Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held at Rhos Community Centre and online via Zoom on Tuesday 2nd September 2025 at 7.00 pm.

Presiding Councillor B Williams

Present Councillors R Phillips, I Humphreys, B Woolford, Meinir Hutchings, G Williams, N Jenkins

N Parr-Williams (Clerk to Community Council)

63 APOLOGIES: Councillors R Lewis, S Hart, D Jones, D Atkins, S Atkins, A Melen

64 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr M Hutchings declared an interest in item 3 – Members of Public due to knowing the attendees. RESOLVED.

65 MEMBERS OF PUBLIC – POSSIBLE LAND PURCHASE

S Williams and daughter attended the meeting to ask Council if they would be interested in selling a piece of land. The site is roughly 2 acres and used to be former tennis courts at Lon Y Wern, Alltwen. The land is now disused and very overgrown.

Chair asked what their plans for the land would be. S Williams explained that he currently rents a field opposite the land to use for beehives. He runs a Wildlife Management service and rehomes any black bees that he comes across. These are in decline across the UK and he wants to help the species to thrive in Alltwen by helping them build colonies before releasing to the wild. It is likely that the piece of land he is renting may be sold in the future and he is looking to purchase the piece of land directly behind his house (no. 49 Lon Y Wern) in Alltwen where the old tennis courts stood, to rehome the bees. Plans for the land would be to remove overgrowth including knotweed and balsam from the site and then place numerous beehives on the site as well as wildflowers. The site would be kept as woodland.

As the land is not currently used, Members were very supportive of S Williams' plans and request. Cllr B Woolford stated that he will discuss land valuation and covenants with NPTCBC Estates officers so that Council have a better idea of what the land is worth before making a decision. RESOLVED noted. Further RESOLVED that this matter be discussed further during the next meeting of Council.

66 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1st JULY 2025

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 1st July 2025 were confirmed as a correct record thereof.

67 MATTERS ARISING

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she is hoping that the cost of the new basket swing may be covered by a new NPTCBC playgrounds maintenance fund. They are providing small funds for parks – closing date is 9th September. Members happy for Clerk to go ahead and apply for the funding. Clerk will also apply for funds for sensory equipment for Lon Tanyrallt Park at the same time. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising – Cllrs I Humphreys and R Phillips completed the new Councillor training. It was suggested that they consider doing the code of conduct training next. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising - Clerk reported that Glantawe Landscapes & Tree Services are completing the tree works at Rhos Park today and tomorrow. The park is closed during the works for safety reasons. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising, Clerk reported that the broadband is finally working at Rhos Community Centre. Fast WiFi Wales came out to repair at no cost to Council. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising, Clerk reported that Sovereign Play have sent out options for a sensory bridge for Lon Tanyrallt Park. She will apply for the NPTCBC grant to see if it can be funded that way. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising – Chair and Clerk will meet with the Woodturners as soon as possible as no-one was available to meet over the Summer. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that Handyperson and Andrew Jenkins (Glantawe Landscapes) have assessed the trees and overgrowth behind Tyn Y Cae. There are 2 trees that need crowning and cutting back as well as overgrowth. Members agreed that this work be carried out as soon as possible. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising – Cllr B Woolford reported that the missing bolts at the MUGA have now been replaced. Members were pleased with this news. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 54 Matters Arising – NPTCBC have now brought out the small park improvements grant to make up for money spent in Port Talbot recently. Clerk will apply for the grant this week. Clerk thanked Cllr N Jenkins for raising this matter with NPTCBC. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 56 Planning – Cllr B Woolford reported that the plans (P2025/0366) have now been amended. No trees are being taken down. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 57 Maintenance – Clerk reported that Our Tree Company have completed the works at Gwynfryn Park. RESOLVED noted. James Bayliss is now looking at what further works need to be carried out at the park. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 57 Maintenance – Cllr B Woolford reported that the old Christmas tree has now been taken away. Members were pleased with this news. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 57 Maintenance – Cllr N Jenkins reported that the new bridge is on its way to replace the broken bridge. Members were pleased with this news. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 59 Lease of Rhos Playing Fields to Rhos FC – Clerk reported that she has drafted a lease. She will forward to Chair, Vice-chair, Cllr D Baker and S Cotton so that they

can review the terms and suggest any amendments. Members were pleased with this news. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 60 New Chairs for Rhos CC – Clerk reported that she will complete the Warm Spaces grant application with Cllr S Hart. RESOLVED noted. Cllr N Jenkins suggested getting the Ageing Well Officer to visit the group this Autumn/Winter. Clerk confirmed that officer is willing to attend. She will ask Cllr S Hart for suitable dates. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 60 New Chairs for Rhos CC – Chair reported that the Heritage Centre took some of the old chairs from Alltwen CC. Cllr N Jenkins reported that the rest had been taken by local sports clubs. Members were pleased with this news. It was suggested that the same be done with the old chairs from Rhos CC. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 61 Correspondence – Cllr B Woolford reported that he has asked Environmental Health to come to Rhos to give a presentation to locals about how to deal with and avoid rats. He also asked for more traps. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 62 Any Other Urgent Business – Clerk reported that Eco-web hosting have given Council 2 months free hosting as an apology for the inconvenience with regards to the website and emails. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 62 Any Other Urgent Business (New Chairs for Rhos CC) – Clerk reported that she will complete the Warm Spaces grant application with Cllr S Hart. RESOLVED noted. Cllr N Jenkins suggested getting the Ageing Well Officer to visit the group this Autumn/Winter. Clerk confirmed that officer is willing to attend. She will ask Cllr S Hart for suitable dates. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 62 Any Other Urgent Business – Members decided that it would not be worth getting a Life Vac due to the danger of using it. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 62 Any Other Urgent Business – Cllr N Jenkins reported that a new Alltwen sign is on order for the roundabout but the one on Ynysymond Road was on private land but there are still electrified posts there. RESOLVED noted.

Further to minute 62 Any Other Urgent Business – Cllr B Woolford reported that NPTCBC are providing the planters for Rhos but local tradesmen have also offered to help with this. Notice board for the area will be approx. £1,000 + delivery. Members agreed that Cllr B Woolford order the notice board and be reimbursed by Council. RESOLVED.

Further to minute 62 Any Other Urgent Business – Chair reported that cars are still parking in the entrances of Alltwen CC. Cllr N Jenkins raised the concern that emergency vehicles may not be able to pass the parked cars. She went on to explain that there is a problem with parking on Dyffryn Road in general. Cllr M Hutchings suggested that Clerk contact the PCSOs to ask them to have a word with the car owners as they may be able to access registration details and access the addresses of the owners. RESOLVED noted.

68 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

August payments made (no Council meeting): RESOLVED

102B-106B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	4,138.82
107B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	897.40
108B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	556.41
109D	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Non dom Rates	346.00
110D	NPTCBC	Rhos CC: Non dom Rates	369.00
111B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	131.85
112B	British Gas	Rhos CC: Gas (acc.in credit)	0
113B	BT Broadband	Alltwen CC: Broadband	107.50
114D	EE	Rhos CC: Broadband	49.58
115D	3 Mobile	Staff mobiles	28.80
116B	Our Tree Company	Gwynfryn Park Tree Works	864.00
117B	Lliw Building Supplies	Padlock, socket set, sealant	97.66
118B	Cotton & Sons	Alltwen CC: Cleaning Supplies	309.91
119B	Playsafety Ltd	Annual ROSPA inspections	580.00
120B	One Voice Wales	Councillor Training	84.00
121B	STRI	Annual Sports Turf Subscription	1,158.00
122D	Lloyds Bank	Service Charges	4.25

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

123B-127B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	3,793.57
128B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	883.15
129B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	470.25
130D	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Non dom Rates	346.00
131D	NPTCBC	Rhos CC: Non dom Rates	369.00
132B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	124.85
133B	British Gas	Rhos CC: Gas	0.00*
134B	BT Broadband	Alltwen CC: Broadband	92.53
135D	EE	Rhos CC: Broadband	49.58
136D	3 Mobile	Staff mobiles	28.80
137D	Lloyds Bank	Service Charges	4.25
138B	Cotton & Sons	Alltwen CC: Cleaning supplies	267.92
139D	SSE	Alltwen CC: Electric	79.65
140B	Lliw Building Supplies	Brackets, tap, wood filler, batten, postcrete, cutter	160.97

Income:	Rhos CC	July Hire	£ 1,120.00
	Rhos CC	August Hire	£ 897.00

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.

69 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

August Planning (no Council meeting): No objections - RESOLVED

P2025/0513	Detached bungalow and associated works including engineering works to provide sloped bank (to replace previously demolished dwelling)	Llys Y Gwynt, 17 Pen Y Graig Road, Alltwen SA8 3BS https://appsportal2.npt.gov.uk/ords/idocs12/f?p=Planning:2:0::NO::P2_REFERENCE:P2025/0513
P2025/0273	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 and associated works including widening of part of existing access track, landscaping and parking spaces together with mitigation measures / re-planting scheme for felled trees (amended / additional description and supporting information received 02.07.25 and 28.07.25)	Llety'r Gof Farm, Cwm Nant Llwyd Road, Gellinudd SA8 3JE https://appsportal2.npt.gov.uk/ords/idocs12/f?p=Planning:2:0::NO::P2_REFERENCE:P2025/0273
P2025/0495	Removal of existing rear conservatory for the construction of a single storey rear extension, rear pergola and fenestration alterations to the existing dwelling	102 Graig Road Gellinudd SA8 3DS https://appsportal2.npt.gov.uk/ords/idocs12/f?p=Planning:2:0::NO::P2_REFERENCE:P2025/0495
P2025/0336	Details to be agreed in association with condition 13 (coal mining risk assessment) of application DNS/3279676 (NPT ref P2023/0790) for a solar farm with associated equipment, infrastructure, grid connection and ancillary works granted permission on 06/12/24.	Land At Graig Y Pal Glais Swansea https://appsportal2.npt.gov.uk/ords/idocs12/f?p=Planning:2:0::NO::P2_REFERENCE:P2025/0336

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications:

P2025/0513	Detached bungalow and associated works including engineering works to provide sloped bank (to replace previously demolished dwelling)	Llys Y Gwynt, 17 Pen Y Graig Road, Alltwen SA8 3BS

P2025/0585	Extension to agricultural building for storage of agricultural machinery, implements, and materials (prior notification of agricultural development)	Plas Farm Lane From Church Road To Plas Farm Rhos SA8 3JQ

Cllr B Woolford reported that he received confirmation that only crown reduction and lopping will be carried out on the following application – no objection. RESOLVED.

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

70 MAINTENANCE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY

Gwynfryn Park –

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

Hedges on Footpath -

Clerk reported that Handyperson had asked if it was his responsibility to cut back hedges on the footpaths that are coming from neighbouring properties. It was suggested that Clerk write to residents in the first instance asking them to cut back the hedges within a timeframe. If the hedges are not then cut within the timeframe, Handyperson will be asked to do it and invoice residents for the works. RESOLVED noted.

Trees behind Tyn Y Cae -

Members agreed that Handyperson and Andrew Jenkins carry out the tree works. RESOLVED noted.

71 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Alltwen CC -

It was suggested that as well as asking PCSOs for help with the parking problems, that Clerk put letter on the cars saying that access is required for emergency services. RESOLVED noted.

Rhos CC -

Clerk reported that the broadband is now working. Fast WiFi Wales came out to repair. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk reported that capacity of the bins at Rhos CC is still a problem as people are dumping their waste from parties in the bins. It was suggested that an increase to the bond for party hire be discussed in the next meeting of the Finance Committee. RESOLVED noted.

72 CREATION OF COMMUNITY PLAN

Cllr N Jenkins explained that Glynneath Town Council are creating a Community Plan which will address what projects/events they want to carry out each year. This is based on the NPTCBC plan. She explained that this approach would be proactive rather than

reactive. Members agreed. RESOLVED that Cllr N Jenkins forward the NPTCBC plan to Members in the first instance so that this matter can be further discussed.

73 STORM DARRAGH REVIEW

Cllr N Jenkins explained that NPTCBC had carried out a review of what went well during the storm and what did not. She explained that NPTCBC are planning a half-day study where they can learn and take action. Cllr N Jenkins suggested that Community and Town Councils be involved in this as well. We could then find out who would be willing to volunteer from our community and which people are the most vulnerable in difficult weather conditions. This information cannot be shared by NPTCBC dur to GDPR. It was suggested that NPTCBC be asked to come out to do a session on this with Council so that we know what to do for future storms and bad weather. Cllr B Woolford suggested that there could be coordination between NPTCBC and the Community Council. He went on to suggest that there could be a list of phone numbers collated for emergency e.g. to open the community centres. RESOLVED that NPTCBC be invited to carry out a training session with Council.

74 ALLTWEN CHRISTMAS EVENT 2025

RESOLVED that the event be held on Monday 1st December 2025.

Clerk will contact Centregreat, complete NPTCBC event forms, book road closure, stage and electricity supply. Clerk asked whether Cwmtawe Brass or GCG Band should be invited this year. Members agreed to ask Cwmtawe Brass in the first instance as they are more local. RESOLVED noted.

It was suggested that more lights be hired for Alltwen tree. It was suggested that lights be ordered for Rhos tree as well. Clerk will liaise with Centregreat. RESOLVED noted.

RESOLVED that a Santa costume be purchased for Santa. Further RESOLVED that a speaker be purchased for the stage (approx. £130).

RESOLVED that a 16ft tree be ordered from Glantawe Landscapes for Rhos.

Cllr B Woolford suggested that Rhos tree be lit in conjunction with the Tractor run. The Brownies could be asked to decorate the tree and switch on the lights. RESOLVED noted.

75 CORRESPONDENCE

1. NPTCBC – Small Playground Repair Grants. RESOLVED that Clerk apply for grant.
2. Cllr R Lewis – Request for leave of absence due to ill health. RESOLVED that 6 months LOA be given in the first instance.
3. Cllr R Lewis – request for update on sand blasting of the gate and progress with the culvert. Cllr B Woolford explained that the person doing the sand blasting had been unable to complete it. He will ask again and if unavailable, he will ask someone else. RESOLVED noted. Cllr B Woolford reported that there is a grid to go on top of the culvert but an engineer needs to come out to have a look at the safety aspects before installing the grid. RESOLVED noted.
4. N. Allen – Report that the trees at Gwynfryn Park are very high. Lady is concerned they will fall into her garden. RESOLVED that Andrew Jenkins be asked for advice on this.

76 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

1. Cllr N Jenkins reported that NPTCBC Highways had sent consultation letters out to residents from Bryn Llewelyn and Alltwen Hill regarding traffic and parking issues. 3 respondents suggested a one-way system. The result of the entire consultation is not yet known. Cllr N Jenkins suggested that she speak to highways to try to get double yellow lines painted on the corner. Members though this was a good idea. RESOLVED noted.
2. Cllr N Jenkins asked of the Alltwen CC Caretaker could provide Cariad Children's Project with a key for storage in the unders. RESOLVED that Clerk liaise with Caretaker.
3. Cllr B Woolford reported that he had put in an application for a Blue Plaque to remember David Thomas, Iron Master. He went to Tan yr Allt House school (old Alltwen school). Cllr N Jenkins reported that the Heritage Centre have carried out a project on David Thomas. Cllr B Woolford reported that it looks likely that the plaque will be approved at a cost of approx. £800. It is hoped that NPTCBC will fund this. He proposed the Alltwen Primary School site as a perfect place for the plaque. Cllr G Williams asked if it will be placed so it can be seen from outside. Cllr B Woolford confirmed this. RESOLVED noted.

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

Signed Dated Tuesday 7th October 2025