

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held at Cadoxton Community Centre on Monday 23 May 2022 at 6.00pm

Presiding Councillor G Morgan

Present Councillors D Jones, W Griffiths, C Williams, J Hale, A Burton, C Lewis, J Betts, S Mitchell, A M Broom, N Rabaiotti, J Harle, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, H Harry

Apologies Councillors J Fishlock, L Bromham-Nichols, Luca Rabaiotti Jones

4990 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

4991 **Appointment of Chairman**

RESOLVED that Councillor G Morgan be appointed Chairman for 2022/23, and Councillor Morgan duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chairman.

4992 **Appointment of Vice Chairman**

RESOLVED that Councillor H Harry be appointed Vice-Chairman for 2022/23, and Councillor Harry duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Vice Chairman.

4993 **Members Code of Conduct**

RESOLVED that the Members Code of Conduct be adopted by Council, and that the Clerk investigate the possibility of bespoke training for members on the Code of Conduct.

4994 **Membership of Committees**

RESOLVED that Members be elected to the following Committees as indicated –

Resources Committee – Councillors W Griffiths, J Hale, J Betts, D Jones and C Williams, with Councillors A Burton and H Harry nominated as alternate Members should the need arise.

Open Spaces Committee – That the Committee stand in abeyance and that the Chairman has discretion to convene an ad-hoc meeting involving the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Ward Councillors to discuss any specific issues that may arise.

Festivals Committee - Councillors W Griffiths, J Hale, J Harle, C Williams, A Burton, S Mitchell, L Bromham Nichols, A M Broom and Lucia Rabaiotti Jones.

Staffing Committee - Councillors J Fishlock, L Bromham-Nichols, S Mitchell and N Rabaiotti.

Appeals Committee – Councillors J Hale, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, W Griffiths and D Jones.

4995 Membership of Outside Bodies

RESOLVED that Members be elected to the following Outside Bodies as indicated –

Neath Port Talbot CBC/Community Councils Liaison Committee – Councillors D Jones and G Morgan

One Voice Wales, Neath Port Talbot Area Committee and Larger Councils Committee – Councillors J Hale and W Griffiths.

School Governing Bodies – Council representation continue as follows –

- Blaenhonddan Primary Councillor A Burton
- Bryncoch CIW Primary Councillor A Burton
- Catwg Primary Mr T Lewis
- Cilffriw Primary Ms J Cook
- Wauanceirch Primary Councillor W Griffiths

subject to the Clerk confirming that Mr T Lewis and Ms J Cook are happy to remain as governors.

4996 Income and Expenditure 2021/22

The Clerk submitted the Income and Expenditure Report for 2021/22 in advance of its submission for audit. RESOLVED that the accounts be approved and the Annual Return be signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

4997 Annual Investment Strategy 2022/23

The Clerk submitted a draft Annual Investment Strategy for 2022/23. RESOLVED that the Draft Strategy be approved and the Clerk explore the possibility of a Credit Union account.

4998 Policies and Procedures

RESOLVED that the following policies and procedures be adopted–

- Financial Regulations
- Health and Safety Policy
- Freedom of Information Scheme
- Risk Management Plan and Risk Assessment Schedule

Further RESOLVED that the proposed amendments to Standing Orders arising from the Local Government Elections (Act) 2021 be accepted and the Revised Standing Orders be adopted.

4999 Draft Annual Report 2022

RESOLVED that the Draft Annual Report for 2022 be adopted.

5000 Applications for Financial Assistance

RESOLVED that all applications for financial assistance be considered at the October and April meetings of Council, and that Council's policy of preferred support for local applications be reaffirmed.

5001 Financial Management Arrangements

RESOLVED that present arrangements be confirmed and specifically that –

- existing financial arrangements as outlined in the Annual Investment Strategy and the Clerk's Report be endorsed
- the following Members be authorised to act as bank signatories on the Council's behalf – Councillors W Griffiths, D Jones, J Hale
- Council appoint KLG Internal Audit as its Internal Auditor for a three-year period commencing 2022/23
- Council authorise payments by Direct Debit or Standing Order for utility services, telephone/internet/mobile provision, facility management charges, occasional purchases as authorised by Financial Regulations and bank charges.

5002 Member Remuneration

The Clerk indicated that the Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales had been received. He outlined its recommendations and Council's previous practice in its consideration. RESOLVED that –

- The Clerk prepare an "opt out" form regarding Member Payments and liaise with all Members on their personal decisions accordingly
- A Specific Responsibility Payment be made to the Chairman but that the Clerk prepare an "opt out" form and liaise with the Chairman on his personal decision accordingly
- Travelling expenses and subsistence payments be paid to Members for relevant duties as per current practice, on receipt of a claim form prepared by the Clerk
- A financial loss payment be paid to Members for relevant duties on receipt of a claim form prepared by the Clerk
- The Clerk prepare a form for Members to claim reimbursement of care costs in appropriate circumstances, should they wish to make a claim
- A Chairman's allowance in the sum of £500.00 be paid in 2022/23 in accordance with current practice
- No Vice-Chairperson's allowance be paid in 2022/23
- Requirements with regard to publication be adhered to and relevant payments be made as soon as practicable in the financial year.

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm.

Signed

Dated 20 June 2022

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 23 May 2022 at 7.55pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present Councillors D Jones, W Griffiths, C Williams, J Hale, A Burton, C Lewis, J Betts, S Mitchell, A M Broom, N Rabaiotti, J Harle, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, H Harry

Apologies Councillors J Fishlock, L Bromham-Nichols, Luca Rabaiotti Jones

5003 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5004 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 25 April 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 25 April 2022 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Councillor J Betts who was also present.

5005 Matters Arising

Further to Minute 4973 regarding the Social Media Policy, Members were advised that this was now on the Council's website and that arrangements for a Facebook account were in hand. RESOLVED noted.

5006 Payments – May 2022

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5007 Planning Applications

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following applications –

P2022/0262	Extensions	17 Alexander Road Rhyddings
P2022/0296	Extensions and parking changes	68 Bryn Catwg Cadoxton

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application subject to the views of the NPT CBC Arboricultural Officer —

P2022/0217	Work to TPO Trees	8 Princess Drive Waunceirch
------------	-------------------	-----------------------------

5008 Community Centre Management

1. The Clerk reported on discussions regarding the Jubilee events at Bryncoch Community Centre and confirmed that attempts were being made to accommodate the requested arrangements. RESOLVED noted.

2. The Clerk reported that a request for the loan of 8 tables from Aberdulais Community Centre to accommodate a Jubilee event in Aberdulais had been received. RESOLVED that the request be acceded to, subject to arrangements for collection and return, caretaker availability and reimbursement in the event of breakage.
3. The Clerk indicated that he had become aware of a Jubilee event planned for Caewern Park, without use of the Community Centre, but that no approach had been made to the office to allow explanation of roles and responsibilities. Members agreed to advise the organisers to contact the office. RESOLVED that the event be agreed subject to arrangements being outlined to the Clerk.
4. Councillor J Harle expressed concern about the condition of the ceiling and walls at Caewern Community Centre. The Clerk outlined that he was aware of their condition and had already initiated some repairs over a period of months, although ultimately more comprehensive improvements may be needed. RESOLVED that cosmetic improvements be undertaken as soon as practicable, and that the issue be placed for consideration when capital schemes are under consideration in the Autumn.

5009 Police Matters

There were no specific reports other than observations that PACT Meetings and “Cuppa with a Copper” had now stopped and that online reporting seemed to be effective. RESOLVED noted.

5010 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5011 Internal Audit Report

The Clerk advised Members that the Internal Auditor’s Final Report on the 2021-22 Accounts had been received and that there were no reasons as to why the Auditor could not sign the Council’s Annual Return. Four recommendations were made, some of which were already in hand and actions for dealing with the others were outlined to Council. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

5012 Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements

The Clerk summarised progress on the improvement work at Cilfrew Community Centre. He indicated that there were issues relating to the removal of an asbestos sheet and regarding proposals for the roof, both of which were currently under discussion with the Council’s architectural advisor and the contractor. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

5013 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following two items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5014 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matter arising.

5015 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5016 Correspondence

There were no items of correspondence to report.

The meeting ended at 8.43 pm.

Signed

Dated 20 June 2022

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 20 June 2022 at 6.30pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present Councillors D Jones, W Griffiths, J Hale, C Lewis, J Betts, A M Broom, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, L Bromham-Nichols, J Munro, H Harry

Apologies Councillors N Rabaiotti, J Harle, S Mitchell, A Burton, C Williams, J Fishlock

5017 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Councillor J Munro who was attending his first meeting of Council.

5018 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5019 Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 23 May 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on 23 May 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5020 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 23 May 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 23 May 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5021 Matters Arising

1. Further to Minute 4994 regarding the Resources Committee, the Clerk advised Members as to how the proposal to invite alternate Members of the Committee would be operated. RESOLVED noted.
2. Further to Minute 4995 regarding School Governors, the Clerk advised that Mr T Lewis and Ms J Cook had both indicated that they were happy to continue representing the Council. RESOLVED noted.
3. Further to Minute 5008.3 relating to the event at Caewern Park, the Clerk reported on the arrangements identified and any follow up actions that were necessary. RESOLVED noted.
4. Further to Minute 5008.4 relating to cosmetic improvements at Caewern Community Centre, the Clerk reported that these had been undertaken but that issues with the ceiling remain. RESOLVED noted.

5022 Payments – June 2022

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5023 Planning Applications

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application –

P2022/0447	Garage Conversion	2 Cae Derw Bryncoch
------------	-------------------	---------------------

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following applications subject to the views of the NPT CBC Arboricultural Officer —

P2022/0217	Amended Work to TPO Trees	8 Princess Drive Waunceirch
P2022/0455	Work to TPO Trees	8 Cloda Avenue Bryncoch

5024 Community Centre Management

There were no reports relating to Community Centre Management.

5025 Police Matters

There was a single report for information on police attendance at Cwrt Herbert following reports of drug issues. RESOLVED noted.

5026 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5027 Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements

The Clerk summarised progress on the improvement work at Cilfrew Community Centre. He indicated that discussions regarding specification changes were ongoing. He outlined a proposal to provide a small storage container for use in connection with the playing field and an offer from Groundhog Ltd to assist with its provision. Discussion took place about an open day once the work was completed, and on the proposal to improve accessibility from the main road by upgrading the bench situated on the hill. RESOLVED that the report be noted and specifically that –

- The offer from Groundhog be accepted and the Clerk agree a suitable location for the container
- Festivals Committee be convened to consider the proposal for an Open Day
- The proposal to refurbish the bench be agreed.

5028 Committee Terms of Reference

The Clerk referred to a previously circulated report outlining draft Terms of Reference for each of the Resources Committee, Staffing Committee, Appeals Committee and Festivals Committee. RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference be agreed and reported at the first meeting of the respective Committees in due course.

5029 Aberdulais Playground

Councillors D Jones and C Lewis indicated that they were in favour of Council exploring the possibility of assuming control of the Aberdulais Playground from Neath Port Talbot CBC. The Clerk indicated that, whilst this was feasible, due diligence would need to be undertaken to investigate tenure, condition, maintenance of equipment and surfacing, grounds maintenance and staffing implications. RESOLVED that the Clerk undertake the necessary investigations and report back to Council in due course, and that informal soundings also be undertaken regarding the green space which extended back towards the Community Centre.

5030 Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The Clerk referred to his previously circulated briefing note as to how the Council might discharge its duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Members considered the potential for working with the wider communities of Blaenhonddan, and RESOLVED, in the first instance, to meet as a Council on an informal basis to consider its role and a possible way forward.

5031 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following two items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5032 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matter arising.

5033 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5034 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that One Voice Wales, the Society of Local Council Clerks and Welsh Government had worked in partnership to produce The Finance and Governance Toolkit for Community and Town Councils. He outlined the purpose and nature of the toolkit and briefly summarised what it was seeking to achieve. RESOLVED that the initial stage of the toolkit be referred to the Council's Resources Committee for consideration, and that a further report be submitted to Council in due course.

The meeting ended at 8.00 pm.

Signed

Dated 18 July 2022

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 18 July 2022 at 6.30pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present Councillors D Jones, W Griffiths, J Hale, C Lewis, J Betts, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, N Rabaiotti, J Harle, Luca Rabaiotti Jones
Apologies Councillors A M Broom, S Mitchell, C Williams, L Bromham-Nichols, J Munro, H Harry, J Fishlock

5034A Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Luca Rabaiotti Jones who was attending his first meeting of Council.

5035 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5036 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 20 June 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 20 June 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5037 Matters Arising

5. Further to Minute 5021.1 regarding the Resources Committee, the Clerk advised Members that he intended to convene the first meeting during the recess. RESOLVED noted.
6. Further to Minute 5027 regarding the Festivals Committee, the Clerk indicated that a meeting was scheduled for 01 August 2022 and that the Cilfrew Community Group had expressed an interest in participating in the Cilfrew Open Day. RESOLVED noted.
7. Further to Minute 5030 relating to the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, the Clerk reported that he had identified an individual who was able to facilitate an informal meeting of Members in the first week of September to discuss ideas relating to biodiversity and sustainability. He indicated that he proposed to invite interested members of staff and was asked to include the County Borough Council Ward Member for Cadoxton. RESOLVED noted and agreed. Further RESOLVED to note that meetings at Craig Gwladus had been attended and that Councillor S Mitchell was exploring possibilities during the coming weeks which may need limited support from the Clerk.

5038 Payments – July 2022

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5039 Planning Applications

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following applications –

P2022/0513	Use of Land as Domestic Curtilage	20 Dyffryn Woods Bryncoch
P2022/0522	Dwelling	Lad adj 10 Elias Road Bryncoch
P2022/0523	Detached Garage	37 Llygad yr Haul Caewern
P2022/0536	Variation of Conditions Re Aldi Store Development	Land adj CSN Precision Engineering
P2022/0560	Front Porch	73 Rowan Tree Close
P2022/0582	Extensions	77 Fernlea Park Bryncoch

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application subject to the views of the NPT CBC Arboricultural Officer —

P2022/0601	Work to TPO Trees	9 Princess Drive Wauanceirch
------------	-------------------	------------------------------

5040 Community Centre Management

- 1 The Clerk reported that requests for additional storage had been made at three community centres, and an external hardstanding at the rear of Owain Glyndwr Community Centre. RESOLVED that –
 - The Clerk explore the potential for additional storage in the hall at Caewern Community Centre
 - Existing storage at Owain Glyndwr Community Centre be rationalised, no external storage be agreed, but that a possible hardstanding be investigated
 - Additional storage be identified in the store room at Cilfrew Community Centre once improvements have been completed.
- 2 The Clerk indicated that a request that pinboards be erected in the main hall at Owain Glyndwr Community Centre. RESOLVED that the request be not acceded to.
- 3 The Clerk outlined a request for a fridge to be installed at Caewern Community Centre. RESOLVED that the request be agreed subject to strict management of its use by hirers, and that any further similar requests at other centres be dealt with by the Clerk based on their practicality.
- 4 RESOLVED that a request for “buffing” of the floor at Caewern Community Centre be deferred for consideration once a decision on the roof had been taken, as it will require professional expertise.
- 5 Further to a series of summer events being planned at Cilfrew Playing Field, the Clerk confirmed that Community Centre facilities would not be available. Nevertheless, RESOLVED that the events be supported subject to the payment of the nominal hire charge.

5041 Police Matters

Councillor J Hale reported that as it was Anti-Social Behaviour Week, she would be accompanying the PCSO on her attendance around the Bryncoch South Ward. RESOLVED noted.

5042 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5043 Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements

The Clerk outlined the proposal from Groundhog regarding the replacement storage container for the playing field and summarised progress on the improvement work at Cilfrew Community Centre. He outlined contract variations that had been agreed in consultation with the Council’s architectural advisor, and summarised the financial implications thereof, confirming that the contract contingency had been committed. He indicated that information regarding the plumbing and heating changes were yet to be agreed and that these would involve an additional sum which would hopefully be accommodated within the overall budget agreed by Council. The Clerk also confirmed that the programme was still on target and suggested that a date for an Open Day be considered at the end of September.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and specifically that –

- The container proposal be accepted subject to the Clerk exploring the feasibility of a “green roof”
- The Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chairman be granted delegated authority to agree the proposal and expenditure relating to plumbing and heating.

5044 Aberdulais Playground

The Clerk indicated that he had approached Neath Port Talbot CBC officers for information relating to Aberdulais Playground and the surrounding area. He confirmed that he was awaiting responses and would submit a full report in due course. RESOLVED noted.

5045 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following two items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5046 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matter arising.

5047 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5048 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following item of correspondence be noted -

1	Welsh Government	Consultation on “Shaping Wales’ Future: Using National Milestones to measure our Nation’s Progress”
---	------------------	---

RESOLVED that Council note the Clerk’s response to the following item and that the possibility of an initiative to provide “poo bags” be investigated -

2	Bryncoch FC	E-mail re Dog Fouling
---	-------------	-----------------------

RESOLVED that Council note the following and that the Clerk progress with procedures relating to a Casual Vacancy -

3	Councillor J Fishlock	Resignation as a Councillor
---	-----------------------	-----------------------------

The meeting ended at 8.09 pm.

Signed

Dated 19 September 2022

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Festivals Committee of the Council held in Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath on Monday 1st August at 6.30pm.

Presiding -

Present Councillors J Hale, W Griffiths, J Harle, A Burton, S Mitchell, A M Broom, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones

In Attendance Councillor C Lewis

Apologies Councillors L Bromham-Nichols, C Williams, G Morgan

(The Committee agreed to allow the Assistant Clerk to introduce the first two items on the agenda)

5049 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5050 Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor J Hale be appointed Chairman for 2022/23.

(Councillor J Hale in the Chair)

5051 Appointment of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor Lucia Rabaiotti Jones be appointed Vice Chairman for 2022/23.

5052 Terms of Reference of the Committee

RESOLVED that the previously circulated Terms of Reference of the Committee be adopted.

5053 Review of Festivals Budget

The Assistant Clerk reminded Members of the budget identified for the Festivals Committee. RESOLVED noted.

5054 Cilfrew Opening Event

Members discussed holding an opening event when the Cilfrew Community Centre redevelopment has finished and decided on the afternoon of Friday 7th October 2022. As it was planned as an opening event, a few activities would take place, including football, a bouncy castle and a toddlers play area. Light refreshments will be provided. Members of the wider community will be invited to assist on the day and appropriate publicity will be arranged. RESOLVED that the Assistant Clerk proceed with the arrangements in conjunction with Members.

5055 Future Events

Members discussed a range of ideas for events to be held in 2022/23 and 2023/24 on the basis that further detailed arrangements would be discussed in due course.

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to agree the following, and progress with arrangements or exploratory discussions accordingly -

- support for organisations arranging 2022 Christmas events in the community
- the Cilfrew Opening Event, 07 October 2022
- an Aberdulais Autumn Event and drop-in session, October Half Term
- a Fun Day at Owain Glyndwr Community Centre in May 2023
- an Autumn Concert to be held in Cadoxton in 2023
- various events arranged internally or externally to promote environmental awareness

The meeting ended at 8.06pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Resources Committee of the Council held in
Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath on Monday 15 August at 6.30pm.**

Presiding -

Present Councillors J Hale, W Griffiths, C Williams, H Harry, J Betts

In Attendance Councillor G Morgan

Apologies Councillors D Jones, A Burton

(The Committee agreed to allow the Clerk to introduce the first two items on the agenda)

5056 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5057 Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor W Griffiths be appointed Chairman for 2022/23.

(Councillor W Griffiths in the Chair)

5058 Appointment of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor C Williams be appointed Vice Chairman for 2022/23.

5059 Terms of Reference of the Committee

RESOLVED that the previously circulated Terms of Reference of the Committee be adopted.

5060 Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring

The Clerk presented his Budget Monitoring Report for the first Quarter of the 2022-23 financial year. Members considered income and expenditure against the budget agreed by Council and noted that whilst neither was unduly different to that anticipated, there were some upfront payments that were reflected. It was agreed that Quarter 2 would allow more detailed monitoring of the position and the possible need to amend individual budgets within the overall context for the year. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to note the budget situation as scrutinised by the Committee.

5061 Quarter 1 Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk presented a Bank Reconciliation of the Council's Accounts for the first quarter of the 2022-23 financial year. RESOLVED that Council be

recommended to note that the Council's accounts had been reconciled for the first quarter of the year as scrutinised by the Committee.

5062 Finance and Governance Toolkit

The Clerk referred to the previously circulated briefing papers which Members had received, and tabled a draft of the Health Check which represents the first part of the Finance and Governance Toolkit. Members scrutinised the draft responses to over one hundred statements posed under five themes relating to –

- Vision, purpose and community planning
- Leadership and people
- Community engagement and partnership
- Business processes
- Resources and financial management

Members concluded that, whilst Council's finance and governance activities were generally appropriate and undertaken as per legislative requirements, there were a substantial number of actions that might be refined, explored or introduced in order to ensure that Council's overall performance was maximised.

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to –

- Note the Committee's response to and actions arising from the Health Check
- Invite the Clerk to prioritise actions in accordance with their significance and available resources for completion in due course
- Authorise the Committee to proceed with the self-assessment part of the Toolkit at the appropriate time

The meeting ended at 8.20pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Special Meeting of Council held on Monday 05 September 2022 at 6.30pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present Councillors J Hale, C Lewis, J Betts, J Harle, S Mitchell, C Williams
Apologies Councillors D Jones, W Griffiths, A M Broom, Luca Rabaiotti Jones, H Harry, A Burton

5063 Declarations of Interest

At the start of the meeting, Councillor J Hale declared an interest in Site 0002, and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon, and Councillor C Lewis declared an interest in Site 0004, and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

5064 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

The Chairman afforded the public in attendance an opportunity to speak on any matters which were of concern to them, and they accepted the option to speak on individual Candidate Sites as discussed under the following item. RESOLVED noted.

5065 Neath Port Talbot Replacement Local Development Plan – Candidate Sites

The Clerk referred to the schedule of Candidate Sites which were available to view on the NPT CBC website and which had also been previously circulated to all Members. He gave a short summary of the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) preparation process. Members were then asked to consider the sites in turn.

The Clerk provided an overview of the proposed Candidate Sites in Cilfrew and Aberdulais. Members were able to discuss each site after the public expressed their views and, in each case, arrived at a conclusion as the basis for a response to NPT CBC. Members of NPT CBC offered no observations and elected to abstain from voting on all proposals.

It was RESOLVED that in respect of the Cilfrew and Aberdulais Candidate Sites, Council's views are as follows –

- Site 0001 – Land off Main Road – generally supportive given that the site is surrounded by development, subject to any biodiversity considerations,
- Site 0002 – Grey Oaks – generally supportive given surrounding uses, subject to the boundary with and activities of Craig Gwladus not being compromised and the significance of the “ponds” being properly considered
- Site 0003 – Land north of Main Road – objection as the proposal would be an extension of development into the existing countryside area and could set a precedent for further development

- Site 0004 – Land east of Main Road – generally supportive given the surrounding residential and community uses
- Site 0005 – Land at Fforest Farm Aberdulais, Site 1 – objection as the site is open countryside in agricultural use, would represent a major development out of scale with the adjacent existing settlement and rely on inadequate access to Cefn yr Allt and the principal highway network
- Site 0006 – Land at Fforest Farm Aberdulais, Site 2 – objection as the site is open countryside in agricultural use, would represent a major development in isolation from any other settlement or development
- Site 0007 – Land opposite 61-127 March Hywel – generally supportive as there is residential development adjacent, subject to the boundary with and activities of Craig Gwladus not being compromised, and any development including some public open space for the use of the wider residential area.

The Clerk provided an overview of the proposed Candidate Sites in Bryncoch. Members were able to discuss each site after the public expressed their views and, in each case, arrived at a conclusion as the basis for a response to NPT CBC. Members of NPT CBC offered no observations and elected to abstain from voting on all proposals.

It was RESOLVED that in respect of the Bryncoch Candidate Sites, Council's views are as follows –

- Site 0009 - Taillwyd Newydd Field and Paddock – objection as this site is situated in the existing Green Wedge and should be retained as open countryside, it is served by a rural lane which could not accommodate additional traffic
- Site 0010 – Land at Bryncoch Farm - objection as this site is situated in the existing Green Wedge and should be retained as open countryside, it would be served by the A474 which cannot accommodate additional traffic particularly in the Neath direction, and whilst Council is sceptical about delivery of the non-specific proposal for mixed use, such a large development would place significant demands on a range of local services which are already under pressure
- Site 0011 – Land at Pant Glas Farm - objection as this site is situated in the existing Green Wedge and should be retained as open countryside, thereby protecting its agricultural use, landscape value and biodiversity, as it would be served by the A474 which cannot accommodate additional traffic particularly in the Neath direction, and such a large development would place significant demands on a range of local services which are already under pressure
- Site 0012 – Former Gorffwysfa Care Home – generally supportive, although a mixed use consistent with existing community activities and which addressed local car parking deficiencies would be preferred
- Site 0013 – Land at Tyllwyd - objection as this site is not part of an existing settlement and is in the countryside, and as it is served by a rural lane which could not accommodate additional traffic
- Site 0014 – Land at Bryncoch Farm - objection as this site is situated in the existing Green Wedge and should be retained as open countryside, it would be served by the A474 which cannot

accommodate additional traffic particularly in the Neath direction, and such a large development would place significant demands on a range of local services which are already under pressure

- Site 0015 – Leiros Parc – although this site was allocated in the adopted LDP, there have been consistent objections which are now reiterated here as it is situated in an elevated position, has extensive landscape and informal recreational value, and there have been consistent drainage, biodiversity, service provision and traffic concerns. Notably, it would be served by the A474 which cannot accommodate additional traffic particularly in the Neath direction, and such a large development would place significant demands on a range of local services which are already under pressure. All of this may well demonstrate that there is a lack of deliverability as far as this site is concerned, and as a result it should be omitted from the RLDP.

It was further RESOLVED that Members engage with their respective communities and that Council's views be endorsed, amended or otherwise at the next meeting of Council before being formally conveyed to NPT CBC

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm.

Signed

Dated 26 September 2022

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 26 September 2022 at 6.30pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath

Presiding Councillor H Harry
 Present Councillors, W Griffiths, J Hale, C Lewis, J Betts, A M Broom, S Mitchell, C Williams, A Burton
 Apologies Councillors G Morgan, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, N Rabaiotti, J Harle, Luca Rabaiotti Jones, D Jones, L Bromham-Nichols

5066 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5067 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

There were no members of the public in attendance.

5068 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 18 July 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 18 July 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5069 Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 05 September 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 05 September 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5070 Matters Arising

1. Further to Minute 5040.1 regarding storage at the Caewern Community Centre, the Clerk advised Members that he was in discussion with the Caewern Community Association and contractors regarding bespoke cupboards. RESOLVED noted.
2. Further to Minute 5065 regarding the Replacement Local Development Plan Candidate Sites, the Clerk confirmed that Council's views had been sent to NPT CBC within the consultation period. RESOLVED noted.

5071 Payments – August and September 2022

RESOLVED that the Clerk's reports be approved.

5072 Planning Applications – August and September 2022

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following applications –

P2021/1177	Amended Plans - Extension and Roof Alteration	18 Main Road Bryncoch
P2021/1273	Access Road and Parking Variation to Approved Plans	CSN Precision Engineering Neath Abbey Road Neath
P2022/0530	Extension	7 Royston Court Waunceirch

P2022/0582	Amended Plans - Extensions	77 Fernlea Park Bryncoch
P2022/0667	Side Extension	The Gables, Main Road Aberdulais
P2022/0607	Extension and Outbuildings	31 Danygraig Terrace Main Road Cadoxton
P2022/0716	Extension	95 Main Road Bryncoch
P2022/0763	Roof Extension	22 Village Close Bryncoch

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application, subject to off street parking not being compromised –

P2022/0665	Extensions	5 Dynevor Avenue Neath
------------	------------	------------------------

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following applications subject to the views of the NPT CBC Arboricultural Officer —

P2022/0768	Work to TPO Trees	9 Maes Llwynonn Cadoxton
P2022/0624	Work to TPO Tree	7 Heol Glynderwen Waunceirch

5073 Community Centre Management

- 1 The Clerk reported a request from NPT CBC that swift boxes were to be installed on suitable public buildings and that Aberdulais Community Centre had been suggested as appropriate. He outlined what was involved and that there was no issue in terms of landlord consent or potential nuisance. RESOLVED that the request be acceded to in respect of Aberdulais CC and that Bryncoch CC also be considered.
- 2 The Clerk indicated a request for a discount to be applied to the market event being held at Owain Glyndwr CC had been received. RESOLVED that the request be not acceded to.
- 3 The Clerk outlined a request for a fridge to be installed at Bryncoch Community Centre. Further to Minute 5040.3 of Council 18 July 2022, RESOLVED that the action undertaken by the Clerk in supplying a fridge be endorsed.
- 4 RESOLVED that a request for purchase of 8 No. chairs with arms for Cilfrew CC be agreed.
- 5 The Clerk reported that prices in respect of water checks at all community centres had been received from Acorn Chemical Services Ltd. and the overall cost was outlined to Council. RESOLVED that the quotation be accepted and that risk assessments be updated internally except for Cilfrew, where an assessment be commissioned once the improvements had taken place.
- 6 RESOLVED that 2 No. requests to allow limited consumption of alcohol for specific reasons at Caewern CC on 18 December 2022 and Bryncoch CC on 25 November 2022 be acceded to, and a time extension for the Bryncoch booking be agreed subject to the attendance of a caretaker.

5074 Police Matters

Members submitted reports on a PACT meeting at Cadoxton and on various activities in Bryncoch South and Cilfrew. RESOLVED noted.

5075 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5076 Minutes of the Festivals Committee Meeting held on 01 August 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Festivals Committee Meeting held on 01 August 2022 be adopted.

5077 Minutes of the Resources Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Resources Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2022 be adopted.

5078 Casual Vacancy – Bryncoch South Ward

The Clerk indicated that an election had been requested to fill the Casual Vacancy which had occurred in the Bryncoch South Ward but that he had been advised by the Returning Officer that, having invited nominations, the election was uncontested. Accordingly, Mr W Evans of Caewern was duly elected as a Member for the Bryncoch South Ward and the Clerk would meet with him to arrange his Declaration of Acceptance of Office as soon as possible. RESOLVED noted.

5079 IT Website and Newsletter

- 1 The Clerk reported that following an IT issue recently, he had been advised by the Council's website host that the issue could not be fully resolved as a result of the age and structure of the website. A rebuild of the website would, therefore, be needed and would also provide an opportunity to modernise the website and ensure that it is user-friendly in the future. Two prices had been received and were reported to Members, from the existing host and another company who specialised in work for town and community councils. RESOLVED that the Council proceed with the website upgrade and accept the proposal made by Vision ICT to be delivered in 2023/24.
- 2 The Clerk advised Members that, following difficulties experienced in using MS Teams, he had trialled the use of Zoom which was now widely used by other councils. Members responded by confirming difficulties and indicating their experience with Zoom. RESOLVED that the Council enter into a licence agreement to use Zoom for its hybrid meetings.
- 3 Members gave consideration to the purchase of tablets to facilitate easier access to documents and the use of the Members Allowance to purchase such tablets. The Clerk indicated the broad cost involved and noted that some Members were not inclined to participate. RESOLVED that the Clerk confirm security issues with the Council's IT Consultant, consider a Members Area for the reconstructed website and roll out provision as part of the Member engagement exercise relating to Member remuneration.
- 4 Following a suggestion that Council should consider printing a newsletter, the Clerk outlined discussions he had undertaken with other councils about the practicality, effectiveness and cost of such an initiative. Members generally felt that this was a step backwards when technology was being embraced, that there would be unacceptable resource implications and that other arrangements could be made to meet any non-technology-based demands. RESOLVED that the suggestion be not

pursued further, but that Council use its website and Facebook presence to provide information, and provide hard copy from those media outlets if specific requests were made.

5080 Consultation on “A Fairer Council Tax”

The Clerk reminded Members that the consultation document had been previously circulated and that they could provide individual and a corporate response. RESOLVED that Council should not respond on a corporate basis.

5081 Allotments at Waunceirch

The Clerk indicated that a request had been received from a Caewern resident for the Council to consider providing allotments in Waunceirch. He outlined that such a proposal would require the consideration of a number of factors and that advice from NPT CBC and a body charged with providing assistance in this respect would be beneficial at this initial stage. RESOLVED that the Council respond positively in principle, seek initial advice from relevant parties and consider the proposal further at its forthcoming biodiversity meeting.

5082 Furzeland Drive Tree Preservation Order

The Clerk reminded Members that Council had commissioned a tree survey of the Furzeland Drive TPO and outlined the results of the survey in terms of work needed in the short and medium term. He also indicated that Council was not in control of all the land covered by the TPO or the survey, and that some discussions with known and unknown owners as well as the Local Planning Authority should take place. He indicated that Council should only incur expenditure on its own land. RESOLVED that the Clerk discuss the work needed on Council land with NPT CBC and seek to engage with other owners with a view to seeking the necessary consents and undertaking the necessary work identified in the commissioned report.

5083 Furzeland Drive – Request to Lease a Parcel of Land

The Clerk reported that the owner of 27 Furzeland Drive had submitted a request to lease a parcel of land at the rear of his property and in the Council's ownership. RESOLVED that as an access to the land was situated at the rear of the property, the situation was complicated by the Tree Preservation Order, and in order to avoid setting a precedent for further such requests, the request be not acceded to.

5084 Cilfrew Playing Field

The Clerk referred to a request to use Cilfrew Playing Field on Saturday mornings for Ynysygerwn FC mini football. He indicated that although assurances regarding fixture cancellation and car parking stewards had been given, the situation would give rise to all day usage of the site as the preferential users – Cilfrew FC – played on each Saturday afternoon. Members considered that this would result in an unacceptable level of disturbance for local residents. RESOLVED that the request be refused accordingly, but that Ynysygerwn FC be advised that local Members were seeking other alternatives that might benefit them.

5085 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following three items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5086 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5087 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5088 Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements

The Clerk reported that the contract period for the improvements at Cilfrew Community Centre had been extended by two weeks, but that following that period a Non-Completion Certificate had been issued to the contractor. He outlined a series of concerns which both he and the Council’s architect had noted and indicated that a meeting to resolve these concerns and bring the contract to a conclusion had been arranged. He also indicated that the delay was having a “knock on” effect for the redecoration of the Centre, the installation of window blinds and work on heating and showers, which were all separate to the main contract. He indicated that the Chairman and Vice Chairman had agreed a price from Platinum Property Services, now advised to Council, for the heating and showers in accordance with a previous decision of Council (Minute 5043, Council, 18 July 2022 refers). The Clerk also recommended that, in view of the uncertainty of a completion date, the proposed “opening event” on 07 October 2022 be cancelled. RESOLVED that the report be noted, that work be progressed as expeditiously as possible and that the “opening event” be cancelled.

5089 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	NPT CBC Planning	Appeal re P2021/0925, Tanybryn Main Road Cadoxton
2	One Voice Wales	E-mail re NPT Standards Committee

The meeting ended at 8.35 pm.

Signed

Dated 17 October 2022

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 17 October 2022 at 6.30pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present In person - Councillors, W Griffiths, J Hale, C Lewis, J Betts, S Mitchell, C Williams, J Harle
Virtually - Councillor D Jones
Apologies Councillors H Harry, N Rabaiotti, A Burton, A M Broom, W Evans

5090 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5091 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

Two members of the public in attendance indicated that they were present to listen to the debate in connection with Items 3 and 14 on the Agenda.

5092 Caewern House

The Chairman welcomed Mr M Jones from Planning Aid Wales who had been engaged by Linc Cymru to undertake community consultation regarding the future redevelopment of Caewern House, Dwr y Felin Road, Neath. Mr Jones provided site information and outlined the planning history of the site and stressed that no decisions had been taken as yet with regard to redevelopment. He enquired of any issues with the site, of which Members were aware, and was advised of anti-social behaviour, vandalism and security issues that had occurred. The status of the building was discussed along with the need to address access, biodiversity, drainage and future use, including social housing aspirations and the demands of various potential client groups in the area. In conclusion, Mr Jones thanked Members for their input and highlighted the two public consultation events planned at Caewern Community Centre. The Chairman thanked Mr Jones for attending and he thereupon withdrew from the meeting.

5093 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 26 September 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 26 September 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5094 Matters Arising

Further to Minute 5081 regarding the possibility of establishing allotments at Waunceirch, the Clerk updated Members on his initial discussions with officers at NPT CBC and at Social Farms and Gardens. RESOLVED that further discussions take place in due course.

5095 Payments – October 2022

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5096 Planning Applications – October 2022

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application subject to the views of the NPT CBC Arboricultural Officer —

P2022/0798	Work to TPO Trees	4 Blaenwern Bryncoch
------------	-------------------	----------------------

5097 Community Centre Management

(Councillor J Harle declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or decision thereon)

The Clerk reported that two community groups had requested ongoing use of the Caewern Community Centre on Friday evenings and that, given a degree of competitive tension between the groups, guidance from Members would assist in arriving at a satisfactory way forward. In view of the connection between this matter and Item 14 on the agenda, RESOLVED to note the Clerk's report and defer a decision to Item 14 on the agenda.

5098 Police Matters

For information, Members submitted reports on recent police activity in the Penywern Road area of Bryncoch, PCSO discussions with the public in the Bryncoch Wards and vandal damage caused at Cilffriw Primary School. RESOLVED noted.

5099 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5100 Applications for Financial Assistance

The Clerk reminded Members of the Council's arrangements for considering applications for financial assistance under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. He summarised the budget agreed for the 2022/23 financial year and reminded Members that no applications had been supported at the April meeting of Council. He indicated that eleven applications were now to hand along with the three senior citizen groups in the community.

RESOLVED that the following applications be supported in the sums indicated –

2	Dyffryn Youth Darts Academy	£70.00
3	Cwrt Herbert Colts AFC	£70.00
4	Catwg Primary School PTA	£70.00
5	Ainon Baptist Church	£70.00
6	1 st Caewern Guides	£70.00
7	Bryncoch Art Group	£70.00
8	Cilfrew Community Connections	£70.00
9	Bryncoch Community Association	£70.00
12	3 No. Senior Citizen Groups	£70.00 each

RESOLVED that the following applications be not supported –

1	Kids Cancer Charity
10	Tenovus Cancer Care
11	Cerebral Palsy Cymru

5101 Defibrillators

The Clerk reported that two Members had made requests that Council consider providing defibrillators at Cilfrew Community Centre and in Cadoxton park. He summarised the location of nearby defibrillators, outlined the scale of costs involved for the units and any cabinets required, and indicated that there was no budget provision available at present. RESOLVED that the matter be deferred for consideration in the new financial year.

5102 Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group

(Councillor J Harle declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or decision thereon)

The Clerk referred to a proposal made by the Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group, a copy of which had been circulated to Members and issued an update on the proposal as submitted by the Group before the meeting. He also indicated that part of this proposal related to the matter discussed earlier in the meeting (Minute 5097 refers). The Clerk highlighted key points of the proposal and confirmed that he had sought to clarify a number of issues prior to Council's consideration, and updated Members accordingly. All aspects of the proposal submitted were discussed fully by Members along with the aspirations of the Caewern Community Association which were directly affected by aspects of the proposal. Following due consideration, it was RESOLVED that –

- Council honour the bookings made by the Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group on Friday evenings at Caewern Community Centre until Christmas 2022
- Officers work with the Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group and the Caewern Community Association to ensure that Friday evenings at Caewern Community Centre are shared amicably between both community groups on an equal basis after Christmas 2022
- The proposal to arrange “Big Screen Sports Events” and serve alcohol be rejected
- The proposal to provide a TV Licence, Broadband and Internet connections be rejected

5103 Aberdulais Playground

The Clerk updated Members on progress in discussions about the possible transfer of the Aberdulais Playground to the Council from NPT CBC, indicating that insufficient information was to hand to allow him to present a full report. RESOLVED noted.

5104 Warm Spaces Fund

The Clerk advised Members of a suggestion that Council facilities might be used to provide Warm Spaces, with possible funding available from Welsh Government. He indicated that certain arrangements involving volunteer support might be possible but that a degree of coordination locally should be investigated. RESOLVED that further investigations be undertaken.

5105 Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

Members were advised that the Draft report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales had been received and that comments were invited. RESOLVED that the Report be deferred and considered at the next meeting of Council.

5106 Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements

The Clerk reported that the Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements were now progressing towards a conclusion and that the Practical Completion stage of the main contract had been reached. Orders for new blinds and a sign had been placed, redecoration was proceeding and a timescale for the separate heating and showers upgrade was to hand. Subject to completion of all these items, it was anticipated that the Centre would be ready for use from the end of October 2022. RESOLVED noted.

5107 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following three items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5108 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5109 Health and Safety

The Clerk advised Members that a report of an accident to a child at an event at Caewern Community Centre had been received, and whilst it did not appear to be serious, the parent had declined to complete an accident form and indicated that the Council were not considered by them to be at fault. The Clerk confirmed that he had sought to engage fully with the complainant and the group involved, but that the matter now appeared to be in abeyance. RESOLVED noted.

5110 Complaint about a Member

The Clerk reported, without divulging any details relating to the matter, that a complaint had been received about a Member of Council. Following legal advice, he had referred the complainant to the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales, and had advised the Member concerned accordingly. RESOLVED noted.

5111 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be actioned as indicated –

2	Welsh Government	Consultation Electoral Reform
Consider the matter at the next meeting of Council		
3	JR	Letter of Resignation
Vacancy be advertised as per normal practice		
5	Bryncoch CIW Primary School	School Governor Representation
Councillor A Burton be re-nominated as Council's representative.		

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	NPT CBC Legal	Confirmation of Creation and Extinguishment Orders, Footpath No 4
4	Rialtas Business Solutions	Sale of Company

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm

Signed

Dated 21 November 2022

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 21 November 2022 at 6.30pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath

Presiding --
Present In person - Councillors C Lewis, C Williams, W Evans, N Rabaiotti, A Burton, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, A M Broom, Luca Rabaiotti Jones
Virtually - Councillor D Jones W Griffiths
Apologies Councillors G Morgan, H Harry, S Mitchell, J Hale, J Harle, L Bromham Nichols

5112 Chairman

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman the Clerk asked Members to appoint a Chairman for the meeting. RESOLVED that Councillor C Williams act as Chairman.

(Councillor C Williams in the Chair)

5113 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5114 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

One member of the public in attendance indicated that she did not wish to raise any specific matters

5115 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 17 October 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 17 October 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5116 Matters Arising

1. Further to Minute 5097 regarding meetings with community groups, the Clerk reported that he and the Assistant Clerk had constructive meetings with both the Caewern Community Association and Cilfrew Community Connections, but that agreement on a date to meet the Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group had not been forthcoming. RESOLVED noted.
2. Further to Minute 5101 regarding Defibrillator acquisition, the Clerk reported that Cilfrew Community Connections had offered to fund raise for a cabinet for a defibrillator at Cilfrew Community Centre if Council was successful in a grant application for the defibrillator itself. RESOLVED that the offer be accepted and that an application be made by the Council.
3. Further to Minutes 5103 regarding Aberdulais playground discussions and 5106 regarding Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements, RESOLVED that the Clerk's update reports be noted.
4. Further to Minute 5104 relating to the Warm Spaces Fund, the Clerk reported that discussions had taken place about Cadoxton, Cilfrew and Caewern. RESOLVED noted.

5. Further to Minute 5111.3 regarding the appointment of a caretaker, the Clerk reported that Mr RT had been appointed. RESOLVED noted.

5117 Payments – November 2022

RESOLVED that the Clerk’s report be approved.

5118 Planning Applications – November 2022

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following applications subject to the views of the NPT CBC Arboricultural Officer —

P2022/0798	Work to TPO Trees – Amended Details	4 Blaenwern Bryncoch
P2022/0921	Work to TPO Trees	Builders Yard Farmers Road Bryncoch
P2022/0936	Work to TPO Trees	9 Princess Drive Waunceirch

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application –

P2022/0873	Off Road Parking	105 Main Road Bryncoch
------------	------------------	------------------------

5119 Community Centre Management

1. The Clerk reported that Council would not be eligible for assistance under the Energy Relief Scheme. RESOLVED noted.
2. RESOLVED that the Caewern Community Association be permitted to offer a glass of festive mulled wine at the Christmas Celebration.
3. The Clerk reported that substantial charges were likely to be levied under the PPL/PRS licensing schemes and that a report to Council would be drafted for Members’ consideration. RESOLVED noted.

5120 Police Matters

For information, Members were advised that the police were monitoring an individual trying car doors in the Caewern/Bryncoch area. RESOLVED noted.

5121 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5122 Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group

The Clerk referred to Minute 5102 of Council on 17 October 2022 and to Council’s decision to reject proposals for Caewern Community Centre from the Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group, whereby they would arrange “Big Screen Sports Events” and serve alcohol, and provide a TV Licence, Broadband and Internet connections. He indicated that the decisions had been conveyed to the Group and a letter of appeal had then been received. He outlined in detail the grounds of the appeal, quoting the reasons why the Group viewed their proposals as desirable and appropriate. Following consideration of the grounds of appeal, Council RESOLVED to reject the appeal and endorse the decisions of Council as recorded in Minute 5102 of Council on 17 October 2022.

5123 Training Plan

The Clerk submitted a Draft Training Plan compiled following a Needs Analysis which had been informed by inputs from Members and Staff. He indicated that certain training provision had been provided and the Council's budget for the year had been committed, but that a record of the training needs had been retained and incorporated into a phased provision that may be provided over a number of years, and which is reflected in the Draft plan. RESOLVED that the Draft Training Plan be adopted and that Council give consideration to meeting its obligations when discussions on the Council's budget take place.

5124 Biodiversity Action Plan

The Clerk submitted a Draft Biodiversity Action Plan and Report building on the work undertaken by Members and the workshop recently held with Members and Staff. He outlined the purpose of the Plan in meeting the biodiversity duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, and summarised its structure as a "living document" and the basis for subsequent reporting as required by the Act. Members were reminded of the need to work with partners and volunteers to deliver relevant projects and of their previously expressed view that a committee of Council might assist in this respect. RESOLVED that –

- Council endorse the Draft Biodiversity Action Plan as the basis of meeting its biodiversity duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- An Environment Committee of six Members of Council be established to drive the biodiversity agenda and manage preparation and delivery of the plan and any reporting requirements
- Councillors S Mitchell, C Lewis, A Burton, W Evans and A M Broom be appointed to the Committee and the Clerk invite nominations for the sixth Member from those not present on the basis of "first come first served".

5125 Furzeland Drive Trees

The Clerk updated Members on his discussions regarding land ownership and tree work at Furzeland Drive Bryncoch, but indicated that further information was required before decisions as to action could be taken. RESOLVED noted.

5126 Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

Members were advised that the Draft Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales had been received and that comments were invited on a proposal to provide payment to Members for consumables. RESOLVED that the panel be advised that the Council did not support the proposal.

5127 Electoral Administration and Reform in Wales.

The Clerk advised Members of a consultation from Welsh Government on Electoral Administration and Reform in Wales. RESOLVED noted.

5128 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following three items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5129 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5130 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5131 National Pay Award 2022-23

RESOLVED that this item be deferred for consideration at the next meeting of Council.

5132 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following item of correspondence be actioned as indicated –

2	Councillor J Harle	Request for Dispensation
---	--------------------	--------------------------

Dispensation be granted for the 3-month period requested.

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	Boundary Commission for Wales	Revised Proposals for Parliamentary Constituencies
3	OVW/SLCC	Guidance on Bullying and Harassment
4	Welsh Government	S 137 Expenditure 2023-24
5	Welsh Government	Consultation on Draft Regulations to extend exception to second home premiums and Guidance

The meeting ended at 8.00 pm

Signed

Dated 12 December 2022

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Resources Committee of the Council held in Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath and Online on Monday 05 December at 6.30pm.

Presiding Councillor W Griffiths (virtually)

Present In Person - Councillors J Hale, C Williams, J Betts
Virtually - Councillor D Jones

In Attendance Councillors G Morgan, A Burton

Apologies None

5133 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5134 Minutes of Resources Committee 15 August 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 15 August 2022 be adopted.

5135 Matter Arising

There were no Matters Arising

5136 Quarter 2 Budget Monitoring

The Clerk presented his Budget Monitoring Report for the second Quarter of the 2022-23 financial year. Members considered income and expenditure against the budget agreed by Council and noted that whilst neither was unduly different to that anticipated, both were slightly higher than expected and reasons for this were provided. Amendment of individual budgets within the overall context for the year was not considered necessary. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to note the budget situation as scrutinised by the Committee.

5137 Quarter 2 Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk presented a Bank Reconciliation of the Council's Accounts for the second quarter of the 2022-23 financial year. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to note that the Council's accounts had been reconciled for the second quarter of the year as scrutinised by the Committee.

5138 Internal Audit Report for 2022-23 Accounts

The Clerk the Interim Internal Audit Report on the Council's 2022-23 Accounts had been received and he outlined the substance of each section of the report. It was noted that the Internal Auditor concluded that there were no issues to draw to the Council's attention, other than the need to review the level of fidelity guarantee at the end of the financial year. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to note the conclusions of the Internal Auditor's Report.

5139 Hire Charges for 2023-24

The Clerk submitted a schedule of current hire charges in relation to community centres and playing fields, and charges levied in respect of allotments and grazing land. Members were advised of Council's previous decisions over a period of years, considered whether charges should be amended for 2023-24, and were mindful of the increases in costs which the Council was subject to in letting its facilities.

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to –

- Increase its charges for community events by 10%
- Increase its charges for commercial events and parties by 20%
- Increase its charges for playing fields and changing rooms by 10%
- Retain all other charges and its Sunday Surcharge at their current levels
- Introduce a policy amendment that allows the Clerk to exercise discretion to grant a 50% discount for a maximum of 6 weeks, for any hirer who is seeking to establish a venture, subject to a specific request to that effect being received and justified in writing.

5140 Budget and Precept for 2023-24

The Clerk submitted a report on the estimated budget out-turn in 2022-23 as the basis for calculating proposed budget for 2023-24 for Members' consideration. He advised Members that assumptions had been made with regard to final expenditure and in overall income. He highlighted key factors which had influenced the expenditure calculations, including the proposed increases in salary levels, acquisition of replacement playground equipment and maintenance of trees on Council land, with reduced expenditure on the festival budget, elections and playing fields. He also highlighted an increase in income levels but indicated that these could fluctuate based on the level of use of the Council's facilities. The Clerk provided Members with an estimate of expenditure and income in 2023-24 and outlined included key elements for information, a projected level of balances at 31 March 2023 and identified the Council Tax Base as indicated by NPT CBC. He was then able to indicate a possible budget for 2023-24 with options to include or exclude a capital budget.

RESOLVED that, in view of the challenging financial situation anticipated in 2023-24, Council be recommended to –

- Set aside its capital budget for 2023-24
- Accept a draft budget in the sum of £252,252
- Set a Precept for 2023-24 in the sum of £252,252

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 12 December 2022 at 6.30pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath and Online

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present In person - Councillors C Williams, J Hale
Virtually - Councillors D Jones, W Griffiths, S Mitchell, A Burton, L Bromham Nichols
Apologies Councillors C Lewis, W Evans, N Rabaiotti, H Harry, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, A M Broom, J Harle,

5141 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5142 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

One member of the public was in attendance and indicated that she was concerned about the possibility that access to the Waunceirch District Park would be reduced for the public if exclusive use for Bryncoch FC was approved (Item 13 on the Agenda referred). Members RESOLVED to note the representation.

5143 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 21 November 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 21 November 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5144 Matters Arising

6. Further to Minute 5116.1 regarding meetings with community groups, the Clerk reported that he and the Assistant Clerk had now met with the Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group. RESOLVED noted.
7. Further to Minute 5116.2 regarding Defibrillator acquisition, the Clerk reported that grant applications were not currently being entertained. RESOLVED noted.
8. Further to Minutes 5119.1 relating to the Energy Relief Scheme, Members were advised that as Owain Glyndwr CC's gas contract had just been renewed, it would be eligible for support under the scheme. RESOLVED noted.
9. Further to Minute 5123 and 5124 relating to the Council's Training Plan and Biodiversity Action Plan, RESOLVED noted that the documents had been published on the Council's website as required.
10. Further to Minute 5124 regarding the Biodiversity Action Plan, RESOLVED noted that Councillor J Betts had requested and been appointed to the Environment Committee.

5145 Payments – December 2022

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5146 Planning Applications – December 2022

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following applications –

P2022/0951	Vehicle Crossing and Driveway	7 Tyla Moes Caewern
P2022/0954	C/Use from Retail to Coffee Shop	29 Furzeland Drive Bryncoch
P2022/0978	Extension	37 Main Road Bryncoch
P2022/0989	Drive Thru Coffee Shop	Neath Abbey Road Industrial Estate
P2022/0993	Two Detached Dwellings	Plot South of March Hywel Cilfrew

5147 Community Centre Management

4. The Clerk reported that, following an incident in the Bryncoch Community Centre car park, investigations were in the hands of the Police but no formal contact with the Council had been made. RESOLVED noted.
5. The Clerk advised Members that he had agreed to commission a free Energy Survey for Aberdulais and Cilfrew Community Centres, sponsored by the Pen y Cymoedd Windfarm Community Fund. RESOLVED noted.
6. The Clerk reported that the cooker situated in Cilfrew Community Centre was broken and needed replacement. RESOLVED that a replacement cooker be purchased.
7. The Clerk reported that the central heating boiler at Bryncoch Community Centre had not been working since the end of November and that a number of potential faults had been identified. The Council's Heating Engineer had suggested that a replacement boiler might be a better option, both in terms of repair and long-term cost efficiency. RESOLVED that both options be explored, but if the replacement option was competitive and feasible, the Clerk be authorised to proceed on that basis utilising funds set aside for the benefit of Bryncoch Community Centre.
8. The Clerk outlined suggested arrangements for closure of the Council's facilities over the Christmas and New Year period. RESOLVED that the arrangements be agreed as outlined.

5148 Police Matters

Council W Griffiths outlined in general terms, progress in the investigation of the Bryncoch Community Centre car park incident. RESOLVED noted.

5149 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5150 Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 05 December 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 05 December 2022 be adopted, and further RESOLVED that –

- the Council's capital budget for 2023/24 be set aside
- a 2023/24 budget in the sum of £252,252 is agreed
- a Precept for 2023/24 in the sum of £252,252 be set.

5151 Caewern House Redevelopment

The Clerk referred to a Statutory Pre-Application Consultation for development of Caewern House, Caewern. He referred to the previously circulated link to the consultation and outlined its procedural significance before highlighting some key points. Members discussed the proposals and their concerns at the loss of the existing building, pressure on services and on highway infrastructure.

(In view of their respective roles as Members of NPT CBC, Councillor W Griffiths, J Hale and C Williams indicated that they would abstain from voting on any proposal duly seconded by Council)

RESOLVED that whilst Council was disappointed at the loss of the existing building, it accepted that redevelopment was necessary, but hoped that amended proposals could be drafted which increased the quantity of sheltered accommodation, as this would place reduced pressures on highway infrastructure, local schools and other services.

5152 Bryncoch Football Club

The Clerk outlined the content of a letter sent by Bryncoch FC to Members of the two Bryncoch Wards, NPT CBC and other parties, subsequently received by the Council with a request to attend a meeting at Waunceirch District Park. The letter outlined the aspirations of the Club to establish a more prominent presence at the site and to promote certain forms of development. The Clerk reminded Members of unresolved discussions previously held with the Club on similar matters. RESOLVED that Council agree to a meeting without any preconceived ideas as to the way forward, and that a further report be submitted to Council in due course.

5153 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following four items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5154 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5155 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5156 National Pay Award 2022-23

The Clerk reminded Members of the Council's decision to pay its staff in accordance with National Joint Council (NJC) Pay Scales, and to receive annual recommendations from the NJC in reviewing staff salaries (Minute 3566 of the Resources Committee, 03 December 2015, and Minute 3576 of Council, 14 December 2015, refer). He submitted a factual report on the recommendations for the pay award from 01 April 2022, and outlined the financial implications for Council if the recommendations were accepted.

(The Clerk and Assistant Clerk withdrew from the Chamber to allow Members to discuss the details further)

RESOLVED that Council accept the recommendations on Pay Scales from the National Joint Council and implement the 2022-23 Pay Award accordingly.

5157 Car Park Lights, Owain Glyndwr CC

The Clerk advised Members that the car park lights at Owain Glyndwr CC were not working properly and that a survey of the problem had been undertaken. He outlined the results of the survey and the basis of a quotation for replacement of the light heads. Members considered the options and RESOLVED to accept the quotation received from the Council's contractors.

5158 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following item of correspondence be actioned as indicated –

1	Councillor J Munro	Letter of Resignation
---	--------------------	-----------------------

Letter be noted and the Casual Vacancy be advertised in January 2023.

RESOLVED that the following item of correspondence be noted –

2	Welsh Government	Single Use Plastic Bill
---	------------------	-------------------------

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm

Signed

Dated 16 January 2023

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Festivals Committee of the Council held in Cilfrew Community Centre, Neath on Monday 09 January 2023 at 6.30 pm

Presiding Councillor J Hale

Present Councillors W Griffiths, C Williams, A M Broom, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones

Apologies Councillors A Burton, D Jones, G Morgan

5159 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting

5160 Minutes of the Meeting held on 01 August 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 01 August 2022 be confirmed as a correct record

5161 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5162 Owain Glyndwr Family Fun Day 2023

Members were asked to confirm that they wished to proceed with the Fun Day at Owain Glyndwr Community Centre and were made aware of other similar events which were planned by the Caewern Community Association. Prospective dates were considered and a number of potential activities were scoped.

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to arrange a Fun Day on Saturday 27 May 2023 and that the Assistant Clerk prepare an Action Plan with potential activities identified by the next meeting of the Committee.

5163 Cadoxton Concert

Members indicated their wish to proceed with the possibility of a community concert in Cadoxton in the Autumn of 2023 and were made aware of the existence of an emerging community group. A number of possibilities were discussed. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to arrange an Autumn Concert in Cadoxton on a date to be agreed and that the Assistant Clerk explore possible arrangements with potential participants.

5164 Other Potential Suggestions

There were no other matters raised by Members.

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment Committee of the Council held in Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath on Wednesday 11 January 2023 at 6.30 pm

Presiding --

Present Councillors A M Broom, A Burton, W Evans, C Lewis, S Mitchell, J Hale (non-voting)

Apologies Councillor G Morgan

5165 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5166 Election of Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor S Mitchell be elected Chairman.

(Councillor S Mitchell in the Chair)

5167 Election of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor C Lewis be elected Vice Chairman.

5168 Terms of Reference

RESOLVED that the draft Terms of Reference submitted to and for the Committee be recommended to Council.

5169 Budget

The Clerk advised Members that, in view of the current financial position of the Council, no budget provision had been made for 2022/23 or 2023/24, but that small sums of money could be allocated from other budgets and that grant funds were available if projects emerge. RESOLVED noted.

5170 Future Projects

The Clerk referred to the Biodiversity Action Plan circulated to Members and previously approved by Council. He indicated that this provided the mechanism for recording and progressing projects, invited Members to reflect on existing projects identified and any further potential projects that Members wished to add.

RESOLVED, following a wide-ranging discussion, that all items within the Action Plan be endorsed and that the following additions be agreed for recommendation to Council –

- An environmental awareness initiative based on the Council's designation as a Litter Picking Hub, aimed at local schools and voluntary

groups, with individual Members using their links to make relevant contact, and appropriate messaging through the Council's Facebook page

- A "Sunflower Competition" to be promoted at short events in each community centre, championed by Ward Members, as a precursor to a possible future community growing project
- Interested Members to participate in a "community garden learning experience" to inform a possible future community garden project
- The Clerk to urgently revisit the potential for changes to grounds maintenance to promote wildflower meadow development
- The investigation of an allotment proposal be held in abeyance at present given financial constraints, unless a freestanding proposal emerges from elsewhere for consideration.

The meeting ended at 7.56 pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 16 January 2023 at 6.30 pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath and Online

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present In person - Councillors C Williams, J Hale, W Evans, J Betts
Virtually - Councillors W Griffiths, C Lewis
Apologies Councillors A Burton, D Jones, N Rabaiotti, H Harry, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, A M Broom, J Harle

5171 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5172 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

There was no matter raised by the one member of the public in attendance.

5173 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 12 December 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 12 December 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

5174 Matters Arising

Further to Minute 5147 regarding the central heating improvements at Bryncoch Community Centre, the Clerk provided a summary of costs, his discussions with the Chairman and the decision arising therefrom to replace the boiler. RESOLVED that the decision taken by the Chairman and Clerk be endorsed.

5175 Payments – January 2023

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5176 Planning Applications – January 2023

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application –

P2022/1068	Extensions	20 Daphne Road Bryncoch
------------	------------	-------------------------

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application subject to the views of the NPT CBC Arboricultural Officer –

P2022/1082	Work to TPO Trees	Footpath off Heol Glynderwen Caewern
------------	-------------------	--------------------------------------

5177 Community Centre Management

9. The Clerk updated Members on the establishment of a "Warm Space" at Cadoxton Community Centre. RESOLVED noted.

10. The Clerk advised Members that he had received a request from the Caewern and Bryncoch South Together Group for the hire of Caewern Community Centre for screening of a sporting event without the sale of alcohol. He reminded Members of the original proposal received and of the Council's previous decision. Members were concerned that there was insufficient information about how the hirer would access terrestrial

television given the licensing situation. RESOLVED that the request be not acceded to.

5178 Police Matters

Councillor W Griffiths advised Members that the neighbourhood Police Constable had been moved to other duties and that a new postholder would be duly appointed. RESOLVED noted.

5179 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5180 Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 09 January 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 09 January 2023 be adopted.

5181 Minutes of the Environment Committee held on 11 January 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Environment Committee held on 11 January 2023 be adopted, subject to consideration of an “In Bloom” Competition and publicising of open days at any Blaenhonddan gardens.

5182 Furzeland Drive Tree Preservation Order

The Clerk reminded Members of the outcome of the tree survey undertaken at the Furzeland Drive TPO site, and summarised the land ownership circumstances and legal advice received from NPT CBC Legal Department and One Voice Wales. RESOLVED that –

- The Clerk engage with the owners of 137 Main Road regarding trees on their land
- NPT CBC be requested to deal with dead, dying or dangerous trees on unregistered land where ownership could not be ascertained
- The Clerk write to NPT CBC Planning regarding dead, dying or dangerous trees situated on the Council’s land
- A planning application be submitted in respect of trees on the Council’s land which require attention
- A quotation be sought from the Council’s arboriculture contractors, for dealing with trees on the Council’s land.

5183 Council Playgrounds

The Clerk referred to the playground inspections undertaken by ROSPA and the consequential actions arising from their reports. RESOLVED that remedial works proceed in house or in conjunction with Sutcliffe Play and Wicksteed Leisure as appropriate.

5184 Bryncoch Football Club

The Clerk summarised the outcome of a meeting he attended at the Wauceirch District Park with officers from NPT CBC and a representative of Bryncoch Football Club. He outlined the general aspirations and predicament of the Club as indicated by the Club representative, along with the issues relating to the covenant on the land and the lease between NPT CBC and Blaenhonddan Community Council. Prior to further consideration of any proposals, the covenant and lease considerations would need to be legally

clarified. The officers from NPT CBC agreed to undertake the necessary enquiries and convey the outcome to Blaenhonddan CC as lessees, so that it may then convey the information to Bryncoch FC. RESOLVED that a further report be submitted to Council once relevant advice was forthcoming from NPT CBC.

5185 Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements

Members were advised of the likely Final Account in respect of the improvements undertaken at Cilfrew Community Centre and confirmation that the overall expenditure was likely to be within the budget previously agreed by Council. RESOLVED that the report be noted.

5186 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following two items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5187 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5188 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5189 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following item of correspondence be noted –

1	NPT Public Services Board	Consultation on Draft Well-Being Plan
---	---------------------------	---------------------------------------

The meeting ended at 7.57 pm

Signed

Dated 20 February 2023

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Festivals Committee of the Council held in Cilfrew Community Centre, Neath on Monday 06 February 2023 at 6.30 pm

Presiding Councillor J Hale

Present Councillors W Griffiths, C Williams, A M Broom, A Burton, J Betts

Apologies Councillors, D Jones, G Morgan, S Mitchell, J Harle

5190 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting

5191 Minutes of the Meeting held on 09 January 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 09 January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record

5192 Matters Arising

Further to Minute 5163 relating to holding a Cadoxton Concert, Members were informed that a guest artiste had been approached and is willing to take part. RESOLVED that the Assistant Clerk contact the Church to look at availability.

5193 Owain Glyndwr Family Fun Day 2023

The Assistant Clerk tabled V.2 of the action plan for the Owain Glyndwr Family Fun Day 2023. RESOLVED to proceed with actions as per the Action Plan and report back to Council accordingly, subject to the following decisions taken after discussion.

RESOLVED that the Council not proceed with the following due to the increase in costs.

1. Rodeo and member of staff
2. Daley Bee – entertainment
3. Donkey rides and petting zoo
4. Climbing wall
5. Mascots
6. Leaflets being delivered, due to access to social media.

RESOLVED to proceed with

1. St Johns Ambulance for first aid cover
2. Bouncy castle x2 and one member of staff
3. One Heart Drummers
4. Bryncoch Football
5. Small woods
6. NPT Pass Team
7. NPT Youth Service

RESOLVED that Members of Council will approach local businesses for raffle prizes, along with local groups regarding performing on the day.

Further to a suggestion that Blaenhonddan in Bloom form part of the event,
RESOLVED that it firstly be discussed with the Environmental Committee.

The meeting ended at 8.05 pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 20 February 2023 at 6.30 pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath and Online

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
 Present In person - Councillors C Williams, J Hale, W Evans, J Betts, W Griffiths, S Mitchell
 Virtually - Councillor H Harry
 Apologies Councillors A Burton, D Jones, N Rabaiotti, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, A M Broom, J Harle, C Lewis

5194 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5195 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

There was no matter raised by the one member of the public in attendance.

5196 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 16 January 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 16 January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

5197 Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes

5198 Payments – February 2023

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5199 Planning Applications – February 2023

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following applications –

P2022/1092	Façade and Roof Cladding	Land adj Macron Store Neath Abbey Ind Estate
P2022/1094	Pitched Roof and Raised Walls	3 Channel View Bryncoch
P2022/0048	C/U to Residential	Old Coach House Main Road Cadoxton
P2023/0050	Holiday Accommodation	Ty Gwennol Main Road Cilfrew
P2023/0052	Discharge of Conditions re Spring Water and Groundwater Level Monitoring	Gilfach Quarry Bryncoch

5200 Community Centre Management

Further to the decision of Council regarding a defibrillator at Cilfrew Community Centre (Minute 5166.2, Council, 21 November 2022 refers) and the subsequent advice from Welsh Government that the budget had been expended, the Clerk informed Members that funding could now be made available and that a defibrillator could be provided at no cost. He reminded Members of the conditions of the grant, and indicated that Cilfrew Community Connections were able to fund raise for the cabinet, that Council would need

to instruct its electrician to complete the installation, and outlined the costs involved. RESOLVED that the grant offer be accepted, that Council underwrite the cost of the cabinet pending fund raising, meet the electrical costs and ongoing management.

5201 Police Matters

Councillor J Hale advised Council that the local PCSO was monitoring parking in the vicinity of Fernlea Waunceirch. RESOLVED noted.

5202 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5203 Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 06 February 2023

Members were advised of discussions with NPT CBC Licensing re Street Trading Regulations, but otherwise RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 06 February 2023 be adopted.

5204 Furzeland Drive Tree Preservation Order

Further to Minute 5182 of Council on 16 January 2023, the Clerk updated Members with progress on a planning application and on discussions with other parties. He also advised on quotations received for work on Council owned land, subject to approval of the necessary consents. RESOLVED that the update be noted and that the quotations be accepted.

5205 Energy Efficiency Reports

The Clerk summarised Energy Efficiency Reports received in respect of the Aberdulais and Cilfrew Community Centres. He outlined measures that were identified for investigation in the short and long term and highlighted that many recommendations were already being actioned by Council. RESOLVED that the reports be noted and that the Clerk investigate any realistic and cost-effective measures as appropriate.

5206 Casual Vacancy – Cilfrew Ward

The Clerk indicated that the Electoral Services Officer at Neath Port Talbot CBC had confirmed that no request for an election had been received and that Council was, therefore, required to fill the Casual Vacancy by co-option. He outlined a programme for inviting Expressions of Interest and reporting to the next meeting of Council. RESOLVED noted.

5207 “A Shared Community – Charter Agreement”

The Clerk referred to the Charter document circulated by Neath Port Talbot CBC and previously forwarded to Members. RESOLVED noted.

5208 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following four items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5209 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5210 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5211 Grounds Maintenance 2023/24

The Clerk referred to previous consideration of biodiversity measures on Council land and confirmed that he had sought to clarify locations, site specifications, implementation methods and partnership working arrangements. Regrettably, these could not be resolved prior to the pending grounds maintenance season, and he sought instruction as to how Council wished to proceed with regard to the Council's three Grounds Maintenance Contracts. RESOLVED that, in order to allow consideration of biodiversity and consequential specification changes in 2023/24, the Clerk be instructed to negotiate rates with the Council's existing three contractors for 2023/24 Grounds Maintenance.

5212 Caewern Community Centre Storage

Members were reminded of previous suggestions that additional storage be constructed along the wall where the stage had previously been situated in Caewern Community Centre, and of the difficulty experienced in securing tradesmen who were able to undertake the work. The Clerk indicated that a carpenter had now been identified and had submitted a price to undertake the work in a sum made known to Members. They were also reminded that the Caewern Community Association had offered a grant towards the work as they were in need of storage for the new playgroup at the Centre. RESOLVED that the price submitted by Elias Carpentry Ltd and the grant offered by Caewern Community Association be accepted.

5213 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be agreed –

1	Councillor D Jones	Request for Dispensation
2	Councillor J Harle	Request for Dispensation Extension
4	One Voice Wales	Membership 2023-24

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

3	Swansea Bay Community Health Council	Consultation on views and priorities for "Llais"
5	Welsh Government	Request for Nominations for the King's New Year 2024 Honours

The meeting ended at 7.41 pm

Signed

Dated 20 March 2023

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Resources Committee of the Council held in Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath and Online on Monday 27 February at 6.30pm.

Presiding Councillor W Griffiths

Present In Person - Councillors J Hale, J Betts
 Virtually – Councillors A Burton, H Harry

In Attendance None

Apologies Councillors C Williams, D Jones, G Morgan

5214 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5215 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

There were no members of the public in attendance.

5216 Minutes of Resources Committee 05 December 2022

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 05 December 2022 be adopted.

5217 Matter Arising

There were no Matters Arising

5218 Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring

The Clerk presented his Budget Monitoring Report for the third Quarter of the 2022-23 financial year. Members considered income and expenditure against the budget agreed by Council and noted that income was higher than expected whilst expenditure was only slightly above that expected. Reasons for this were provided. Amendment of individual budgets within the overall context for the year was not considered necessary. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to note the budget situation as scrutinised by the Committee.

5219 Quarter 3 Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk presented a Bank Reconciliation of the Council's Accounts for the third quarter of the 2022-23 financial year. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to note that the Council's accounts had been reconciled for the third quarter of the year as scrutinised by the Committee.

5220 Capital Projects in 2023-24

The Clerk reminded Members that, in setting a challenging budget for 2023-24, the commitment to a capital programme has had to be temporarily paused.

Notwithstanding this, Members were advised that the draft programme of previously identified schemes included – Bryncoch Roof Insulation, Caewern Roof Replacement / Insulation, Cilfrew Community Centre Car Parking, Waunceirch Trim Trail and the Website. Discussions on priorities and preparatory work in 2023-24 followed. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to note the draft programme without identifying priorities and instruct the Clerk to explore how individual schemes could be progressed during 2023-24, within the financial parameters of the Council’s budget.

5221 Finance and Governance Toolkit

The Clerk referred to the Council’s previous consideration of the Finance and Governance Toolkit (Minute 5062, Resources Committee, 15 August 2022 refers), and to the Summary of Actions arising therefrom. He outlined progress on actions, and indicated the work needed to address these before Council can proceed to the Self-Assessment stage of the Toolkit. A prioritised work programme was suggested, focussing on the Strategic Plan, the Annual Report, Asset Register, Earmarked Reserves and Website documents. RESOLVED that Council be recommended to accept the prioritised work programme and receive an update in due course.

The meeting ended at 7.20pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Festivals Committee of the Council held in Cilfrew Community Centre, Neath on Monday 13th March 2023 at 6.00 pm

Presiding Councillor J Hale

Present Councillors W Griffiths, A M Broom, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, A Burton

Apologies Councillors, G Morgan, S Mitchell, D Jones, J Harle

5222 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting

5223 Minutes of the Meeting held on 06 February 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 01 August 2022 be confirmed as a correct record

5224 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5225 Owain Glyndwr Family Fun Day 2023

The Assistant Clerk tabled V.3 of the action plan for the Owain Glyndwr Family Fun Day 2023. RESOLVED to proceed with actions as per the Action Plan and report back to Council accordingly, subject to the following decisions taken after discussion.

RESOLVED to proceed with

1. Kool Hands UKE
2. KAPA – 2 sessions
3. DJ
4. Pottery – if pottery can be taken home at the event.
5. Slush, popcorn and candy floss machines – manned by the company, charge will apply.
6. Neath Archers
7. Celtic Nordic Walking Wales
8. Face painter

RESOLVED Stalls will be indoors and outdoors and that the Assistant Clerk complete the relevant forms for outside trading.

RESOLVED that 500 A5 Programmes be printed by Serol Print following design by the Assistant Clerk and be used for publicity on notice boards, and that banner locations be further discussed in due course.

5226 Other Matters

RESOLVED noted that there were no other items raised by members but that the next progress meeting be held at the end of April.

The meeting ended at 7.15 pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment Committee of the Council held in Cilfrew Community Centre, Neath on Monday 13th March 2023 at 7.45 pm

Presiding C Lewis

Present Councillors A M Broom, A Burton, J Hale (non-voting), W Griffiths (non-voting)
One member of public

Apologies Councillor G Morgan, S Mitchell, W Evans

5227 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5228 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th January 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Environment Committee held on 11th January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record

5229 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5230 Update on Swift Boxes

The Assistant Clerk informed the Committee that the swift boxes were still coming but were slightly delayed. Bryncoch Community Centre was also being looked at for boxes. RESOLVED that the Assistant Clerk look into a short video being provided by the Swift box experts to distribute on social media and website.

5231 Sunflower Growing Competition

Action plan was discussed. RESOLVED to scale down the competition this year, and that it be located in Cilfrew Primary School on Friday 1st April, with a completion date of 31 August 2023, and that a further materials pick up location be provided at Cadoxton Community Centre.

RESOLVED that the Assistant Clerk to confirm with Councillor S Mitchell how far she has got with obtaining the required items.

RESOLVED that Councillors C Lewis, A Burton and A M Broom will attend for distribution and that Councillor C Lewis produce posters to be distributed locally and obtain a trophy for the winner.

5232 Activity ideas for Community Funday Stall

RESOLVED the Committee decided not to have a stall.

5233 Future projects in line with the Councils Biodiversity Action Plan

The Assistant Clerk referred to the Biodiversity Action Plan circulated to Members and previously approved by Council and invited Members to reflect on existing projects identified and any further potential projects that Members wished to add.

RESOLVED to continue with existing projects on the Action Plan and to discuss further the following project ideas –

- Running seed/plant Swap or Sale
- Set up community herb boxes

The Assistant Clerk discussed the Connecting Green Infrastructure Community Project Grant Fund. RESOLVED the Committee is not in a position to apply this year.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm

Signed

Dated

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan

Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 20 March 2023 at 6.30 pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath and Online

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present In person - Councillors C Williams, J Hale, W Evans, J Betts, W Griffiths, A Burton, A M Broom, S Mitchell, C Lewis
Virtually - Councillor H Harry
Apologies Councillors D Jones, L Bromham-Nichols, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, J Harle

5234 Councillor C Williams

The Chairman congratulated Councillor C Williams on his nomination as Mayor of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council for the civic year of 2023/24.

5235 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5236 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

There was no matter raised by the one member of the public in attendance.

5237 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 20 February 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 20 February 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

5238 Matters Arising

- 1 Further to Minute 5204 relating to the Furzeland Drive TPO, the Clerk reported that the TPO consent was now to hand and that he would, therefore, instruct tree surgeons to proceed as soon as practicable. RESOLVED noted.
- 2 The Clerk reported that work on the Caewern Community Centre storage cupboard would be undertaken on 01 and 02 April 2023. RESOLVED noted.

5239 Payments – March 2023

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5240 Planning Applications – March 2023

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application –

P2023/0121	Detached Dwelling	6 Dulais Drive Aberdulais
------------	-------------------	---------------------------

RESOLVED no objection be made to the following application, subject to the views of the NPT CBC arboricultural officer –

P2023/0168	Work to TPO Trees	Land r/o 35, 36, 37 Woodlands Park Drive Cadoxton
------------	-------------------	---

5241 Community Centre Management

The Clerk reported that the Owain Glyndwr CC had been booked by Bryncoch FC for a football festival on 01-02 July 2023 along with the Waunceirch Playing Fields. RESOLVED noted subject to the Clerk writing to Bryncoch FC requesting that certain measures are put in place to minimise disruption as a result of car parking during the weekend.

5242 Police Matters

Councillor J Hale advised Council that some incidents relating to cars and sheds had been experienced in the Caewern area, and requested that appropriate safeguarding statements be published on the Council's social media outlets. RESOLVED agreed.

5243 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5244 Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 27 February 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Resources Committee held on 27 February 2023 be adopted.

5245 Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 13 March 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 13 March 2023 be adopted.

5246 Minutes of the Environment Committee held on 13 March 2023

Members discussed the resolutions of the Committee in respect of the Sunflower Growing Competition (Minute 5231 refers). RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Environment Committee held on 13 March 2023 be adopted, subject to Minute 5231 being set aside and the following arrangement superceding that previously under consideration –

- The competition commence at Aberdulais, Cilfrew, Cadoxton, Caewern and Bryncoch Community Centres on 31 March or 01 April, with nominated Members in attendance
- The competition conclude on 31 August 2023
- Councillor S Mitchell to coordinate supply of materials with Councillor C Lewis coordinating a poster and trophy
- The offer of a £100 grant from Bryncoch Community Association being accepted.

The Clerk drew attention to the Action Plan referred to in the Minutes and which provided the basis of the Committee's work, along with the requirement on the Council to produce a Section 6 Biodiversity Report to Welsh Government. He tabled a copy of a Draft Report based on the Action Plan for consideration. RESOLVED that the Section 6 Biodiversity Report be adopted and submitted to Welsh Government.

5247 Casual Vacancy – Cilfrew Ward

(Councillor C Lewis declared an interest in this Item, left the Chamber and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon. The member of the public also left the Chamber whilst the Item was being discussed and resolved.)

The Clerk indicated that two expressions of interest had been received for the casual vacancy in the Cilfrew Ward, and summarised the content thereof. Members participated in a secret ballot to select a candidate. RESOLVED that Mr R Lewis of Cilfrew be co-opted to serve as a Councillor for the Cilfrew Ward.

5248 2021/22 Accounts

The Clerk reminded Members that a Full Audit of the Council's 2021/22 Accounts had been undertaken by Audit Wales and advised that a qualified audit opinion had been received. He outlined the basis of qualification and clarified actions undertaken or planned to address the relevant issues. RESOLVED that Council acknowledge the audit opinion, accept the response of the Clerk to the issues raised and authorise publication of the Notice of Completion of Audit.

5249 Fixed Asset Register

The Clerk advised Members that a review of the Council's Fixed Asset Register was overdue and that he had confirmed to the Council's auditors that this was in hand. He referred to the previously circulated draft and outlined to Members the principles on which it was drafted and the guidance received in its compilation. RESOLVED that the Fixed Asset Register be adopted.

5250 Neath Port Talbot Replacement Local Development Plan

Members were advised of the consultations received in respect of the Draft Key Issues, Vision and Objectives Background Paper and the Urban Capacity Study in relation to the Neath Port Talbot Replacement Local Development Plan. Following a discussion, it was RESOLVED that the consultations be noted.

5251 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following three items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5252 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5253 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5254 Grounds Maintenance 2023/24

The Clerk referred to the previous decision of Council (Minute 5211, Council, 20 February 2023 refers) and indicated that the quotations from the Council's contractors for the 2023/24 year had been received. He summarised the quotations and comparative prices in previous years. RESOLVED that the quotations received for 2023/24 Grounds Maintenance from NPT Streetscene, South Wales Environmental and Ecosolve/Wayne Duggan, in the sums indicated, be accepted.

5255 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	Welsh Government	Consultation on Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle (Wales) Bill
2	Welsh Government	Consultation on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Changes to Planning Policy Wales

The meeting ended at 8.04 pm

Signed

Dated 17 April 2023

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 17 April 2023 at 6.30 pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath

Presiding Councillor G Morgan
Present Councillors J Hale, J Betts, W Griffiths, C Lewis, Lucia Rabaiotti Jones, R Lewis
Apologies Councillors H Harry, A Burton, A M Broom, S Mitchell, W Evans, C Williams, D Jones, J Harle

5256 Councillor R Lewis

The Chairman welcomed Councillor R Lewis who was attending his first meeting of Council.

5257 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

5258 Matters Raised by the Public in Attendance

There was no matter raised by the one member of the public in attendance.

5259 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 20 March 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 20 March 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

5260 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes

5261 Payments – April 2023

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be approved.

5262 Planning Applications – April 2023

There were no planning applications for consideration.

5263 Community Centre Management

The Clerk provided an update on storage at Caewern and boiler repairs at two community centres. RESOLVED noted.

5264 Police Matters

Councillor J Hale advised Council that a new Police Constable had been appointed to cover the Blaenhonddan area. RESOLVED noted.

5265 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no specific reports for Council.

5266 Cilfrew Community Centre Improvements

The Clerk indicated that an inspection of Cilfrew Community Centre had taken place at the end of the Defects Liability Period and that there were no matters highlighted. The Final Certificate under the Contract had, therefore, been submitted to the contractor and an invoice in respect of the release of retention was awaited. RESOLVED noted.

5267 Training Plan

The Clerk advised Members that the Council's Training Plan, informed by previous inputs from Members, had been published as required by Welsh Government. He indicated an update was now planned and that further inputs were invited. RESOLVED noted.

5268 Applications for Financial Assistance

The Clerk reminded Members of the Council's arrangements for considering applications for financial assistance under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. He summarised the budget agreed for the 2023/24 financial year and summarised the ten applications received.

RESOLVED that the following applications be supported in the sums indicated –

1	Green Footprints Neath	£100.00
2	Catwg Primary School PTA	£100.00
3	Caewern Community Association	£150.00
4	Cilfrew Primary School PTA	£100.00
5	In It Together NPT	£100.00

RESOLVED that the following applications be not supported –

6	Macmillan Cancer Support
7	Wales Air Ambulance
8	Urdd National Eisteddfod
9	Cancer Information and Support Services (CISS)
10	Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod

5269 Public and Press

RESOLVED that further to Subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the following three items, by virtue of the nature of the business to be transacted.

5270 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5271 Health and Safety

There were no reports for submission to Council. RESOLVED noted.

5272 Insurance 2023/24

The Clerk referred to the Council's Long Term Insurance Agreement which was ending on 30 April 2023 and submitted a report on proposals requested from a number of insurance companies with expertise in the local council sector. RESOLVED that Council enter into a three-year Long-Term Agreement with Zurich on the financial terms indicated to Council.

5273 Correspondence

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	Welsh Government	Written Statement – Electoral Reform in Wales
2	Welsh Government	Consultation on Independent Review of the Ethical Standards Framework
3	Mr TP Beaconsfield Cadoxton	Correspondence re Termination of Garden Tenancy Agreement

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm

Signed

Dated 15 May 2023

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Festivals Committee of the Council held in Bryncoch Community Centre, Neath on Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 6.00 pm

Presiding Councillor J Hale

Present Councillors W Griffiths, A Burton

Apologies Councillors, G Morgan, C Williams

5274 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting

5275 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th March 2023

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Festivals Committee held on 13th March be confirmed as a correct record

5276 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5277 To Discuss the Attendance of Utility Warehouse at the Funday

RESOLVED to allow their attendance but to review similar attendance at future events.

5278 Owain Glyndwr Family Fun Day 2023

The Assistant Clerk tabled V.3 of the action plan for the Owain Glyndwr Family Fun Day 2023. RESOLVED to proceed with actions as per the Action Plan and report back to Council accordingly, subject to the following decisions taken after discussion.

RESOLVED to proceed with

- Large Picture Frame from Serol Print at the cost of £60 plus VAT
- Councillor Jonathan Betts will be photographer on the day
- Guides, with guidance from Councillor Amanda Burton, will help with the games and taking money on the slushy/popcorn/candy floss stall as required.
- Stock to be purchased by Assistant Clerk as agreed.
- Banner locations confirmed
 - Wauinceirch Primary School
 - Blaenhonddan School
 - Caewern Park
 - Catwg Primary School
 - Event happening here (Owain Glyndwr Community Centre)

Requested that Assistant Clerk contact Neath College about final banner being located on the college fence instead of Stockhams Corner.

5279 Resources and Roles

RESOLVED that as main roles are covered all remaining roles would be decided upon once attendance is confirmed.

The meeting ended at 6.50 pm

Signed

Dated
