

**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 16th April 2025**

**MINUTES**

**Declarations of Interest**

**Members were reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of any personal and or prejudicial interest in the business of this meeting**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Cllr A Parrington, Cllr A Steven, Cllr C Morgan, Cllr H Jones, Cllr H Maurice-Jones, Cllr L Rowland, Cllr L Todd, Cllr N Roberts, Cllr P Morris, Cllr P Roberts, Cllr R Shepherd and Cllr W Cleaver. Youth Rep’s Alex Sullivan and Leo Dowdeswell.

**Other:** Members of the public.

**123. Apologies for absence:** Cllr M Gledhill and Cllr M Woods.

**124. Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were made by:

• Cllr C Morgan, Cllr H Maurice-Jones and Cllr P Morris regarding issues with Hwb Yr Orsedd due to a conflict of interest.

**125. Approval of the Minutes of 19th March 2025** – Minutes were agreed and signed.

**126. Crime Report**

**March**

Domestic Violence 3

Sexual Offences 1

ASB 2

**Total**  6 (Report from PCSO Maddocks 94479)

Cllr A Parrington read through the Crime Report. PCSO Emma Maddocks (94479) was unable to attend. She had contacted to Hwb to ask if one of her colleagues would be able to have a table where members of the public could drop in to ask advice on cyber-crime. This was yet to be confirmed.

**127. Representation's from General Public**

1. John & Joan Filce – The Clerk reported she had received and circulated the reply from Darren Williams regarding the matter brought to council the previous month. Joan Filce reported to the council that she would now write a letter in response from herself.

**128. Matters Arising**

1. **Allotments –** Cllr W Cleaver had no update.
2. **Eisteddfod –** Cllr L Rowland informed that a Cheese & Wine Fundraising Evening was planned for 3rd July. Andy Wilkes was confirmed as the entertainment. Cllr L Todd mentioned the date aligned with the Darland School prom at Rossett Hall but it was decided this wouldn’t be a cause to change the date. Cllr L Rowland reported they were hoping to sell between 40-50 tickets which after Cllr A Parrington had initially worked out rough costings would be sold at £10 per ticket. Cllr H Maurice-Jones suggested they meet with Bethan (Hub Manager) to sort the finer details out. It was decided that the proceeds would be donated to the Eisteddfod committee rather than the profits. Cllr P Roberts suggested a raffle be held to raise more money. It was agreed if someone would take this on then it would be a good idea. Cllr A Parrington suggested if not a ‘buy a square’ style game could be done more easily on the night. The event would be advertised in the next Rossett Rascal.

**129. Matters to be discussed**

1. Footpaths – Cllr H Maurice-Jones and P Roberts both mentioned the dislodged post on Burton Hall Road footpath still not being mended. Cllr H Jones confirmed it was on the list to be fixed. The Clerk gave an update from Sion Roberts, reporting that Cooks Bridge would be getting a new sign but as the path by Waverly Crescent wasn’t recorded as a Public Right of Way it wasn’t a route they would put signage up for.
2. Street Lighting Contract – The Clerk had circulated an email regarding the potential new collaborative contract. All were in favour of staying in the collaborative group, so the Clerk would forward on the required information.

**130. Reports**

County Councillors Reports

Councillor Jones and Shepherds’ Report – Cllr A Parrington requested Cllr H Jones and R Shepherd enquire if there would be any possibility the community council renting one of the garages by the telephone centre to put the trailer as it needed to be moved from the Golden Lion. Cllr R Shepherd would speak to Russell Jones on housing.

Cllr R Shepherd report more potholes had been filled, mainly on Darland Lane.

He had received a complaint regarding the bus shelter being smashed and had contacted Arriva Bus as its their responsibility. Cllr H Jones added that the (mini)bus service that goes through the village was under review as it wasn’t being utilised by many people. Cllr H Jones had argued that the times and stops weren’t publicised enough for public to know and had written to Highways to ask for the information to be more available. Cllr A Parrington also mentioned the Arriva Bus timetables not being displayed at bus stops and requested they be asked to replace them. Cllr N Roberts suggested a QR code that could lead to the timetable online, although not useful for non-tech members of the public.

Sion Roberts (Footpath Officer) had been in touch to remind that members of the public should keep dogs under control in the fields and be more pro-active in picking up after them. Cllr N Roberts added that dog fouling was particularly bad lately in the whole village. Cllr L Todd had reported this and had been informed that it was harder to follow people to urge them to pick up after the dogs in the darker evenings without making them feel uneasy. Cllr H Maurice-Jones mentioned that Sion Roberts had said last year that WCBC would fix the stile and gate in the footpath opposite the before-mentioned footpath on Burton Hall Road and suggested it be a sensible idea to complete both jobs at the same time. The Clerk would contact Sion Roberts regarding this. **Action – Clerk to email Sion Roberts.**

Cllr R Shepherd informed that the police were still working on the 3 priority issues mentioned in previous minutes.

He had received some complaints regarding the ice cream van that was blocking areas outside of St Peter’s School. The PCSO’s had been there to move the van on and the school’s headteacher had also been in contact with the van owner too. Cllr H Jones informed they had been quite insistent on a zero-tolerance policy on inconsiderate pavement/curb parking and tickets would now be issued to offenders.

Clerk's Report – The Clerk had circulated a report. One point made was that the Biodiversity Plan of Action needed renewing this year and so the Clerk would be starting work on this. Cllr A Parrington mentioned that the current wildflower project was to be led by Park Warden Ollie and he would be the only contact. Ollie updated that the project had begun with a section on Alyn Drive dug out ready and wildflower seeds being added soon. Some lavender would be added too from the allocated budget. It was discussed and agreed again that for this year there would only be 2 areas (Alyn Drive and Mountain View) as it was only Ollie working on them at the moment. The council would track the progress of these and further areas would then be considered in the future. **Action – Clerk to sort some “Be Kind to Pollinator” signs for the 2 areas.**

Reports from Community Councillors

• Parks Committee – Cllr A Steven informed there was no news on the Shared Prosperity Funding application yet but some of the parks committee had met with a few different suppliers for potential ideas and design plans should the funding be granted.

He queried if the new gate by the Hub needed attention as it was self-closing and was being left open most of the time, defeating the point of having a gate there to stop children from the park running out and onto the road. It was decided that Cllr P Morris would speak with the fabricator of the gate to ask if there was an option for altering this but short term the Clerk would order some signs reading “Please close the gate” for both sides. **Action – Clerk to order signs from Amazon.**

* Events Committee – Cllr L Rowland reported the Treasure Hunt was ready for the Easter weekend (Friday and Saturday). The Co-op had kindly donated 8 Easter eggs.

VE day on 8th May would involve the unveiling of the new ‘Unknown Soldier’ Statue at 2pm. Cllr W Cleaver had kindly strengthened the new sign and would be erecting it in front of the display board in the flower bed by the Co-op. Cllr L Rowland requested a volunteer to paint the board. Cllr W Cleaver offered. **Action – Cllr W Cleaver to paint display board.** Cllr H Maurice-Jones added the community café would be having an afternoon tea at the Hub following the unveiling. Funding for this was being organised by Sid Howells and the Senior Citizen’s club. Cllr L Rowland had bunting to decorate the area and a large Union Jack flag that would be used for the unveiling. She requested for someone to carry out the unveiling and Colin Hughes was suggested.

Picnic in the Park planning was progressing with 6 stalls confirmed but could hold another 6 potentially. Cllr L Rowland had a contact at the Hub who could possible help with entertainment. Cllr A Parrington suggested as a backup the PA system from the Golden Lion with a play list playing out from the Hub area. Cllr H Maurice-Jones reminded that the Hub would be organising the catering with pre-ordered picnic boxes. Following the discussion in a previous meeting regarding a BBQ it was decided the hub could provide 2 units outside to cook burgers on but would need someone with a hygiene rating certificate to supervise this. Cllr A Parrington would ask Golden Lion Head chef to allocate this. **Action – Cllr A Parrington to speak to head chef of Golden Lion.** Wrexham Football Academy were unlikely to be able to take part this year as they were away at the time of the event. Cllr L Todd suggested speaking to the cadets about a possible climbing wall instead. Cllr H Maurice-Jones also suggested asking Gresford Athletic. Cllr L Rowland informed the proceeds from the tombola would be going towards a defibrillator for Burton and so it was suggested that a Burton councillor take the lead on organising this part of the event. She also requested Cllr’s to donate items for the tombola or a monetary donation that would allow her to buy items instead for it. Cllr C Morgan asked if the choir would be involved and perform a flash mob. Cllr A Parrington would speak to them. Cllr L Rowland reported that Hope House were unable to hold a stall due to a clash in events but kindly invited up to 4 councillors to an open morning at Hope House being held on 26th June at Oswestry. Youth Rep Leo read out a small account of a visit his father had made to the Hospice. Cllr L Rowland would be needing volunteers on the day to help set up and run the day with her. **Action – Volunteers to speak to Cllr L Rowlands.**

Cllr H Jones reported that there would be a drop-in session on Tuesday 29th April for information about City of Culture 2029 that Wrexham were applying for again. He urged it would be great for the city of Wrexham if they won this time.

* Staffing Committee – Nothing to update.
* Floods Committee – Cllr A Steven reported a tree had fallen down on ‘Pebble Beach’ off Alyn Drive but had been removed by NRW. A tent had been put up by an unknown source but again this had moved quickly by WCBC.
* GDPR/IT – Cllr C Morgan reported that he and the Clerk had been given access to the new website and would be uploading additional content over the next few weeks. This would then be handed back to Aubergine for a week to complete accessibility checks and then would be going live, hopefully for the May meeting. Cllr C Morgan was in the process of collating photos and permissions. He requested each councillor to send a photo for their place on the website. Along with changing to the new domain name, the Clerk and Cllr C Morgan had researched different email options and concluded that the best option was with Cloud Next. It would cost £175 per year. This was agreed and would be arranged to happen asap. Cllr H Jones questioned one of the invoices to be paid relating to the current .cymru domain name. Cllr C Morgan explained this needed to be renewed for another year in order to complete the transfer over to the new one.

Cllr C Morgan highlighted that the next issue of the Rossett Rascal was due to be released at the end of May so would need content before the next meeting. It was decided Park Warden Ollie would be interviewed as well as with Mary Taylor as the next ‘Local Legend’. Cllr C Morgan was also keen to include an article about the local defibrillators and their locations.

* Community Agent – The Clerk had received Grant’s report and that was read to the council. Cllr A Steven requested Grants CA phone number be checked as he’d had difficulty getting through to Grant. **Action – Clerk to check CA phone number**
* Youth Representative – Nothing to report from either Youth Rep.

**131. Finance**

1. Cllr A Parrington read through the bank reconciliation for March. He highlighted the accounts looked in a good way to finish the financial year.
2. Invoices were approved, as follows:

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| **Payee**  Hewlett Packard  EE  Nest  Scottish Power  Hwb-Yr-Orsedd  Lee Woodworth Gardener  Mr A Steven  Amazon  One Stop IP  Royal Mail  Mrs H Maurice-Jones  Staff Costs  HMRC | **Purpose**  Instant Ink  NEW SIM cards for Clerk and Community Agent  Pension contributions  Electricity (01.03.25-01.04.25)  Room Hire (March)  Grounds Maintenance  Topsoil for Toddler Park/Chainsaw Equipment  Stationary for Clerk  Domain name (.cymru) Renewal  PO Box Renewal  Compost for Summer bedding/Plants for Burton barrel  Salaries and disbursements  Employers Tax | **Sum £**  11.99  10.94  55.69  748.04  20.00  900.00  187.97  42.83  105.00  445.80  69.75  2613.98  433.44 | **Chq. No.**  Direct Charge  Direct Debit  Direct Charge  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  Card Purchase  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line |

Street Warden’s Disbursements

Petrol £36.45

1. Audit 2022-23 and 2023-24 – The Clerk had contacted Audit Wales regarding the initial decisions made and had appealed. Both Audits had been reviewed and both were given ‘Unqualified’ results. The Clerk had displayed the Audit Notice in the noticeboard and website.
2. Audit 2024-25 – The Clerk informed the new audit information had been received and she had started work on this. It would be handed into the Internal Auditors on Thursday 22nd May and collected in time for the June meeting to agree the Annual Return Statement.

**132. Planning Applications**

**P/2025/0259 - 46 Trevalyn Way, Rossett** - First Floor Front Extension And Erection Of Porch **– Comments Were Due 10th April – No Objections**

**P/2025/0306 - 11 Strathalyn, Rossett -** Works To Trees Protected By Tree Preservation Order Wcbc 97 – **No Objections**

**133. Other Items brought to the Council’s Attention**

Park Warden Ollie mentioned the bollards put up in between the Pharmacy and Co-op and if they were in the correct place legally as they were forcing pedestrians right out near to the road and when there was rainfall that area collects into a large puddle. This would cause pedestrians to walk right out onto the road. Cllr H Jones informed that Highways were due to measure up and check them the following day. Unfortunately, there wouldn’t be much Rossett Community Council would be able to do as the public path was the area right by the road.

Cllr H Maurice-Jones wanted to check if the fencing areas on the edge of the pavement around Rossett Park were there to stop children running out on the roads from the park as she’d been asked by some members of the public about them. Cllr H Jones confirmed they were for safety of children exiting the park areas.

Cllr A Parrington confirmed the planter for Lavister had been order and would be arriving soon. The Clerk would receive the invoice.

A matter had been brought up to the parks committee and so Cllr A Steven questioned if it had been decided about Ollie or Gardener Lee strimming around the Hub benches as they belonged to the Hub but were on RCC land. It was decided that Ollie would complete this and allowed an hour’s overtime every couple of weeks for this. Cllr H Maurice-Jones mentioned there were areas that looked like they needed more attention when it came to the grass cutting. The Clerk would speak to Lee. **Action – Clerk to contact Lee.**

Cllr L Rowland queried if the insurance for the sheds had been checked. Cllr A Parrington and the Clerk hadn’t checked this yet but would make sure it was done before the next meeting. **Action – Clerk and Cllr A Parrington to check insurance.**

**Date of the next meeting Wednesday 21st May 2025 at the The Community Hwb.**

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**