

ROGERSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL'S MEETING AT TYDU COMMUNITY HALL 5TH MARCH 2025

Members present:

Chairperson: Councillor S. Bowen

Councillors: S. Jones, D. Mlewa, C Larcombe, R. Lloyd.

Apologies:

Councillors: K. Hopkins, A. Hobbs, J. Reynolds, S Meek, B Davies, Y Forsey

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 5th February 2025 were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Community Orchard

Beccy Williams has confirmed that a new fence adjacent to the allotments will be erected as part of the scheme along with a row of fruit bushes directly in front of it.

3.2 Allotments

A number of expressions of interest have been received in respect of members self-management proposals, which the Clerk will forward to the Allotment Working Group (Cllrs Bowen, Forsey, Davies, Reynolds) along with the existing and draft proposed new tenancy agreements. Members to arrange a site meeting to familiarise themselves with the sites.

3.3 Casual Vacancy

There have been no applications for the West Ward casual vacancies, therefore members agreed to consider nominations at the next meeting.

3.4 Remembrance Sunday

Members discussed arrangements for the 2025 Remembrance Sunday Service and the Chairman is to set up a working group to coordinate the event.

3.5 The Glade – Gazebo

The Clerk reported that a planning application has been submitted and will be subject to the usual timescales.

3.6 Festival

The Chairman reported that despite a high level of interest in a festival event this year, there has been very few willing to join a working group to coordinate the event. However the Chairman agreed to canvas interest from members and residents to form a working group and report back.

4. POLICE MATTERS

The Police are again unable to attend the meeting.

5. CLERKS REPORT

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

A number of suggestions have been put forward from a member following a Facebook post regarding Jubilee Park Management Company, which members discussed:

- Obtain a quote from a facilities management company for providing the service.
- An expression of interest has previously been received to buy the service, which was declined.
- The fees are prescribed in the covenant on house purchases and subject to RPI, which can only be varied by exception so it is unlikely to change.
- What may change are the service costs (e.g. grass cutting, refuse collection, grounds maintenance), the management fees, profit/dividend payment, staff costs, administration costs, salary cost for Directors (which are currently voluntary roles) and also service standards, frequency and response time.
- Members would have to decide if TUPE or redundancy offers would apply to existing staff.
- What level of control, if any, Rogerstone Community Council would wish to have.
- Also, would the Community Council wish to retain the land and contract out the management of the service or transfer the land as part of the transaction.
- If a provider were to be invited to provide the service, it could be seen to be unfair competition to only approach one provider, therefore it would be advisable for a tender situation to prevail.
- Provide a graphic to show what the management fee pays for.
- Information currently provided comprise:
 - The Annual Report narrative and the Budget which are easily readable and describe what the Management Company does.
 - The last 7 years Annual Reports are on the website for anyone genuinely wishing to know what is being done
 - 7 years full accounts are available on the website for residents to see
 - A site plan showing all the areas maintained is also on the website and Jubilee Park notice board
 - The full maintenance strategy is available on the website
 - All residents would receive full details of the covenant on the property detailing the service when purchasing the property; a generic copy is also available on the website.
 - All necessary transactional information for house sales / purchases are on the website

Members agreed that the information provided covers the detail of the service, but would benefit from being more prominent, in particular the previous years Annual Report.

The Clerk also updated members on the current progress with the riverbank revetment scheme and following a meeting with the Planning Consultant this month, a position statement will be published on the website for residents information.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no additional correspondence to discuss.

7. ACCOUNTS

RCC

DEAL

Ransomes Super Bowl -Carry out service. Changed spark plug, oil, filters and greased. carry out cylinder regrind. Fitted new scraper wire. Removed bottom blade and fit new blade with new screws. Clean carb and adjust main clutch	£597.12
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Chris Arlett

Ceiling repair & painting room and large hall (Tydu)	£1788.00
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Fuelgenie

Van & machinery	£190.02
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Octopus

Gas 29.12.24 – 31.1.25 – hall & electric café, grounds buildings 1-31.1.25	£972.25
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T. Carter

UHT Milk Tesco, cleaning sundries Lidle	£ 20.11
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CW Testing

PAT testing all buildings	£ 95.19
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Newport City Council

Bin collection	£257.83
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S. Davies

SW Lockmiths keys/locks	£ 22.60
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SW Lockmiths keys/locks	£ 20.88
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Cartridge People

Ink (CA)	£ 31.95
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Cleaning Supplies 4U

Flat mopping system, cleaning sundries (Refund awaited)	£144.83
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Nisbets	
Toilet rolls hall & grounds	£ 50.36
ECH Group	
Solar panels and battery installation	£2148.75
2 invoices	£6446.25
Perrot Engineering	
Toro 3100 cutting unit regrind	£462.00
Vodafone	
Broadband	£ 44.97
ZOOM	
Monthly fee	£ 15.59
Screwfix	
Grounds tools & sundries	£ 24.60
JP	
Newport City Council	
Bin collection	£257.83
Vale Consultancy	
To provide civil engineering services for Jubilee Park	£780.00
Lewis and Lewis	
Cost consultancy & project management	£3505.50

8. PLANNING

The Chairman reported on planning applications when received from Newport City Council on behalf of the Planning Committee

9. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS

9.1 Section 137 Applications

Members approved the following Section 137 funding grants:-

Rogerstone Rangers AFC Seniors
Develop and improve the playing field at Newport Fugitives
£1000

HCPT
Contribution towards cost of taking disabled children on holiday
£500

9.2 Members Remuneration 2024 – 2025

The Clerk reported on the agreed payments for members working from home (£156pa) and how to go about claiming for the cost of office consumables.

Could members email the clerk rogerstoneccclerk@gmail.com with their bank account details to enable the payment to be made. Alternatively, should any members wish to decline the payment please advise the clerk in the same way.

10. URGENT MATTERS

Pickle Ball

Members discussed the possibility of adapting one of the tennis courts to a dual use Pickleball Court. Members were unsure of what demand there may be so it was agreed to consult residents via the website and noticeboards before progressing.

The Clerk reminded members that the courts were scheduled to be re-lined this year so an extra over cost will be requested for dual lining one court.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was agreed as 2nd April 2025 at 7pm.