CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at

Ystalyfera Development Trust and online via Zoom on

19th June 2025 at 7pm

Present

Cllr. Geraint Williams (Temporary Chair), Dan Davey (Vice-chair – late arrival) Cllrs. Ann Jenkins, Rosalyn Davies, Rhian Llewelyn, Julie Jones, Ann Lewis, Steve Thomas (online), Emyr Wyn Williams (online-late arrival)

Apologies

Name	Reason
Cllr. Simon Prothero	LOA
Cllr. Cathy James	Working
Cllr. Kim Hopkins	Working
Cllr. Rachel Townsend	Sickness
Cllr. Alun Llewelyn	Working
Cllr. Hayley Morgan	Working

		ACTION
4945.	**Welcome, Declarations of Interest and late Apologies:** The Chair and Vice-chair were both absent at the start of the meeting. Cllr G Williams was voted in to Chair the meeting in their absence. **Resolved.** Temporary Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and started the meeting at 7pm. Cllr R Davies declared an interest in item 6, Planning, as member of NPTCBC to avoid predetermination. **Resolved.**	
4946.	**Minutes of AGM, Previous Meeting & Matters Arising:** It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the AGM held on 22nd May 2025 were a correct record – **Resolved.** It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd May 2025 were a correct record – **Resolved.** **Matters Arising:** • Further to minute 4938 Matters Arising – Cllr J Jones reported that there was currently no update on the parking situation at Ynysydarren Road. She will keep Members updated. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4938 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that the materials for the netting should arrive circa 17th July. Handyperson will then install. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4938 Matters Arising – Cllr R Llewelyn reported on behalf of Cllr A Llewelyn that the officer responsible for these matters at NPTCBC is currently off on sick leave. A site inspection will be carried out as soon as he is back in work and sinkhole will be repaired. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4938 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she had liaised with Leon Vincent regarding linking to digital versions of the Community Mag and Ystalyfera Magazine on the Community Council	Cllr J Jones to liaise. Cllr A Llewelyn to liaise. Clerk to liaise.

	website. No problem with doing this. He will forward links to Clerk. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4944 Correspondence – Cllr R Llewelyn reported on behalf of Cllr A Llewelyn that outline planning permission had previously been sought at the old Broom & Wade site. It is currently being investigated by 2 different departments. NRW are also involved. Cllr S Thomas stated that the culverts there are a problem. Cllr A Llewelyn will keep Members informed of developments. **Resolved noted.**	Cllr A Llewelyn to liaise.
4947.	**Project Group** **Parks & MUGAs:** • Clerk reported that S Mattick will cut overgrowth and spray weeds at the Ystalyfera MUGA. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that Sutcliffe are going to come up with some designs for a MUGA at Carreg yr Afon Park. She will get further companies involved so that they can all provide a quote. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that the see-saw has broken again in Carreg yr Afon Park. Handyperson has taped off the equipment. She contacted Sutcliffe Play regarding this and they will give a price for a replacement spring. It was suggested that the see-saw is not fit for purpose – Clerk to raise this with Sutcliffe Play. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr R Davies reported that the fence surrounding the play area at Carreg yr Afon Park has broken again. She stated that the fence was put up many years ago by the then Pontardawe Council. Ownership of the fence is unclear. Clerk will ask Trustees for a copy of the lease. Cllr EW Williams suggested moving the gate entrance to the play area to where the fence is broken, as it seems that youngsters are breaking the fence to gain quicker entry to the park. It could be possible to have 2 gated entrances. Members thought this was a good idea. Cllr S Thomas offered to liaise with James Bayliss about completing this work as he has completed excellent work for Council in the past and does a good job of grass-cutting etc. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that Our Tree Company will complete the works at Alltygrug Park ASAP. They apologised for the delay – they have had lots of work on at the same time. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr R Llewelyn highlighted some works that need carrying out at Alltygrug Park – path works (paths are breaking up in parts and covered in grass), and the fence needs replacing/painting/repair. It was suggested that James Bayliss provide a quote for the path works and painting in the first instance. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that she had spoken to Cooke & Arkwright regarding the lease of Alltygrug Park. C Hyde is now dealing with the enquiry, and he will ask the Ynyscedwyn Estate if they would be willing to offer a longer lease of 10-25 years. Cllr J Jones asked if the estate would consider gifting it to the Community Council. Clerk will raise this. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr R Llewelyn reported that Penyrallt Park is looking quite good. School pupils have been picking up litter at the park. Members were pleased with this and thanked the school pupils. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that ChatGPT didn't find any suitable funding at the moment – but she will continue to check over the coming months. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Cllr S Thomas to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to check.

	• Cllr EW Williams reported that he had visited Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera with Cllr J Jones and the school are very keen to help with volunteering at Godre'r Graig Country Park. L Williams and E Evans stated that some pupils can help before the summer holidays, but they will look to include it as part of their plans for the Welsh Bac from September. It was suggested that the group leaders may need to have DBS checks in preparation for September. Cllr J Jones suggested that the group may have a teacher with them anyway, but this be checked. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to arrange DBS checks if necessary.
	• Cllr EW Williams reported that he has not yet had a response from Cwmtawe Community School. He will follow up on this. **Resolved noted.**	Cllr EW Williams to liaise.
	Christmas 2025	
	• Clerk reported that A Gough had been in touch, and he has confirmed that he will order the garlands, and 4 other decorations as requested. He stated that he 'has it all in hand' and Council need not be concerned – there will be decorations ready for December. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise.
	• Clerk reported that she will start filling out the forms for the Christmas event and lighting shortly so that they are ready to submit at the start of September. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to complete forms.
	Remembrance Sunday 2025	
	• Clerk asked Members of they wanted to go ahead with the event again this year. Members confirmed that the event was important in the annual calendar, and although expensive due to road closures, is worth doing for the community. **Resolved that the event go ahead.**	
	• Clerk confirmed that she will complete event forms for NPTCBC and book road closure with Core Highways. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to complete forms & book road closure.
	• Cllr R Llewelyn suggested that instead of a buffet, hot dogs with onions and bread rolls be served. This would be cheaper than a buffet and Cllr R Llewelyn stated that she is happy to prepare the hot dogs. Cllr S Thomas stated that he will also be happy to help. Cllr J Jones suggested having vegetarian sausages as well as an option. Members thought this was a great idea. **Resolved noted.**	Cllrs R Llewelyn & S Thomas to prepare hot dogs at event.
	Bunting	
	• Cllr EW Williams reported that the bunting Council had purchased for the Urdd Eisteddfod had gone. Members were not overly concerned with regards to this as they had wanted to make a donation to the Eisteddfod anyway. **Resolved noted.**	
	Tennis Courts	
	• Cllr R Llewelyn reported that the tennis lessons had started. Cllr A Jenkins reported that there were lots of young people there yesterday. A lot of the balls ended up on the bowling green but didn't cause damage. She stated that some young people have tried climbing the fence to retrieve balls – Members were concerned by this and suggested the situation be monitored. **Resolved noted.**	Cllr A Jenkins to keep an eye on if this happens again.
	• Clerk reported that she is awaiting a bill for the lessons from NPTCBC. She will pay it once it arrives as previously agreed. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to pay bill.

	Planters • Clerk reported that the Planters and baskets are starting to bloom. They look good. S Nicholls managed to put the trough that used to be on the Godre'r Graig signs at the lights (posts have been removed by NPTCBC) on the sign for the Miner's Memorial instead. It looks very nice on the sign. Members were pleased with this news. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr J Jones reported that in Clydach, the businesses sponsor the planters. She suggested that this could be looked at next year. It was stated that there are not so many businesses in Ystalyfera so this may be difficult. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that the planter at the bus stop in Cilmaengwyn has been vandalised. Plants were thrown down the bank. Members were disappointed by this news. The lady that waters the planter stated that there may be enough plants in there for now. **Resolved noted.** **Volunteer Awards 2025** • Clerk reported that she has not received any communication from Gemma Richards, NPTCVS regarding their awards. Clerk will follow up on this. **Resolved noted.** • It was reported that Clydach Community Council have held an awards ceremony as well. Clerk will contact Clydach CC Clerk to find out more. **Resolved noted.** • It was suggested that the awards be held during February 2026. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to monitor. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to contact.
4948.	**Strategic Partnerships** • It was suggested that Ynysmeudwy FC and Ystalyfera Bowls Club be looked at in the next meeting of Council. **Resolved noted.** • It was also suggested that Godre'r Graig AFC, Ju Jitsu group and Park Run be considered in the September meeting. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise with groups.
4949.	**Finance** • Clerk reported that she has received an even cheaper deal for the Council's Business Broadband for the Community Hall from Daisy Communications XLN Broadband for £27.95 + VAT per month. Members were pleased with this and agreed to move provider. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that the internal audit of accounts and 2024-25 documents had been completed by Fergusons and Peters. **Resolved.** • Clerk presented the Financial Statement and Annual Return for 2024-25 to Council. She read out the Internal Audit report and explained variances. **Resolved** that Annual Return was approved by Council and signed by Vice-chair and Clerk. • Clerk reported that she will prepare documents for the External Audit in due course. **Resolved noted.** **Accounts: RESOLVED** 043 DD NPTCBC Hall Council Tax £312.00 044 PP eBay - litter picker, bags, gloves £25.90 045 BACS S Nicholls - Summer Planting £2,700.00 046 BACS Net World Sports - Netting for MUGA £552.00 047 BACS James Bayliss – grass cutting £1,375.00 048 BACS SSE - Godre'r Graig MUGA £138.19 049 BACS E-ON Gas £67.14	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to prepare. Clerk to make BACS payments.

	050	BACS	BT Broadband	£68.48	
	051	BACS	Online Playgrounds - Net, mulch repair kit etc	£238.56	
	052	PP	PayPal Lebara Mobile - Caretaker's Phone	£5.00	
	053-56	BACS	Staff Wages & Expenses	£2,915.61	
	057	BACS	HMRC Tax & NI	£473.70	
	058	BACS	City & County Swansea Pensions	£597.29	
	059	BACS	ROSPA Playsafety Limited	£801.60	
	060	BACS	LA Alarms - annual maintenance	£90.00	
4950.	**Planning –** there were no applications for review. **Resolved noted.**				Clerk to liaise with NPTCBC.
4951.	**Community Hall** • Clerk reported that there had been a problem with the Gents outer toilet door. It had jammed shut. Handyperson has removed handle and will fit a new one. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that there is still no interest in the old chairs in the hall. It was suggested that a skip be ordered. **Resolved noted.** • Handyperson has fixed the Ladies toilet door. **Resolved noted.** • It was stated that the general cleanliness of the hall needs improvement. **Resolved** that Clerk raise this with Caretaker once she returns from holiday.				Clerk to liaise. Clerk to order. Clerk to liaise.
4952.	**Correspondence** • Sovereign Play – dates for installation of climbing wall and timber trail will be after the Summer holidays due to high demand and contractor workload. Members were disappointed with this news. **Resolved noted.** • C Griffiths, NPTCBC – asking for permission for an independent Member of the Standards Committee be permitted to attend a future Council meeting. Members were happy to agree the attendance. **Resolved noted.** • YDT – request as to who they should pay the £300 donation for tennis lessons to. Clerk has emailed Carwyn to find out. **Resolved noted.** • C Hyde – Alltygrug Park lease. Ongoing. **Resolved noted.** • D Evans, Coleg Sir Gar – training available i.e. chainsaw use, pesticide application, first aid, rodent control, brush cutter & strimmer training etc. It was suggested that Clerk ask Handyperson if any of the training would be relevant to his work, and if so, training place be booked. **Resolved noted.** • NPTCBC Heritage Grant – Cllr R Davies reported that the response she and Cllr A Llewelyn had received stated that funds were limited, applications go up against each other and some of the sites we had highlighted were empty pieces of land. Members were disappointed by this response and asked which pieces of land could be developed as they are all within a landslide area. Cllr R Davies and A Llewelyn will respond and ask for a meeting to discuss further. **Resolved noted.**				Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Cllrs A Llewelyn and R Davies to update Members.
	The meeting ended at 8:20pm. Chair thanked all for attending the meeting. Next Meeting will be held on 17th July 2025.				