

Blaengwrach Community Council

Cyngor Cymuned Blaengwrach

Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 22nd May 2025 at 6.15pm in the Welfare Hall, Heol Y Felin, Cwmgwrach, and Via Zoom

Present: Councillors Rhian Williams, Carolyn Edwards, Jennifer Bulman, Peter Rudd, David Jones, Alan Edwards,

Council Employees Present: Clerk/RFO Linda Evans

Members of the Public Present: Councillor Hayley Davies

Councillor and Chair R Williams started the Meeting and welcomed all attending. The Meeting is held in accordance with The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 – in person and online via Zoom.

AGM 19/25 Apologies for Absence Councillor: Councillors Andrew Hipsley, Rhian A Williams and Menna Mortimore had sent their apologies.

AGM 20/25 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

AGM 21/25 Nomination(s) & Appointment of Chair of the Council – Councillor Rhian Williams was nominated & seconded. There were no other nominations. Therefore, Councillor Rhian Williams is elected as Chairperson for 2025/26

Chair Councillor R Williams continued to preside the meeting.

AGM 22/25 Nomination(s) & Appointment of Vice Chair of the Council – Councillor Menna Mortimore was nominated & seconded, but was absent from the meeting. There were no other nominations & therefore Councillor Menna Mortimore on her accepting the role is elected as Deputy/Vice chair for 2024/25.

AGM 23/25 Appointment of Councillors to Council Committees -

- Human Resources Committee – Councillors Menna Mortimore, David Jones & Peter Rudd were elected as the Human Resources Committee
- Audit & Finance Committee – Councillors P Rudd, Jennifer Bulman and Menna Mortimore were elected as the Audit & Finance Committee
- Hall Committee – Councillors Carolyn Edwards, Rhian Williams and David Jones were elected as the Hall Committee

AGM 24/25 Councillors to Serve as the Councils Representatives on External Committees:

- Aberpergwm Site Liaison – Councillor David Jones and Amanda Doherty
- Blaengwrach Primary School Board of Governors – Councillor Carolyn Edwards
- CBC Community Liaison Committee- Councillor Carolyn Edwards
- One Voice Wales Neath Area Committee – Councillor Carolyn Edwards (with Councillor Rhian Williams as the Deputy Representative);
- Selar Community Benefits Fund – Councillor Councillors Menna Mortimore & Amanda Doherty
- Trustees of the Council's Open Space Charity – Councillors Jennifer Bulman & Amanda Doherty
- Vale of Neath Practice Patient Participation – Councillors M Mortimore and Peter Rudd

Chair resolved to move the adoption of the Council Financial Regulations before Council Standing Orders.

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AGM 25/25 Adoption of the Council's Financial Regulations:

Prior to the May 2025 AGM, the Clerk provided each councillor with a draft of the One Voice Wales Model Financial Regulations for Community and Town Councils in Wales (NALC 2025 Final). It was RESOLVED that the draft be approved, adopted and reviewed annually.

Officers & Signatories:

The Council's Authorised Signatories were confirmed as – Clerk/RFO Linda Evans, Councillors Menna Mortimore, Peter Rudd & Carolyn Edwards.

AGM 26/25 Adoption of the Council's Standing Orders:

It was RESOLVED to adopt the Council's Standing Orders with the following amendments – 18 Financial Controls and Procurement a) v. £25,000 be replaced with £60,000; and c) £25,000 be replaced with £60,000. Reviewed annually.

AGM 27/25 Adoption of all other Council's Regulations and Guidelines

Councillor Allowance Policy was adopted, and will be reviewed annually. It was resolved that all existing regulations and guidelines were adopted without amendments, and will be reviewed annually. RESOLVED

AGM 28/25 Proposed Dates of the Monthly Meetings for 2024/25

AGM: May 21st 2026. It was decided that the monthly meetings for 2025 – 26 are as follows: 19th

June 2025, 17th July 2025, 18th September 2025, 16th October 2025, 20th November 2025, 15th January 2026, 19th February 2026, 19th March 2026 & 16th April 2026.

The venue of the meetings will be The Welfare Hall, Heol Y Felin, Cwmgwrach and Via Zoom.

Meeting closed 6.30 p.m.

Accepted as a true record

Signed:

Councillor Rhian Williams - Chair