

**ROGERSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL'S MEETING
TYDU COMMUNITY HALL 8TH JANUARY 2025**

Members present:

Chairperson: Councillor S. Bowen

Councillors: A. Hobbs, S. Jones, D. Mlewa, C Larcombe, B. Davies, J. Reynolds, Y. Forsey,
K. Hopkins.

Apologies:

Councillors: R. Lloyd, G. Foley, S. Meek, J. Gibbons

Members stood for two minutes silence in memory of Councillor Neil Upham, who passed away recently.

The Police & Crime Commissioner will attend the February meeting of Council.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this point in the meeting.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held 4th December 2024 were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Community Orchard

Members discussed the public event held recently, where types of trees and training were discussed. A residents concern about access to the orchard was also discussed, however additional access will not be required on an already established public open space. It is planned to plant some trees at 14 Locks, which is accessible to all.

The Clerk reminded members that they will need to see the final proposed layout, planting schedule and tree types as well as the ongoing maintenance plan, before giving final approval for the project.

3.2 Defibrillators

Councillor J. Reynolds will provide further information on location codes for defibrillators at the next meeting. The defibrillator at the hall, as with others in the locality have instructions to dial 999, which may differ from the one at Greenfield Road.

3.3 Allotments

Following discussion regarding the ongoing management and development of the allotments, members agreed:-

- To send correspondence to all tenants when the bills go out in February, asking if they would like to form a self management committee, which may be beneficial to plot holders; for example, grant applications and bulk buying seeds and plants may be possible.
- The land and overall management responsibility would remain with the Community Council.
- To inspect the plots twice a year
- Agree on the working group membership to decide on the new tenancy agreement and other matters discussed at the last meeting. Meanwhile, the current agreement will be sent to plot holders, (new and old) as the plot numbers have been changed following the Head Groundsman's remarking of plots, (previously discussed).

The Clerk advised that a final allotment plan will be issued by the February/March meeting; this will show the vacant and tenanted plots.

3.4 Wales Audit

The 23/24 audit is still ongoing.

3.5 Remembrance Sunday

Members discussed:-

- Visiting the barracks for assistance with the 2025 event
- The lack of marching bands available to attend.
- Scout bands.
- Finding a bugler.
- Holding the event as last year without serving refreshments at the hall, as this part was poorly attended.
- The Church Service and laying of wreaths, which was well attended.
- Poor attendance at the library War Memorial prior to the Church Service.

It was agreed to discuss the 2025 event under matters arising monthly as progress is made.

3.6 Welfare Grounds – Playground

The Clerk will invite expressions of interest from suitably qualified playground installers to refurbish the children's play area later in the year, which will enable members to consider development of the facility and also possibly new teenage activity equipment.

3.7 Casual Vacancy

Members discussed this and the new vacancy and agreed that if an election isn't called, both positions can be discussed at the March meeting, with decisions made at the April meeting.

3.8 Carol Service

Members were pleased that the Carol Service was well attended this year.

4. POLICE MATTERS

- The December Police Report has been forwarded to members.
- Police will be invited to attend the next meeting.

5. CLERKS REPORT

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Glade Café

The Clerk advised that the Café proprietors stated that they would be happy to join in any summer festival this year.

Members discussed holding a festival, however no decisions were made for this year. A member stated that it would be good practice for the committee to register any event being planned with the City Council safety advisory group.

7. ACCOUNTS

A member requested the dates for the utility bills.

Accounts RCC

Fuelgenie	
Van & machinery	£210.02
D.E.A.L.	
Machinery – oil, spark plug, filter etc.	£144.00
Octopus	
Gas – hall & electric café, grounds buildings, hall	£817.36
Electricity (01 Nov 2024 - 30 Nov 2024)	
Gas (31 Oct 2024 - 26 Nov 2024)	
D. Evans	
Cleaning, hall & outside toilets December	£360.00
Strip & seal hall floor 6 hours & materials	£216.61
L. Davies	
Electrical work - hall	£425.00

Zoom	
Monthly fee	£ 15.59
Vodafone	
Monthly fee broadband	£ 44.97
ICO	
Annual fee	£ 35.00
T. Carter	
Tesco – uht milk	£ 3.90
Newport City Council	
Bin collection	£257.83
Nathan Evans Ltd	
Budget estimates	£510.00
Payroll/xero	£145.68
Lee Tech	
Boiler repair /service	£564.00
Install 2 basins hall toilet	£336.00
Eurosec	
Grounds CCTV annual maintenance	£126.00
Serreta Software	
Microsoft 365	£ 52.99
121 Office Furniture	
Office chair	£186.00
Regen	
Fleet Pitchmarker B Plus	£435.00
Burial Board	
Precept	£1142.02
Welsh Water	
Half yearly water & sewerage, hall, house, outside toilets, café, grounds	£2160.78
Screwfix	
Grounds tools & sundries	£163.08

Accounts JP

Newport City Council Bin collection	£257.83
N. Evans Ltd Monthly accounts	£240.00
Vale Consultancy 3rd party fee for NRW	£393.00
Welsh Water Stand pipe plot 2	£ 42.87
Eurosec Grounds CCTV annual maintenance	£ 69.00

8. PLANNING

Members of the Planning Committee are in receipt of planning applications when received from Newport City Council.

9. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS

9.1 Police & Crime Commissioner

Attending next month.

9.2 Budget Estimates

The Clerk went through the budget estimates page by page and explained that these had been based on a 3% increase as the December RPI was unknown at the time estimates were prepared.

The following were discussed:-

- Salaries and the NJC increase for 24/25 (backdated and paid December)
- The higher employer NI rates.
SCP1 no longer existing, therefore staff on SCP1 are now on 2 and staff on SCP2 would now be increased to Scp3.
- Transport, plant and the new van.
- Special items – playground, tennis resurfacing, tree safety etc.
- Land sale fund.
- Capital items and renewables.

- Staff costs and hours (members were provided with the confidential staff information which includes the NJC annual increase). A member queried staff hours for a member of staff, however these remain unchanged and are contract hours as with other staff.
- Premium hours for weekend work was discussed.
- The living wage and the Community Council's payment to staff, which is in line with Newport City Council.
- Income from Jubilee Park in addition to the Jubilee Park staff salary/ NI/ pension repayment.
- The separation of hours for RCC staff and JP staff as indicated on the staffing information.
- Burial Board income and the Boards Clerks salary, which is reclaimed from the Burial Board.
- Burial Board precept.
- Any potential savings which could be made.
- Members agreed to review service provision and cost efficiencies during November/December before the budget estimates are prepared by the accountant.
- Members approved the budget estimates, subject to RPI being amended to the current rate of 3.6% instead of the 3% provisionally used.
- The employers NI being confirmed and corrected if necessary (the additional .6% will of course increase this as well).

The amended budget estimates will be forwarded to members and attached as appendix 1 to the minutes rather than the original.

9.3 2024 / 2025 Precept

A member queried the precept being increased annually and the Clerk advised that Council had agreed to increase this by the RPI annually to reflect inflationary pressures.

The 25/26 precept was agreed to be increased by 3.6% to £35.53 per year for Band D properties, which will be amended on the budget estimates with the other increases.

9.4 Facilities Fees 25/26

Fees were agreed as follows from 1.4.25, new prices in bold in brackets.

Tennis

Rogerstone Resident Charge

Adult – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour £3.75 (**£3.90**)

Child – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour £1.95 (**£2.00**)

Mixed – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour £3.10 (**£3.20**)

Racquet Hire (per hour) £1.35 (**£1.40**)

Racquet Hire Deposit £2.60 (**£2.70**)

Ball Purchase (Hire not available) £1.35 (**£1.40**)

Non Rogerstone Resident Charge

Adult – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour £4.10 (**£4.25**)

Child – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour £2.10 (**£2.15**)

Mixed – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour £3.40 (**£3.55**)

Racquet Hire (per hour) £1.50 (**£1.55**)

Racquet Hire Deposit £2.80 (**£2.90**)
Ball Purchase (Hire not available) £1.50 (**£1.55**)

Table Tennis & Chess

FOC

Outdoor table tennis (2) and chess tables (2). Bring your own table tennis bats/ balls and chess/draught pieces, alternatively, bats available for loan from Wardens Hut with a £10 refundable deposit if returned intact, balls 50p each to purchase, and chess/draught pieces available with a £10 refundable deposit if returned intact. Booking not required, facilities are available on a first come first served basis.

Football & Cricket (Per Match)

Rogerstone Resident Charges

Adult Sports Pitches & Changing Facilities-

Football £9.95 (**£10.30**)

Changing facilities £18.90 (**£19.60**)

Grass wicket £18.90 (**£19.60**)

Artificial wicket £18.90 (**£19.60**)

Children's Sports Pitches (Under 18s) -

Football £8.85 (**£9.15**)

Artificial wicket £8.85 (**£9.15**)

Non Rogerstone Resident Charges

Adult Sports Pitches & Changing Facilities -

Football £11.50 (**£11.90**)

Changing facilities £20.80 (**£21.55**)

Grass wicket £20.80 (**£21.55**)

Artificial wicket £20.80 (**£21.55**)

Children's Sports Pitches -

Football £9.80 (**£10.15**)

Artificial wicket £9.80 (**£10.15**)

TYDU COMMUNITY HALL Per Hour

Rogerstone Resident Rate

Off peak Monday – Friday up to 6pm (non-business) hire –

Hall £5.45 (**£5.65**)

Room £4.05 (**£4.20**)

Kitchen £2.85 (**£2.95**)

Hall, kitchen, room £9.45 (**£9.80**)

Peak from 6pm weekdays and all day weekends (non-business) hire –

Hall £10.75 (**£11.15**)

Room £8.00 (**£8.30**)

Kitchen £3.50 (**£3.60**)

Hall, kitchen, room £18.90 (**£19.60**)

*Business rate is x 2 the above

Non Rogerstone Resident Rate

Off peak Monday – Friday up to 6pm (non-business) hire –

Hall £6.10 (**£6.35**)

Room £4.45 (**£4.60**)

Kitchen £3.05 (**£3.15**)

Hall, kitchen, room £10.20 (**£10.45**)

Peak from 6pm weekdays and all day weekends (non-business) hire

Hall £11.55 (**£12.00**)

Room £8.75 (**£9.15**)

Kitchen £3.85 (**£4.00**)

Hall, kitchen, room £20.75 (**£21.50**)

ALLOTMENTS & GARAGE SPACES (Per Year)

£2.85 per perch (Bethesda plots mainly 3 perch, Cefn 4 perch) (£2.95)

Seniors/ Disabled per perch £1.95 (£2.00)

Garage Spaces (phased out as tenancy relinquished - 3. Tenants own the garages the rent is for the space it occupies only) £104.85 (£108.60 per annum)

9.5 Ty Du House

Members agreed that the press & public should be excluded from this item however, the member of the public present remained with members permission.

10. URGENT MATTERS

Gate - High Cross

Members discussed the email from the police regarding the installation of a gate at the above location, however, following consideration, agreed that this may simply move the problem to other ungated areas. The Clerk agreed to obtain a budget cost for gate(s). Members agreed it would be helpful to invite the officer to the next meeting to discuss the issues raised before making a decision.