Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held at Rhos Community Centre and online via Zoom on 05 September 2023 at 7:00 pm

Presiding Councillor D Jones

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

Apologies None

66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr B Williams declared an interest in the 'Unders' as a Member of the Pottery Group. Chair declared and interest in 'Partition Wall' due to him knowing one of the builders. RESOLVED.

67 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 11th July 2023 be confirmed as a correct record thereof.

68 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 55 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that Handyperson is patching the damaged wet pour areas in the playgrounds. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 55 Matters Arising – Cllr B Williams reported that the water butt at the ashes is now in use. Members were pleased with this news. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 55 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she had spoken to Fast Wifi Wales who said council can apply for a grant to have broadband in both community centres but that it is unlikely that Alltwen Community Centre will be approved as there is a fibre line on the road near the centre. BT many need to install a line and a contract taken up with them for Alltwen Community Centre. Rhos Community Centre is very likely to get a grant for 4G or 5G internet access as there is no fibre close to the building. A 4G or 5G package would be £36 + VAT per month plus a one-off charge of £480 for an access point. RESOLVED that Clerk apply for grant and if successful push ahead with the project.

Further to Minute 58 Maintenance – Clerk reported that she had spoken to Craig Griffiths, NPTCBC regarding the Health and Safety requirements of council. He stated that NPTCBC cannot cover council with regards to H&S but he has forwarded council's information to C Bevan from the H&S department to see if she could help out on an ad-hoc basis. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 61 Lon Tanyrallt Park – Clerk reported that she had spoken to NPTCBC Trade Waste, and it is fine for Handyperson to put bin bags in his car from the park and put into Trade Waste bins at Alltwen Community Centre as council pays for the Trade Waste service. Cllr B Williams stated that it is important that none of the bags are dumped outside the flats with Tai Tarian waste, as this would not be legal. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 62 Rhos Family Fun Day – Cllr D Baker reported that it had been very wet. He reported that Rhos FC had covered their costs and made a small amount. £1,000 was kindly donated by Elizabeth Lewis from the Cardiac Support Fund. Members were very pleased with this news. Cllr D Baker stated that next year, perhaps the May bank holiday may be a better time to run the event. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 65 Any Other Urgent Business – Chair reported that the band night had gone very well. There had been approx. 150 attendees, and everyone really enjoyed. Some complained that they didn't know about the event and had heard the music and then come along. It was suggested that the next event be better advertised. It was suggested that a Halloween event could be held. RESOLVED that this be looked at in a future meeting of council. Chair reported that he has booked the band again for next year, Friday 2nd August 2024. It was suggested that a full day could be made of it with Rhos FC getting involved and a selection of bands of different genres be invited to play. Members thought this would be a great idea. RESOLVED.

69 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RESOLVED that the following accounts approved for payment –

95B	Amazon Business	Paper, extension reels, first aid kits	121.40
96B-101B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	3118.49
102B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	916.01
103B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	490.83
104D	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Non-dom Rates	326.00
105D	NPTCBC	Rhos CC: Non-dom Rates	348.00
106B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	155.42
107B	British Gas	Rhos CC: Gas	550.37
108B	Gallagher	Council Insurance 2023-24	4,706.72
109B	The Floor Restoration Company	Alltwen CC: Repair & restoration of main hall floor	3,500.00
110B	Wayne Duggan	Rhos PF: Fertiliser	490.00
111B	Propest	Rhos CC: Mice treatment & Ant treatment	£720.00
112B	One Voice Wales	Annual Membership	907.00
113B	Cotton & Sons	Rhos CC: Cleaning supplies	239.32
114B	Cllr D Jones	Chair's Allowance	400.00
115B	SSE	Alltwen CC: Electric	622.78
116B	SSE	Rhos CC: Electric	974.39

Income:

Alltwen CC	August Hire	£ 617.00
Rhos CC	July & August Hire	£ 888.00

Transfer: Authority to transfer the sum of £ 17,500.00 from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account was approved.

70 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications:

P2023/0604	Retention of agricultural building and access as constructed on site (amendment to previous consent granted under application number 2021/1240)	Land West Of Neath Road (A474) And North Of Bryn Celyn, Fforest Goch SA8 3JB
P2023/0617	Works to 1x Oak Tree (identified as T1) protected by Tree Preservation Order T242/T1: T1 (Oak) - Lift canopy and remove epicormic growth to a height of 4.5-5m. Remove one end weighted branch over driveway to stem (eastern upper canopy). Reduce remaining eastern upper canopy by 1.5-2m.	Tirbach House, Tirbach Drive, Rhos SA8 3EG
P2023/0632	Demolition of existing detached dormer bungalow and garage, and construction of 1 no. detached dormer bungalow, including the installation of solar panels on rear roof plane and an air source heat pump, the works for which include the provision of a parking area to the front of the property and the construction of a raised terrace to the rear of the property.	9 Primrose Lane, Rhos SA8 3ES

RESOLVED that Clerk forward all decisions to NPTCBC.

71 MAINTENANCE AND HEALTH & SAFETY

Handyperson currently carrying out works recommended by ROSPA in playgrounds. RESOLVED.

Clerk reported that Handyperson will replace the see-saw spring at Lon Tanyrallt Park once it arrives. Clerk suggested that it may be worth looking into an alternative item of equipment to replace the see-saw if the springs are going to break on a regular basis. Members agreed. It was suggested that a post be placed on Facebook regarding Lon Tanyrallt Park vandalism. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that Handyperson is still cutting footpaths. Members happy for him to continue to do this so that footpaths are in acceptable condition for the autumn and winter. RESOLVED.

Cllr R Lewis reported that there was household waste being dumped in the bins in Rhos Park and that the bins have not been properly emptied. Clerk will liaise with Handyperson about this. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr R Lewis reported that the gate to the overflow car park at Rhos Park is constantly open. Cllr D Baker stated that it had been like this for a few months. Cllr D Baker offered to purchase a combination lock for the gate. RESOLVED noted. A request had been received asking for the main front gates at Rhos Park to be locked as youngsters are parking in the car park late in the evenings ad loitering, but this would cause issue with parents bringing their children to the park to play. They would have no-where to park. It could also cause a problem with access to the AED and for emergency vehicle access. Members agreed that the main gates should stay open. RESOLVED. Cllr N Jenkins suggested contacting the Police to add the car park to the anti-social behaviour patrol route. RESOLVED noted.

There was no updated Health & Safety information. RESOLVED noted.

72 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Alltwen Community Centre: Clerk reported that she has 2 builders coming to give quotes on the partition wall this week. RESOLVED that a contractor be hired to carry out the work as soon as possible.

Clerk reported that the main hall flooring had been successfully repaired and restored. Members were pleased with this news. RESOLVED noted.

Rhos Community Centre: Members were pleased with the new lighting in Bronwen's room. RESOLVED.

Clerk reported that both the Caretaker and Weekend Cleaner have put in their notice periods and will be leaving their jobs. Members were disappointed with this news but accepted the resignations. It was agreed that the Caretaker position be advertised internally in the first instance. It was agreed that the previous candidates for the Weekend Cleaner role be contacted to see if they would still be interested in the role. If neither are interested in the role, then the position will be advertised. RESOLVED noted.

Chair suggested that an information page be placed on council website to explain what to do to access the AEDs. RESOLVED that Clerk get advice from D Thomas, Ambulance Service, regarding this.

73 HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that Cllrs David Jones, David Atkins and Lewis Rees be elected as Health and Safety Committee with support from Clerk, One Voice Wales and NPTCBC officers.

74 COUNCIL VACANCY

Chair proposed that this matter be revisited in the next meeting of council to allow a further opportunity for people to apply. He stated that lots of people may have missed the opportunity due to being away on holiday during the school summer holiday period. Seconded by Cllr B Williams. RESOLVED.

75 RHOS BMX TRACK

Clerk reported that she is yet to receive plans, drainage plans and timetable from West Wales Trails. The quote has now run out and a new quote will be needed. Clerk explained that she tries to contact M Broome on a weekly basis but rarely receives a response. Members were disappointed with this news.

It was reported that P Hinder, NPTCBC has some concerns over the quote and of the possible additional costs that may be incurred during clearance of the site etc. The quote could be seen as 'open-ended'.

Cllr R Lewis raised concerns as to the lack of detail in the quote i.e., amounts of aggregate, asphalt needed etc. He stated that the quote should be itemised with quantities listed. RESOLVED that Clerk ask for updated itemised quote and ask for the plans to be submitted in a timely manner otherwise council may have to reassess this entire project.

Clerk reported that she contacted the NPTCBC Biodiversity team regarding clearance of the site. She was asked for photos of the current BMX track. She is awaiting a response as to whether or not a Biodiversity report will be needed. RESOLVED noted.

76 TEA & CHAT MORNING AT RHOS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Clerk reported that L Reynolds and Cllr S Hart are willing to recommence the Thursday Tea and Chat Morning at Rhos Community Centre in October. Clerk explained that there is approx. £500 funding left from last year's grant. Cllr N Jenkins stated that there may be further grants available from NPTCBC in the coming months. Members were happy for the event to recommence and thanked everyone involved. RESOLVED.

77 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	NPTCBC	Biodiversity – BMX Track
2	P McDonnell, 4theRegion	New food partnership NPT
3	L Barrett, NPTCBC	Footpaths Grant

1 Already discussed in minute 75. RESOLVED noted.

2 Clerk to forward link to online event to Members. RESOLVED noted.

3 Clerk reported that she had sent an email to L Barrett asking why the footpaths grant has not been increased in over 5 years. He responded and stated that he had managed to get an increase of 50% agreed for this year's grant. Members were very pleased with this news and thanked the Clerk for pushing for the increase. RESOLVED.

78 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr A Melen reported that she had received complaints about the disabled car parking at Alltwen Community Centre. One of the hall users can never get a disabled space when visiting the hall. Cllr B Williams suggested repainting the disabled spaces so that they can be more clearly seen. Chair stated that it was first come first served and it is unfortunate that the spaces are all taken up when the lady arrives at the centre. RESOLVED that Clerk ask Handyperson to repaint the spaces.

Cllr A Melen reported that she had been asked for bicycle parking at Alltwen Community Centre. Members stated that there were already railings at the front of the centre to which bikes could be chained. It was suggested that a bike chain be purchased to leave with the Caretaker so that anyone who forgets to bring a chain can borrow one from council. RESOLVED that Clerk order bike chain lock.

Cllr A Melen asked if an information board like the one outside ASDA Godre'r Graig could be placed outside Tesco Alltwen to show history and information regarding the site and Cilybebyll. Clerk explained that the sign outside ASDA was part of the initial planning consent, as the store was built upon the footings of the old ironworks which were of historical significance, so that is why ASDA funded the sign. Members agreed that it was worth sending a speculative email to Tesco to see if they would be interested in doing something similar for Cilybebyll. RESOLVED noted. It was suggested that the idea of having an information board at the Triangle in Alltwen could be revisited. Cllr N Jenkins stated that NPTCBC have the ability to create a sign and produce it. RESOLVED that Clerk look into this further.

Clerk reported that she has received a quotation from Signs Express to create a new version of the Cilybebyll information board sign that used to be on the

Swansea Valley Cycle path near the Miner's Memorial. The current sign had water intake and is unreadable. The approx. cost of the new sign (there could be some variation due to design time – 8 hours quoted for) would be £510 + VAT. Members agreed to go ahead. RESOLVED that Clerk order sign.

Cllr R Lewis reported that assembly points for fire drills and safety were needed for Rhos Community Centre. RESOLVED that H&S Committee look into this.

Cllr D Baker reported that there was bare soil on the playing fields. RESOLVED that this matter be discussed in the next meeting of council.

Cllr B Williams reported that Phil who used to work for NPTCBC has sadly passed away. Members were saddened at this news. RESOLVED noted.

Chair thanked all for attending. The meeting finished at 8:45pm.

Signed Dated 03 October 2023