Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held at Alltwen Community Centre, on 07 June 2022 at 7:00 pm

Presiding Councillor L Rees

Present Councillors D Jones, S Atkins, S Hart, A Melen, M Hutchings, M Spooner, R Lewis, C Jones

Apologies Councillor D Atkins

39 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr M Spooner declared and interest in item 6 Planning due to her being a Member of NPTCBC. Cllr C Jones declared an interest in Planning matter P2022/0336 due to the applicant being a Member of Alltwen RFC. RESOLVED.

40 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the AGM and Monthly Meeting of Council held online on 10 May 2022 be confirmed as correct records.

41 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 17 Finance & Development Committee, it was stated that in accordance with the terms of reference, 2 additional Members would be needed. RESOLVED that Cllrs S Atkins and M Hutchings be elected to the Finance & Development Committee.

Further to Minute 28 Member of Public – Clerk reported that R Chambers is now dealing with NPTCBC regarding the overgrowth behind Edward Street. He asked if council would be prepared to let him see the agreement document between NPTCBC and Cilybebyll Community Council if necessary. Members stated that R Chambers could ask NPTCBC to see the agreement. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 31 Matters Arising – Cllr M Spooner reported that a meeting regarding the Cemetery will be set up shortly. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 31 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she had receved a response regarding the bridge at Pen Y Bont Bren Farm from NPTCBC stating that there are currently no plans to replace the bridge. Cllr R Lewis stated that it may be a good idea to inform Ordinance Survey of this so that they can remove it from their maps. It was suggested that the apprentices from the Forestry Commission may be able to construct a new bridge. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 31 Matters Arising – Cllr R Lewis reported that he has received delivery of the flagstones. RESOLVED that Clerk contact Handyperson to liaise with Cllr R Lewis with regards to laying the slabs.

Further to Minute 31 Matters Arising – Cllr A Melen reported that she had received reports regarding rubbish being dumped under the bench at Gwynfryn Park. RESOLVED that Clerk contact Handyperson regarding this matter.

Further to Minute 31 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she has received quotes for EPC inspections for Alltwen and Rhos Community Centres. £375 + VAT for Alltwen and £395 + Vat for Rhos. RESOLVED that the EPC for Rhos be actioned and Alltwen be looked at in the near future.

Further to Minute 31 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she has received quotes for bins for Gwynfryn Park and Rhos Park. Bin Shop = £193.04 each, Glasdon = £231.79 each and Streetmaster £553.51 each. Cllr C Jones suggested applying for Mynydd Y Betws funding for recycling bins for Gwynfryn Park. RESOLVED that Clerk contact Paul Hinder, NPTCBC regarding this. It was suggested that a wheelie bin be placed in Gwynfryn Park in the meantime. RESOLVED that Clerk liaise with NPTCBC regarding this. All agreed that 2 bins be ordered for Rhos Park from Glasdon at £231.79 each as the bins have a logo rather than text which negates the need for translation. RESOLVED.

Further to Minute 34 Maintenance – Clerk reported that she is still awaiting a quote from R Lewis fencing for Lon Tanyrallt Park. Cllr C Jones stated that Lewis Fencing (Rhos) could give a quote. RESOLVED that Clerk contact Lewis Fencing.

Further to Minute 36 Rhos Playing Fields - Clerk reported that she had spoken to Lewis James regarding a further quotation for the maintenance and sand-banding but he stated that the job is too large for him and that he is fully booked this year. He suggested making a plan for next year and he could then provide a quotation. RESOLVED that due to no other company providing a quotation, Ecosolve be instructed to carry out maintenance and sand-banding works for 2022.

Further to Minute 36 Rhos Playing Fields - Clerk reported that she had spoken to D Baker, Chair of Rhos FC regarding the container. He stated that the football club are trying to purchase a replacement container, but they are very expensive. D Baker will let council know once a container has been sourced. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 37 Correspondence - Clerk asked if anyone had noticed if the gates to Gwynfryn Park are now locked. Members had not noticed. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 38 Any Other Urgent Business – Cllr D Jones reported that the Clerk had emailed City & County of Swansea regarding the average speed cameras on A4067. In the meantime, he contacted Go Safe Partnership who

reported that City & County of Swansea and NPTCBC have received funding for cameras and are currently looking for suitable camera types for installation. It was suggested that Clerk contact City & County Swansea to ask what the thinking behind 40mph was as opposed to 50mph. 40mph seems very slow for a stretch of road such as this and there is much opposition to this decision particularly on Facebook. 50mph would be more accepted. RESOLVED noted.

42 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RESOLVED that the following accounts approved for payment –

41B-44B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	2,825.31
45B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	902.01
46B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	375.29
47D	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Non-dom Rates	342.00
48D	NPTCBC	Rhos CC: Non-dom Rates	380.00
49B	Avanti Gas	Rhos CC: Gas	459.15
50B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	246.14
51D	Dwr Cymru	Alltwen CC: Water	144.95
52D	Dwr Cymru	Rhos CC: Water	234.20
53B	Wayne Duggan	Rhos Pitch Fertiliser etc	840.00
54D	SSE	Alltwen CC: Electricity	486.45
55B	SSE	Rhos CC: Electricity	675.76
56B	Westward	Rhos CC: Boiler Service and repair	300.00
57B	Westward	Rhos CC: Water hearter repairs	467.51
58B	Cotton & Sons	Alltwen CC: Cleaning supplies	201.14
59B	Fergusons & Peters	Internal Audit	720.00
60B	Amazon Business	Ring binders, Ink, cards, post-its	40.93
61B	Lliw Building Supplies	Padlock, strimmer line, clips etc	77.20

Income:

Alltwen CC	Apr Hire	£ 870.00
Rhos CC	Apr Hire	£ 1,010.00

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

43 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications –

P2022/0428	Proposed side and rear extensions, the works for which would include the demolition of an existing side extension. Plus, extension and external alterations to existing dormers	5 Delffordd, Rhos SA8 3ED
P2022/0337	Proposed rebuilding of single storey kitchen extension.	52 Lon y Wern, Alltwen SA8 3BL
P2022/0277	Construct rear first floor extension over existing ground floor extension.	75 Dyffryn Road, Alltwen SA8 3BY

P2022/0441	Proposed single side and two storey rear extension.	13 Derwen Road, Alltwen SA8 3AU

RESOLVED that more information be requested for the following application as there was no information available –

P2022/0421	Construction of building for micro scale fruit processing/pressing	Site To The South Of Rhos On The Neath Road (Site Located On The Left Hand Side As You Approach Rhos)

RESOLVED that more information regarding the definition of 'grazing land' be requested for the following application –

P2022/0336	Change of use from grazing land to provide an outdoor seating area including provision of a parking area in association with the existing public house (class A3), means of enclosure, alteration to existing vehicular access together with a single storey side extension	118 Neath Road, Rhos SA8 3HB

RESOLVED that more information regarding bats, swifts and swallows be requested for the following applications –

P2022/0365	Demolition of existing steel frame open storage building and construction of a detached two storey holiday amenity building incorporating covered parking and storage areas at ground floor and communal recreation facilities at first floor together with change of use of existing concrete farm building and associated single storey side extension and external alterations to accommodate a 1 bed holiday flat at first floor and communal holiday facilities, storage and reception room at ground floor (Proposed building, extension and uses to be used in associated with existing tourism complex known as Swansea Valley Holiday Cottages only).	Steel Frame Open Storage Building & Concrete Farm Building Plas Farm, Lane From Church Road To Plas Farm, Rhos SA8 3JQ
P2022/0366	Listed building consent for a new single storey side extension, replacement of existing roof,	Concrete Farm Building, Plas Farm Lane From Church Road To Plas Farm, Rhos SA8 3JQ

	rainwater goods, windows, doors, handrail to external stair (and new tread grates) together with replacement of existing ground and first floor structures (including all necessary waterproofing and insulation), repair and recoating of the external wall finishes, internal lining of the external walls to include insulation, in addition to placement of new windows and doors within existing unframed openings together with works to accommodate bat roosting within the new roof design (works proposed to accommodate a change of use of existing building to a 1 bed holiday flat at first floor and communal facilities at ground floor for use by occupiers of holiday residences at Swansea Valley Holiday Cottages).	

RESOLVED that 2.5 parking space rule be questioned in the following application as they would lose a parking space by converting the garage –

P2022/0315	Proposed garage conversion into residential use not in compliance with Condition 21 of P2019/0629 in relation to the replacement parking scheme.	34 Heol Cynfeli, Rhos SA8 3FD

RESOLVED that Clerk forward queries and decisions to NPT CBC.

44 MAINTENANCE

Brynmorgrug Park: Clerk reported that Handyman has bought wood filler to fill a piece of split wood in the play equipment. Cllr A Melen asked could we get a replacement under guarantee of necessary. RESOLVED that if wood filler does not pass ROSPA inspection then Sovereign Play be contacted.

MLC Landscapes Ltd have asked if they can close Brynmorgrug Park in order to cut a hedge in the neighbour's garden. Members thought that closing the park was not necessary and asked if the work could be carried out early in the morning instead. RESOLVED noted.

Rhos Park: Report from Handyman stating that the gate at Rhos Park is being left open by Rhos FC. RESOLVED that Clerk speak to D Baker regarding this matter.

ROSPA: Clerk reported that the inspections will be carried out later this month. RESOLVED noted.

45 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Rhos Community Centre: Clerk reported that the new fire doors will be installed at the end of June / start of July. RESOLVED noted.

Alltwen Community Centre: Clerk reported that Handyperson has designed a plan for the partition wall. Members not happy with the partition not going all the way up to the ceiling. RESOLVED that Clerk ask Handyperson to amend plans.

Clerk reported that the water heater has now been installed by Westward. RESOLVED noted.

46 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL RETURN 2021-22

Clerk reported that Ferguson Peters had completed the internal audit. No issues raised. Clerk presented financial statement, annual return and explanation of variances to council.

Annual Return 2021-22 approved by full council and signed by RFO (Clerk) and Chair. RESOLVED.

47 ALLTWEN COMMUNITY CENTRE ROOM SWAP

Members walked around the centre and inspected the rooms. They were quite surprised by the woodturning room due to the amount of equipment, electrical cables and general mess in the room. Members were unaware that the SW Woodturners had sole use of the room but only paid £10 per week for the use of their room as well as the Committee Room. Members were concerned around safety within the room as well as the exclusivity of the room and utility costs of running the machinery. Members asked if there was an agreement made between Council and the SW Woodturners with regards to this room. RESOLVED that Clerk look into this.

Cllr D Jones stated that all centre users should be made aware of the fact that the centre is charged at commercial rates for electricity used as opposed to domestic rates. Members agreed that fees for all service users need to be reviewed. RESOLVED noted.

Members looked at the room to be partitioned. They agreed that the partition wall needed to go all the way up to the ceiling to create an acceptable meeting room that could be hired out. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk presented average monthly income of the Hall and Committee Room to Members. It was agreed that there would be approx. £120 in loss of monthly income if the SW Woodturners were permitted to take over the Committee Room. It could also mean the loss of clubs including kickboxing, children’s art classes and dance classes as well as Alltwen Heels WI.

Members stated that over two years have passed since the initial decision to carry out the room swap had been made. Much has happened since and the situation regarding room usage has changed post-pandemic. Members agreed that after reviewing the situation and assessing the increased income due to new clubs being formed post-covid, the loss of the Committee Room would not be beneficial to current centre users or the wider community. RESOLVED that the room swap not go ahead.

48 CO-OPT NEW MEMBERS TO COUNCIL

Members reviewed and discussed all applications. RESOLVED that the following applicants be invited to join council:

Alltwen Ward – Dean Baker
Alltwen Ward – Bob Williams
Alltwen Ward – Nia Jenkins

Rhos Ward – Rhidian Stephens

There was a private vote carried out for the Gellinudd ward vacancy. J Todd received the majority of the votes and is therefore co-opted. RESOLVED.

Gellinudd Ward – Joanne Todd

RESOLVED that Clerk contact successful and unsuccessful candidates.

49 NPTCBC Members Fund Ability Swing Project

As it was passed 9pm, Chair agreed to suspend standing orders and carry on with the meeting.

Cllr C Jones stated that the positioning of the ability swing at Lon Tanyrallt Park needed to be altered due to spacing issues. Clerk explained there were now 2 options for surfacing:

Option 1: AbilitySwing (Comp & Lock) with Enclosure (Galv & PC) with Grass Mat Safety Surfacing = £13,750 + VAT

Option 2: AbilitySwing (Comp & Lock) with Enclosure (Galv & PC) with Black EPDM Wet Pour (soft edge) Safety Surfacing = £16,695 + VAT

P Hinder, NPTCBC suggested that it would be easier to move wheelchairs on EPDM surfacing rather than grass matting.

Clerk reminded Members that council have already received £10,000 from NPTCBC Members Fund towards this project. It was agreed to contribute £5,750 towards the project (Minute ref: 128 Jan 2022).

Members were asked to think over the options and give their personal decisions via email to Clerk. RESOLVED noted.

50 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	P Hinder, NPTCBC	Progress report on Members Fund
2	R Jones, Alltwen Heels	Acceptance of invitation to July meeting
3	H MacMillan, SW Woodturners	Acceptance of invitation to July meeting

1 Clerk to liaise with P Hinder.

2 RESOLVED that Alltwen Heels not now needed at July meeting. Clerk to liaise.

51 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr A Melen asked whether council would order picnic benches for Lon Tanyrallt Park. It was stated that this was agreed in the Finance Committee meeting. Cllr C Jones stated that he had received a quote of £350 + VAT from Second Life Products, Abernant. He suggested adding this to a Mynydd Y Betws bid. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr A Melen stated that there had been issues with a dog biting passers-by on Dyffryn Road, Alltwen. She stated that some people had received serious bites and had to visit the hospital. Cllr A Melen asked if the Police could be invited to a council meeting. Cllr M Spooner said she will raise this with the Police. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr R Lewis asked regarding the situation with benches for Rhos and Cilybebyll. Clerk has not received a response from NPTCBC as yet. RESOLVED noted.

The meeting ended at 9:45pm.

Signed Dated 05 July 2022