

These are DRAFT Minutes and may be amended when presented for approval at the next meeting of Council

Cyngor Cymuned Blaenhonddan Blaenhonddan Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Monday 19 January 2026 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, C Lewis, J Betts, J Griffiths, N Hutchings
 Online – Councillor C Parry
Apologies Councillors L Bromham-Nichols, J Hale, R Lewis, C Heath, A M Broom, C Williams

5944 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Councillors J Griffiths and N Hutchings who were attending their first meeting of Council

5945 Chair's Statement

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

5946 Declarations of Interest

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

5947 Ageing Well Initiative

The Chair welcomed Mr D Garnell, Ageing Well Engagement Officer at NPT CBC who addressed Council on his role supporting the Ageing Well Communities in Neath Port Talbot as part of a Welsh Government Funded Initiative. He outlined what he could contribute to a wide range of groups to counteract isolation and promote community cohesion. He clarified his role and the manner in which he works with other professionals at NPT CBC and with other statutory or voluntary bodies. Mr Garnell responded to questions from Members and invited them to contact him with any possibilities for extending his work and supporting others within the Council's area and beyond. The Chair thanked Mr Garnell for attending, whereupon he withdrew from the meeting

5948 Matters Raised by Members of the Public

There were no members of the public present.

5949 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 08 December 2025

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 08 December 2025 be confirmed as a correct record.

5950 Matters Arising

Further to Minute 5916 relating to a hirer at Owain Glyndwr Community Centre, the Clerk advised Members that the hirer had identified alternative premises for their use as of the 1st February 2026. RESOLVED noted.

5951 Financial Matters – January 2026

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report on payments and transfer of funds in January 2026 be approved.

5952 Planning Applications – January 2026

RESOLVED no objection to the following applications –

P2025/0855	Extensions	27 Underwood Road Cadoxton
P2025/0861	Roof Extension	Glyn Hir Neath Abbey Road Neath
P2025/0873	Extension and Fenestration Alterations	25 Maes y Deri Cilfrew
P2025/0910	Detached Service Shed	Tor y Graig Farm Ty Llwyd Bryncoch

5953 Community Centre Management

The Clerk advised Members that a roller shutter had broken at Owain Glyndwr Community Centre and indicated the cost quoted for repair. He also indicated that he was waiting for a price for replacement lighting as the external bollard lights were broken and would be prohibitively expensive to replace. RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be noted and that the repairs proceed as appropriate.

5954 Police Matters

Members were advised that a report would be submitted to the Police regarding the fly tipping of potentially illegal materials on farmland in the Cilfrew area. RESOLVED noted.

5955 Reports from Outside Bodies

There were no reports from outside bodies.

5956 Resources Committee, 15 December 2025

The Clerk summarised the Minutes of a meeting of the Resources Committee held on 15 December 2025, and highlighted in particular the item on the Budget and Precept for 2026/27 (Minute 5933 refers). RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Resources Committee on the 15 December 2025 be adopted and, in particular, that Council –

- retain a capital budget for 2026-27
- approve a draft budget in the sum of £365,600
- set a Precept for 2026-27 in the sum of £365,600

5957 Resources Committee, 12 January 2026

The Clerk summarised the Minutes of a meeting of the Resources Committee held on 12 January 2026, and highlighted in particular the items on the Finance and Governance Toolkit (Minute 5941-5943 refer) which would result in further reports to Council in due course. RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Resources Committee on the 12 January 2026 be adopted.

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

5958 Minor Authority Governor, Cilffriw Primary School Governing Body

The Clerk referred to discussions which occurred at Council on 08 December 2025, culminating in a resolution to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer at NPT CBC (Minute 5920 refers). He also reminded Members that the names of one lay person and one Councillor had been put forward as possible representatives on the Governing Body of Cilffriw Primary School. He provided a verbatim account of the Monitoring Officer's written advice, which indicated that, whilst a lay person could be nominated following a transparent and properly recorded decision, good practice would expect that a Councillor willing to serve should have preference. Following a discussion, it was RESOLVED that Council should nominate a Member of Council to serve on the Governing Body of Cilffriw Primary School, and accordingly, it followed that the Member who had expressed an interest – Councillor C Heath – should be nominated as the Council's representative.

5959 Interim Audit Report, 2025-26 Accounts

The Clerk reported on the Interim Audit Report of the Council's accounts for 2025-26 and indicated that there was only one minor recommendation made. RESOLVED that the report be noted and that the recommendation be accepted.

5960 Capital Programme Schemes

The Clerk referred to a previously circulated report which outlined a number of potential capital programme schemes that Council could pursue, utilising its capital programme funding and other budgets identified in its 2026-27 budget. The report evaluated the deliverability of the schemes, indicative "guestimate" costs that may be involved, and provided a suggested basis for further investigation and implementation. RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be accepted as the basis for progressing future capital programme schemes and that further reports be submitted as investigations are progressed.

5961 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.

5962 Matters Arising from Exempt Items

There were no matters arising.

5963 Health and Safety

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

5964 Playground Equipment Quotations

Members were advised that, despite requesting information, the additional prices awaited had not been received. RESOLVED noted.

5965 Correspondence

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

1	NPT CBC Strategy and Corporate Services	Consultation re Community Councils Liaison Forum
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A number of observations offered by the Council's representative on the Liaison Forum be submitted to NPT CBC.

2	Asbri Planning	Pre Application Consultation – Land at Leiros Parc Bryncoch
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An item be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of Council, and the consultant be advised that comments will be forwarded immediately thereafter.

RESOLVED that the following item of correspondence be noted –

3	NPTCBC	Consultation on Draft Budget
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Signed

Dated 16 February 2026