



Clydach Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Held on Tuesday, 15 July 2025 at 6:00 PM

Venue: Waterfall Suite, Forge Fach Resource Centre & via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Councillors: Julian Nicholds, John Hill, Steve Weller, Eve Jackson, Dylan Williams, Katrina Davies, Siubhan Evans-Jones, Caiden Thomas, Melissa Farr.

Also in Attendance: Assistant Clerk: Camille Griffiths & one member of the public.

Apologies: Councillors: Sue Powell, Richard Bevan & Jason Price, Leah Haines.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were noted from Cllrs: Sue Powell, Richard Bevan & Jason Price, Leah Haines.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Caiden Thomas declared a personal interest in Item 9 (Community Fund), in relation to the grant application from Craigfelin Youth Club/Hillrise Hive and refrained from voting on that item.

3. Public Questions (Limited to 10 Minutes)

Questions submitted in advance regarding the summer planters were considered and members responded accordingly.

4. County Councillor Report

A report submitted in advance by County Councillor Matthew Bailey (who was unable to attend) was read aloud by Chair Councillor Julian Nicholds. The report included updates on the proposed Graigfelen Play Area, ongoing issues with nuisance caused by off-road bikes, and the closure of Lone Road for infrastructure improvements, which are expected to be completed by early August.

5. Casual Vacancy – Glais Ward

It was reported that the Returning Officer had verified that ten requests were not received from electors for an election to fill the casual vacancy in the Glais Ward by the deadline of 4 July 2025.

RESOLVED: The Council will therefore proceed to fill the vacancy by co-option.

6. Co-option – Clydach & Vardre Wards

It was noted that no expressions of interest were received for the vacancies in Clydach and Vardre Wards.

RESOLVED: A new co-option notice will be published to include these vacancies as well as the Glais Ward.

7. Minutes

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2025 were reviewed and approved as an accurate record.

8. Financial Report

Members reviewed the financial report for the period ending 30 June 2025, including payments, receipts, bank reconciliation, and forecast.

RESOLVED: The report was approved.

9. Community Fund

Applications for financial assistance were considered as follows:

- **INCO Retirement – Approved** grant of £300 for coffee, raffle books, prizes, bingo books and hall rent.

- **Hillrise Hive** (supporting the community by providing a space for young people) - **Approved** grant of £300 to go towards buying a box freezer and filling it with food for the summer.
- **Friends of Coed Gwilym Park** – **Approved** grant of £1000 towards the annual Clydach Firework Display.

10. Committee Reports

Actions and recommendations from the following committees were considered:

Open Spaces & Buildings Management Committee (8 July 2025)

- **Biodiversity & Ecosystems Duty**

ACTION: That Officers works with Cllr John Hill to further develop the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report, incorporating images, site plans, and supporting documentation in accordance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

- **Season to Season Lease**

ACTION: A representative from Season to Season be invited to address councillors at the September 2025 committee meeting regarding their lease agreement.

- **Forge Fach Office Air Conditioning**

ACTION: Quotes be obtained for the installation of air conditioning/heating in the Forge Fach office, to be reviewed by the Finance & Audit Committee.

- **Hybrid Meeting Equipment**

ACTION: That Officers explores options for hybrid meeting equipment (including the OWL device) in consultation with Cllr Jason Price, with quotes to be submitted to the Finance & Audit Committee.

- **Emergency Contact List**

ACTION: That Officers circulates a draft emergency out-of-hours contact list for councillor review and finalisation.

Events & Projects Committee (8 July 2025)

- **Summer Fete Planning**

ACTION: The draft schedule and operational plans for the Summer Fete, including confirmed roles for councillors and volunteers be updated with agreed amendments.

- **Remembrance Sunday – 100th Anniversary**

ACTION: That the Full Council note traffic management and road closure arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday ceremony on 9 November 2025, marking the 100th anniversary of the Clydach War Memorial has been confirmed with Quantum TM and the Royal British Legion.

- **Christmas Lights**

ACTION: That the Council note arrangements for installing Christmas lights throughout the village are underway in discussion with Centre Great, with quotes and discussion on Christmas trees and the Parade plans to be held at the next Events Committee meeting.

- **Flag Calendar**

RESOLVED: That the Council supports the Clydach Veterans Network's request to display the Veterans Flag from August to November and approve the alternating display of the Welsh flag and Veterans flag throughout the village in line with the annual events/flag calendar.

Finance & Audit Committee (8 July 2025)

- **Banking**

RESOLVED: That the Council supports the addition of the Assistant Clerk as a card holder.

- **Welsh Language Books**

RESOLVED: That the Council supports the recommendation to spend £150 on Welsh language books as part of Cllr Julian Nicholds' initiative to launch free community Welsh lessons.

- **Grant Application**

RESOLVED: That the Council supports the recommendation to award £1,000 from the Community Council's Community Fund to Calon y Gymuned to support the ongoing delivery and development of Clwb Calon. The grant will fund inclusive holiday "stay and play" sessions for families in the Clydach area with children who have Additional Learning Needs or have experienced challenging early life circumstances.

11. Dispensation

A request for dispensation due to personal circumstances was received from Cllr Richard Bevan.

RESOLVED: The Council approved the request for dispensation from attendance for up to six months ending 15 January 2026.

12. Members Reports

A report was received from Cllr Julian Nicholds regarding the Graigfelen Play Park.

13. Planning

The Council reviewed the attached report on current planning applications submitted since the last meeting. No objections were raised.

14. One Voice Wales Extra General Meeting

The revised constitution was reviewed, and suggestions were noted for submission.

RESOLVED: Cllr Sue Powell was confirmed as the representative to attend the meeting on 3 September 2025 and Cllr Steve Weller agreed to check his diary as a back-up plan.

15. Nursery Refurbishment

A discussion took place regarding the absence of the required documentation for the Forge Fach Nursery refurbishment, which occurred during the summer of 2024.

RESOLVED: That an officer write to the nursery owner informing them that they have 14 days from 17 July 2025 to provide the necessary documentation. Failure to comply will result in the closure of the nursery due to Health and Safety risks.

15. Other Matters

There were no other matters raised.

16. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that there were no meetings scheduled for the month of August and that the next meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday, 16 September 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Meeting closed at 6.55PM

Signed:

Chair:

Date: