

Rhigos report- 12.02.24

Future Valleys

- Reported rocks around Rhigos roundabout
- Reported two of the tower lights not working on the small Rhigos roundabout and the roundabout before the hill to Trewaun

Abnormal load

- The load made its way through Hirwaun and up to the Industrial Estate smoothly, taking around two hours. Due to a number of factors the date of the move changed a few times. It was important for residents to have advance notice of the date and time through communication from those leading the project. We could not support the movement through the village if that was not done. We discussed the move with the companies involved and asked them to extend their letter reach, which they did.
- On the day we that the buses would not be servicing Hirwaun, Penderyn and Rhigos during the move. After the move, the haulage company got in touch with Stagecoach to make them aware that they had moved to site.

Save Rhigos Primary School

There is currently a statutory notice period taking place. Any person is able to object to the closure of Rhigos Primary School. A group of us contributed to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, which gave other councillors the opportunity to refer the decision back to the Labour Cabinet. Unfortunately, all Labour councillors decided not to refer this back to them. This is the last opportunity for us to object to the closure of Rhigos Primary, not just for the children and teachers, but for the wider community of Rhigos.

Revised Local Development Plan (Preferred Strategy)

- The LDP is the statutory land-use planning document for the County Borough (excluding the area in the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority). It identifies where development should take place and sets out planning policies on numerous topics, which then form the basis for decisions on planning applications.
- We asked where the future train stations for Hirwaun and Rhigos would be located, as proposed in this document. We asked if residents and councillors would be consulted on this too.
- And we expressed that village businesses need extra support in future. Local businesses are given limited support, despite having to put up with the disruptions of the roadworks and financial pressures.
- The land South of Hirwaun has been designated as a Potential Key Site. Being allocated for employment, tourism and the re-establishment of biodiversity and natural habitats.
- There will be a public consultation across RCT at a later date.

Storms/flooding

- Shared several flood alerts and weather warnings (with important numbers and webpage links to report issues).
- Contacted RCT after being informed that a tree had fallen, blocking the highway, just outside of Rhigos.
- Reported flooding on the road, after the cattle grid, before Tower site.
- Requested drains to be checked and cleared:
 - ~ Drains from Clydfan Bungalow to the crossroads.
 - ~ On the road to Pontwalby from Rhigos
 - ~ The drain in the dip at the road from the village to the rugby club needs clearing. There is often a car parked over it.
 - ~ The drain opposite Werfa farm and at Ty Pennant bungalow.
 - ~ A lot of water builds up on the road near the cemetery and near Tramways.

Streetcare

- Requested the fence opposite the community centre be repaired

Highways

- Requested traffic lines to be re-painted in the Rhigos estate
- Requested the pavement and road be cleaned from the Future Valleys boundary (Rhigos roundabouts) to the Hirwaun Industrial Estate roundabout.
- Requested resurfacing on the Vole Road., it is breaking up in several places.
- Requested trees on the Vole Road to be trimmed back from the Highway- "The last image shows some willow growing from the verge and across the road near chapel road, Penderyn, these could be cut back to give height clearance, however it is growing from unregistered land.
The rest of the vole road appears to be within the height parameters of clearance for the highway, but the findings and photographs have been passed onto the principal tree officer to schedule in remedial work required, as soon as practicably possible."
- Reported a broken fence opposite the Rhigos Cemetery- "I have attended to inspect the fence at this location, It was put in place as accommodation works when the highway was constructed and ownership would revert back to the land owner, It is not intended to control livestock and it is the land owners responsibility to ensure their boundary fences are stock proof."

Issue reported to NRW

Reported the burning of waste and dumping into a local river, between Rhigos and Pontwalby. Neath Port Talbot Council has been contacted as well.

Buses

- The £1 maximum single fare has been re-introduced between February 12th-18th. Only for journeys that begin and end within RCT.
- Requested if the public buses could pass through Croesbychan and Crematorium Road- "The 9 Service is run commercially by Stagecoach who register the routes and the Council have little or

no influence on how these routes are operated. Stagecoach have advised the Council that they see no advantage in re-routing through these areas where there are little or no passenger travel, it will also add time onto journeys which are currently struggling to keep to their timetable due to ongoing works on the A465.”

Royal Mail

We were informed of a post box that needs replacing on Smith’s Avenue, Royal Mail needs to be contacted.

Questions to Council

January

- “It is a concern that many roads in RCT are patched over rather than given the much-needed investment of resurfacing. Can the relevant Cabinet Member share what support is available to residents when their vehicle is damaged on a Council maintained road due to its condition?”

February

- “Can the relevant Cabinet Member share how this Council has invested in recreational activity for young residents in the Hirwaun, Penderyn and Rhigos ward please?” The Cabinet Member listed the works that have been carried out. It was also an opportunity for us to raise our concerns that even though there has been investment, without lighting in some recreational areas, residents can not make full use of the investment which would benefit their health and well-being.
- “Has this council formally evaluated the publics’ views on the value of consultation exercises undertaken by the Council?”