

ROGERSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCILS MEETING HELD AT TYDU COMMUNITY HALL 4TH FEBRUARY 2026

Members present:-

Chairperson:- Councillor C Larcombe

Councillors:- S. Bowen, S. Jones, R. Lloyd, B Davies, Y Forsey, J. Gibbons, K. Gray, P. Smith,
S. Meek, D. Mlewa

Apologies for absence:- A. Hobbs, J. Reynolds, G. Foley

The Chairman, Councillor C. Larcombe welcomed Sergeant Jason Ghalamkary to the meeting, and agreed to take item 4., Police Matters prior to the rest of the agenda.

4. POLICE MATTERS

Members discussed:-

- The police attendance at the Repair Café.
- Shoplifting incidents and arrests.
- Speed operations in the area and suggestions for other areas.
- Vehicle theft.
- Theft from vehicles.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Drug incidents and warrants.
- Illegal electric scooters/bikes and recent and continued undercover operations.
- A dog in the local area being returned to its owner following an incident (discussed at an earlier meeting).
- Social media.
- Police reports and emerging trends.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Jason Ghalamkary for his report.

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 7th January & 14th January 2025 were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Allotment Working Group

Members agreed to hold an allotment working group meeting with the tenants committee at 6pm on the 25th of February to progress matters.

It was agreed that the following will be discussed:-

- Modernising the existing allotment agreement.
- Suggestions for maintenance spend for 26/27.
- Lettings & termination procedures.
- Committee membership (filling the current vacancy).
- Constitution.

The site meeting to St Julian's self-managed allotments has not been arranged yet, as soon as a date has been organised, members of the working group and the tenants committee will be notified.

3.2 Carol Service

Members agreed that this years Carol Service will be 7pm, Thursday 10th December (subject to the agreement of the Vicar at St Johns Church).

3.3 Repair Café

Members discussed the very successful first Repair Café, which was held between 11-1pm on Saturday 24th of January. The next event is February the 21st February at the earlier time of 10-12pm; there is an event planned every month between 11-1pm, except December in Tydu Community Hall:-

28th March
25th April
23rd May
27th June
25th July
22nd August
26th September
24th October
28th November

Members also discussed:-

- Refreshments being available.
- The volunteers.
- The pop un recycling event, possible planned for the March Repair Café event.
- Skills available, such as cycle repair, textiles etc.
- Fix it February.
- The events social media page.
- The events team email - rogerstoneccevents@gmail.com
- Children's activities.
- Skill sharing
- Gardening.
- Planned Sunflower event.
- Repair Café Wales website - <https://repaircafewales.org/>

3.4 Schools Competition

The Deputy Chairman discussed this year's school competition, the questions will be –

- What qualities do you think would make a person suitable to be a member of Senedd (MS) and do you think that you would make a good MS in the future?
- The Senedd manage the spend of a large amount of money each year: What do you think is the most important thing to spend this money on and why?
- If the First Minister of Wales was invited to your school to answer questions: What question would you like to ask the First Minister?

The winner from each school will receive a prize of £30.00, with the overall winner receiving a prize of £50.00. For this year the plaque will go to the school, who working together come up with the best idea that could improve life in Wales.

Members thanked the Deputy Chairman for arranging this again for the schools.

3.5 Casual Vacancy - West Ward

The Clerk advised that no call for an election has been made, therefore members can co-opt to the vacancy.

It was agreed:-

- To place the notice of the casual vacancy on the website and noticeboards in the West Ward.
- That members will advertise the vacancy on social media.
- The 15th of March is the closing date for applications.
- To hold informal interviews at 6pm, before the April 1st meeting, (or earlier, if there are a large number of applications)

3.6 Playground Working Group Meeting 14.1.26

Members discussed:-

- The Clerks contact with GAVO.
- The National Lottery Community Fund still being the best option for the funding of the proposed new park.
- The initial expression of interest, which has been submitted to the National Lottery.
- Ribbon cutting, goody bags and an opening event, which could be covered by the contractor.
- Vandalism in other parks.
- CCTV
- Fencing
- Grounds staff and wardens.
- Location of the new park.
- The excellent presentation given by Louis Morgan on skateboard/BMX/pump track facilities in the grounds, which members were enthusiastic about.
- No detailed proposals being submitted
- No information on costs for a facility or maintenance requirements.
- Parking.
- Areas that do not have a covenant on the land in the grounds.
- The land that the current play park is on and perhaps placing picnic benches on there once the current play items have been removed.
- Skateboard and tracks already in Newport and the surrounding areas.

Members agreed:-

- To focus on the new playground and funding .
- To possibly consider other facilities when the playground project is finalised, subject to proper plans, costs, and funding proposals being submitted.

4. POLICE MATTERS

Discussed earlier.

5. CLERKS REPORT

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Land – High Cross Open Space

Following discussion, members agreed:-

- To accept the transfer of an area of land owned by the Newport Fugitives Club for formal incorporation into High Cross Open Space, subject to any legal costs being met.

River Ebbw Erosion– Footpath Diversion

The Clerk outlined a proposal from Newport City Council to relocate the PROW that was closed recently by an emergency order (members were sent the details at the time). The proposal is to move the path to the other side of the tree line and through the open welfare grounds, which will be much safer than walking next to the collapsing riverbank.

Members discussed :-

- The surfacing.
- Use by runners and cyclists.
- Alternative routes.
- Tree work.
- Increasing riverbank erosion.
- Members walking the area to familiarise themselves.
- Pros and cons of the diversion.
- Maintenance responsibility (Newport City Council)

Members approved the diversion in principle subject to seeing and approving:-

- A detailed route plan.
- Entry and exit point details.
- Safety & risk assessments
- Proposed signage and surfacing.
- The extent of any tree work

7. **ACCOUNTS**

Accounts RCC

OCD	
Cleaning, hall and outside toilets	£ 829.92
Nathan Evans Ltd	
Payroll	£ 114.00
Xero	£ 35.52
ZOOM	
Monthly fee	£ 16.79
VODAFONE	
Broadband	£ 29.42
S. DAVIES	
Drainforce Ltd. – grounds – drains unblocked (hall toilets)	
Sunday call out.	£ 250.00
FUEL GENIE	
Van & machinery fuel	£ 200.01
OCTOPUS	
Gas – hall/changing rooms, Electric – all buildings inc Glade Café (Dec)	£ 922.60
AVIVA	
Van insurance x 2	£2232.88
NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL	
Bins	£ 289.00
SCREWFIX	
Grounds tools & sundries	£ 4.09
LEE TECH	
4/12/25 fix leak on women's toilet basin, change fibre washer on tap connector	£ 72.00
CW TESTING	
PAT testing hall, grounds, outbuildings	£ 91.99
RING	
Annual ring plan hall	£ 79.99
EUROFFICE	
Stationary, toilet rolls, bin bags, tea towels, cloths	£ 142.54

T. Carter
Trago Mills, Tesco, Lidl
Brushes for hall (5), refreshments £ 30.36

Other
Amazon £25.49 – solar panel (later refunded)
Adobe software £29.96 (later refunded)

Accounts JP

NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL
Bins £ 289.00

ROYAL MAIL
Stamp, return of HMRC cheque £ 1.70

NATHAN EVANS
Account fees £ 240.00

Martyn Jones Gardening
One off cut Jubilee Park £ 410.00

EUROFFICE
Paper & envelopes £ 40.22

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 Cefn Wood Footpath

The Clerk advised that there has been a complaint about the PROW on High Cross Open Space, from the top of the field and through Cefn Wood. This is the Community Councils land, however PROWs are the responsibility of Newport City Council, who have confirmed that the path generally complies with regulations for a PROW. Members sympathise with the resident as the area (like many others) becomes wet and muddy during bad weather.

9.2 Glade Café Development/Upgrade

Members discussed:-

- The new Gazebo, soon to be erected, (costs, ownership, maintenance responsibility, and payback arrangements)
- Grant funding obtained by the Glade proprietors.

- The planned electrical upgrade to the hut to facilitate anticipated increased usage by customers (to be paid for by the Glade).
- Planning design and fees.
- Annual rental increase in April (RPI)
- Reviewing the rent annually.
- Current lease.

Members agreed:-

- To waive Standing Orders and offer the Glade a new 5 year lease to enable them to recoup the cost of improvements.
- To increase the rent CPI from April 1st and to review the rent annually.
- To pay the electrical upgrade bill, which the Glade will reimburse (less VAT) within 4 weeks maximum.
- To pay the planning and design fees, subject to transfer of the gazebo ownership at the end of the new lease.

9.3 Events

Members discussed the events planned:-

- Sunflower trail planting in the grounds - Saturday 4th April and Saturday 11th April 10am – 12noon.
- Festival 21.6.26 – Welfare Grounds
- Remembrance Sunday 8.11.26 – St Johns Church
- Carol Service 10.12.26 7pm - St Johns Church
- Repair Cafes (discussed earlier).

There is also a children's football festival planned by Rogerstone Rangers for the 5th of July.

10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

School Governor -Rogerstone Primary School

Councillor J. Reynolds was nominated and approved to be reappointed as school governor of Rogerstone Primary School.

A member asked about school governor vacancies at Mount Pleasant and was advised that there are none at the moment.

Risca Road

Members discussed a complaint regarding an advertising board on a residents land, which reportedly blocks the view of oncoming traffic. It was agreed that this would be a matter for Highways at Newport City Council, though it was thought that this particular board has had approval from the City Council.

11. NEXT MEETING

Allotment Working Group Meeting 25th February 2026 at 6pm
Council Meeting March 4th 2026 at 7pm.