

ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10th MARCH 2025 AT SARN LIFELONG LEARNING CENTRE AND VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

Councillors: Bernard Tiltman (Chair)

C Booton
I Curzon (via zoom)
E Davies (via zoom)
Y Walton-Davies
P Deenik
M John (via zoom until 7.30 pm)
D McConnell (via zoom)
T Miles
S Morgan
T Nicholls
T Thomas
M Williams

Apologies: None

Clerk & RFO: Ann Harris

Public: None

Minute No: 163/24-25

164/24-25 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Name	Minute Number	Declaration	Speak/Vote
Emma Davies	167 & 178/24-25	Employee Awen Cultural Trust	No/No
Yvonne W-Davies	169/24-25 170/24-25	Member Coity Higher Community Council Coity Wallia Commoner	No/No Yes/No
Paul Deenik	178/24-25	Ynysawdre Community Council Chair	No/No
Shaun Morgan	None relevant None relevant	Tenant Allotment Gardens Bryncethin Bryncethin Community Centre and Bryncethin RFC	No/No No/No
Mark John	All relevant incl 178/24-25 173/24-25	All BCBC Matters Member Ynysawdre CC Knows both contractors	No/No No/No No/No
Terry Nicholls	178/24-25	Ynysawdre Community Council	No/No
Tim Thomas	All relevant 178/24-25	All BCBC Matters Ynysawdre CC	No/No No/No
Martin Williams	All relevant 169/24-25 169/24-25	All BCBC Matters Vice-Chair Coity Higher Community Council Spouse part of the Boundary Review working group team	No/No No/No Yes/No

165/24-25 ITEM 3 PUBLIC TO SPEAK

There were no members of the public in attendance.

166/24-25 ITEM 4 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2025 MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the January 2025 ordinary meeting had been distributed with the meeting papers.

Resolved: The Minutes were accepted and approved as being a true and accurate record and the Chair signed the minutes.

167/24-25 ITEM 5 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FEBRUARY 2025 MEETING**Minute 148/24-25 Cenin ref. Mynydd y Gaer Wind Farm Proposals**

The Clerk has chased up both Cenin agree resolutions and have not received a reply.

Minute 151/24-25 To Consider Matters Arising from the January 2025 Meeting

Land at Vale View: the Clerk informed Councillors that the Council's solicitors are currently chasing the Vendors solicitors for the contract papers to enable them to proceed with the legal process.

Bench Daleside: Consultation letters have been sent out to the residents living nearest to the proposed location for the bench at Daleside and Penybryn.

Library Support: A response to Councillor Spanswick's member referral on the library has been received. A response has not been received to the Chair's letter dated 29th January 2025.

Project Suggestions for BCBC's T&CC Fund 25/26: The Clerk gave an update on the quotations received, a site visit with the Rights of Way Manager and his email to the Open Spaces Manager. Two applications had been submitted to the fund as requested.

Diversion of Footpath 55: A site visit will take place on 14th March at 10.00 am. The Clerk fed back the responses from Cenin to the questions raised about the diversion.

Minute 155/24-25 T&CC Forum Feedback

The Clerk had fed back the council's comments and responses to feedback will be raised at the BCBC Clerk's meeting on 20th March 2025.

Resolved: The information was accepted. The Clerk was asked to circulate the responses from Cenin on the diversion of footpath 55 to all.

168/24-25 ITEM 6 CRIME FIGURES FEBRUARY 2025

The crime figures for February 2025 had been included in the meeting papers. There were no SW Police present. The crime figures were discussed. The theft of a Post Office vehicle was mentioned.

Resolved: The information was noted.

169/24-25 ITEM 7 ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENT REVIEW

The relevant pages of the review had been copied for councillors and these were discussed. The Clerk was asked to invite the BCBC Business Support Group Manager to the April 2025 meeting.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to feedback the following by 7th April 2025:

- SBM does not accept the proposed new arrangements and wishes to strongly reiterate its previous recommendation that St Brides Minor Community Council and Ynysawdre Community Council should be amalgamated into one council, in line with the arrangements for borough councillor representation of these wards. In particular it will not split communities.
- SBM accepts that the part of SBM which sits south of the M4 should be excluded and accepts the review's view that these should sit within Coity Higher Community Council.
- That the council's name should be St Brides Minor and Ynysawdre Community Council.
- That councillor representation should be in line with the equation mentioned in the review.
- The review proposals are not compatible with the two Coity Wallia Acts of 1976 and 2006. BCBC will be aware that the terms of these Acts in their present form must be complied with. Should the review wish to amalgamate Coychurch Higher with another council, with the legislation of the acts in mind, SBM suggest that consideration be given to amalgamate Coychurch Higher CC with Ogmre Valley CC.

170/24-25 ITEM 8 RESPONSE TO PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT MYNYDD Y GAER

The PAC information on the proposed development at Mynydd y Gaer Common, to the north of Heol y Cyw Bridgend had been circulated to councillors. Councillors had also been sent correspondence received from residents on the proposal as well as a copy of Dr Paul Davies' response. The proposals were discussed.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to feedback the following by 12th March 2025.

- Lapwings are in severe decline in the UK due to habitat loss, they have very particular needs. It is considered that the mitigation as offered in this application will not meet these needs. Consequently these birds would be at serious risk of become locally extinct.
- The statement on the Bridgend Energy Hub website is misleading. It states that the combined output of both the solar and wind projects will supply 72,000 homes; these two projects will not be connected to the grid and will only deliver energy to private customers. Therefore there will be zero benefit to local people who will have to live with the environmental losses, seriously affecting mental health and social inconveniences for a generation or more.
- Many people enjoy the hobby of driving and riding off-road vehicles. Yet there are few opportunities to partake of this hobby legally. The public byway (believed to be an historic highway) is one of those few. The council believes that extinction of this right will clearly lead to an increase in illegal use of the site. How is the proposer going to monitor this illegality twenty four hours a day and ensure police attendance when illegal vehicles are detected?

- SBM CC disagrees with the application of the Coity Wallia Commons Act 2006 in this proposal and believe the correct legislation is the 1976 Act which should be used.
- SBM CC supports Dr Paul Davies' response to this PAC.

171/24-25 ITEM 9 FEEDBACK FROM SBM HOSTED CHAIRS & CLERKS MEETING 26/2/25

Councillor Tiltman gave feedback on the meeting which he Chaired. 10 councils had attended and it was agreed that the meetings are a good idea and should continue. The meetings will rotate around the borough and Maesteg Town Council has agreed to arrange and host the next meeting to be held on 28th May 2025 at 6.00 pm. Discussions took place on CAT leases, double taxation, the electoral review and the provision of a T&CC officer. It was agreed that the successful applicant needed to have T&CC experience and create a bridge between BCBC and T&CCs. SLAs with BCBC were discussed and the Clerk of Newcastle Higher CC agreed to draft a letter for all councils, including those that were unable to attend, to approve before sending to BCBC. It was agreed that the SBM CC Clerk would pull together a database of what each council is responsible for and a list of successful grant funding bids and a list of contractors would be collated in future.

Resolved: The feedback and resolutions were accepted.

172/24-25 ITEM 10 DEFERRRED FINANCIAL REQUESTS 2024/2025

The Clerk had distributed a list of 10 financial requests received in the year. These were all considered and discussed. There is £350 remaining in that budget line.

Resolved: It was agreed to donate £250 to the Gateway Church Easter Egg Hunt and to ask them to acknowledge SBM CC's donation and logo on any published material.

173/24-25 ITEM 11 GRASS CUTTING 2025/26

The Clerk provided the budgetary information to councillors and information on the footpath Agency Agreement with BCBC was given.

The Clerk had obtained quotes for the grass cutting, weed spraying and footpath maintenance, the quotes had been shared with councillors and a discussion took place.

Resolved: A vote was taken and a unanimous decision was made to award the work for 25/26 to quote 2. The Clerk would make the necessary arrangements.

174/24-25 ITEM 12 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1. Payments

The Clerk requested authority to make the payments listed for February 2025 totaling £20,815.25
The balance carried forward to March 2025 is £45,369.12.

2. Income

- Swansea Building Society bank interest £970.64
- Phase 2 T&CC Fund Rowan's Lane match funding £4,485.70 were received in the month.

It was agreed that both amounts would be moved into the general reserve budget line. The Clerk gave an update on the forecast for the balance c/f to the next financial year.

Resolved: The information was noted and accepted and authority given to make the payments listed for February 2025.

175/24-25 ITEM 13 CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's report. Councillor Tiltman's update had been given in item 9 on the agenda.

176/24-25 ITEM 14 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Tim Thomas: issues this month included homelessness, potholes, pollution to a stream from a fast food outlet and concerns regarding the enforcement of managing the Hybont substances. Councillor Thomas expressed his disappointment at the lack of interest shown by some attendees at the Hybont planning meeting.

Councillor Tracey Miles: Asked for authority to submit an Awards for All application towards the cost of the MUGA and to carry out an up-to-date consultation.

Councillor Shaun Morgan: Had attended the planning meeting on the Hybont applications and had been disappointed by the behaviour of some of the attendees present.

Councillor Terry Nicholls: raised concerns regarding fly tipping including some medical waste at Clos Tyn y Coed. He had reported it and it had been removed straight away. Fly tipping on wasteland between 3 and 5 at Williams Crescent is also a concern.

Councillor Emma Davies: gave updates on a V2C drop-in session in the library, that new documents from Cenin were available in the library and that her Mayor's Citizenship Award nomination had not been successful.

Resolved: All information was noted. It was agreed that Councillor Miles would submit an Awards for All application and carry out an up-to-date consultation. The Clerk was asked to write to CEO of BCBC regarding the behaviour of some of the attendees at the Hybont planning meeting and to write a separate letter asking what the Hybont storage enforcement will entail and how the monitoring will be carried out.

177/24-25 ITEM 15 CLERK'S REPORT

Observations by the Standards Committee: this had been mentioned at the SBM Chairs & Clerks meeting as an exercise in good practice. The Clerk requested that it be included as an agenda item in April.

Memorial Hall Car Park Signs: these have faded and are now blank.

Large Poppies: these are in the 25/26 budget the Clerk asked for authorization to order them now in time for the May 80th VE Day Anniversary.

Double Taxation: the Clerk had sought guidance on this and OVW had said that it would be discussed at their Development Officer meeting on Monday 10th March so hopefully some guidance will follow shortly.

Resolved: All information was approved and noted. The Clerk's request for an agenda item was approved.

178/24-25 ITEM 16 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been forwarded by email to Members and with the Chair's permission 8 further items had been added as they were received after the meeting papers had been distributed.

The following were highlighted by the Clerk:

- OVW - request for info on the council's use of General Powers of Competence
- OVW - annual membership renewal of £1,248
- AJG Insurance - request for information to prepare the annual insurance renewal
- Youthworks - draft of playscheme posters
- Ynysawdre CC - request for information on large poppies

- Multiple residents - correspondence regarding Ty-risha Employment Site and the PAC for Mynydd y Gaer
- Coity Wallia Board of Conservators - email ref. fly tipping
- Funding requests from Gateway Church, SSAFA Wales and Kidz Cancer Charity
- Newcastle Higher CC - response to library contribution
- Coity Wallia Commoners - seeking an update on the Cwmberry footpath and advice
- OVW - consultation on the Regional Transport Plan
- Invitation from the Mayor of Maesteg Town Council to an Annual Dinner and Dance

Resolved: The items of correspondence were noted. The Clerk had responded to the OVW request for information, AJG Insurance, Youthworks, Ynysawdre CC, Coity Wallia Commoners and acknowledged the multiple residents' correspondence which she had also forwarded to councillors. Newcastle Higher CC's response was noted. A request was made to include the Regional Transport Plan consultation on the April agenda. The funding requests had been considered as part of agenda item 10.

Note: Councillor M John had left the meeting at 7.30 pm so did not take part in this item.

179/24-25 ITEM 17 PLANNING MATTERS

1 planning request had been sent out in the month and 2 decisions and 0 appeals.

2 Planning Aid Wales event details had been sent out in the month.

Resolved: The information was noted.

180/24-25 ITEM 18 ITEMS FOR THE APRIL 2025 ORDINARY MEETING

The agenda will be kept open for any urgent items that may arise during the month.

- Regional Transport Plan
- Standards Committee Good Practice
- BCBC Business Support Group Manager

The next meeting of the St Brides Minor Community Council will take place on Monday 14th April 2025 at Sarn Lifelong Learning Centre and via zoom at 6.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.43 pm

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Chair of Council

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14th April 2025