

## **Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council**

### **Agreed Minutes of Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**Present:** Cllr Eryl O'Neill (Chair), Cllr Zoe Goss (Vice Chair), Cllr Ceri Woodley, Cllr Adrian Harford, Cllr Margaret Amos, Cllr Jane Wayling, Cllr James Woodward, Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach, Cllr Adam Rogers

**Apologies:** Cllr Colin Woodley, Cllr Tony Biella, Cllr Tim Williams,

**Excused:** Cllr Karen Morgan

**Attending:** Gareth Edge – A River for All Project, South East Wales Rivers Trust

#### **2026/170 - Disclosures of Personal Interest**

There were no disclosures of interest.

#### **2026/171 - Gareth Edge – A River for All Project, South East Wales Rivers Trust**

Gareth Edge provided Cllrs with an update the A River for All Project with South East Rivers Trust. As part of their project, they carried out a species level study in the Cynon Valley and invertebrates were found that have not been seen in the valley since 1912. The project has also worked with different community groups within Hirwaun and Penderyn. He advised that he is in the process of applying for funding to extend the A River for All Project for another 5 years and asked Cllrs if the Council would provide a letter of support for the grant funding.

Cllrs discussed the request and agreed to provide a letter of support for the project.

**Action 1** – Executive Officer to provide the letter of support.

#### **2026/172 – South Wales Police Update**

Cllr Zoe Goss provided Cllrs with an update from the South Wales Listens website.

#### **2026/173- Defibrillators**

Cllr Adrian Harford advised that we may need to extend the area we are looking at to install the Station Road defibrillator. He also advised that RCT CBC will not give permission to install the Woodland Park defibrillator on a lamppost.

**Action 2** –Cllr Harford to continue with this, along with the working group.

#### **2026/174 - County Borough Cllr reports.**

The following report was provided by the County Borough Cllrs:

##### **Police**

We reported dangerous parking on the zig zags near the zebra crossing outside Co-Op.

We have requested more traffic warden patrols to assist police. We are glad to see they have been out recently. As many will know, the police recently did a big operation to tackle speeding, mobile phones being used while driving and no seatbelt use.

Cuppa with a Copper- *Penderyn Community Centre*, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 10am

*Hirwaun YMCA, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 10am*

PACT Meeting

*- Hirwaun YMCA, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 18:00*

### **Streetcare**

Next black bag waste collection date is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July.

Requested the dog fouling bin on *Tower Road* to be moved from outside a resident's property.

Requested a new litter bin with a lid for above *Greenwood Drive*.

Reported glass in *Tramway playground*.

Reported missed food collections on *John's Lane* and *Keeper's Lane*. As well as black bags on *Keeper's Lane*.

### **Highways**

*Croesbychan* bridge repair scheme- RCT were unable to give a definitive completion date at the beginning of the works, based on several variables that could affect progress. Following the latest contractor update, the scheme is on course for completion by mid-August 2026, with the road remaining closed throughout. The works will include concrete repairs to the underside of the bridge deck, removal of the footway/verge to undertake repairs to the topside of the bridge deck and waterproofing the bridge deck. This will be followed by reinstating kerb lines, footways, verges and the highway – including resurfacing over an extended length of around 100-metres.

Bridge to *Ironworks*- Following our e-mail to RCT, the Council are working to make the bridge safe. The Structures team are dealing with a permanent repair of this bridge. If any resident witnesses any vandalism, please report to RCT.

Carriageway resurfacing works are taking place from 08:00 to 16:00 from 24/07/2026 – 27/07/2026 at *Hepste Bridge Road, Penderyn*. Access will be maintained to premises.

Wales & West Utilities works are taking place on *Davies Row, Hirwaun*, from its junction with *Heol Uchel* in a northerly direction for a distance of approximately 82 meters. A temporary two-way system shall be implemented for the duration of the closure to accommodate for resident access. This system shall operate from No's 19 & 20 *Davies Row*, to the northern end of the closure point. 24 Hour Closure, 20/07/2026 – 16/08/2026.

Poling works are to take place in *Llwyn-Onn, Penderyn* from the common boundary of No's 17 & 18, in a north-easterly direction to No's 20 & 21, a distance of approximately 22 metres. Daytime Closure on 14/07/2026, 10:00 – 17:00. Access for emergency services will not be maintained.

Reported the dangerous road conditions on the A4059 at the *Ystradfellte* turning. Chippings are being washed onto the road, causing the driving conditions to become slippery. The road itself needs cleaning and the chippings need to be removed from the layby.

Resurfacing works have been carried out in *Greenwood Drive* and on *Railway Terrace*. Both areas we have reported potholes many times.

### **Flooding and Drainage**

Requested a road sweeper to clear drains on *Station Road*.

### **Penderyn Water Issues**

Our petition that reached 450 signatures was sent to Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water's CEO, Roch Cheroux. We have received the following response:

"Thank you for contacting Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, and for forwarding the petition.

Your correspondence addressed to our Chief Executive Officer, Roch Cheroux, regarding water supply issues in Penderyn, RCT, has been received and is currently under review. The matter has been escalated for investigation and we will contact you within 10 working days, sooner if possible, with either a further update or a full response." We will keep residents updated.

### **Home to School Transport**

Following concerns raised about school transport, this department has spoken with both the transport company owner and the Headteacher. Both have confirmed that they are not aware of any concerns beyond the usual day-to-day matters that can occasionally arise on school transport. No significant or ongoing issues have been reported to either

party. If parents have any specific concerns, they should contact the Council directly so that these can be logged formally and addressed promptly through the correct procedures.

Put in a request for a bus shelter at *Denbeigh Court, Hirwaun*. With cuts to school transport, more students are needing to use the public buses.

#### **Public buses**

Cheaper bus travel- £1.50 maximum single fare for all journeys that start and end within RCT. July 18<sup>th</sup>-August 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Council Meetings**

RCT Labour voted against call to provide sustainable funding for ALN support

- RCT Labour presented an urgent Notice of Motion which was a misrepresentation of facts and only asked for a one-off payment to support Additional Learning Needs across Wales.
- RCT Plaid Cymru presented an amendment to this motion which recognised that ALN support needs a sustainable, strategic approach as part of a longer-term investment plan across multiple financial years. Not just a sticking plaster!
- RCT Labour disagreed and voted against the amendment.
- Plaid Cymru, at a local level here in RCT and nationally across Wales, are absolutely committed to children and young people with additional learning needs. The whole system needs addressing.
- RCT Plaid Cymru were forced to abstain from voting for Labour's inaccurate, inadequate motion, it would have been hypocritical to do anything else much the same as Labour's urgency now when they had 27 years to put ALN on a sustainable financial footing and failed to do so!

Plaid Cymru Councillors supported calls to reaffirm the Council's commitment to preventing domestic abuse and supporting survivors, and develop further opportunities to strengthen local prevention, early intervention, and support services. We put in an amendment to add an invitation to the National Adviser for Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) to address full Council. For all councillors to better understand the issues and improve our provision. This was approved.

Cllrs reported the following matters to County Borough Councillors:

Cllr James Woodward thanked Plaid Cymru for doing more to prevent domestic abuse.

Cllr Margaret Amos referred to the orange X's on trees in Penderyn and asked how long until BBNP deal with them.

Cllr Zoe Goss asked if there was a specific end date for the road works on Swansea Road. It was advised that there is a national change in pipes from copper to plastic, and that the works are being carried out by Wales & West Utilities rather than RCT CBC.

#### **2026/175 - Minutes of Previous Meeting.**

The minutes of the previous meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> June 2026 were, subject to a minor amendment, proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Margaret Amos, seconded by Cllr Ceri Woodley and agreed nem con.

The minutes of the Special Meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026 were proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Jane Wayling, seconded by Cllr Adrian Harford and agreed nem con.

## **Matters arising from previous meeting**

### **2026/176 – Home to School Transport**

The Executive Officer updated Cllrs following a response to our email to the Home to School Transport. **Action 3** – Executive Officer to forward the response to Cllrs. Cllrs to provide their comments to the Executive Officer who will collate the responses to reply further to RCT CBC.

### **2026/177 – Village Green Project**

It was advised that this is ongoing. **Action 4** – Working Group to continue to liaise with Action for Hirwaun with regard to Phase 2 of the project.

### **2026/178 – Cllrs Training**

The Executive Officer advised that this is ongoing. **Action 5** – Executive Officer to review the outstanding training places and to allocate accordingly.

### **2026/179 – Cllr Vacancy for Hirwaun Ward**

The Executive Officer advised that this is ongoing and the vacancy would be readvertised with a deadline in time for discussion September meeting. **Action 6** – Executive Officer to re-advertise the vacancy during the summer recess.

### **2026/180 – Dignity at Work Policy**

Cllrs discussed this and agreed to delegate it to the Staffing Committee to review. **Action 7** – Staffing Committee to review over the summer recess.

### **2026/181 – Civility and Respect Pledge**

The Executive Officer advised that this is ongoing and would be agreed once the Dignity at Work Policy had been finalised. **Action 8** – Executive Officer to add to the Agenda September agenda for approval.

### **2026/182 – Lease for the Old Fire Station**

The Executive Officer advised that this is ongoing and will be dealt with over the summer recess. **Action 9** – Executive Officer and Cllr Colin Woodley to continue with this.

### **2026/183 – Fence for the Old Fire Station**

The Executive Officer advised that this is ongoing and will be dealt with over the summer recess. **Action 10** – Executive Officer and Cllr Colin Woodley to continue with this.

### **2026/184 – Public Consultation Event**

The Executive Officer advised that this will be arranged for after the summer break. It was agreed that any underspend from the Seed Bomb Event will be allocated to this event. **Action 11** – Executive Officer to arrange this event.

### **2026/185 – One Voice Wales Biodiversity Packages**

The Executive Officer advised that the grant application has been submitted, and we have been advised that we have been successful to progress with the packages requested. **Action 12** – Executive Officer to continue with the application process.

### **2026/186 – Dog Fouling Campaign**

The Working Group advised that this is ongoing. **Action 13** – Working Group to continue with this.

### **2026/187 – External Audit**

The Executive Officer advised that the External Audit was submitted to Audit Wales before the deadline.

### **2026/188 – Safe Routes in Communities**

Cllrs reviewed the information gathered by the Working Group and agreed that the timescales are too short for this years application, and that they would continue to gather evidence for next years application.

### **2026/189 – Duck Race**

It was noted that this event has not yet taken place.

### **2026/190 -Planning Applications**

1. Permission Granted – Single Storey rear extension - Erw Lon, Church Road, Penderyn, Hirwaun.

### **2026/191 - Community Councillors reports.**

Cllr Zoe Goss advised that she had helped to distribute the Environmental competition prizes and had planted the extra plants in our planters which have received a lot of positive feedback.

Cllr Adrian Harford advised that he had carried out two litter picks and attended the Grass Verge Working Group meetings in Hirwaun and Penderyn.

Cllr James Woodward reported that he had carried out the following:

- Grass Verge Working Group meeting in Hirwaun
- Worked on the Environmental competition
- Designed the Poo Patrol poster
- Planted the plants at the Cadet Hut planters

He also raised queries about the lack of nature corridor with the new Heads of the Valley road and asked if RCT CBC could do something similar to the Merthyr Biodiversity Partnership. It was noted that there are pipes through the new bridges on the Heads of the Valley road to allow wildlife to pass through.

Cllr Adam Rogers advised that he had attended the Grass Verge Working Group meetings in Hirwaun and Penderyn. He also raised a declaration of interest as he now sits on the planning committee at BBNP and is the Chair of the RCT Education and Inclusion Committee.

Cllr Margaret Amos advised that she had repaired the wooden planters in Penderyn and had attended the Effective Staff Management training.

Cllr Jane Wayling advised that she attended the Grass Verge Working Group meeting in Penderyn and carried out a litter pick. She referred to resident complaints regarding speeding which it was advised was a police matter. **Action 14** – Executive Officer to re-publish the Think poster on the Facebook page and add it to the noticeboards.

Cllr Eryl O'Neill reported that she had attended the following:

- Effective Staff Management training
- Cuppa with a Coppa – where issues such as off road bikes were reported
- Voice, Value, Vision meeting
- Elizabeth Andrews unveiling – where the maquette of the statute was donated to Hirwaun
- Penderyn Primary School Governors meeting
- Distributed the Poo Patrol equipment
- Health and Wellbeing committee at the YMCA

Cllr O'Neill concluded by asking if the Village Hall training dates could be circulated to Cllrs.

Cllr Adam Rogers asked if Cllrs could report back in writing following meetings such as School Governors. It was agreed that Cllrs would email a paragraph to the Executive Officer to collate into one document. A request was also made for a report to Council outlining matters discussed at the Village Hall meeting. This was refused as these meetings discuss hall repairs and finances which are outside of the Council's remit.

### **2026/192- Code of Conduct**

Cllrs formally adopted the updated Code of Conduct. This was proposed by Cllr Ceri Woodley, seconded by Cllr Margaret Amos and agreed nem con.

### **2026/193 – Electrical Certificate – Old Fire Station**

The cost of the Electrical Certificate was approved by full council. This was proposed by Cllr Jane Wayling, seconded by Cllr Adrian Harford and agreed nem con. **Action 15** – Working Group to continue with this.

### **2026/194 – Bus Shelters**

Cllrs discussed the following requests for bus shelters:

- Brecon Road – It was noted that this request had already been made.
- Heol Uchel – It was noted that a new shelter was due to be installed.

- Denbeigh Court – It was noted that only 3 children currently use this bus shelter, and that there is a bus shelter a short distance away at Greenwood Drive. Cllr Adam Rogers proposed that a request be made to RCT CBC to install a bus shelter at Denbeigh Court. This was seconded by Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach. A vote took place with four Cllrs voting for, four Cllrs voting against, and one abstention. Cllr Adam Rogers asked that it be placed on record that he had voted for the shelter to be installed. The Chair had the casting vote, and it was agreed that a request be made to RCT CBC to install the bus shelter. **Action 16** – Executive Officer to make the request to RCT CBC.

### **2026/195- Community Council Environmental Projects**

Cllr James Woodward asked if Trivallis could add a cut and collect regime to the Havens roundabout.

Cllr Jane Wayling reported back from the Penderyn Grass Verge Working Group meeting that RCT CBC had refused the request to install a wildflower strip on the grass verge at the War Memorial but had given permission to install planters there.

### **2026/196 – Walking Festival**

The Working Group provided an update on the two walks planned for the Walking Festival. It was agreed that walkers would take their own food rather than the council providing a buffet. It was asked if photos of last year's walk could have been included on the poster instead of AI.

### **2026/197 – Seed Bomb Event**

The date and time of the Seed Bomb event was agreed by full council. **Action 17** – Executive Officer to continue organising this event.

### **2026/198 - Executive Officer's report**

|                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Daisy Communications - £121.27 | Print Partnership - £10.43   |
| Audit Wales - £630.52          | Boverton Nursery - £2,706.00 |

Consultations:

1. The Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru survey on Cllrs and perceptions of Town and Community Cllrs.

Correspondence:

- Crafty Growers email of thanks.

- One Voice Wales Digital Training – Digital Foundations and Digital Basics to Confident Practice. Permission was granted for the Executive Officer to attend both training courses. **Action 18**– Executive Officer to book onto the training.
- One Voice Wales – Internal Audit Practice Development note.
- Freedom Of Information request – Cllrs discussed the request made and agreed to seek advice from One Voice Wales. **Action 19** – Executive Officer to deal with this.

**2026/199- Urgent items at the Chair’s discretion**

There were no urgent items to discuss.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.48pm.