

**These are DRAFT Minutes and may be amended by  
Council when presented for adoption**

**Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan  
Blaenhonddan Community Council**

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 08 December 2025 at 6.30 pm in the Cadoxton Community Centre, Neath and Online

Presiding Councillor H Harry  
Present In Person - Councillors G T Morgan, W Griffiths, J Hutchings, G Morgan, J Hale, C Lewis, C Parry, R Lewis, C Heath, A M Broom, C Parry, L Rabaiotti Jones  
Online – Councillor C Williams  
Apologies Councillors J Betts, A Burton, L Bromham-Nichols

**5908 Chair's Statement**

The Chair read a statement reminding Members of their obligations under the Code of Conduct and the Council's Standing Orders.

**5909 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor J Hutchings declared an interest in Item 13 in respect of the Casual Vacancy in the Cadoxton Ward. Councillor C Lewis declared an interest in Items 7 and 14 in respect of the Cilffriw Primary School Governing Body.

**5910 Matters Raised by Members of the Public**

There were no members of the public present.

**5911 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 17 November 2025**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 17 November 2025 be confirmed as a correct record.

**5912 Matters Arising**

Further to Minute 5896 relating to trees in the car park at Bryncoch Community Centre, the Clerk advised Members of the cost of undertaking necessary tree surgery, and of his intention to make an appointment. RESOLVED noted.

(Councillor C Lewis declared an interest in the following item)

**5913 Mr C Storey**

The Chair welcomed Mr C Storey who was attending Council to meet Members and outline his interest in being nominated as a Minor Authority Governor on the Cilffriw Primary School Governing Body. Following his statement, he responded to some questions posed by Members and received clarification of the role. The Chair thanked Mr Storey for attending, whereupon he withdrew from the Chamber.

**5914 Financial Matters – December 2025**

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report on payments and transfer of funds in December 2025 be approved.

**5915 Planning Applications – December 2025**

RESOLVED no objection to the following applications –

P2025/0661	Amended Plans - Conversion of 2 No Semis to 1 No Detached dwelling	63 Main Road Bryncoch
P2025/0750	Rear Conservatory & Verandah	1 Wernddu Cottages Ty Llwyd Bryncoch
P2025/0821	Garage Conversion	3 Dwr y Felin Road Caewern

RESOLVED no objection to the following applications, subject to the views of the NPT CBC arboricultural officer –

P2025/0798	Work to TPO Trees	109 March Hywel Cilfrew
P2025/0801	Work to TPO Trees	9 Larkspur Close Bryncoch
P2025/0822	Work to TPO Trees	Bryngelli 1A Pencynor Cilfrew

**5916 Community Centre Management**

The Clerk drew attention to concerns expressed regarding a regular hirer of Owain Glyndwr Community Centre and outlined damage which had been made to the building. The hirer had offered to pay for the damage and had confirmed that the group was seeking an alternative premises more suited to their needs. The cost of repairs was outlined to Council. RESOLVED that the repairs be undertaken, the offer of payment be accepted, and that the Clerk agree a timescale for remaining use by the hirer concerned.

**5917 Police Matters**

There were no Police matters to report, but given the level of anti-social behaviour, Councillor C Williams advised Council that a gate had been placed at the entrance to Cwrt Herbert Playing Field. RESOLVED noted.

**5918 Reports from Outside Bodies**

There were no reports from outside bodies.

(Councillor W Griffiths declared an interest in item 1 below whilst Councillor J Hutchings declared an interest in item 2, and neither took part in the discussions or voting on the respective items)

**5919 Casual Vacancies**

1. The Clerk reported two Expressions of Interest had been received to fill the Casual Vacancy in the Bryncoch South Ward. Following a secret ballot, RESOLVED that Ms J Griffiths be co-opted to serve as a councillor representing the Bryncoch South Ward.
2. The Clerk reported two Expressions of Interest had been received to fill the Casual Vacancy in the Cadoxton Ward. Following a secret ballot, RESOLVED that Mr N Hutchings be co-opted to serve as a councillor representing the Cadoxton Ward.

(Councillor C Lewis declared an interest in this item)

**5920 Minor Authority Governor, Cilffriw Primary School Governing Body**

The Clerk reminded Members that Mr C Storey's name had been submitted by the Governing Body for consideration as the Council's nominee, and Members recalled his earlier attendance at Council (Minute 5913 refers). They reflected on the usual arrangements and procedures leading to a nomination by Council, the practice wherever possible of nominating a councillor to such roles, and the need for all Council representatives to report back to Council on their contribution to Governing Body discussions where appropriate. The Chair invited expressions of interest from Members and Councillor C Heath indicated that she would be interested in the role.

(Councillor R Lewis left the meeting at this juncture)

(Councillor C Heath left the Chamber during the remaining consideration of this item)

Members debated the approach that Council should take in arriving at a nomination, including the means of selecting a candidate, and how the decision should be taken in correct procedural and legal terms. Concern was expressed as to whether legally, in the first instance, Council should appoint a councillor if a suitable candidate was identified.

RESOLVED that the Clerk seek advice from the Monitoring Officer at NPT CBC, and report back to Council at the next meeting, but in the event that the legal advice is clear and definitive in favour of a councillor appointment, Councillor C Heath be appointed to the Governing Body of Cilffriw Primary School.

**5921 Section 6 Biodiversity Report**

The Clerk referred to the Council's duty to submit a Section 6 Biodiversity Report under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 to Welsh Government. He tabled a draft report which reflected the Council's Biodiversity Action Plan, which was itself an interactive document informed by actions suggested by the Council and its partners. Members noted the suggestion that Council should investigate what it could do with Ynysllynlladd and that this should be incorporated as a generic reference into the draft report. RESOLVED that subject to a reference to deal with negative factors such as dealing with invasive species, the draft Section 6 Biodiversity Report be approved.

**5922 One Voice Wales AGM**

The Clerk tabled the motions to be discussed at the One Voice Wales AGM, at which Council would be represented by Councillor J Hale. RESOLVED that Councillor Hale be mandated to consider the comments submitted in favour and against the motions and endorse or otherwise the motions according to her judgement.

**5923 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.

**5924 Matters Arising from Exempt Items**

There were no matters arising.

**5925 Health and Safety**

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

**5926 Playground Equipment Quotations**

The Clerk advised Members of the costs quoted for playground repair at Caewern and Cadoxton Playgrounds and stated that prices for Bryncoch, Leiros Parc, Cilfrew and Ynysygerwn, anticipated to be significantly less, were awaited. RESOLVED that the prices received be accepted and that the Clerk advise Council of others when available.

**5927 Correspondence**

RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted –

1	C & C Swansea	Together We Care Awards
2	Jeremy Miles MS	Information re A465 Resurfacing

Signed

Dated 19 January 2026