ROGERSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCILS MEETING HELD AT TYDU COMMUNITY HALL 7TH OCTOBER 2026

Members present:-

Chairperson:-	Councillor C Larcombe
Councillors:-	S. Bowen, S. Jones, J. Gibbons, P. Smith, L. Gray. Y Forsey K. Gray, A. Hobbs. R. Lloyd, J. Reynolds, D. Mlewa.
Apologies for absence:-	B Davies, G. Foley.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations at this point in the meeting.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held 2nd September 2026 were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Playground

The Deputy Chairman, Councillor S. Bowen advised that the application to the National Lottery for the new playground has unfortunately been unsuccessful. Members were extremely disappointed and questioned the reason for this. Members were advised that the application was refused as Rogerstone is not recognised as an area of depravation.
The following was discussed: -

- The full application that was submitted on behalf of the Council by the Deputy Chairman, which the Clerk confirmed was complete.
- Asking a representative of the lottery panel to attend a meeting to discuss in full the reason for rejection, so that members can provide further information and perhaps resubmit.
- Areas in Rogerstone, which may be classed as deprived and overlooked by the lottery panel.
- Data that may have been used regarding Rogerstone.
- Affluent areas that have benefited by lottery funding.
- Previous discussions regarding alternative funding, such as, a loan/funding from NCC / fund raising/ smaller grants/ setting aside an annual sum until the target reached etc.

Members thanked the Deputy Chairman, Councillor S. Bowen, for all his time and effort in completing the application, and it was agreed to invite a lottery panel representative involved with the decision to attend a meeting with members.

3.2 Repair Café

The next event is at Tydu Community Hall 10-1pm 24th of October 2026 .

The following was discussed:-

- Proposed workshops at the Repair Café, which are open to all suggestions and types of skills; people are encouraged to get in touch with the events team.
- Workshops that were suggested were, water management, household management, textiles, and bikes.
- Newport Ecofest on the 17th of October 10:00 - 15:00 at the Riverfront Theatre, Kingsway, Newport. (The events team members will be attending to distribute leaflets).
- The GAVO Newport team is taking its support directly into the heart of Rogerstone this winter, offering local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations a new opportunity to connect, collaborate and grow. They will be attending the following Repair Cafes in Rogerstone 28 November/ 23 January 2027/ 27 February 2027 /24 April 2027. Advertising will be undertaken by GAVO, as well as the Repair Café nearer to the date. The information will also be posted in noticeboards and the website and members agreed to spread the word.

Members also discussed plans for the 2027 Festival.

3.3 Scarecrow Trail

Members were updated on the progress of the Scarecrow Trail (full details on the Clerks Report & September minutes).

- The event is going well and there is a lot of community interest.
- There have been a number of entries, with the closing date on the 20th of October.
- Schools and businesses will be taking part.
- There will be prizes for the winners.
- The competition will run over the half term

3.4 Remembrance Sunday

The schedule for the day:-
10.10am: Assemble at Rogerstone Library (or meet at St John's Church at 10.45am as below).
10.25am: Observe Remembrance at the Village War Memorial (inside the library; limited space available). A representative of the Community Council and representatives of the Royal British Legion will place wreaths. Representatives of Uniformed Organisations are invited to attend (within the Library Building).
Following this, those present will make their own way safely to St. John's Church.
10.45am: Arrive at the War Memorial in St John's churchyard; the Vicar will begin with a prayer, this will be followed by wreath laying, the roll call and the Last Post.
11.00am: Observe two-minute silence, followed by the Reveille and release of white doves
11.05am: Service of Remembrance inside St John's Church.
11.45am: Those present at the service are invited to make their way to the Loading Bay Café, Faith Church, Wern Industrial Estate, Rogerstone, NP10 9FQ where complimentary refreshments are available from 12pm

Members discussed the regular local shoot, that caused noise issues last year.

The Chairman advised that St John's Church are hoping to start streaming some of their services and would like to start with the Remembrance Day Service at St John's Rogerstone on Sunday 8th November. They already have YouTube channel, but need 50 subscribers to livestream. Members were invited to subscribe so the service can be offered.

3.5 Lliswerry Runners

The Clerk advised that the date for the event has been agreed as 29.11.26

3.6 Christmas Tree & Lights

Members discussed the tree and lighting proposals:-

- The tree for the grounds will be placed in a permanent socket to the side of the hall with access to new electrical connections.
- Advice was taken from a tree specialist regarding a living tree, and it was suggested that a 10ft living tree, planted is unlikely to survive, a 3ft tree (which is not large enough) has a better chance of survival.
- A cut tree will be used.

3.7 Replacement of Water Heating System at Tydu Community Hall

Members were advised that the replacement water heating system (discussed at the last meeting) is now up and running and was procured within budget estimates

3.8 Uplands Court – Tree/Wall

The Clerk advised that the Land Registry shows that the wall discussed at the last meeting, does not belong to the Community Council. Members discussed this at length, and it was agreed that the tree was likely self seeded and not planted by the Community Council. The Clerk agreed to advise Uplands Court accordingly.

3.9 E Bikes

At the last meeting, members discussed issues with e bikes being used dangerously in the Welfare Grounds and other areas of Rogerstone and it was agreed that this is a police matter.
Members discussed this further and agreed that the situation is not improving at all in Rogerstone and suggested the police should be more pro-active in resolving this potentially dangerous issue. It was agreed that this topic be discussed at the next meeting, when the police are anticipated to attend.

3.10 Revetment Works

The Clerk updated members on the ongoing revetment works at Jubilee Park, which are progressing on programme.

4. POLICE MATTERS

The new Sergeant Connie Brown was invited to the meeting however, no response has been received.

Members are in receipt of the latest Police Report.

5. CLERKS REPORT

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Request for assistance, in the event of an emergency — use of hall space — Tregwilym Lodge Nursing Home

Members were in receipt of the above request to utilise Tydu Community Hall as an emergency short term refuge in case of emergency.
Following consideration, members approved the request in principle, subject to seeing & agreeing the detailed procedures for relocating residents, a full risk assessment & the maximum duration of the stay.

6.2 Remuneration Panel 2026/27

Members discussed the above correspondence with payments being made as previously and at the end of the financial year.

7. ACCOUNTS

Members approved the following –

RCC

OCD	
Cleaning, hall and outside toilets August	£ 829.92
Cleaning, hall and outside toilets September	£ 734.16
NATHAN EVANS LTD	
Payroll Aug	£ 114.00
Payroll Sept	£ 114.00
Xero Aug	£ 35.52
Xero Sept	£ 37.44
ZOOM	
Monthly fee	£ 16.79
VODAFONE	
Broadband	£ 33.50
NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL	
Bins	£ 258.23
Summer bedding	£3303.60
STEVE DAVIES	
S. W. locksmiths	£ 36.35
DVLA	
Tax electric van	£ 360.00

Tax diesel van	£ 360.00
SCREWFIX	
Grounds tools and sundries	£ 143.17
Grounds tools and sundries	£ 126.90
FUEL GENIE	
Fuel	£ 143.61
OCTOPUS	
Gas & electric (hall, café, hut, garage, toilets)	£ 319.41
Gas & electric (hall, café, hut, garage, toilets)	£ 258.34
TED HOPKINS	
Stop plug, sundries and environ	£ 68.21
T. CARTER	
Lidl/Tesco refreshments	£ 9.26
REGEN AMENITY	
Grounds chemicals and seeds	£1502.20
Grounds chemicals and seeds	£ 485.10
AMAZON	
3 clocks & batteries (hall), Ring batteries and chargers, house & hall	£ 67.31
LEE TECH	
Gas safety inspection boiler service hall & house, fix leak ladies toilets hall, water heater inspection.	£ 480.00
Renew waste & pipes ladies toilets	£ 162.00
EUROFFICE	
Toilet rolls grounds	£ 241.08
MARTYNS GARDENING	
Wildflower meadow banking strimmed	£ 250.00
EZEE FIT TYRES	
Full service, parts, labour & MOT diesel van.	£ 857.50
URBAN TREES (N. D. Davies)	
Fell and remove dead sycamore tree - grounds	£ 780.00
CYAN TEAK FURNITURE	
Memorial bench (paid for by resident) (£40 refund received)	£ 592.50

JP

NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL	
Bins	£ 258.23
NATHAN EVANS	
Account fees Aug	£ 240.00
Account fees Sept	£ 240.00
Companies House fees	£ 80.00
MARTYNS GARDENING SERVICES	
Grass cutting JP August	£3500.00
Grass cutting JP September	£3500.00
LEWIS LEWIS	
Consultancy fees revetment works	£1824.00
GRIFFITHS	
Revetment works	£53884.95
URBAN TREES (N. D. Davies)	
Willow tree removal Jubilee Park	£ 260.00
T. CARTER	
VOXI Sept CA	£ 10.00

8. PLANNING

Members discussed planning applications received by the Planning Committee and the pre planning consultation from HR Developments, regarding the proposed redevelopment of Former Principality House, Western Valley Road, Rogerstone, Newport

9. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS

9.1 Wales Audit 2025-2026

Members were in receipt of the completed Annual Return 2025/2026 from Wales Audit, (appendix 1), and were pleased with the unqualified result. This will be posted on the website, along with the necessary notices.

Members briefly discussed issues with previous audits conducted by Wales Audit.

9.2 Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2026

Members were in receipt of the above documentation, and following consideration, approved the NJC 3.30% annual wage increase for staff, backdated to April 1st 2026.

10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

10.1 School Governors

Mount Pleasant Primary School

Councillor S. Jones term of office has come to an end. Members voted that Councillor S. Jones is appointed to return for another term as Community Council School Governor.

Members discussed other vacancies for a Community Governor at Mount Pleasant Primary School.

Rogerstone Primary School

Members discussed vacancies for Governors at Rogerstone Primary School.

Community Council - School Governors

Members discussed:-

- The different ways that people can become School Governors.
- The role and responsibilities of a School Governor and it was suggested that members can find this information on the school websites, as well as on the Newport City Council website.
- Having a written quarterly update from Community Council School Governors.
- Rogerstone Community Council not being notified directly of vacancies, though it was noted they are the schools websites.

It was agreed that the Community Council appointed School Governors will submit a quarterly report to members in February and September of each year.

10.2 Anti Social Behaviour

Members discussed correspondence regarding anti-social behaviour and grounds damage at Jubilee Park.

The following was discussed:-

- A member spoke about his personal feelings at length on the matter, and stated that he believed this was a class issue and connected to residents dislike of the social housing on the estate.
- A member spoke about an alleged incident whereby an adult threatened a child who was digging holes in areas on the estate. This was discussed previously, and members suggested this should have be reported to the police at the time of the incident.
- Damage being done to grounds at Jubilee Park, by children digging holes in areas, which residents are entitled to complain about.
- The annual maintenance fee residents pay for unadopted areas.
- Alleged verbal abuse by children/adults.
- Jubilee Park Management Company's duty of care to repair any damage to mitigate any potential accidents.

- A member reiterated his aspiration for the Community Council to provide a pump track / bmx / skateboard facility in the area, but does recognise the financial challenge of doing so.
- Members discussed the previous reasons for deferring this, which remain the same; members wish to prioritise a new playpark for all the residents of Rogerstone to enjoy.
- Portable ramps being provided in the Welfare Grounds were suggested.
- Health and safety, insurance, financial implications and supervision.
- Other areas in the UK with successfully run pump track and similar facilities were discussed.
- Issues where electric bikes are used on these facilities, causing damage and safety issues.
- Using the dog walking field in the grounds, which has been discussed previously but not progressed.
- Providing a tarmacked track in the Welfare Grounds, which was seen as being costly, and would need to be managed.
- Areas already provided in the Newport City area for bikes and skateboards.
- Asking Newport City Council to provide another facility and Newport Live assisting/advising.
- Funding opportunities from Hale, though it was acknowledged the total pot was thought to be approximately £50,000, but the deadline may have passed.
- Lighting provision was suggested by a member, and it was pointed out that the grounds are closed at dusk so this would not be needed.
- A member suggested swapping the playpark project to a pump track, though most members were of the mind that a playpark can be used by families with children of all ages, whereas a pump track is not likely to attract the same amount of interest.
- Public consultation.
- Allow local adults and children /teens to import soil to the area adjacent to the cricket pitch and create a temporary bike pump track which would be voluntarily supervised and managed.
- Challenges in having any sort of pump track in the grounds –
    - Cost and funding, who would apply for funding?
    - Finding an area that is not already being used in the Welfare Grounds.
    - Management, maintenance, supervision and insurance.
    - Anti social issues.
    - Electric bike issues.
    - Risk assessments

Members agreed:-

- That the anti social issue at Jubilee Park highlighted in the residents correspondence should be brought to the attention of the police at the next meeting who may be better placed to assist with this.
- General support for affordable projects that give young people somewhere safe to go, but this has to be balanced with other areas and facilities, the Community Council are unable to provide everything that is suggested, due to funding, space and other issues already highlighted at this and previous meetings.
- That the playpark is still the main priority.
- Full details of the members proposals to be circulated to all members before the next meeting which should include cost, layout/siting, supervision, insurance, maintenance, and full management proposals.

10.3 <u>Community Group Contacts</u>

A member suggested compiling a list of local groups and organisations etc., however, it was suggested most people would make an online search for this.

10.4 Funding for Christmas Lights

A request for the above from a local church was referred to the section 137 form on the website, or the Welsh Church Fund.

10.5 Warden

One of the Councils park wardens has unfortunately resigned, the position will be advertised in the usual way.

11. NEXT MEETING

Council Meeting 4th November 2026 at 7pm.