Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held online via Zoom software on 05 July 2022 at 6:45 pm

Presiding Councillor L Rees

Present Councillors D Jones, S Atkins, D Baker, A Melen, M Hutchings, J Todd, N Jenkins, B Williams
Also present Henry MacMillan and Lawrence Cooper from SW Woodturners

Apologies Councillors D Atkins, S Hart, M Spooner, R Lewis, C Jones

52 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr B Williams declared and interest in item 3 Room-swap Discussion due to being a Member of the Pottery Group. Pottery Group may have an interest in being involved with the possible 'Unders' project at Alltwen Community Centre. RESOLVED.

53 ROOM-SWAP DISCUSSIONS WITH SOUTH WALES WOODTURNERS

Clerk explained the background and history of the proposed project to new Members. She explained that due to the new groups now using the Committee Room at Alltwen Community Centre, Members had decided to scrap the proposed project as it would mean a significant loss of income on room hire for Council as well as being inconvenient for the new groups using the room.

Chair stated that he and Vice-chair had met with Cllr B Williams and Lynn last week at the Community Centre. They looked at the 'Unders' (arches under the building) and proposed that this could be turned into a multi-use craft area for the SW Woodturners, Pottery Group and arts and crafts groups in the area.

The 'Unders' project was considered many years ago but was shelved due to cost implications. This could now be reviewed as there would be two groups using the rooms every week – SW Woodturners and Pottery Group. This could mean that lottery funding could be secured by the groups in order to help with conversion costs.

H MacMillan stated that he did not think SW Woodturners would have any objections to looking at the 'Unders' project again. He will raise this with them in their next meeting. He stated that they had recently recruited 5 new members, so the group now has 36 members in total. H MacMillan asked how the groups could be separated i.e. if it was one large craft room then the machinery wouldn't be able to move, it would have to stay in its position. Cllr B Williams stated that there is enough room there to have 3 separate rooms i.e. one room for woodturning, one for pottery and another for arts and crafts. Members thought this was a good idea. RESOLVED noted.

L Cooper stated that when this project was initially considered, the 'Unders' were going to be a sole space for the woodturners, but he would have no objection to it becoming a multi-use space. He stated that the plans that were drafted years ago would not now be suitable for a multi-use space and new plans would be needed. L Cooper stated that the SW Woodturners could apply for lottery funding towards this project. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr D Jones stated that the potters could have the right-hand side room of the 'Unders' and the other large section on the left could then be split into 2 rooms. He stated that Council would try to convert both spaces to accommodate both organisations. Cllr D Jones went on to explain that the cost of the works would need to be balanced with the amount paid for hire by the groups. Energy usage would also need to be considered. He explained that Council will review hire charges for all groups in the near future so that charges are fair for all groups. It could be that separate charges for energy usage may be expected. Cllr A Melen stated that this matter was discussed in the last meeting of council and a Finance Committee meeting will be convened to discuss further. Cllr D Jones stated that if groups could secure lottery funding for the works, then council could offset any rental charges for a set period of time. L Cooper stated that the SW Woodturners would have approx. £15,000 to put towards the project. RESOLVED noted.

L Cooper stated that it would be impossible to meter each machine individually and asked how council would bill the SW Woodturners for this. H MacMillan stated that each machine is not used every week so charges would need to be averaged. Chair stated that this will be discussed in the Finance Committee meeting. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr B Williams stated that he is happy to meet with the SW Woodturners for a chat and to have a closer look at what can be done in the 'Unders'. H MacMillan will arrange this with Cllr B Williams. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr A Melen stated that she thought making the 'Unders' a craft area for the village was a fantastic idea as it would add excellent facilities for the village and local area as a whole. She explained that there had been some friction with regards to the room-swap proposal and the 'Unders' could be a better option overall. H MacMillan stated that he did not realise that there had been friction. Cllr D Jones stated that there was disquiet rather than friction as the proposed project impacted many groups using the Community Centre. RESOLVED noted.

Chair thanked H MacMillan and L for attending the meeting.

54 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held in Alltwen Community Centre on 07 June 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

55 MATTERS ARISING

Further to Minute 41 Matters Arising – Cllr M Spooner spoke to Clerk earlier in the day to report that she is arranging a meeting regarding the Cemetery in Bronwen's Room, Rhos Community Centre. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 31 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she will arrange a Finance Committee meeting for later this month. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 31 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that Cllr R Lewis and Handyperson have completed laying the flagstones at the memorial dram. Members thought this was excellent and thanked both. RESOLVED.

Further to Minute 41 Matters Arising – Chair reported that the rubbish at Gwynfryn Park had now been cleared. RESOLVED.

Further to Minute 41 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she received a further quote for EPC inspections for Alltwen and Rhos Community Centres after the last meeting. Members agreed online via email that Gerald Israel's quote of £410 + VAT for both centres be accepted, and that the EPC's be actioned. RESOLVED.

Further to Minute 41 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she has ordered the bins for Rhos Park. They will be delivered as soon as payment is processed. Cllr N Jenkins stated that the Mynydd Y Betws Fund has not closed as yet, Clerk will apply for funds for Gwynfryn Park recycling bins. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 41 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she is still awaiting a quote from Lewis Fencing (Rhos) for Lon Tanyrallt fencing. RESOLVED that Clerk follow up on this.

Further to Minute 41 Matters Arising – Cllr D Baker stated that Rhos FC are looking to purchase a smaller container as they now have storage for the goals behind the pavilion building. D Baker will let council know once a container has been purchased. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 37 41 Matters Arising - Clerk reported that she has not received a response from City & County of Swansea regarding the A4067 speed limits as yet. She will follow up on this. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 44 Maintenance – Cllr D Baker stated that he has reminded coaches that the gate at Rhos Park needs to be closed and locked before they leave. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 47 Alltwen Community Centre Room Swap – Cllr S Atkins stated that Members had health and safety concerns with regards to the woodturning room. Clerk will bring this up with them. Clerk will also liaise with FFS regarding fire safety within the room. Cllr B Williams stated that a landlord

meter could be placed in each room in order to make sure each group pays the correct amount for energy. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 49 NPTCBC Members Fund Ability Swing – Clerk reported that the ability swing is now on order. Members agreed online via email to go with option 2 safety surfacing. Clerk stated that G L Jones have to order the equipment and the swing will not be installed until November 2022. Members were disappointed with this news but understood that it is difficult to get hold of equipment at this time. RESOLVED noted.

Further to Minute 51 Any Other Urgent Business – Clerk reported that Picnic Tables for Lon Tanyrallt Park will be discussed in the Finance Committee meeting. RESOLVED noted.

56 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RESOLVED that the following accounts approved for payment –

62B-65B)	Staff	Wages, Expenses)	2,888.39
66B	City & County of Swansea	Pension Contributions	939.75
67B	HMRC	Income Tax and NI	386.74
68D	NPTCBC	Alltwen CC: Non-dom Rates	342.00
69D	NPTCBC	Rhos CC: Non-dom Rates	380.00
70B	Avanti Gas	Rhos CC: Gas	256.28
71B	Total Gas	Alltwen CC: Gas	142.42
72B	Cllr R Lewis	Flagstones Reimbursement (Dram)	140.00
73B	Capel Ebeneser Rhos	Cemetry Contribution Section 137	200.00
74B	St John's Cilybebyll	Cemetry Contribution Section 137	200.00
75B	Eglwys Annibynnol Alltwen	Cemetry Contribution Section 137	350.00
76B	Cilybebyll PCC Alltwen	Cemetry Contribution Section 137	100.00
77B	Cotton & Sons	Rhos CC: Supplies	153.90
78B	Cotton & Sons	Alltwen CC: Floor cleaner	17.88
79B	Ecosolve Ltd	Rhos PF: Sandbanding, Overseeding, Goalmouth repairs & Annual Maintenance	26,943.92
80B	ROSPA Play Safety	Annual Playground Inspections	512.40
81B	Westward	Rhos CC: Gas repairs	90.00
82B	Glasdon	Rhos Park: 2x litter bins with concrete base and firexpire kit	424.22
83B	Westward	Alltwen CC: New water heater & installation	429.00

Income:

Alltwen CC	June Hire	£ 543.00
Rhos CC	June Hire	£ 980.00

Transfer: Authority to transfer the sum of £ 36,000.00 from the Council's Business Banking Account to its Current Account was requested. RESOLVED.

57 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objection be made to the following applications –

P2022/0402	Proposed double storey side and front porch extensions, the works for which include the demolition of an existing double storey side extension and front porch. Plus excavation works and alterations to front garden area to accommodate extended off-street parking area and the reinstatement of the retaining wall/buttress which runs adjacent to the public footpath.	1 Bryn Morgrug, Alltwen SA8 3DG
P2022/0237	Joint application for a proposed two-storey rear extension at 95 Neath Road, the works for which would include the demolition of an existing single storey rear extension plus the partial demolition and re-construction of an existing detached garage, and a proposed two-storey rear and side extension at 97 Neath Road, the works for which would include the demolition of an existing single storey rear extension.	95 And 97 Neath Road, Rhos SA8 3EH

RESOLVED that Clerk forward decisions to NPT CBC.

58 MAINTENANCE

Alltwen Community Centre: Cllrs D Jones and B Williams reported to Clerk that there were tiles on the roof of the centre that had moved. Handyperson checked the tiles at the front of the building near the entrance and they are OK. Cllr B Williams showed a photo to Clerk so that she could see where the tiles had moved at the rear of the building. RESOLVED that Handyperson look at this.

Rhos Park: Clerk reported that the sandbanding and pitch maintenance has been completed. RESOLVED.

ROSPA: Clerk reported that the inspections have been completed. Handyman can carry out the small repairs. Sutcliffe have serviced the zip-wire in Rhos Park. Clerk will instruct Wicksteed to service the zip-wire in Lon Tanyrallt park. BMX track passed inspection but advisory to lay more chippings and improve signage. RESOLVED noted.

59 COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Rhos Community Centre: Clerk reported that the new fire doors will be installed imminently. RESOLVED noted.

Alltwen Community Centre: Clerk reported that there had been confusion within the Kickboxing club with regards to the proposed room swap. Clerk emailed club to state that room swap would not be going ahead, classes can carry on as normal. RESOLVED.

Handyperson stated that he and Caretaker will build the partition wall over the summer whilst the centre is quieter. RESOLVED noted.

60 OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF RHOS BMX TRACK

Clerk gave overview of situation to new Members.

Clerk stated that she had spoken to Matt Broome, West Wales Trails earlier in the day and he had sent a quote over for clearing the site and making plans for a new track. The quote for this is £2,390 + VAT.

Cllr N Jenkins asked if children had been involved with the planning for the initial track. Clerk explained that they had been consulted during the Family Fun Day in Rhos Community Centre in the summer of 2019. Cllr D Baker asked if a BMX track had to go back there. Chair explained that the BMX track had come out on top when the public were asked during the consultation. Designs were shown on the day and the public chose the design from Dragon Play Ltd. Cllr N Jenkins stated that a quote of £2,390 was not expensive to clear the site and design new plans.

Cllr N Jenkins stated that she had spoken to P hinder, NPTCBC and he is keen that the Section 106 funds be used as soon as possible. Cllr A Melen stated that council should not delay the BMX track project any further. The project needs to be completed. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr D Jones suggested that plans are made before the area is cleared. Members agreed. RESOLVED that Clerk liaise with M Broome regarding this.

61 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	NPTCBC	Responses to planning queries
2	Cllr. L Rees	Graffiti on play equipment in Brynmorgrug Park

1 Members happy with explanations. No objections. RESOLVED.

2 Clerk reported that the graffiti on play equipment has now been painted over by the Handyperson. Members were pleased with this. RESOLVED.

62 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr A Melen asked if there had been any developments with regards to a dog biting passers-by on Dyffryn Road, Alltwen. Cllr N Jenkins stated that she had spoken to Inspector Sweeney and a Police investigation is taking place. Police will press charges against dog owner and so will a lady who was attacked. Police are currently trying to get hold of the dog. RESOLVED noted.

Clerk explained that there is new Welsh Government legislation for Town and Community Councils. She is currently reading through the legislation to assess the impact of this on council. She has so far picked out two main points, an annual report will need to be published each year to show what the council has done, and 'in-person' meetings only are no longer allowed. There has to be a way for Council Members, members of the public and press to attend every meeting remotely. This means that even if in-person meetings are held, an internet connection to the meeting will be required. Meetings are permitted to be solely held online but not solely held in-person. Chair suggested getting an internet dongle for Clerk's laptop to enable hybrid meetings. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr D Jones suggested that as Covid-19 cases are again on the rise in our area, that the next meeting of council in September 2022 be held online. In September a decision can then be made for October. Cllr D Baker stated that NPTCBC have 100 laptops available in case of a surge in Covid-19 so it would make sense to meet online. Members agreed. RESOLVED. Cllr A Melen stated that Cllr R Lewis would have trouble attending online. She said she would be happy for him to attend from her home if needed. RESOLVED noted.

Chair stated that he had received a request for a Cilybebyll Festival. RESOLVED that this be considered for next summer.

Cllr A Melen stated that there had been an announcement from NPTCBC regarding the proposed new primary school in Pontardawe. Cllr N Jenkins stated that this issue was part of the manifesto of Plaid Cymru and the coalition. She stated that the matter would have to go to Mark Drakeford for review to see of the decision to build the school could be reversed, as the school would be within Jeremy Miles' area, so he could not be part of this decision. Cllr N Jenkins stated that there would be no public consultation on this matter, only a consultation on educational matters and effects. Cllr D Jones asked what would likely happen to Godre'r Graig School if the plans were scrapped. Cllr N Jenkins stated that there is minimal risk from the tip but this means that the school could not reopen. A new school would need to be built. NPTCBC have land at Gnoll Road that could be used. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr N Jenkins stated that there is a lot of broken glass and glass bottles in Lon Tanyrallt Park. RESOLVED that Clerk ask Handyperson to clear glass.

Cllr N Jenkins stated that she will liaise with NPTCBC regarding the footbridge from Alltwen to Tesco as there is graffiti painted on it. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr D Baker asked whether Rhos FC could be permitted to refurbish their front raised area at the pavilion as it has become messy. He suggested decking or flagstones. Members stated that decking could become slippery therefore flagstones would be a better choice. RESOLVED that this be included in a Section 106 bid.

Cllr N Jenkins stated that next financial year there could be a NPTCBC Members Fund of £15,000. Members were pleased to hear this news. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr D Baker asked whether Rhos FC could be permitted to run a football festival next summer. Clerk stated that the only problem with doing this would be pitch maintenance. Cllr D Baker suggested that the festival could be run at the end of May, before the maintenance is completed. Members were happy with this. Clerk asked whether Rhos FC's public liability insurance would cover a football festival. Cllr D Baker stated that the club do not currently have this insurance. Clerk advised Rhos FC to get this as soon as possible. RESOLVED noted.

Chair thanked all for attending. The meeting finished at 8:35pm.

Signed Dated 06 September 2022