Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held at Rhos Community Centre and online via Zoom on 04 April 2023 at 6:45 pm

Presiding Councillor D Jones

Present Councillors M Spooner, R Lewis, B Williams, A Richards, N Jenkins, S Hart, S Atkins, D Atkins, M Hutchings, A Melen (online)

Apologies Councillors L Rees, D Baker

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr B Williams declared an interest in the 'Unders' project as a member of the Pottery Group. RESOLVED.

4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held online via Zoom on 07 March 2023 be confirmed as a correct record thereof.

5 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 148 Matters Arising - Clerk reported that she had received an estimate for a feasibility study for the 'Unders' at Alltwen from Hurley & Davies of £1,850 + VAT. Clerk reported that she is meeting with J Dawe, Hurley & Davies next week to look at the 'Unders' and Rhos Community Centre. J Dawe will then provide full quotes for the works. Members agreed that these projects should go ahead as soon as possible. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 148 Matters Arising – Cllr M Spooner reported that Lloyds Pharmacy has now been sold to an independent pharmacy. S Williams MS is meeting with them in two weeks' time. There have been some improvements in Well Pharmacy. RESOLVED that Cllr M Spooner keep Members informed of developments.

Further to minute 148 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that the Solar Panels for Rhos Community Centre are on hold until the structural survey is carried out. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 148 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that the blossom tree planting had gone very well. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 148 Matters Arising - Clerk reported that the handyman and caretaker have now removed the sofa from the 'Unders' at Alltwen Community Centre. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 148 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that the handyman has sourced a piece of green coated fencing from the allotments that can be used to fill the gap at the entrance to Gwynfryn Park, Alltwen. Members were pleased with this. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 148 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she had spoken to R Revera, NPTCBC Biodiversity Officer and she had advised regarding the preference for native wildflowers. RESOLVED that Clerk liaise with Handyperson.

Further to minute 148 Matters Arising – Clerk reported Handyperson has purchased sleepers for the raised beds near the dram in Rhos Park. He asked if the Brownies could be involved in caring for the plants in order to earn badges. Members thought this was a good idea. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 156 Floodlights at Rhos Meadow Garage - Clerk explained that she reported the matter to NPTCBC Planning Department. They stated that it was not a planning issue. They advised contacting NPTCBC Highways Department who responded saying that this would be a matter for the Police and not Highways. RESOLVED that Clerk contact Police about the matter.

Cllr S Hart raised an issue regarding a tree stump sticking out opposite Rhos Meadow garage. RESOLVED that Clerk report this to NPTCBC Highways.

6 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RESOLVED that the following accounts approved for payment –

1B-4B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	2,941.04
5B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	979.75
6B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	375.95
7B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	345.51
8B	DWP DEP	A. Jenkins	4.90
9B	Lliw Building Supplies	Timber, brackets, handle	134.84
10B	Audit Wales	External Audit 2021-22	270.00
11B	Cotton & Sons	Rhos CC: Supplies	146.02
12B	Audit Wales	External Audit 2020-21	200.00
13B	Propest	Rhos CC: Mice removal	480.00

Clerk reported that NPTCBC had failed to set up the direct debit for the non-dom rates for Alltwen and Rhos Community Centres in time for the new financial year. Payments will now be taken May 2023 to February 2024. RESOLVED.

Income:

Alltwen CC	March Hire	£ 529.00
Rhos CC	March Hire	£ 1,080.00
Rhos PF	March Hire	£ 68.00
HMRC	VAT Refund	£ 7,992.59
NPTCBC	Warm Spaces Grant	£ 750.00

Transfer: There was no need to make a transfer this month as the HMRC VAT refund had been paid into the current account, balance was enough to cover the bills. RESOLVED.

7 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications:

P2023/0139	Proposed single storey side extension, the works for which would include the demolition of two existing single storey side extensions and alterations to the ground level immediately surrounding the development. Plus demolition of existing front ramp access and construction of replacement front access steps.	57 Delffordd, Rhos SA8 3EJ
P2023/0128	Proposed conversion of existing integral garage into living space, the works for which include the replacement of the existing garage door with a single window. Plus extension of existing hard-standing within the front garden area.	107 Neath Road, Rhos SA8 3EH
P2023/0161	Prior Notification (agricultural) for a detached agricultural building used for storage of tools, machinery and hay.	Blaennant, Blaenant Farm Access Road, Cilybebyll SA8 3JH
P2023/0169	Change of use of existing domestic outbuilding to allow a mixed use comprising uses ancillary to the residential occupation of the host dwelling and a holistic therapy centre.	Llety'r Gof Farm, Cwm Nant Llwyd Road, Gellinudd SA8 3JE
P2023/0090	Two storey rear extension (Amended roof design)	Tairysgol, 93 Pen Yr Alltwen, Alltwen SA8 3EA

RESOLVED that Clerk forward all decisions to NPTCBC.

Clerk will arrange a Finance Committee meeting once accounts are completed. RESOLVED.

8 MAINTENANCE

Clerk reported that the Handyperson will move the new blossom tree away from the fence at Rhos Park. It was suggested that a plaque be purchased for the tree. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that Handyperson had suggested that he plant a cutting of a Yew tree in Gwynfryn Park. Members did not think this was a good idea as the berries are poisonous. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that a quote had been received for tarmac for the overflow car park in Rhos Park. She will obtain further quotes and bring to council at a later date. Cllr R Lewis stated that there would be a large job just to sort out the drainage at the site. Likely to be very expensive. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that she had received a quote from Sutcliffe Play Ltd to service the zip-wire at Rhos park and to provide surfacing repair kit, £941.00. Members agreed to go ahead with the works and servicing. RESOLVED.

9 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Rhos Community Centre: Clerk reported that the mice have now gone from the centre. C Handford, Propest recommended that Council take a contract with him so that he can carry out weekly/monthly checks. Members decided to block up the entry points and see if any mice return before going ahead with a pest control contract. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk also reported that she has costed new metal cupboards for Bronwen's room at £240 each. Members agreed that Clerk order 4 cupboards. RESOLVED noted.

It was asked why Rhos FC are not using the Pavilion building to store their items for the tuck shop. Clerk explained that the tuck shop is run from Bronwen's room. RESOLVED noted.

Alltwen Community Centre: Clerk reported that she received a response from FPS regarding the use of Perspex in the partition wall. Advice was not clear. Members decided not to put Perspex in the wall and put plaster board up to the ceiling instead. RESOLVED.

Clerk reported that the hall floor in the community centre is in poor condition. She has arranged 3 companies to give quotes. One is visiting tomorrow. The others will visit over the next couple of weeks. It was suggested that if repair and restoration is too expensive, then non-slip flooring as used in hospitals should be costed. RESOLVED noted.

10 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The following applications were received and awarded as follows:

Dramatic Performance Academy: £300.00

Alltwen Bowls Club: £500.00

Pontardawe Repair Shop: £30.00

Llangollen International Eisteddfod: £25.00

RESOLVED that Clerk arrange payments.

11 APPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL VACANCIES, RHOS & GELLINUDD

RESOLVED that J Pugh be invited to represent Gellinudd Ward and that R Ide be invited to represent Rhos Ward.

12 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair explained that a Management Committee should be set up to deal with staff and employment matters. He explained that the Council is the employer and should therefore have a small committee to deal with staff appraisals, confidential matters, any disciplinary matters, appeals etc.

RESOLVED that the committee be made up of the Chair, Vice-chair and Cllr S Atkins and that any appeals be forwarded to One Voice Wales.

Clerk had forwarded a draft Terms of Reference document for the Management Committee to Members before the meeting. Committee Members agreed to review and add to this in the first meeting of the Management Committee. RESOLVED noted.

13 LAND BEHIND EDWARD STREET, ALLTWEN

Clerk reported that she and Cllrs N Jenkins and S Hart had received complaints about the overgrowth, trees and knotweed on the land. Clerk explained that only a small portion of the land belongs to Cilybebyll Community Council, the rest is owned by NPTCBC and a private owner. Clerk explained that the knotweed is treated 3 times per year by NPTCBC for which Cilybebyll Community Council pay.

Cllr N Jenkins suggested that the land should all be transferred to NPTCBC. Members agreed. RESOLVED that Clerk forward all information to Cllr N Jenkins.

14 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	G. Sterio, NPTCBC	Rhos Meadow Floodlights
2	P. Egan, OVW	Advice on remuneration
3	C. Griffiths, NPTCBC	DPO information
4	Cllr D. Jones	Christmas Event at Rhos
5	P Hinder, NPTCBC	Amount remaining of Section 106 Funds & advice on BMX WWT quote

6	G. Ffrancon	Repair Café – request to use Alltwen CC
7	C. Handford, Propest	Quote for monthly mouse checks for Rhos CC

2 OVW advice stated that it would be up to council to retrieve any payment. Council decided not to do this. RESOLVED.

3 C. Griffiths, NPTCBC stated that there is no overall DPO at NPTCBC that can cover Community Councils. RESOLVED that Clerk contact OVW for further advice.

4 It was suggested that a Christmas party be held at Rhos Community Centre with a tree outside. Members thought this was a good idea. RESOLVED noted.

5 P Hinder stated that there is £71,266 of Section 106 funding remaining. A quote from West Wales Trails was received of £44,162.77. P Hinder gave Clerk list of questions for WWT before agreeing quote. RESOLVED that Clerk liaise with WWT and P Hinder.

6 Members agreed that the Repair Café be held at Alltwen Community Centre twice a year. RESOLVED noted.

7 Quote for monthly contract from Propest £1,040 per annum. Members decided to wait and see if mice return to Rhos Community Centre before proceeding.

15 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Chair suspended standing order at this point as it was 9pm.

Chair stated that there had been complaints on Facebook regarding dog fouling. Cllr M Spooner stated that the dog wardens will visit Rhos. It was suggested that they also visit Alltwen and Gellinudd. RESOLVED noted.

Chair asked as to the situation regarding the speed cameras on the A4067. Members reported that the posts had gone up. Cameras will be installed shortly. RESOLVED noted.

Chair stated that Health and Safety should be added as a standing item on the meeting agenda. It should also be included in the Annual Report. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr N Jenkins reported that the Swansea Valley School consultation had been published. Clerk had already forwarded this to Members. Cllr N Jenkins suggested that Cilybebyll Community Council write to all Members of the Cabinet at NPTCBC to reiterate the council's standpoint on this matter. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr R Lewis stated that he has some small work to do to finish the Memorial Dram. It needs some welding works. Members agreed to go ahead with this. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr R Lewis suggested ordering a magnifying sheet to be placed over the plaques on the Memorial dram. RESOLVED that Clerk order magnifying sheet.

Cllr N Jenkins asked if there was any development on getting a defibrillator for Brynmorgrug. Clerk will liaise with D Thomas. RESOLVED noted.

It was decided that the next meeting of Council should be held in Alltwen Community Centre. RESOLVED noted.

Chair thanked all for attending. The meeting finished at 9:20pm.

Signed Dated 02 May 2023