say 'Authorised vehicles only passed this point' at the gate, as only Rhos FC and the Community Growers need access through the gate. RESOLVED noted. It was suggested that Clerk contact the groups to see if they would like a new combination lock, or key on the gate. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr A Melen asked as to the situation with PACT meetings. Chair stated that if there is a specific reason for a PACT meeting i.e., antisocial behaviour problems, then a PACT meeting could be arranged. RESOLVED noted.

The meeting ended at 8:45pm.

Signed Dated 05 October 2021