Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Cilybebyll Community Council held at Rhos Community Centre and online via Zoom on 07 November 2023 at 7.00 pm.

Presiding Councillor N Jenkins

Present Councillors R Lewis, B Williams, D Baker, A Richards, S Hart, R Ide, R Malpass, M Hutchings (via zoom), A Melen (via zoom),

Council Employees Present: Nia Parr-Williams Clerk to the Council (via zoom), Linda Evans Temporary Clerk to the Council

Members of the Public Present: Councillor C Edwards (Chair of the NPTCBC Standards Committee) (via zoom)

97 TEMPORARY CHAIR

With apologies received from the Chair and Vice Chair, Cllr. NJ was nominated and seconded as Chair for the meeting. RESOLVED.

Cllr. NJ started the meeting at 7.00 pm.

Newly co-opted Council Member Cllr R Malpass was welcomed to the meeting.

98 MINUTE'S SILENCE

A minute's silence was observed for the very sad passing of Cllr. Marcia Spooner after a short illness. All Councillors passed on their condolences to her family and agreed she will be deeply missed by council, local residents and all who knew her. Councillors paid tribute to her hard work and dedication to the community she served.

The funeral arrangements for Friday 17th November were shared with the Councillors present.

The Cllr's were also saddened to hear the news of the passing of Cllr David Brian Thomas from Pontardawe Town Council. Another great loss.

Cllr NJ informed the meeting that a dedication to both Councillors will be posted in the Ponty Mag.

99 APOLOGIES

Councillors L Rees, D Jones, S Atkins and D Atkins

100 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr DB declared an interest as Committee Member of Rhos Football Club – item 15 on the agenda. Cllr NJ declared an interest as Governor of Rhos Primary School item 10 on the agenda. Cllr NJ declared an interest in "Alltwen Partition

Wall", being a neighbour of L O'Sullivan, Clerks report on Maintenance. RESOLVED.

101 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Proposed and seconded that the minutes of the Open Forum and the Council meeting on Tuesday 3rd October 2023 are correct records thereof. RESOLVED.

102 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 68 Matters Arising – The Government Grant application was successful, and the Wi-Fi has been installed at Rhos Community Centre. RESOLVED that Clerk to set up monthly direct debits with EE.

Further to Minute 71 Matters Arising, Maintenance and Health and Safety – Cllr. DB has attached the combination lock to the park gate, and the code has been distributed to the users that need access. RESOLVED and a thank you given from the Cllrs at the meeting.

103 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RESOLVED that the following accounts approved for payment –

139B-144B	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	£ 4,198.47
145B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	937.05
146B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	702.46
147D	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Non-dom Rates	326.00
148D	NPTCBC	Rhos CC: Non-dom Rates	348.00
149B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	204.28
150B	British Gas	Rhos CC: Gas	676.45
151B	Lliw Building Supplies	Pressure sprayer bolts	111.54
152B	Amazon Buisness	Bike Lock, Spray Paint	18.98
153B	BK Richards	Rhos CC Gutters and Drains	140.00
154B	Celtic Mowers	Leaf Blower	580.00
155B	Dramatic Performance	S137 Grant Donation	500.00
156D	Dwr Cymru	Alltwen CC: Water	155.21
157D	Dwr Cymru	Rhos CC : Water	188.75
158D	SSE	Alltwen CC : Electric	203.12
159B	SSE	Rhos CC: Electric	291.24
160B	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Trade Waste	376.68
161B	NPTCBC	Rhos CC : Trade Waste	376.68
Income:			
	Rhos CC:	October Hire	£ 1,029.50
	Alltwen CC:	October Hire	£ 670.00

Transfer: Authority to transfer the sum of £ 11,000.00 from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account was approved.

Clerk/RFO NP-W reported an increase in wages and expenses – first full month of both Clerks salaries. G Thomas has started her weekend cleaning role. The high cost

of Gas at Rhos CC was highlighted. It was proposed that this be reviewed alongside the report produced by Cllr D Atkins. RESOLVED Gas Usage and Structural Building Report be added to the December Agenda.

To Appoint a Member to Finance Committee – Cllr NJ was nominated and seconded to join the Finance Committee. RESOLVED.

104 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications:

P2023/0765 Proposed Rear Single Storey Conservatory Extension. 4 Heol Alfred Wallace, Rhos. SA8 3FA

P2023/0783 Construction of 1x single story car port. 1x single story detached outbuilding and the erection of steps leading from the existing terrace to the lower garden area. The works for which include the demolition of the existing singe storey attached garage. Plus retrospective application for the construction of an approx.. 2.25m high boundary fence on western boundary. Brynglas, 6 Brondeg Lane, Alltwen. SA8 3AE

P2023/0814 Works to two trees protected by Tree Preservation Order T202-T1 & T2 – Oaks – Reduce by 2m to prevent future risk of damage and allow more light into garden. 115 Delffordd, Rhos SA8 3EN

RESOLVED.

Cllr NJ informed the Meeting of the current situation to the planning application below, and any previous submissions made are still noted.
P2023/0101 Erection of a freestanding drive-thru/restaurant, car parking, landscaping and associated works, including Customer Order Displays (COD) and play frame (amended site layout, transport assessments, landscaping, biodiversity and lighting plans). Members decided that their previous comments made in objection to this application were still relevant. RESOLVED.

105 MAINTENANCE AND HEALTH & SAFETY

1) Rhos CC – A quote for £80 has been obtained from D Willis to repair the surround to the emergency door. Materials will be supplied by the council from Lliw. RESOLVED and approved.
2) Rhos CC – Due to flooding in the Hall and Toilets, BK Guttering attended to clear the gutters and drains. Repairs made to parts of the gutters. RESOLVED. Clerk to arrange for a canopy to be put above the emergency door to prevent water entering, and to put in place new vents to the outside walls. RESOLVED noted.
3) Alltwen CC Partition Wall – R Mercer withdrew from the work previously quoted for. A further quote has been obtained from L O'Sullivan Carpentry for £2,892.00. This was discussed and approved due to the removal of any waste

generated and additional sound proofing to reduce noise transfer. RESOLVED that Clerk contact the contractor and arrange for work to commence.
4) Alltwen CC - Cllr AM suggested the Clerk contact L O'Sullivan for a quote for the display cabinet. Clerk has priced a lockable cabinet within a price range of £140 - £180 – RESOLVED Clerk will ascertain which will be cost effective.
5) Alltwen CC – National Grid have been to assess the overhanging branches outside the Centre. They will be contacting "Birch" to carry out tree cutting where the branches are affecting overhanging power lines. RESOLVED noted.

Health and Safety – Clerk has received a quote from OVW regarding H&S Consultancy – to review current H&S systems and documentation. Due to Cllr DJ not being present and the quote was at his request, it was RESOLVED to discuss at the next meeting.

106 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Alltwen CC – No discussion at this meeting.

Rhos CC – The Management Committee interviewed 3 candidates for the role of Caretaker at Rhos Community Centre. Emma Williams was the successful candidate and will commence the role on 06/11/23. RESOLVED.

Linda Reynolds will retire from the role on 07/11/23 – the Councillors and Clerks sent their gratitude, well wishes and a thank you for the hard work Linda has given to the role, making the Centre the thriving place it is today. A picture and post will be added to the Council Website to thank Linda. RESOLVED noted.

107 RESIGNATION OF CLLR. A MELEN AS ALLTWEN PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNOR AND APPOINT A NEW REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr. NJ (Chair) accepted the reasons for the resignation, and praised Cllr AM for the dedication she has shown as Governor to the School. The Councillors accepted the resignation and thanked Cllr AM for representing the Community Council over the years. Cllr AM informed the meeting that she has been involved with the School Board of Governors for over 30 years, and was instrumental in starting the PTA group when her children were attending the school. Cllr AM is leaving the role with great sadness. RESOLVED that the appointment of a new representative be discussed at the next meeting.

108 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2023

Clerk has collected two wreaths for Cllr DJ and the Head Girl and Boy of Alltwen Primary School to lay at the Monument – Alltwen Triangle. Cllr DJ will firstly attend (to represent the Community Council) the Remembrance Service in Pontardawe. Cllr BW proposed that the gates to the Monument at Alltwen be opened so that the wreaths could be laid inside. Cllr NJ will contact NPTCBC to arrange. RESOLVED noted.

109 CHRISTMAS EVENT 2023

Clerk reports that preparations are going well. All stakeholders have been contacted with dates and times. The road closure is arranged and NPTCBC has issued the necessary licencing. St Johns Ambulance Service will be providing First Aid Cover. Clerk will contact everyone involved during the week before to finalise arrangements. RESOLVED.

It was discussed and noted that Cllr Marcia Spooner had always arranged the Christmas Tree displays for Rhos, Cillybebyll and Fforest Goch each year. In her memory this tradition will continue. RESOLVED Clerk will arrange for the purchase of the Trees and lights, along with the installation.

110 MYNYDD Y BETWS FUND

Cllr NJ informed the meeting of the availability - 2nd round of the Mynydd y Betws Wind Farm Funding was to be opened (27/11/2023 to deadline 19/01/2024). Cllr NJ discussed the amounts available and match funding criteria: £500 to £7500 grants available. Funding between £500 to £5000 – 10% match funding. £5001 to £7500 20% match funding). Cllr NJ proposed and discussed "resurrecting" the idea of information plaques/boards for "Notable People" of the surrounding areas to be placed in an accessible location – Alltwen Triange or Gwynfryn Park. The two areas were discussed and debated with the chosen possible site being Gwynfryn Park, due to H&S and maintenance issues at Alltwen Triange. It was noted that the local school has done a project on this subject and the possibility of their involvement if the funding goes ahead was discussed. RESOLVED Cllr NJ will investigate an application further.

111 GWYNFRYN PARK LITTER BIN

A replacement bin is needed for the park, the cost and design of bin were discussed. RESOLVED Clerk to contact NPTCBC for a quote – metal lidded bin, Welsh/English signage. Ideally one with a lockable door for emptying.

112 MAINTAINANCE OF RHOS PLAYING FIELDS

The Finance Committee passed this agenda item back to full Council. Cllr DB informed the meeting that the Football Club were still looking at different maintenance quotes and would rather wait until all information was in place before discussing further. It was decided that this should be passed onto the next meeting. RESOLVED and noted.

113 MEMBERS REMUNERATION PAYMENT 2023/24

Councillors Allowance – Homeworking arrangements and consumables allowance is set at £156.00 for this financial year. Clerk outlined the entitlement to the Councillors. If any Councillor does not wish to take the

allowance, they will need to complete an opt out form and return to the Clerk, otherwise the allowance will be paid. RESOLVED noted.

114 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	A James, Swansea Council	Speed Limit Response
2	Community Growers	Free usage of the Rhos CC for a Charity Fundraising Event – Sat 25th November.
3	G Lane, Cllr R Lewis and M Jones	Fireworks in Rhos Park

1. Clerk has received an email in response to the Council query regarding the average speed cameras situated on the A4067. Swansea City Council have no plans to increase the speed limit as the measures appear to be reducing accidents. Whether the cameras are active, it is advised the Council contact South Wales Police. RESOLVED noted.
2. The Caretaker to Rhos CC has been contacted by the Community Growers to request if the Council will allow them to use the Hall on the 25th November for a fundraising event and kindly waver the fee. RESOLVED. All present agreed to the request. Clerk will inform the Growers and Caretaker of the decision.
3. Leading up to Bonfire Night, there have been several complaints regarding the "setting off" of fireworks inside the park gates. These fireworks have caused concern because of the proximity to residents' properties, been extremely loud and late in the evening. Clerk received an email complaint from G Lane, a phone call from Cllr RL and Cllr NJ received an email complaint from M Jones. In response Clerk contacted Cllr DB who installed the lock to the park gates. Clerk advised G Lane that any further concerns would need to be reported to the local constabulary. RESOLVED

115 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr SH raised her concerns over the security lights to the side of the Garage in Gellinudd. Councillors agreed this was a hazard to oncoming traffic and have raised this issue before. It was agreed that there is a need for security lights in this area, but the positioning of the lights should be looked at again. RESOLVED Clerk to email the Area Police Inspector with the concerns.

Chair thanked all for attending. The meeting finished at 8:49 pm

Signed Dated 5th December 2023