Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held at Alltwen Community Centre and online via Zoom on Tuesday 1st July 2025 at 7.00 pm.

Presiding Councillor B Williams

Present Councillors N Jenkins, D Baker, I Humphreys, S Hart, B Woolford, Meinir Hutchings, D Jones (online), A Melen (online)

N Parr-Williams (Clerk to Community Council)

51 APOLOGIES: Councillors R Lewis, R Phillips, D Atkins, S Atkins

52 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr S Hart declared an interest in Planning application P2025/0366. Cllr D Baker declared an interest in Rhos FC lease as Member of Rhos FC. RESOLVED.

53 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd JUNE 2025

Cllr D Jones noticed some typing errors which Clerk will correct. RESOLVED that the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 3rd June 2025 were confirmed as a correct record thereof.

54 MATTERS ARISING

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she has ordered the new basket swing. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising – Cllrs I Humphreys and R Phillips are booked onto the new Councillor training. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising - Clerk reported that she now has 3 quotes for tree works as follows:

- Our Tree Company: £1,050 + VAT
- The Arb Team: £2,200 + VAT
- Glantawe Landscapes & Tree Services: £995 + VAT

RESOLVED that Glantawe Landscapes be contracted for the works.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising, Cllr D Baker stated that the fun day had to be postponed to the next day due to weather warnings of lightning. The day went well, and it stayed dry on the Sunday. Cllr D Baker cut the ribbon during the opening of the MUGA – the MUGA is now officially open. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising, Clerk reported that she had been on the phone to EE for hours and got nowhere. Apparently, it is still counted as a landline even though it isn't a wired line. They have now agreed to send out an engineer. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising, Clerk reported that she has booked Thursday 24th July for Defibrillator training at Alltwen CC – David Thomas has agreed to the date. Clerk will advertise session on Facebook and to groups. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising, D Chadwick MP has confirmed that he is looking into funding for a defibrillator for the cycle track at Alltwen. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising, Clerk reported that Sovereign Play made a mistake and sent options for a new see-saw. They apologised and are sending out options for sensory equipment instead. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising – Chair and Clerk will meet with the Woodturners as soon as possible and convenient with all parties. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 42 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that a skip is on order from Derwen Skips, Neath Abbey, £260 + VAT for the allotments. RESOLVED noted. Cllr B Woolford suggested that Crynant Skips may be able to offer a skip for removal of waste from the park at a reduced rate. Cllr B Woolford to discuss with Crynant Skips. RESOLVED noted. It was suggested that Clerk contact the probation service to find out if they would be able to help with rubbish and rubble clearance at the park. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 48 CCTV Cameras at Rhos Park – Cllr D Baker reported that he is awaiting prices as there may be a discount if purchased by the Community Council. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 49 Correspondence – Clerk reported that Handyperson and Andrew Jenkins (Glantawe Landscapes) have agreed to look at the trees and overgrowth behind Tyn Y Cae. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 49 Correspondence – P Hinder, NPTCBC has ordered replacement bolts for Rhos MUGA on Council's behalf. There were 7 missing bolts reported. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr N Jenkins suggested asking One Voice Wales for some advice on the fairness of Community Council funding for playgrounds. She reported that Port Talbot do not have Community Councils yet have received 4 new playgrounds in the past year. The people of Port Talbot pay less Council Tax than the people of Cilybebyll as they do not pay a Community Council charge at all, yet they have received new facilities. Community Councils do not have the funds to do this in our communities and for playground improvements, have to rely on lottery funding etc. Cllr N Jenkins suggested there should be an equivalent payment made to all Community Councils in NPTCBC to make up for this. RESOLVED that Clerk contact OVW and other Community Councils regarding this matter.

55 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

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

82B-86B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	3,818.84
87B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	876.71
88B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	452.41
89D	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Non dom Rates	346.00
90D	NPTCBC	Rhos CC: Non dom Rates	369.00
91B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	188.54
92B	British Gas	Rhos CC: Gas (acc.in credit)	0
93B	BT Broadband	Alltwen CC: Broadband	87.54
94D	EE	Rhos CC: Broadband	49.58

95D	3 Mobile	Staff mobiles	28.80
96D	SSE	Alltwen CC: Electric	550.83
97B	SSE	Rhos CC: Electric	752.08
98B	Lliw Building Supplies	Postcrete, silicon, fence posts, saw, weedkiller	371.47
99B	Derwen Recycling Ltd	Skip for allotments	312.00
100B	Rhos FC	Donation for Fun Day	400.00
101D	Lloyds Bank	Service Charges	4.25

Income:	Rhos CC	June Hire	£ 1,351.50
	Alltwen CC	May Hire	£ 643.00
	Alltwen CC	June Hire	£ 375.00

Transfer: Authority to transfer the sum of £8,500.00 from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account was requested. Payments and Transfer approved, RESOLVED.

Clerk reported that she has everything ready to send to the External Auditors and will send it off by the end of the week. RESOLVED.

56 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following application:

P2025/0392	2 wire to 3 wire upgrade of electricity line	Overhead lines between Rhos & Cilybebyll

RESOLVED that the below application be followed up by Cllr B Woolford as the amendments relate to crown reduction and lopping as opposed to the initial application which was to take down the trees.

P2025/0366	Amendment to planned tree works.	20 Heol Cynfeli Rhos SA8 3FD

57 MAINTENANCE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY

Gwynfryn Park -

Clerk reported that Handyperson is going to empty and clean each bin one at a time. Response from NPTCBC stated that there would be no problem in Handyperson transferring waste from Community Council Parks to Community Centre trade waste bins as Council pays for trade waste. RESOLVED noted.

NPTCBC knotweed team have added the park to their list of treatment areas. RESOLVED.

Our Tree Company will carry out works in the park on the trees and overgrowth shortly. RESOLVED noted.

James Bayliss Ltd will have a look at the park as soon as possible to quote for path works etc. RESOLVED noted.

It was suggested that the probation service could be contacted to help with any clearing and cleaning works at the park. RESOLVED noted.

Christmas Tree -
Cllr S Hart reported that the Christmas tree needs removal as soon as possible as it is turning orange and looks untidy. RESOLVED that Clerk ask Handyperson to remove.

Footpath Bridge -
Cllr A Melen asked Cllr N Jenkins if there had been any progress on replacement of the footpath bridge. Cllr N Jenkins explained that it would have to be funded via an access improvement grant funded by Welsh Government. The grant is worth £20,000. It was suggested that the Community Council support the grant application. RESOLVED noted.

58 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Alltwen CC -
Clerk reported that the Clwb Cwtsh Welsh lessons had to be cancelled after 3 weeks as no-one attended. Members were disappointed with this news. RESOLVED noted.

Rhos CC -
Clerk reported that Caretaker had reported that the hall had been left in a terrible mess after Rhos FC presentation evenings. Cllr D Baker asked which dates this happened as he will report back to the club. It was decided that the bonds would not be returned to Rhos FC for the hall hire as Caretaker had to carry out 4 hours overtime due to cleaning. RESOLVED noted.

59 RHOS PARK PLAYING FIELDS – LEASE TO RHOS FC

Clerk asked Council for clarification as to what terms they wanted in the lease. RESOLVED that lease be set up to include the following:
- 30-year lease (in order for club to qualify for funding)
- Good standard of upkeep on pitches and Rhos FC responsible for all maintenance costs
- Public use when no football matches or training taking place
- Annual charge for lease which can be reviewed annually

It was agreed that the Community Council would still be responsible for the remainder of the land within the park (apart from the football pitches). RESOLVED.

It was suggested that James Bayliss Ltd be contracted by Council to carry out the park maintenance at the same time as he carries out pitch maintenance for Rhos FC. Members thought this was a good idea. RESOLVED.

Cllr D Baker reported that pitch maintenance was to start on Friday. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr D Baker asked if enhancements could be made to the pitches including railings placed around the pitches and a roll-on stand. Members were happy to approve this. RESOLVED.

RESOLVED that Clerk put together draft lease and arrange meeting with Chair, Vice-chair and Rhos FC to agree final terms before taking to solicitor.

60 NEW CHAIRS FOR RHOS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Options were considered as well as movement of racks between rooms. RESOLVED that Clerk order 2 single-level racks and 80 chairs.

61 CORRESPONDENCE

1. M Griffiths, NPTCBC – Warm Spaces grant open. Cllr S Hart suggested applying to cover the cost of the new chairs for Rhos CC. Members thought this was a great idea. RESOLVED that Cllr S Hart and Clerk apply for grant.
2. C Griffiths, NPTCBC – Standards Committee would like to attend a meeting for observation purposes. Members agreed. RESOLVED noted.
3. David Chadwick MP – Looking for defibrillator funding. RESOLVED noted.
4. New Councillor Applications – Applications were considered for the Alltwen Ward. RESOLVED that Gwyn Williams be co-opted to Council as representative for Alltwen. Further RESOLVED that the Gellinudd vacancy be re-advertised.
5. E Hastings – Rat problem in Rhos. Cllr D Jones reported that he has received many reports of a rat problem in Rhos. He asked Cllr B Woolford if he could speak to him about it so that they can approach NPTCBC together. Cllr B Woolford happy to team up with Cllr D Jones on this matter. RESOLVED noted.

62 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

1. Clerk reported that there had been a problem with the Council website. The hosting providers had decided to change server system to a more modern server but had not told Clerk. This caused the website to be down for several days. Clerk had to change nameservers with domain registrar to get site working again. Website is now working. Emails are being transferred over but lots of old emails have been lost. Members were not too concerned by this as long as any new emails can be received. Most emails now working but Clerk will keep an eye on the situation. RESOLVED noted.
2. Cllr D Jones reported that defibrillators should be placed within a 2-minute sprint of the scene of incident. It was suggested that Rhos Primary School be contacted to find out if they would agree to move their defibrillator to the outside wall so that it could be accessed at all times. Cllrs B Woolford and I Humphreys will follow up with the school. RESOLVED noted.
3. Cllr D Jones suggested that Council consider purchasing a Life Vac device. This can be used if children are choking. Cllr N Jenkins reported that this can cause collapsed lungs and the reports on the device seem to suggest that its use can be dangerous. Cllr D Jones suggested that Clerk write to Swansea Bay Health Board to ask for their advice on this matter. RESOLVED noted.
4. Cllr S Hart asked if a notice/map board and some benches could be placed around the villages. Cllr N Jenkins reported that NPTCBC have some benches available. RESOLVED that Cllr N Jenkins follow up on this with Cllr S Hart.
5. Cllr B Woolford reported that the grant he applied for to add raised planters to the corner of Plas Road for the Brownies had been refused due to Highways permissions and value for money. Members were disappointed with this news. RESOLVED that the funds offered towards this project by Council initially, £1,800.00, be given to the project. Remainder to be raised by Cllr B Woolford with fundraising activities. RESOLVED noted.

6. Cllr N Jenkins reported that the Alltwen village signs have been stolen. Members were shocked by this news. She is currently trying to get new ones from NPTCBC. RESOLVED noted.
7. Cllr N Jenkins reported that the Green up and Clean-up project by NPTCBC has 2 years remaining. £5million pounds has been allocated from NPTCBC reserves to be given out to wards. Likely to be in region of £100,000 for each ward. Cllr N Jenkins suggested that as the money must be spent on projects that won't need maintenance, the money could be spent on tarmac for the dram road. She stated that the unadopted part was in an awful state. Members thought this was a good idea. RESOLVED noted.
8. Chair reported that the parking in Alltwen CC is awful. Cars blocking both entrances. Cllr D Baker stated that he knows the owner of one of the cars blocking the entrance and will speak to him. RESOLVED noted. It was suggested that this matter be revisited in a future Council meeting. RESOLVED noted.

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

Signed Dated Tuesday 2nd September 2025