

ROGERSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCILS MEETING HELD AT TYDU COMMUNITY HALL 7TH JANUARY 2026

Members present:-

Chairperson:- Councillor C Larcombe

Councillors:- S. Bowen, S. Jones, R. Lloyd, B Davies, Y Forsey, J. Gibbons, K. Gray, P. Smith,
J. Reynolds, A. Hobbs, S. Meek, G. Foley.

Apologies for absence:- D. Mlewa

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 3rd December 2025 were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Allotment Working Group

The Clerk advised that the allotment working group site meeting to St Julian's self-managed allotments has not been arranged yet, due to various issues. As soon as a date has been arranged, members of the working group and the tenants committee will be notified.

3.2 Remembrance Sunday

At the last meeting members discussed:-

- The issue with gunfire being heard during the two minutes silence, which may have been from Pentre Tai Farm. A member suggested making contact with the farm to ensure this doesn't happen next year.
- Staff laying wreaths on behalf of the Council, discussed at the last meeting; this will be confirmed nearer to the date for 2026.

3.3 Carol Service

Members discussed the well attended Carol Service and the refreshments that were appreciated by attendees, which were kindly provided and served by the Glade Café, (to be paid for by the Community Council).

3.4 Gazebo

Members discussed the Gazebo planned for the area near the Glade Café, where the Cafe picnic benches are currently located alongside the tennis courts. The costs, maintenance and payback were discussed and it is hoped that the construction will start soon.

3.5 Repair Café

Members discussed the Repair Café -

- This is progressing well, and the first event is between 11-1pm on Saturday 24th of January.
- There is a meeting in the chambers of Tydu Community Hall to finalise matters on the 21st January at 7pm; all members are welcome to attend.

3.6 New Playground

Members briefly discussed:-

- The playground working group.
- Lottery funding; the Deputy Chairperson suggested that support from the local schools for the new park project, would be helpful for the application. It was agreed that members who are school governors can request this on behalf of the Community Council.
- The funding meeting planned for 6pm, 14th January 2026, in the chambers of Tydu Community Hall.

3.7 Schools Competition

The Deputy Chairman discussed this year's school competition.

4. POLICE MATTERS

- The police report has been forwarded to members. (For members information only and not for the general public).
- The police were invited to this meeting and will be asked to attend the next meeting as they did not arrive.
- Members discussed the crime data information compiled by Councillor R. Lloyd.
- The City Councillors advised they attend monthly online meetings with the local police.
- Police surgeries are regularly held for the public to attend.
- Members discussed the recent serious road traffic accident near Tesco Express.

5. CLERKS REPORT

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

The following were discussed:-

- Section 137 expenditure, and correspondence advising the maximum amount that can be paid per elector (£11.60). The Community Council has £3,000 budgeted for 25/26.
- Emergency Closure Notice on Public Footpath 406/77/1 located at Ebbw River, Rogerstone Welfare Grounds, Newport. Members discussed alternative measures for flood protection.

- The request for the Burial Board Precept 25/26 has been received and subsequently approved.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no additional correspondence to discuss.

7. **ACCOUNTS**

Accounts RCC

Rogerstone & Bassaleg Burial Board Precept 25/26	£1176.29
OCD Cleaning, hall and outside toilets	£ 829.92
Nathan Evans Ltd Payroll	£ 114.00
Budget estimates	£ 510.00
Xero	£ 35.52
WELSH WATER Hall, all buildings including Ty Du house, changing rooms with showers café outside toilets, grounds (all metered).	£3068.80
ZOOM Monthly fee	£ 16.79
VODAFONE Broadband	£ 47.85
AMAZON S. Davies – toilets repairs grounds	£ 20.94
Fan heater	£ 13.10
FUEL GENIE Van & machinery fuel	£ 170.04
OCTOPUS Gas – hall/changing rooms, Electric – all buildings inc Glade Café (Nov)	£ 654.11
REGEN AMENITY Grounds seeds and chemicals	£ 653.40
NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL Bins	£ 289.00

SCREWFIX	
Grounds tools & sundries	£ 68.74
ARGOS	
Hard drive (CA)	£ 47.99
GROUPON	
Office 24 professional (not subscription) (Laptops/PC TC/CA)	£ 43.20
CASTLETON TURF	
Burial Board (they will pay back)	£ 70.00
Auto Spares	
Cleaning products (van)	£ 12.13

Accounts JP

NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL	
Bins	£ 289.00
ICO	
Annual fee	£ 47.00
ROBERTSONS	
Legal fees	£ 444.75
NATHAN EVANS	
Account fees	£ 240.00

8. PLANNING

Members discussed planning applications received by the Planning Committee and there were no matters to bring to the attention of full council.

9. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS

9.1 2026 - 2027 Budget Estimates

Members were in receipt of the budget estimates (Appendix 1), prepared by Nathan Evans Limited prior to the meeting.

The following was discussed:-

- CPI & RPI; the budgets have been prepared on anticipated CPI during 25/26 as discussed at the last meeting.
- Tydu Hall, lettings; most payments are in arrears, some in advance.

- Pitches, fields and other rentals, which include Ty Du house rent as well as pitch fees, tennis, allotments etc.
- Energy costs.
- Salaries, pension (down) and Ni (up).
- Members agreed funding for tree safety, tennis courts, knotweed, procurement of a fine turf mower, and health and safety work on current playground and facilities.
- Repairs and renewals fund.

9.2 2026 - 2027 Precept

Following discussion members approved a 3% increase:-

- £36.60 per Band D x 6191.40 Council Tax Base = £226,605.24. The annual precept is received in 2 payments over the year.

9.3 2026 - 2027 Facility Fees

Members were provided with the current facility fees showing an indicative 3% percentage increase (Appendix 2), which was approved.

9.4 2026 - 2027 Ty Du House Rent (P&P excluded))

Press & public excluded.

9.5 Casual Vacancy - West Ward

The Clerk advised that Councillor K. Hopkins has unfortunately been disqualified from office due to non attendance for 6 months; Newport City Council have been informed and the vacancy will be advertised in accordance with statutory regulations.

Members discussed:-

- There being only 4 meetings during the 6 month absence period (July, September, October, December; the members last attendance was June).
- In Wales, a Community Councillor is automatically disqualified if they fail to attend any meetings of the council for a consecutive period of six months. This rule is mandated by Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and applies to community, town, and principal council members.
- The disqualification takes effect automatically upon the expiry of the six-month period from the date of the last attended meeting.
- Attendance at other Community Council events does not count towards meeting attendance.
- If a member knows they will be absent, the council can approve the reason for absence *before* the six-month period expires, which pauses the clock. The council cannot retrospectively approve an absence once the six-month period has passed.

The Chairman, Councillor C. Larcombe paid tribute to Councillor K. Hopkins, who has served the community of Rogerstone for approximately 8 years, and is an enthusiastic campaigner for social justice. Members endorsed the Chairmans words, and wished Councillor K. Hopkins well and asked that she be thanked for all her work whilst a member.

10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Recycling Event

Members discussed a pop up recycling event via the City Council and hoped they could attend the Welfare Grounds, possibly when one of the Repair Café events takes place.

Request – Football Festival

A request to hold a junior football festival (possibly longer than last year), was approved in principle for the 5th of July, subject to:-

- The Head Groundsman's approval and dependant on other planned events/games
- Insurance, risk assessments, adequate stewards etc.
- Hire of the hall will be at the usual cost, and is subject to availability.
- Section 137 grant information is on the Councils website.

Jubilee Park Primary School – Multi- Surface Play Facility

Members had previously discussed the above and asked if the school governors could address the issue again. It was suggested that the facility could be hired out (as other schools do), generating significant income, which may be enough to engage school staff to open/close/supervise the facility and still make a surplus for the school. By hiring out the facility it would increase the number of local pitches available to clubs within the community.

National Lottery – Playground Funding.

The Deputy Chairman reminded members who are on the school governing body of local schools to seek their endorsement of the plans for the new play area, it was suggested a mention in their minutes would suffice; this will help with the application to the National Lottery.

Rogerstone Events

It was suggested that the above be made a regular item on the monthly Community Council agendas. Members also discussed advertising the events on Facebook. (Events are already on the councils website.

Honour Awards

Following discussion members discussed the Welsh Government honours system and nomination procedures. The Deputy Chairman agreed to write a small form of words for the website to encourage nominations from local people in Rogerstone to the Welsh Government.

St John's Church

Members discussed a request from the vicar to promote the Alpha Course to local groups etc., and members agreed to share this personally.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meetings of Council –

The Playground Working Group will meet 14th January 2026 at 6pm.

Events Team/Repair Café meeting 21st January 2026 at 7pm.

Council meeting February 4th 2026 at 7pm.