

ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 8th JULY 2025 AT SARN LIFELONG LEARNING CENTRE AND VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

Councillors:	Shaun Morgan (Chair) C Booton I Curzon E Davies P Deenik Y Walton-Davies (from 6.14 pm) M John D McConnell (via zoom) T Nicholls T Thomas (via zoom) left the meeting at 7.25 pm B Tiltman M Williams (via zoom)
Apologies:	Councillors T Miles
Clerk & RFO:	Ann Harris
Public:	One (from item 4 onwards)

Minute No: 40/25-26

41/25-26 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Name	Minute Number	Declaration	Speak/Vote
Emma Davies	51/25-26 55/25-26	Employee Awen Cultural Trust Community Governor Bryncethin Primary School	No/No No/No
Yvonne W-Davies	44, 48, 49 51 & 52/25-26 44,51 & 52/25-26	Member Coity Higher Community Council Coity Wallia Commoner	No/No No/No
Paul Deenik	48/25-26	Chair Ynysawdre Community Council	No/No
Shaun Morgan	n/a n/a n/a	Tenant Allotment Gardens Bryncethin Bryncethin Community Centre and Bryncethin RFC	No/No No/No
Mark John	All relevant incl planning 48/25-26	All BCBC Matters Member Ynysawdre CC	No/No No/No
Terry Nicholls	48/25-26	Ynysawdre Community Council	No/No
Tim Thomas	All relevant 48/25-26	All BCBC Matters Ynysawdre CC	No/No No/No
Martin Williams	All relevant 44, 48, 49,51 & 52/25-26 Any relevant	All BCBC Matters Vice-Chair Coity Higher Community Council Member BCBC Standards Committee	No/No No/No No/No

42/25-26 ITEM 3 PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Resolved: There were no members of the public in attendance for this item.

**43/25-26 ITEM 4 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE
ORDINARY AND EXTRAORDINARY 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

The Minutes of the June 2025 ordinary and extraordinary meetings 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.

44/25-26 ITEM 5 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JUNE 2025 MEETINGS

There were no matters arising from the Extraordinary Meeting.

Ordinary Meeting:

Minute 21/25-26 Public to Speak

The Electoral Boundary Review was not discussed at the June 2025 BCBC meeting but is scheduled to be discussed at its 23rd July 2025 meeting.

Minute 23/25-26 Matters Arising from the May 2025 Meetings

Bench Daleside: the Clerk had met with the new contractor this morning to show him where the bench is to be installed and hand over the branding sign to be placed on it. No response has been received from BCBC on this matter despite requesting a licence several times since 1st April 2025.

T&CC Chairs & Clerks Meetings: Coity Higher CC and Maesteg TC have now approved the draft letter ref. the SLA agreement between T&CCs and BCBC.

Minute 25/25-26 Memorial Hall Car Park Lease Update

The council's solicitor has noted the changes requested last month and has sent them to the land owner's solicitor. The Clerk gave an update on the Board's parties to the lease.

Minute 26/25-26 One Voice Wales Motions for 2025 including Quiet Lanes Draft Proposal

It was agreed that the Coity Wallia Board of Conservators was a priority to this item and therefore this will be postponed and requested by Councillor Thomas as a BCBC full council item for the September 2025 meeting.

Minute 27/25-26 Feedback on T&CC Funding Application

A meeting has been set up with the CAT Officer and Group Manager to meet at Sarn Centre on 1st August 2025.

Minute 31/25-26 Member/Ward Reports

Coity Wallia Board of Conservators: it was resolved that Councillor Tim Thomas would draft a motion to request a discussion at a future BCBC full council meeting regarding the lack of transparency of the Coity Wallia Board of Conservators. However three councillors have written to the Clerk asking to amend this resolution as a question to the Cabinet meeting as it is not an issue of concern for all T&CCs in the borough.

Signage Sarn Hill and Pant Hirwaun to Heol y Cyw Road: Councillor Mark John had received a positive response to his referral regarding signage for lorries approaching Sarn Hill and the camber

on the Pant Hirwaun to Heol y Cyw Road, confirming these issues will be addressed.

Minute 32/25-26 Clerk's Report

The representatives of Bryncethin Memorial Hall have agreed to the installation of a defibrillator to the side of the Hall.

Resolved: The information was accepted. It was agreed to amend the June 2025 resolution on writing to BCBC regarding the Coity Wallia Board of Conservators to address it to a Cabinet Meeting and not to a full BCBC Council Meeting. Councillor Tim Thomas would contact BCBC to submit the question to Cabinet.

45/25-26 ITEM 6 CRIME FIGURES JUNE 2025

The crime figures for June 2025 had been included in the meeting papers and these were discussed. Comparison figures had been received from SW Police which were difficult to understand.

Resolved: The information was noted.

46/25-26 ITEM 7 APPROVE THE RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEDULES FOR 2024/2025 AND 2025/2026

The Internal Auditor's Report for the 2024/2025 audit had raised a point that there was no minute to show that the Risk Management Schedule for 2024/2025 had been approved by full council. The Clerk had scrutinized the minutes for that year and in September 2024 Risk Management Schedule 2024/2025 was an agenda item where a resolution was to accept and approve the Schedule; so this was not discussed.

The Schedule for 2025/2026 had been included in the meeting papers pack.

Resolved: The information was noted and full council expressed disappointment that the internal auditor had made this error in the report. The Risk Management Schedule for 2025/2026 was accepted and approved.

47/25-26 ITEM 8 DRAFT ARMED FORCES COVENANT

The Clerk had drafted an Armed Forces Covenant for council's consideration.

Resolved: The Covenant was accepted and approved and the Clerk would now submit it to the Regional Armed Forces Covenant Liaison Officer for approval to publish.

48/25-26 ITEM 9 DIGITAL FOOTPATH MAP

A copy of Maesteg Town Council's document on their 200th Anniversary self-guided trails app had been included in the meeting papers. The Clerk gave members the costings for this project. The Clerk had contacted the Rights of Way Manager to ask if there is any funding available; he confirmed that there is Welsh Government Access Improvement Grant funding which supports new ways of providing residents and visitors with digital access to Rights of Way. If this council provides RoW with details on the platform the digital map will use, whether it will just be showing the RoW network or if other information will be included, if the council is working with a company to create a map and the likely cost of the project then he could determine where this would be something that he could partially fund with the grant funding available.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed in principle to consider this as a project for 2026/2027. The Clerk was asked to make some enquiries from AT Creative and write to neighbouring councils to see if they are interested in collaborating on this project.

49/25-26 ITEM 10 LOCAL BUS SERVICE

Further to last month's discussion, the Clerk had contacted Maesteg TC to ask for further information on their local bus service project and details were included in their papers. This was discussed.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed to write to neighbouring councils Coity Higher CC, Brackla CC, Bridgend TC, Garw Valley CC, Newcastle Higher and Pencoed TC to see if they had an interest in collaborating with SBM CC on this project.

50/25-26 ITEM 11 CHRISTMAS 2025

The Clerk asked council what their wishes are for Christmas decorations, lights and trees for Christmas 2025.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed to arrange the same as Christmas 2024.

51/25-26 ITEM 12 SARN LIBRARY REPORT 2024/2025

The Report had been included in the meeting papers; it was noted that it is a positive report. It was noted that BCBC Cultural Services are looking at the smaller libraries and that Sarn Library had not been included as a community hub on the consultation papers. It is understood that the first consultation is an information gathering process with a second consultation in September/October to outline BCBC's proposals. This was discussed.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to request Performance Indicator comparison figures with Aberkenfig Library and to include this on the September agenda.

52/25-26 ITEM 13 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1.Payments

The Clerk requested authority to make the payments listed for June 2025 totaling £2,998.91
The audited balance carried forward to July 2025 is £102,843.96

2.Income

There was no income in the month.

3.Coity Wallia Board of Conservators

The Clerk asked for authority to release the agreed 2025/2026 payment to the Conservators of £1,250.

Resolved: The information was noted and accepted and authority given to make the payments listed for June 2025. The budget monitoring sheet was accepted. Authority was given to the Clerk to release the donation to the Conservators

53/25-26 ITEM 14 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair raised his concerns regarding an increase in traffic on Brynmenyn Industrial Estate, with lots of parking on pavements, particularly of old trailers. He had messaged BCBC who informed him that it is a police issue.

Overgrown hedges on pedestrian footways was also a concern where in some areas pedestrians must walk on the roadway.

Resolved: The Chairs' concerns were noted. Councillor Mark John would refer both issues to BCBC and the PCSOs.

54/25-26 ITEM 15 MEMBERS/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Bernard Tiltman: raised his concerns about the Home Office agents working on the consultation on the extension to HMP Parc Prison. He said this would have a major impact on road usage, visitors to the Prison, social care once prisoners are released, local medical provision. It was noted that government funding for after prison care is shared equally amongst 21 local authorities despite the size of the prisons differing from authority to authority.

Councillor Tim Thomas: said he had not been consulted on the extension plans for HMP Parc, but would not be classed as a statutory consultee. He updated Members on flooding issues around the Royal Oak area of Bryncethin and Lower Llansantffraid areas. One resident in Queen's Avenue had a particularly unpleasant issue with 1foot of water throughout their property which contained excrement. The unmaintained culverts and blocked drains in the area are a concern. Councillor Thomas also highlighted a derelict lorry bay on Brynmenyn Industrial Estate and the Clos Tyn y Coed play area funding. The developer has given BCBC £80k for the play area but BCBC, but has not transferred the land to BCBC. He said it makes a mockery out of the planning system and has referred the matter to Parks and Policy.

Councillor Emma Davies: informed members that her library volunteer, Ann Williams has received a certificate of recognition from BAVO and asked the Chair if he'd present the certificate.

Councillor Mark John: gave an update on a reply he received to a referral regarding the Footpath 3 closure and a site survey of the development of houses on Leyshon Way.

Councillor Yvonne Walton-Davies: had attended a Sustain Bridgend event in Maesteg Town Hall as a member of the public and gave members an update.

Councillor Ian Curzon: asked if councillors have a scheduled plan of works to cut back the hedges overhanging the footways?

Resolved: All information was noted. It was agreed that Drainage Issues and the HMP Parc Prison Extension would be agenda items for September. It was unanimously agreed to call an Extraordinary Meeting in August if the planning application for HMP Parc's extension is received between now and the September 2025 meeting. The Chair agreed to present the certificate.

55/25-26 ITEM 16 CLERK'S REPORT

Bryncethin Primary School: has requested the council's logo in a specific format to enable them to add it to their new school sports kit which the council donated to.

VJ Day 80th Anniversary: a reminder to members who agreed to light the Lamps of Peace that this will take place on 15th August 2025.

Flower Beds: it was noted that the grass has now been cut around the flower beds and that the beds are planted in red, white and blue to make this years' WWII 80th anniversaries.

BCBC, CEO: a further response on what the planning meeting improvement process will be and how the issues at the Hybont planning meeting will be addressed has been received from Mark Sheppard, CEO. This had been forwarded to all members.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk had provided Bryncethin Primary School with the requested logo.

56/25-26 ITEM 17 CORRESPONDENCE

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

The following were highlighted by the Clerk:

- BCBC - date of next T&CC Forum Meeting - 22nd September at 4.00 pm
- ICO - How the new Data (Use and Access) bill affects your organisation.
- Morgannwg Endeavour - charity evening on 17th July at the Heronston Hotel
- Last Energy - public consultation events ref. Llynfi Nuclear Energy Plant

Resolved: The items of correspondence were noted. The Clerk was asked to invite a representative of Last Energy to attend the October 2025 meeting. The Clerk will read up on the new Data (Use and Access) bill to see if it affects SBM CC.

Note: Councillor M John did not take part in the next item on the agenda.

57/25-26 ITEM 18 PLANNING MATTERS

3 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.

2 items of correspondence from PEDW requesting further comments be submitted by 1st and 9th July 2025 had been received.

Resolved: The information was noted, there were no objections and no further comments.

58/25-26 ITEM 19 STAFF CONFIDENTIAL

Resolved: This item was no longer required.

59/25-26 ITEM 20 ITEMS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2025 ORDINARY MEETING

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

- To invite the new BCBC CEO, Jake Morgan, to the council’s September 2025 meeting.
- Drainage Issues
- HMP Parc Prison Extension Plans
- Draft Annual Report 2024/2025
- To invite Robert Sedgeman of Last Energy to the October 2025 meeting
- Library Performer Indicator Comparison Figures

60/25-26 ITEM 21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the St Brides Minor Community Council will take place on Monday 8th September 2025 at Sarn Lifelong Learning Centre and via zoom at 6.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.34 pm

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Chair of Council

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8th September 2025