

**ROGERSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES
OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
TYDU COMMUNITY HALL WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2023**

Members present: -

Chairperson: Councillor S. Mlewa

Councillors: S. Bowen, S. Jones, C Larcombe, N. Ireland, N. Upham, Y Forsey, J. Gibbons, M Bentley,
L. Cummings, R. Howells, B. Davies, A. Hobbs, J. Reynolds.

Apologies were received from: -

Councillors. K Hopkins

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors S. Mlewa & S. Jones declared an interest in Jubilee Park matters.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held 4th January 2023 were approved, subject to apologies being added.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 18th of January 2023 were approved, subject to the comments made during questions at the Senedd (17.1.23) from Julie James MS, (that were read out at the meeting), being added.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Festival Committee

Councillor S. Mlewa advised members that the Festival is in the planning stages and will likely be on Sunday the 27th or Monday the 28th of August 2023, updates will be provided when available.

3.2 2023/2024 Precept

At the last meeting members agreed that as the 10.47% RPI was considered too high an increase for 23/24, the facility and sports fees would not be increased, and the precept will be increased to the same percentage as Newport City Council, which is likely to be less than 10%.

Newport City Council has now advised (members received a copy of the correspondence via email), that the council tax increase will not be agreed until 28th February. This is too late for the precept increase, and therefore the members will need to decide what percentage increase to levy on the precept at this meeting, to be able to advise Newport City Council by the end of this week.

Following discussion members approved: -

- A CPI 9.2% increase on the precept to £32.67 per Band D property for the year 23/24. The 22/23 annual precept was £29.92, so this is a £2.75 per year increase.

3.3 Riverbank Erosion

Members discussed: -

- The Community Councillors, who are also Newport City Councillors (Y. Forsey, R. Howells, B. Davies, J. Reynolds), discussed declaring an interest and/or leaving the room while discussions took place.
- Councillor Y. Forsey, who is Cabinet Member for the Environment for Newport City Council, and therefore involved with the issue, left the meeting (via Zoom) while the matter was discussed.
- The contents of the minutes.
- The benefit of Newport City Council getting in touch with the Welsh Government to take advantage of what assistance may be available.
- The meeting that has been arranged for the 10th of February with Rogerstone Community Council, Jubilee Park Management (Rogerstone) Ltd., and Newport City Council. Natural Resources Wales have given their apologies. (Members were forwarded the correspondence via email before the meeting).
- The meeting on the 10th, is a closed one, for invited persons only and will likely result in further meetings.
- Information from the meeting will be discussed at the monthly council meeting; the minutes are not made public until approved at the following meeting.
- Members referred to email correspondence from a resident and acknowledged the contents.

4. POLICE MATTERS

Police reports are circulated via email when received.

5. CLERKS REPORT

Members acknowledged the Clerks Report and the correspondence received prior to the meeting.

6. NEW CORRESPONDENCE

Section 137 Application

The application from HCPT Group 99 was referred to the appropriate meeting.

7. ACCOUNTS

Zoom

Monthly charge £ 14.39

Newport City Council

Bins 1/2 RCC 1/2 JP £433.33

Nathan Evans Ltd	
Xero fees	£ 26.88
Salary fee	£114.00
Vodafone	
Broadband	£ 34.00
Fuel Genie	
Fuel for van & machinery	£313.47
Ezeefit Tyres	
Van brake pads, battery, labour	£430.27
Aviva	
Van insurance policy	£484.00
Aitkens	
Line marker & grass seed	£866.00
Rob Campbell	
Repair hall doors & replace toilet door	£490.00
Eurooffice	
Toilet rolls	£ 52.10
Newport City Council	
Plants/bedding	£1420.90

A member queried the legal payments made to Francis Wilks Jones at the last meeting, and the Clerk confirmed these are legal fees for non-bill payer's referral to the solicitor for court action to recover the debt. These are Jubilee Park payments not Rogerstone Community Council (marked JP), and the majority of fees are recoverable.

Councillor A. Hobbs left the meeting at this point.

8. PLANNING

Members on the interim planning committee are emailed plans as and when received. Members discussed Newport City Council and National Resources Wales flood risk plans, as well as the recent flooding and riverbank erosion.

9. OTHER MATTERS

9.1 Memorial Tree & Ashes

Councillor Y. Forsey referred to a request she had received from a resident who wishes to plant a tree in memorial to a relative in the Welfare Grounds, as well as put the ashes in with or around the tree.

Members discussed:-

- Previous requests, which have not been approved.
- Ashes interment not being suitable for a public park.
- Potential issues if a tree was permitted to be planted and then had to be moved for any reason, which may upset the relatives.
- Setting a precedent.
- Types of trees and suitable locations.

It was agreed that:-

- The Community Council should consider setting up a protocol for memorial trees and benches.
- Ashes should not be interred in the grounds.
- Councillor Forsey will advise the person requesting this.

10. URGENT MATTERS

Men's Shed Cymru Rogerstone

Councillor N. Ireland discussed, 'Men's Shed Cymru Rogerstone' and handed members information.

The following was discussed:

- Lisvane Men's Shed.
- The purpose of these groups and the benefit to individuals.
- Men's Sheds in other areas.
- Ty Hafan's involvement.
- Community connections.
- The proposed High Cross Community Hub and the possibility that this could be a project.
- Funding and support.
- Charitable status.
- Mental health.
- The Councils support.

School Competition

Members discussed the Deputy Chairpersons suggestions for the next school's competition and agreed to proceed as in previous years with the prize amounts being the same as last year.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was provisionally agreed for 1st March 2023 in the Chambers and via Zoom, which was subsequently revised to **Monday 6th March 2023 at 7.00pm.**

Councillors N. Ireland gave his apologies for the next meeting.