

Cyngor Cymuned
Rhigos

Community Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Rhigos Community council

Held at Rhigos Community Centre

Monday 13th April 2026 at 6:45pm

Present: -

Cllrs- P. Oliver (Chair), M.G. Evans (Vice chair), M. Smith, A. Tobin, H. Wagner, E. Thomas, Elisha Jones, C. Simons

County Cllr - A. Rogers

Apologies: -

Cllrs. - S. Oliver, O. Morgan

County Cllr. - K. Morgan,

Clerk – Alison Williams

Introductions

Ask a question by a member of the public.

a. Rhigos OAP delegation J W, MM, CD and MM asked why they had no heating when they attended 3 weeks ago and several other times it has been cold there.

Council response: This was due to a power cut the night before, that had knocked the wifi system off which unfortunately had knocked the hive system out and therefore no heat.

Apologies made. They now have the new caretaker's number to contact if there is a problem.

b. JW queried the invoice from RCC re hire of the hall and stated that they had been unable to stay for long as it was so cold in the hall on many occasions.

Council response: Explained that the clerk takes the hours from the sign in sheet and if they do not put the correct times down, she does not know. It was also pointed out that RCC had given them a grant of £500.00 towards the hire of the centre. Agreed to pay the invoice and put exact times in future.

c. MM asked CBC Adam Rogers: what could be done to stop the dog mess that is around the village, especially around where she lives? she was advised to take photos of the culprits, AR to speak to the dog warden. CD asked AR: The bus route coming from Aberdare around the housing estate only has 2 official bus stops and hasn't been updated since they changed the route of the bus several years ago. Some drivers will stop where there is not a bus stop sign others will not.

Adam will look into this, but asked residents to check if the house owners where they want a bus stop would agree to a bus stop outside their property, they would need 4 households to confirm that want a bus stop outside their homes , this would mean losing their parking spaces.

e. MM asked AR: About the business refuse been left on the street in Heol Y Gwraigfryn. It would appear that a food business is bringing home their waste to dispose of. AR asked for her to take photos of this if it happens again. AR will investigate this.

Declaration of interest

None

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held Monday 9th March 2026

It was resolved to confirm the minutes.

2026/28 Matters Arising

The landslide is opposite the bus stop on the main road.

2026/29 Planning Applications

- a. New entrance drive at Cynlais
- b. Café & Sandwich bar Tower Business Park

No objections raised to either.

2026/30 County Borough Council matters

Previously reported

- a. Again, potholes that were reported were marked in yellow and some have been filled but not all and not to a very good standard. Mount road to Parish Road is dreadful and there is no logic as to how they have been done. Some have just had tarmac dropped in the hole and some are already coming out and need filling again. The state of the roads is appalling.
- b. The green fencing at the land adjacent to the shop is still falling down and the land owner adjacent to the falling fence line is taking the land little by little and concreting it and built a retaining wall. RCT were going to find the owner of the fenced land.
- c. A concern has been raised several times about the land slippage opposite the bus stop. Still no resolution.
- d. The industrial estate maintenance is shocking and RCT were asked who is responsible and can they look at it. Information received from RCT via Adam as follows "I am aware that the overall condition of the Highway's at this location are in poor condition, but they are inspected on a three monthly basis and all actionable defects outside of our safety defect criteria are picked up and actioned accordingly during those inspections. For your information I have placed 5th Ave, 16th Ave, 17th Ave and Main Avenue along with various footpaths on the list for consideration of resurfacing within the capital program."
- e. The three-lane road that comes up to the main Rhigos roundabout is still not finished. When will this be done? It is the only piece of the duelling not completed.
- f. Again, the drainage along Glynneath bank that was undertaken has been ruined by recent cabling works. The chippings are there but are contaminated with muck and the land drain no longer exists. This has still not been rectified.

New Matters

- a. Rubbish opposite the cemetery and the layby as you come from Hirwaun have not been collected.
- b. Rubbish has been left by WJ Bevan contractors when they dug up the road from the solar farm to National Grid by the old Hirwaun Industrial estate entrance., slabs of concrete were left by the telephone kiosk.
- c. Councillors are not happy with the boundary plan supplied by RCT re trees on the Old Glyn Neath bank, Adam will request a meeting to discuss this.
- d. Adam asked to chase the resurfacing of Heol Esgyn as this was due to be resurfaced months ago, Rhigos Road has also not been resurfaced.
- e. Maes Glas House, someone has cut back the overhanging vegetation but just left it where it fell, can we get it removed please.
- f. Longmede Park: Adam has asked RCT if this road is on the list of roads being considered for adoption. A letter signed by all residents may help.
- g. The path at the bottom of Heol y Graig and Rhigos Road, opposite the bus stop needs cutting back there is only a narrow width on which to walk it is also very slippery.
- h. The footpath opposite Plas Newydd bungalow also needs cutting back and cleansing.
- i. Questions over ownership of the land by the shop, advised to take photos of any work being carried out.
- j. Bus stop by Old Gate House, old plant pots have been dumped there, can these be removed please.
- k. The Biffa bins by the shop are being kept right by the bus stop, these should be stored within the shops ground and away from the public as they are smelling, not a nice place for the children to stand and wait for the bus.
- l. The pavement between the Rhyd House and the Rugby club needs attention.

2026/31 Cemetery

- a. The bins in the cemetery are not being used as they are intended, people are not putting rubbish in the correct bins, also someone has dumped household rubbish in the bins. Councillors will look into various options.
- b. There are diseased trees in the cemetery that need to be cut down and removed quotes need to be obtained.
- c. Councillor Jones has requested a copy of the biodiversity plan so she may add to it.
- d. MM (member of the public) asked if the cemetery gates could be painted as they are looking shabby.

2026/32 Correspondence

- a. All email correspondence passed to Council. No questions raised.

2026/33 Rhigos allotments

- a. A machine is due to attend the site to carry out maintenance on the paths and anything else that needs attention.
- b. Someone from Tonyrefail attended the site to see if it was suitable to keep bees, as it is surrounded by houses the site is not suitable.

- c. Councillor Wagner will pay rents she has collected to the clerk on her return.

2026/34 Accounts

Agreement to purchase the following: -

Hand towel dispenser
Photo frame for floor plan (fire regs)
Hand wash only sign
Hand was and liquid cleaner for floors and worktops etc.

2026/35 Member's Verbal Reports

- a. The hedge at the rear of the community centre needs to be cut back, Councillor Jones to contact Keep Wales Tidy to see if any help available re tidying the rear of the Community Centre.
- b. The zipline in the play park that was discussed previously. It was voted on by councillors and it was agreed not to proceed, the decision has been minuted.

2026/36 Any Other Business

- a. Councillor Wagner asked if the council would be agreeable to placing an advert in the new Crafty Growers schedule, this was previously known as the Hirwaun Garden show, prices: full page- £100.00, half page -£50.00, quarter page -£25.00, eighth page -£15.00. It was agreed to place an advert for half page £50.00, advertising the community centre for hire, and also what goes on there. (needs to be drafted by beginning of May) this is in hand.
- c. Agreed to the clerk contacting Richards re RL
- d. Councillors unanimously agreed that they do not want the cemetery gates opened daily, if this is a provisor to RCT erecting a sign, we will get our own for the gate.
- e. Contact with RCT re cemetery, if you are unable to arrange a meeting then please contact Councillor Jones who knows someone there.
- f. Trevallis to be emailed again by the Clerk re attendance at Community Council Meeting.
- f. Benches, can we chase please.
- g. Fire Alarm and emergency lighting test Councillors are aware; forms are in the logbook for completion by the caretaker weekly. The fire assembly point is in the park opposite the centre and has been noted on the new stickers on the wall "What to do in the event of a fire" which have been placed in the community centre by the Clerk.
9. Councillor Tobin has been asked where members of the public can see the audited accounts for the council. This is signposted on the website and at the community centre and available to view with the Clerk up until May 31st. Any requests should be made directly to the Clerk.
10. It was agreed to purchase a tub of eggshell Magnolia paint as the caretaker will paint the entrance hall.
11. All councillors were reminded that the Code of Conduct must be adhered to. Councillor S Oliver needs to sign confirming that she has read them.

HR Decisions

- a. The clerks' hours were discussed and agreed to pay the extra hours that she has worked 25/26 at the eligible rate for the time the hours were worked and via payroll.
- b. Going forward any extra hours incurred need to be agreed by councillors and signed off by the chair monthly.
- c. Councillors to review the clerk's contract.
- d. The Community Council want to thank the clerk, Mrs Alison Williams for all the extra unpaid time she has spent carrying out work for the Community council.

Date of next meeting

Monday May 11th 2026 at 6:45pm Rhigos Community Centre.

Signed

Date

Councillor Pat Oliver