

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of Meeting 12th February 2026

Present: Cllr Eryl O'Neill (Vice Chair), Cllr Ceri Woodley, Cllr Zoe Goss, Cllr Adrian Harford, Cllr Colin Woodley, Cllr Tony Biella, Cllr James Woodward, Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach, Cllr Margaret Amos,

Attending: n/a

Apologies: Cllr Adam Rogers (Chair), Cllr Melanie James

2026/027 - Disclosures of Personal Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

2026/028 - PCSO report

No report was provided by the PCSO. It was noted that the PCSO had advised that they would be unable to attend council meeting for the remainder of the year due to a clash with their rest days. **Action 1** – Executive Officer to ask that a written report be provided in their absence.

2026/029 – Defibrillators

Cllr Adrian Harford advised that in addition to the quarry paying for the defibrillator, Penderyn Tower Fund has awarded Penderyn Community Centre £1,500 to cover the costs of a cabinet and installation. Penderyn Community Centre will take on guardianship once it has been installed.

Cllr Harford went on to advise that the defibrillator earmarked for Fairview is still to be installed, but that the property for the Staton Road defibrillator has fallen through. It was noted that the working group are now looking for an alternative location and are considering installing it on a lamppost. The working group will be looking into who would need to be responsible for guardianship and electricity usage in this instance.

Action 2 - Cllr Adrian Harford and the Working Group to continue with this.

2026/030– County Borough Cllr reports

No report was provided by the County Borough Cllrs.

Cllrs reported the following matters to the County Borough Cllrs:

Cllr Zoe Goss advised that dog mess is an issue in Springfield Gardens and asked that a dog fouling sign be installed there. The Keep Wales Tidy pawprints campaign re dog fouling was discussed. **Action 3** – Executive Officer to ask Keep Wales Tidy if the campaign is still running.

Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach advised that the recent bypass road closure closed earlier than the advertised time causing traffic chaos.

2026/031- Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the Meeting of 8th January 2026 were proposed to be true and accurate, subject to a minor amendment, by Cllr Zoe Goss, seconded by Cllr Eryl O'Neill, and agreed nem con.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2026/032 – Flooding at Springfield Gardens

It was advised that this is ongoing. **Action 4**– Cllr Adam Rogers to contact Welsh Government again.

2026/033 – Lease for Old Fire Station

It was advised that this is ongoing. **Action 5** – Executive Officer plus Cllrs Colin Woodley and Adrian Harford to continue with this.

2026/034 –Cllrs Training

It was advised that all Cllrs who had been allocated training had now booked on. It was noted that no one had booked on for the extra dates circulated and that these free places would be lost if not completed by the end of March. **Action 6** – Cllrs to book on via the Executive Officer.

2026/035 – Bank Signatory

The Executive Officer advised that this was ongoing. **Action 7** – Executive Officer to continue with this.

2026/036– OVW Biodiversity Package

It was advised that the Working Group had met and had agreed to apply for the bulbs and wildflower seeds to plant on the grass verge adjacent to the Ironworx Gym, and that Cllr Adam Rogers was seeking permission from RCT before we can apply for the package. **Action 8** – Executive Officer to apply for the package once Cllr Rogers has the necessary permissions.

2026/037 – Community Plant and Seed Swap

The terms of the plant swap were discussed. It was noted that it had previously been agreed that the event would be held at Hirwaun Village Hall and would be in partnership with Rachel's Playhouse. Cllrs agreed that Cylch Meithrin would also be approached to take part, and that Hirwaun Garden Society do not have the resources to be part of this project. It was agreed that the event would take place at the end of March and that Cllr James Woodward would design the event poster. Cllrs discussed them growing some plants from seed to add to the event. **Action 9** – Executive Officer to check the availability of Hirwaun Village Hall. Cllr Tony Biella to confirm the date in which the event is to be held and to contact both Rachels's Playhouse and Cylch Meithrin to ask if they want to be involved. Cllr James Woodward to design the poster once the event details had been confirmed.

2026/038 – Meet and Greet with Rhigos Community Council

The date for the Meet and Greet was set. **Action 10** – Executive Officer to contact Rhigos Community Council.

2026/039 – Forces Fitness Grant

It was advised that Forces Fitness had agreed to return the grant should the event not go ahead.

2026/040 – One Voice Wales AGM

Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach provided an update following the AGM.

2026/041 – Cllr Vacancies for Penderyn

It was advised that no election had been called and that the vacancies would now be advertised for co-option.

2026/042- Planning Applications

1. Proposed single storey rear extension (including demolition of existing rear flat roof extension) loft floor front dormer & front porch – Fron Las, Church Rd, Penderyn.
2. Decision Notice – Change of Use from dwelling house (Class C3) to residential care home for up to 4 residents (aged 0-19) (Class C2) – La Cala, Pontpren, Penderyn.

2026/043- Community Councillors reports:

Cllr Eryl O'Neill advised that she attended Cllrs on the Buses and Hirwaun Village Hall's Soup Socials. She has also completed The Council as an Employer training.

Cllr Zoe Goss advised that she attended the Cllrs on the Buses.

Cllr James Woodward advised that he had attended to Biodiversity working group meeting, and the Understanding the Law training. He also attended Hirwaun Village Hall's Soup Socials and has designed a new logo for the Village Hall along with event posters.

Cllr Tony Biella advised that he attended the Cllrs on the Buses.

Cllr Margaret Amos arrived at the meeting at 7.26pm. She advised that she had attended the public meeting at Penderyn Community Centre in relation to the new residential home in the village.

Cllr Ceri Woodley advised that she had attended the Village Hall's Soup Socials.

Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach advised that she had attended the Cllrs on the Buses, the One Voice Wales AGM, the One Voice Wales Area Committee Meeting and the School Governor's meeting at Hirwaun Primary School.

Cllr Adrian Harford advised that he attended the Cllrs on the buses, the Biodiversity Working Group meeting and the funding session held by Heledd Fychan.

Cllr Colin Woodley advised that he attended the Heidleberg Quarry meeting who have agreed to install a hardstanding at the new Penderyn noticeboard. He also advised that the planter opposite the Cadet Hut is flooded and that someone had drilled a hole on the planter to try to drain it, damaging the planter. He advised that the holes to the internal water reservoir are likely to be blocked, and that the compost in the planter was full of clay. Cllrs agreed to the cost of replacing the compost. **Action 11** – Cllr Woodley to replace the compost and unblock the internal drainage system.

2026/044– Renewal of Community Council Insurance Policy.

The Executive Officer provided an update on the Community Council's insurance policy. Cllrs agreed to renew the policy on a 3 year long term agreement. This was proposed by Cllr Colin Woodley, seconded by Cllr Tony Biella and agreed nem con. **Action 12** – Executive Officer to renew the policy.

2026/045 – Renewal of the Community Council's Membership of The Society of Local Council Clerks.

Cllrs discussed this membership and agreed not to renew. This was proposed by Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach, seconded by Cllr Tony Biella and agreed nem con.

2026/046 – Executive Officers Mobile Phone

It was advised that the Executive Officers mobile phone was 7 years old and in need of replacing. Cllrs agreed to the cost of this. This was proposed by Cllr Eryl O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Colin Woodley and agreed nem con. **Action 13** – Executive Officer to purchase a new phone.

2026/047 – Village Green Project

Concerns in relation to the grant specifications and timescales were discussed by Cllrs. It was agreed to contact Action for Hirwaun for an update. **Action 14** – Executive Officer to update the grant documents.

2026/048 – Hirwaun YMCA's proposed Health, Wellbeing and Social Prescribing Partnership Board

Cllrs discussed the proposal and agreed that the Community Council would sit on this board. It was also agreed that Cllr Eryl O'Neill was to be the Council's representative. This was proposed by Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach, seconded by Cllr James Woodward and agreed nem con. **Action 15** – Executive Officer to advise the YMCA accordingly.

2026/049 – Hirwaun & Penderyn in Bloom

Cllr James Woodward put himself forward to judge this competition. This was seconded by Cllr Colin Woodley and agreed nem con.

2026/050 – Christmas Painting Competition

The rules of this competition were reviewed and amended by Cllrs. It was agreed that Cllr James Woodward would update the competition poster. **Action 16** – Cllr Woodward to update the poster.

2026/051– Executive Officer’s report

Daisy Communications - £101.00 Print Partnership - £17.58
Centregreat - £3,768.00 Zurich - £1,585.83

Consultations:

1. RCT CBC Let’s Talk Budget 2026-27 (Phase 2) Consultation.

Correspondence:

1. It was noted that the Youth Representative for Hirwaun has resigned. **Action 17** – Executive Officer to advertise the vacancy.
2. Civility and Respect checklist.
3. NALC – Legal Advice Note – Copyright.
4. OVW – Legal Topic Note – Copyright.
5. OVW – Legal Topic Note – Participating in Webinars.
6. Cost of Living network event by Heledd Fychan.
7. Joint OVW and Planning Aid Wales event – Improving our Local Places.

Other:

1. Staff training – It was advised that training is due for the staff at the village hall. It was noted that the Community Council is responsible for this as the employer, but, as a one off, the Village Hall is in a position to pay for the training. It was advised that the training provider can no longer accept cheques and the hall does not have internet banking yet. Cllrs agreed to suspend the financial standing orders in this instance to allow the council to pay for the training via internet banking, and the that the Village Hall would then transfer the money over by cheque. It was noted that the financial standing orders are due for review in the next few weeks to allow the council to pay via online banking moving forward. This was proposed by Cllr Margaret Amos, seconded by Cllr Eryl O’Neill and agreed nem con. **Action 18** – Executive Officer to arrange for the payment to be made.
2. Spring Clean Cymru – Cllrs agreed to hold a litter pick to take part in Spring Clean Cymru 2026. **Action 19** – Executive Officer to circulate the dates to the Working Group to organise.

2026/052 - Urgent items at the Chair’s discretion

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.19pm.