CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at

online via Zoom on 18th December 2025 at 7pm

Present

Cllr. Ann Lewis (Temporary Chair)
Cllrs. Cathy James, Ann Jenkins, Kim Hopkins, Rosalyn Davies, Julie Jones, Dan Davey (late arrival)

Apologies

Name	Reason
Cllr. Simon Prothero	LOA
Cllr. Steve Thomas	Working
Cllr. Alun Llewelyn	Personal
Cllr. Rhian Llewelyn	Personal
Cllr. Hayley Morgan	Working
Cllr. Geraint Williams	Sickness
Cllr. Emyr Wyn Williams	Personal
Cllr. Rachel Townsend	Personal

		ACTION
4988.	**Welcome, Declarations of Interest and late Apologies:** Cllr A Lewis was elected as Temporary Chair. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. She started the meeting at 7pm. Cllr R Davies declared an interest in item 6, Planning, as member of NPTCBC to avoid predetermination. **Resolved.**	
4989.	**Minutes of Previous Meeting & Matters Arising:** It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 20th November 2025 were a correct record – **Resolved.** **Matters Arising:** • Further to minute 4978 Matters Arising – good news regarding former site of Jerusalem chapel. The Presbytarians met with Members for a site meeting on Monday and stated that they will get the land valued. They agreed that the site is a blot on the landscape and that it needs redevelopment. More infomation will be passed onto Council once a valuation is sought. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4978 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that Sovereign Play have refused to move the item of equipment as they say it is within ROSPA regulations and has been signed off. They are willing to quote for it as an additional job. Members were very unhappy with this and suggested that a letter be sent to them explaining our disappointment at their lack of good customer relations. It was suggsted that quotes be sought from local contractors to move the item if Handyperson is unable to do it himslef. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4978 Matters Arising – Handyperson is moving the Defibrillator cabinets – he had had to find a way of mounting the new insulated cabinet. He will take the other one up to the bowls club as soon as possible. **Resolved noted**.	Cllrs EW Williams & R Llewelyn to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise.

	• Further to minute 4978 Matters Arising – Ceri at DR James needs a plan of the land at Prospect Place. Clerk will either search for a copy or use the Land Registry website to print a copy for her. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4978 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that Pathfinders have now taken all of their items from the old library room in the Communuity Hall. They have left the large cabinet – Clerk stated that she can use this to store some old files, and a desk. The desk is not needed, so it was suggested that it be offered on Facebook Marketplace. The room can the be marketed as a meeting room for hire with broadband facilties in the New Year. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4978 Matters Arising – Pathfinders have not taken their raised planters as yet. If they are not taken, then they could be offered to the Primary Section of Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to put ads on Facebook.
4990.	**Project Group** **Parks & MUGAs:** • Clerk reported that the spring for the see-saw in Carreg yr Afon Park will be changed in the New Year. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that Our Tree Company have apologised for the delay with Alltygrug Tree works and that these will be completed in January. The gentleman living behind would like the cut log for his fire if possible. **Resolved noted.** **Christmas 2025** • Clerk reported that she had received a phonecall at 1pm on the day of the tour to say that Santa and the trike were not going to be able to do the tour as he was ill. In the space of 2 hours, Clerk had organised a replacement Santa, outfit and towed-Sleigh. An enormous thanks to Andrew at Glantawe Landscapes for providing the sleigh at such short notice and also a huge thank you to Darrell Hopkins as well for towing the sleigh. If they had not stepped in at short notice, then the tour would have had to have been cancelled. Council is very grateful to all for helping out on the night and a special thanks to our substitute Santa who did a fantastic job! **Resolved noted.** • A big thanks to ASDA for donating 2 tubs of chocolates for the Santa Tour as well as thanks to Council Members who donated as well. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that A Gough, Centregreat stated that they have tried to fix the lights on the Cilmaengwyn tree but they are not working. They say they cannot do anything to help this year as it is too big and too close to the power lines. It is deemed too dangerous to take a cherry picker to the tree. Members were dissapointed with this news as on numerous occasions they have asked for new lights on the tree as well as extra lights. Clerk will write to A Gough to explain Council's dissapointment with this situation. It was agreed that Our Tree Company be asked to trim the tree ready for next Christmas. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr A Jenkins stated that the tree has grown so much on Farteg Road, that she had to put an extra set of lights on it. Clerk asked whether she wanted to be reimbursed for the extra lights, she declined and is happy to donate the lights. Next year the tree will need a larger set of lights. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to thank all on Facebook. Clerk to thank ASDA on Facebook. Clerk to send letter. Clerk to order new lights for next year.

	Tennis Courts • Cllr A Llewelyn has contacted Carwyn to let him know that lessons will be required next Summer at the tennis courts. **Resolved noted.**	Cllr A llewelyn to liaise.
4991.	**Finance, Budget 2026-27, Precept and Financial Assistance Grants** • Clerk reported that Council have received a qualified outcome from the Wales Audit. She explained the reasons for this and Council will take note of all comments received. **Resolved noted.**	
	Accounts: RESOLVED	Clerk to make BACS payments.
	152 DD NPTCBC Hall Council Tax £312.00 153 BACS eBay - Christmas lights £53.98 154 BACS Hedge Nursery (Xmas tree saplings) £66.60 155 BACS Cooke & Arkwright (Alltygrug Lease) £250.00 156 DD E-ON Gas £138.67 157 C J Austin - Honorarium Farteg Park £100.00 158 BACS T.A. Handford - Honorarium Alltygrug Park £100.00 159 BACS G. Griffiths - Honorarium Penyrallt Park £100.00 160 BACS P. Griffiths - Honorarium Carreg Yr Afon Park £100.00 161 BACS S. Mansell - Honorarium Parc Y Gnoll £100.00 162 BACS A. Phillips - Honorarium Ffynnon Cwmtwrch £100.00 163 BACS Ynysmeudwy FC - Honorarium GG MUGA £100.00 164 BACS S. Hopkin - Honorarium Ystalyfera MUGA £100.00 165 BACS Cllr G Williams - reimbursements lights £133.76 166 BACS D Crisp - First aid (rem. Sunday & Santa tour) £180.00 167-70 BACS Staff Wages & Expenses £2,973.11 171 BACS City & County Swansea Pensions £629.92 172 BACS HMRC Tax & NI £490.71 173 PP PayPal Lebara Mobile - Caretaker's Phone £5.00	
	Tenders 2026: RESOLVED • James Bayliss happy to accept contract for next 2 years – cost should remain rougly the same with a probable increase of 3-5%. Members were pleased with this. **Resolved.**	Clerk to liaise.
	• Sion Nicholls happy to accpet the planting contract for the next 2 years – costs should remain roughly the same with a possible increase of around 3% due to costs of plants. Members were pleased with this. **Resolved.**	Clerk to liaise.
	Financial Assistance Grants: RESOLVED **2 applications were received and awarded as follows:** • Eisteddfod Cwmtawe: £200.00 **Resolved.** • Hope Rescue: £25.00 **Resolved**	Clerk to arrange payments.
	Precept 2026-27 • Clerk explained Budget for 2026-27. Members agreed the budget. **Resolved.** • Clerk explained precept options and cost to an average Band D Council Taxpayer. Budget was considered as well as reserves. • Members agreed with the Finance Committee recommendation not to increase the Precept for 2026-27. **Resolved** that a Precept of £125,000.00 be set for 2026-27.	Clerk to inform A Hinder, NPTCBC.

4992.	**Planning** • P2025/0737 - Change of use from shop with storage above to two no. split level flats together with associated new roof light to rear and altered and new door and window openings to front, rear and side elevations - 9 Wern Road Ystalyfera Neath Port Talbot SA9 2LX – Members were concerned as to parking at the proposed new flats and would like their concerns noted. **Resolved noted.** • P2025/0820 - Proposed demolition of single storey side conservatory and proposed development of two storey side extension - 63 - 64 Gough Road Ystalyfera Neath Port Talbot SA9 2NA – no objection. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise with NPTCBC.
4993.	**Community Hall** • Finance Committee recommendations regarding keeping hall hire prices the same agreed by full Council. **Resolved.** • Finance Committee recommendations regarding charging £8 per hour for the new meeting room agreed by full Council. The rationalle behind this being that cleaning, electricity and heating will be needed and broadband services provided. **Resolved noted**.	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to advertise facility.
4994.	**Correspondence** • Informal Specific consultee consultation – Timetable for Draft Delivery Agreement SDP, Consultation – forward to Members. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr J Jones had contacted the Clerk with a letter from SSE that had been delivered to the wrong address. Clerk reported that she has contacted SSE regarding the bill of £5,000 and they explained that there had not been a meter reading for over 10 years. Clerk asked Handyperson to visit the site to cut of the lock and replace and read the meter. All is in hand and a new bill will be sent out in due course. **Resolved noted.** • James Bayliss – quote received for new gate for Carreg yr Afon play area £1,854.00. Members agreed that this was a good price as the gate itself costs more than £1,100. All agreed to go ahead with changing the gate. **Resolved noted.** • James Bayliss – quote received for path repair at Alltygrug Park £1,185.00. This would iclude cutting out tree roots and raising part of the path. Members thought this was an excellent price and agreed to go ahead with this project as soon as possible. James Bayliss – quote received for new gate for Carreg yr Afon play area £1,854.00. Members agreed that this was a good price as the gate itself costs more than £1,100. All agreed to go ahead with changing the gate. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr J Jones suggested that having a Deputy Clerk for a couple of hours per week would be a good idea, particularly when the Clerk is off sick or on holiday. Members agreed to discuss this possibility in the next meeting of Council. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to forward. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to put on agenda.
	The meeting ended at 8:35pm. Chair thanked all for attending the meeting. Next Meeting will be held on 15th January 2025.	