

Cyngor Cymuned  
Rhigos

Community Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Rhigos Community council

Held at Rhigos Community Centre

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 6:45

Present: -

Cllrs- P.Oliver (Chair) M.G.Evans (Vice chair) , H.Wagner, E.Thomas, M.Smith, A.Tobin,  
County Cllrs A.Rogers, K.Morgan

Clerk Alison Williams

Apologies: Cllrs - O.Morgan, S.Oliver , C.Simons

**Ask a question by a member of the public**

BESS application for installation at Mount Road.

- a. The official planning application has now been submitted with a deadline for responses 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025. AC asked what the Community Council response would be to the planning application for the BESS at Mount Road .Would they be objecting to this and if not why not.

**Declaration of interest**

Cllr. M Evans declared an interest and left the meeting at this point.

**Discussion**

EKM had contacted Brecon Beacons National Park and they were concerned that they had not received the official application . Residents on the other side of the proposed site (Pontwalby side ) have not had any notice of this and no letter.Theeeweere no notices posted on the They are half way down the Glynneath bank and in Neath CC. She has also sent a letter to the Community Councillor for Ponwalby and Pontneathvaughan (Powys). The Clerk for this area is Susan Harvey Powell and her email address was given by the Clerk.

There are many reasons that the residents were concerned about ;-

Road safety – The entrance to Mount road is a very sharp turn and bigger vehicles e.g. buses/ lorries have issues turning in.They have to cross over the central line into the opposite lane to turn in .There are cars parked on the left hand side and the brow of the hill is shortly after that so vision is limited. This coupled with the speed of traffic coming from Smiths Avenue and Glynneath is an accident waiting to happen and this has happened in the past putting residents at risk.

The vision splay in and out of Cefn Farm is also limited and therefore there is risk of accidents here also .There is only one entrance and not two entrances one in and one out. The road is not suitable for heavy vehicles. Residents have motioned for heavy vehicles to

slow down in the past and had two fingers shown to them so drivers do not take account of the fact this is a small hamlet .

The action group needs to focus on as much evidence as they can and local evidence is important as well. Safety, Fire risk, mental anguish, wildlife etc. If there are more than three objections then the application will go to the committee stage and there will be 11 committee members. Anyone can ask to speak and have five minutes each, Local members can also attend. It will be RCT that make the decision. The last matters the Community Council objected to be still passed by RCT and can also be passed by the Welsh Assembly or the UK Government.

A minister in the Welsh Assembly has raised concerns about battery storage as have members in the UK Parliament. There IS pollution and it will burn through and affect the water course. It will also affect the insurances of local residents. There has not been enough discussion about them and they are being placed all over the country which residents in villages do not want. The only issue about putting it on the Industrial estate was the cost but it should be put there. Or somewhere away from this village .

### **Decision**

The Community Councillors gave their views and voted to object to this application. The Clerk will now write a letter on their behalf to Rhondda Cynon Taf Planning Department.

- b. AC noted that there was much rubbish around the village and asked how this is being addressed.

The Community Council reports any litter to RCT at every Community Council meeting through Cllrs Morgan and Adams. Cllr Wagner also organised a litter pick and has registered with Keep Wales Tidy. There are litter pickers and red bags in the community centre and the filled red bags can be left at any RCT litter bin. If the bag is split they will not pick them up.

There has been more fly tipping and yet RCT are saying that reporting has not increased since the changes from bins to black bins.

### **Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

N.B. Cllr Evans returned to the meeting.

It was resolved to confirm the minutes.

### **2025/20 Matters Arising**

- a. The Clerk checked with the coffee morning, youth club and church sessions and they did not leave food in the cupboard at the community centre . Cllr Evans volunteered to empty it as it was attracting ants and this has now been done.
- b. The Community Clerk at Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council had sent the request for money towards the Easter eggs . The Hirwaun Community Councillors were not aware that this was done and had not agreed it.
- c. Cllr Evans had contacted Mike Cummings about the flooding and not Martin Gallimore

### **2025/21 Planning Applications**

- a. Application for BESS at Mount Road – as above Council resolved to object to this application and the Clerk will send in a letter stating the same to RCT Planning Department.
- b. Pre application consultation letter for conversion of existing Romney hut to accommodation.
- c. Pre application consultation letter Tan Y Bryn – This is the second pre application for this land and has changed considerably since the initial application which was bungalows and small house. The new plan has bigger house and less parking and the entrance has been moved. This is a concern as that will result in owners parking on the roads outside of the estate. The link that has been included cannot be accessed so residents will need to contact the applicants and ask them to remedy this. They can also contact RCT as this has to be done because the applicants have to honour the process of consultation. The plans on the RCT Planning portal are the original plans and have not been updated.

### **2025/22 County Borough Council matters**

N.B. Many of these matters have been reported numerous times.

- a. Flooding - No update other than that remedial work is being undertaken.
- b. Parish Road – No update other than Barristers are looking at the information.
- c. Potholes – Cllr Morgan did a drive around with a highways manager around the bus route and he agreed that there were parts that needed doing and he has added these onto his Capitol projects list. Heol y Graig entrance to the school, the school to Heol Esgyn, Heol Esgyn and Mount Road will now be higher priority .He suggested that this be done in four stages. He did not agree that the road at Walters met the criteria but will continue to monitor this. However he did note that some of the pavements needed work.
- d. The grass from Tan y Bryn to Gwangfryn House has not been cut again.
- e. The boards at the shop have still not been moved.
- f. There are two dead trees opposite Rhigos school and another in Penderyn at the cattle grid. Opposite Pant Garw cottage. Cllr Smith will take some photographs and send them to CCllr Morgan if he passes that way again.
- g. The road passing the old flats in Hirwaun what is happening there and when will it be completed ? Please can Tim Phillips be contacted? Other areas have all been finished.
- h. The water is still running down Heol Y Graig. Welsh water have been contacted but can this be chased up?
- i. There is litter on the main road.
- j. The grass needs cutting all around the pots and the signs and benches.
- k. A child's scooter has been dumped just as you come off the main road at the bus stop.
- l. Opposite the school some trees are marked with a red cross but have not been cut. This has been three months or more.
- m. The diversion signs around the village, are they still required?

### **2025/23 Rhigos Cemetery**

- a. None to note.

### **2025/24 Correspondence**

- a. All e-mail correspondence was received.

### **2025/25 Rhigos Allotments**

- a. None to note.

### **2025/26 Accounts**

- a. End of year accounts were noted. Croesffordd account to be removed as this is a Trust Fund and should not be included. Council resolved to agree the accounts for year ended 2024-2025 and the Clerk will now arrange to take them to Audit Wales .

### **2025/27 Member's Verbal Reports**

- a. The plant pots need replanting and Cllr Wagner has planted much of them but cannot get one conifer that has got too big out from the pot. Cllr Smith will do this and Cllr Wagner will then plant that last pot. The grass also needs cutting around the pots and this will be noted by CCllr Morgan to take back to RCT.
- b. There is still rubbish in the bin at the back at the community centre but the Clerk and Cllr Evans have now moved this with the new recycling bins and the caretaker will ensure this is put out on the next collection day.

### **2025/28 Any Other Business**

Web Cam and IT – Clerk will ask CCllr Morgan if RCT IT can assist with this.

Benches – Clerk will contact RCT again to chase up prices for the benches and the licences.

Christmas tree – Clerk will contact Hirwaun Garden centre about the cost of a real 12 foot tree to plant ready for Christmas.

Charges - To remain the same except that all groups will be charged for the use of the community hall.

War memorial – Clerk to ask RCT Council permission to place a war memorial on the land opposite the Community centre and contact the Quarry in Penderyn to ask if they would donate a stone.

Wire on the community centre – Clerk to contact BT to see if this can be removed.

Rhigos signs – The paint is now coming off the sign at Aberdare end and the Clerk will discuss with Cllr Morgan.

Standing Orders – These had been sent out prior to the meeting and Council resolved to adopt the Final One Voice Wales Standing Orders.

Councillor allowances -Those present chose not to take the allowance and signed the relevant paperwork. Those not present will be asked in the next meeting and the decisions noted together in the Decision notice for July.

### **Date of next meeting**

Monday 14th July 2025 at 6:45pm Rhigos Community Centre.

Signed

Date

Councillor Pat Oliver

