Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held at Rhos Community Centre and online via Zoom on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at 7.00 pm.

Presiding Councillor D Atkins

Present Councillors R Lewis, L Rees, D Baker, S Hart, David Jones, R Phillips, N Jenkins, B Woolford, M Richards(online), A Melen (online)

N Parr-Williams (Clerk to the Community Council)
There were 2 members of the public present at this meeting

95 Apologies: Councillors S Atkins, B Williams

96 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Councillor D Baker as Member of Rhos FC.

97 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2024
Clerk pointed out that the location of the meeting was in fact Alltwen, not Rhos. She will amend. RESOLVED the remainder of the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 5th November 2024 were confirmed as a correct record thereof.

98 MATTERS ARISING

Further to minute 86 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she had received advice from One Voice Wales and that using P Hinder as PM for the MUGA project would be acceptable. Many Councils do this. RESOLVED

Further to minute 86 Matters Arising – Clerk confirmed that the see-saw at Lon Tanyrallt Park had been removed. There is a large concrete base. It was suggested that A Jenkins be asked to flatten it as much as possible. Council will need to choose an item to replace it with in the new year. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 86 Matters Arising – Cllr B Woolford said the gentleman was prepared to sandblast the gates at no cost to Council. Members were pleased with this. He went on to explain that the gates would need to be removed, picked up by the gentleman and taken to Pontardawe to be done. The posts will have to be done separately on site. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 87 – Finance, Clerk reported that Propest will complete a report for Council on the pest situation at Rhos Community Centre. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 90 MUGA – Clerk asked if celebrities had been approached as yet. Cllr B Woolford said he would speak to L Dykes on the weekend. It was suggested that if C Roberts is not available, then A Rangel could be asked. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 91 – Remembrance Sunday 2024, Cllr A Melen asked what happened with Alltwen Primary. Clerk reported that she invited them to lay a wreath at the monument on the Triangle but they were going to Pontardawe to lay a wreath on the Monday instead. Cllr A

Melen stated that the timing was disappointing. Members asked was it still worth doing this. Cllr L Rees stated that the fountain on the Triangle is not a war memorial. Pontardawe war memorial is for Pontardawe and District (which would cover Cilybebyll Community Council areas). Cllrs N Jenkins and B Woolford reported that the event in Pontardawe had been on a small scale this year due to the works near the memorial. Chair suggested that this matter be reviewed in September 2025 and a decision made then as to whether or not to continue laying a wreath at the fountain. A wreath would still be laid in Pontardawe on behalf of the Council. RESOLVED noted.

99 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS, BUDGET & PRECEPT 2025-26

RESOLVED the following transactions were presented for scrutiny and approved for payment.

208B-212B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	3,439.65
213B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	787.04
214B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI (£304.62 credit. £464.95 owed.)	0.00
215D	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Non dom Rates	343.00
216D	NPTCBC	Rhos CC: Non dom Rates	365.00
217B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	238.45
218B	British Gas	Rhos CC: Gas	411.69
219B	BT Broadband	Alltwen CC: Broadband	87.54
220B	PPL/PRS	Rhos CC: Music Licence	359.75
221B	Lliw Buliding Supplies	Battens,screws, marker paint, evo-stick, wood preserve, hinge	249.26
222D	EE	Rhos CC: Broadband	46.61
223D	3 Mobile	Staff mobiles	27.58
224B	L Reynolds	Tea & Chat reimbursement	28.65
225B	J Cotton	Rhos Party Bond Refund	20.00
226B	GCG Silver Band	Alltwen Christmas Event	100.00
227B	Pontardawe Chamber of Trade	Alltwen Christmas Event	50.00
228B	St Johns Ambulance	Alltwen Christmas Event	46.80
229B	Cotton & Sons	Rhos CC: Cleaning Materials	94.85

Income:	Rhos CC	November Hire	£ 1,264.25
	Alltwen CC	October Hire	£ 539.00

Transfer: Authority to transfer the sum of £7,000.00 from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account was requested. Payments and Transfer approved RESOLVED.

Budget - Members agreed Clerk's report on estimates for 2025-26. RESOLVED.

Precept - RESOLVED that the Council's precept for the financial year 2025-26 be endorsed as £130,000.00.

100 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications:

P2024/0704	Proposed rear dormer extension, single storey front extension and fenestration alterations.	23 Gelligeiros Gellinudd SA8 3DZ
P2024/0719	Reserved matters application for one detached rural enterprise dwelling and garage including details in respect of reserved matters conditions 1 (layout, scale, appearance, and landscaping), condition 7 (drive and parking provision), condition 8 (boundary treatment), condition 9 (levels), condition 10 (bird and bat boxes), condition 12 (drainage scheme), condition 13 (hedgerow planting) and details in respect of non-reserved matters conditions 6 (gigabit broadband) and 11 (materials) pursuant to outline planning permission P2021/1245 approved on 02/04/2024.	Ty'n Y Cwm Farm Rhos SA8 3EY
P2024/0739	Details to be agreed in association with conditions 3 (scheme of tree replanting) and 4 (construction environmental management plan) of planning application P2024/0496 (for a Micro hydroelectric installation) approved on 26/09/2024.	Plas Farm Lane From Church Road To Plas Farm Rhos SA8 3JQ
P2024/0741	Works to two Scots Pine (identified as T3 and T4) covered by Tree Preservation Orders T326/T12 and T326/T13. Crown lift on both trees by 2-3m and reduce back southern branches encroaching garden area by 2-3m.	Land To Rear Of Heol Alfred Wallace Rhos SA8 3FA
P2024/0698	Change of use of land to incorporate into residential curtilage of existing dwelling to facilitate linked residential annex extension to provide supported accommodation together with associated works including extended driveway.	1 Neath Road Fforest Goch SA8 3JB
P2024/0678	Proposed two storey and single storey rear extension and porch extension to front elevation.	46 Ashwood Drive Gellinudd SA8 3HL
P2024/0700	Discharge of condition 14 (landscape maintenance and management plan) of planning permission p2023/0101 granted on 16.08.2024 (for the erection	Tesco Supermarket A4067 From Glais To Pontardawe, Alltwen SA8 3AZ

	of a freestanding drive-thru/restaurant, car parking, landscaping and associated works).	

With regards to the following application, Members would like it noted that it would be sad to see the loss of a local business, particularly due to the fact that it has a new lease for 2 years. The pub is not closing at the moment, but approval of this application would mean that the owner would have the option to change the pub into a house in future should they wish to do this. RESOLVED noted.

P2024/0673	Change of use from public house with flat above (class A3) to single dwelling (class C3) together with associated works including demolition of outbuilding, demolition of rear/side single storey extension and formation of raised paved patio using demolished extension floor slab, reduction of existing car park to form amended parking and turning area, new means of enclosure, landscaping, together with external alterations including the formation of new door/window openings on the side and rear elevations.	The Butchers Arms Alltwen Hill Alltwen SA8 3BP https://appsportal2.npt.gov.uk/ords/idocs12/f?p=Planning:2:0::NO::P2_REFERENCE:P2024/0673

101 MAINTENANCE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY

Footpaths -
Clerk reported that Footpaths Officer has completed the final cuts for this year. RESOLVED.

Rhos CC -
Guttering still needs to be looked at. Clerk will get further quotes. They are holding out at the moment. It was suggested that a whole new roof be costed. Cllr R Lewis suggested that a whole new building could be beneficial. Cllr D Jones suggested getting the guttering sorted first. Chair stated that doing this could give Council time to look into further options, including funding etc. RESOLVED noted.

Health and Safety – nothing to report. RESOLVED noted.

102 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Alltwen CC -
Cllr N Jenkins suggested that there may be a TV on wheels available from NPTCBC for the new meeting room. Cllr D Baker will make enquiries. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr A Melen asked if a display cabinet could now be purchased for the mug with the old school photo on it. Members agreed. RESOLVED that Clerk cost cabinet.

Rhos CC -
It was reported that the loose shelf in front of the kitchen hatch had been fixed. Members thanked the Handyperson for this. RESOLVED noted.

103 CCTV AT RHOS PARK & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr D Baker proposed that CCTV be fitted at the centre and the pavilion. This way the car park could be watched as well as the new MUGA. Members agreed that this was a good idea. Chair suggested getting WI-FI cameras and a Cloud subscription. The pavilion will have its own WI-FI but both cameras could be put onto the same Cloud subscription service. Members agreed.

Cllr D Jones asked with regards to any possible GDPR. Cllr B Woolford stated that visuals are OK as long as there is no sound recorded. Signage will also be needed. RESOLVED that Clerk check legalities with One Voice Wales.

All in favour of installing cameras to Rhos CC and the pavilion. RESOLVED that Chair and/or Cllr D Baker email link to suitable cameras to Clerk for ordering.

104 CHRISTMAS EVENT 2024
Clerk asked all volunteers to meet at Alltwen Triangle at 5:30pm. Clerk will meet Santa and Andrew Jenkins at Rhos CC. She will place the speaker for the music in the sleigh and then go over to Alltwen. RESOLVED noted.

Band will play from 5:45pm. Santa to arrive at 6:15pm. Tree blessed, countdown and lights go on at 6:30pm. Band plays until 6:45pm. Attendees will disperse by 7pm. RESOLVED.

Cllr R Lewis asked who was cutting the grass on the Triangle. Volunteer used to do it but now NPTCBC are doing it. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr A Melen reported that many people had been upset due to the change of date on Facebook. Clerk reported that she had also received messages from disappointed people. Cllr N Jenkins reported that some of the comments have been quite abusive. It was explained that the date was changed due to a clash with Alltwen and Rhos Primary schools' events. Lots of children had missed out on the event in the past. It is an event for all of Cilybebyll Community Council area, not solely Alltwen so Council felt it was important to give everyone the opportunity to attend, hence the date change. It was suggested that a post be put on Facebook to explain. RESOLVED noted.

105 CORRESPONDENCE

1. S Smith, Rhos Community Growers – trees hanging over the allotments need cutting back. It was suggested that the Clerk check the previous tree survey and get other tree works completed at the same time. RESOLVED noted.

2. Cllr R Lewis – Field behind Rhos Park. Cllr R Lewis reported that nature and wildlife had been destroyed in the field behind Rhos park. He explained that what was meant to be land maintenance turned out to be environmental destruction. He explained that newts, frogs and trees for the birds had been destroyed by chainsaws and other machinery. Cllr B Woolford explained that he had gone up to see the field with Cllr R Lewis after the works had been carried out. They spoke to the leaseholder (land is leased from NPTCBC) and he explained that the works to maintain the land were terms of his lease to keep it as pastureland. Cllr B Woolford went on to say that it is this time of year that works like this are carried out as there are no nesting birds etc. Cllr R Lewis stated that habitat has been destroyed. Cllr N Jenkins reported that as this in in the terms of the lease, works have to be completed. A heated discussion followed. Clerk reminded Members of the Code of Conduct. Cllr R Lewis suggested that the drainage of the field may be affected. Cllr B Woolford stated that the gully and drainage ditch would likely not flood anymore due to the works carried out. Cllr N Jenkins stated that when she visited, water was flowing freely, and drainage was fine. Cllr L Rees left the meeting due to other commitments. Chair stated that this was not a matter for Cilybebyll Community Council. It was a matter for NPTCBC and the leaseholders. Cllr R Lewis asked if NPTCBC had photos of the land before the destruction. Cllr D Jones asked if this was a lawful destruction? Land is NPTCBC owned, and it should be up to them to investigate. Cllr S Hart agreed with this and reported that the field was a mess. She asked how this would be suitable as pastureland. RESOLVED that Cllr B Woolford look further into this matter for Cllr R Lewis as a resident of Rhos, not for Cilybebyll Community Council.
3. D Phillips, NPTCBC – explanation that under the terms of the lease of the field behind Rhos Park, the leaseholders must: a. Erect stockproof fencing and gates for the purpose of enclosing the holding and to keep all fences hedges and gates in proper stockproof condition so as to prevent his stock from straying or being injured b. to keep all ditches and drains clean and free from obstructions. RESOLVED noted.

106 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

1. Cllr R Lewis asked if the patch of land where works had been done will be seeded. Cllr B Woolford confirmed this. RESOLVED noted.

Chair thanked all for attending. The meeting finished at 9.15 pm.

Signed Dated Tuesday 7th January 2025