



CYNGOR CYMUNED
CEFN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE GEORGE EDWARDS HALL AND ZOOM AT 10:00 AM ON

Tuesday, 19th of May 2026

Chair: Councillor Mr P Vaughan

Present: Councillors Mrs S Benbow-Jones, Mrs I Twigg, D Wright & Mrs G Wright also Clerk Trina Nicholls-Smith & A Ruscoe. Also Mr Liam Jones of Active Wrexham.

1. Apologies: Project Coordinator Deio Jones, Mrs J Jones

2. To Receive Declaration of Interest from Members

None Received.

3. Update on items from previous meeting, if any – Community Development Officer to report

3.1 Update on Item 3 of the previous Minutes – Presentation from Mr Shane Hughes, Natural Resources Wales

The Community Development Officer reported that Mr Shane Hughes had advised that the application for National Forest for Wales recognition may take a few months to be reviewed, as applications are considered quarterly. Members were advised that, as part of the application process, a site visit would be required and was likely to take place within the next month. It was noted that the Council now awaited confirmation of a date for the site visit to review the potential for National Forest for Wales recognition. The Tree survey was completed with Derwen College to see what Tree species are at the MUGA as part of the Application.

Recommendation: To note the update and await confirmation of the site visit date from Natural Resources Wales as part of the National Forest for Wales application process.

3.2 Update on Agenda Item 4 from the previous Minutes – Invitation to Sue Mills of Ty Mawr and Nicola Ellis of Wrexham Council regarding the Ty Mawr 40th Anniversary celebrations

The Community Development Officer reported that he had supported Mr Edge with the development of a location plan for potential event activities as part of the Ty Mawr 40th Anniversary celebrations, including the proposed attendance of tractors being brought to the event by Mr Thomas.

Members were advised that this followed a meeting held at the George Edwards Hall regarding transport arrangements for the Carnival Queen event on 20th June 2026, where the

Clerk is due to be one of the judges. Thanks were also noted to Councillor Donna Parry for her support.

It was further reported that future engagement would be progressed directly with Councillor Sue Mills going forward. Members were also advised that Ty Mawr was still seeking a trailer, or suitable alternative, which could potentially be used as a stage for the event, and any assistance with this would be welcomed.

Recommendation: To note the update, continue supporting the planning arrangements for the Ty Mawr 40th Anniversary celebrations and Carnival Queen event where required, and to work directly with Councillor Sue Mills on future arrangements.

3.3 Update on Agenda Item 7 from the previous Minutes – Update on the Community Notice Boards

The Community Development Officer reported that the Community Notice Boards were now ready to be ordered, subject to approval of the quotation from Minty Fencing for the associated fixing and installation works.

Members were advised that approval was required for the Community Development Officer to proceed with the order for the six previously agreed Community Notice Boards, once the installation costs had been approved.

It was reported that the quotation from Minty Fencing for the installation of the six notice boards was £1,058.

Recommendation: To approve the Community Development Officer proceeding with the order for the six agreed Community Notice Boards, and to accept the quotation from Minty Fencing in the sum of £1,058 for their installation.

3.4 Item 5 of the previous Minutes – To discuss the Boundary Wall at the George Edwards Hall

The Community Development Officer reported that this item related to Item 5 of the previous Minutes regarding the boundary wall at the George Edwards Hall. Members were advised that the Council was still awaiting the solicitor's advice in relation to the matter.

Recommendation: To note the update and await further advice from the solicitor before any further action is taken. To continue to keep the item on further agenda's until resolved.

3.6 Item 6 of the previous Minutes – To discuss the Pride in Place Fund application

The Community Development Officer reported that the Pride in Place Fund application had been returned by Wrexham Council on Thursday, 14th May 2026, as amendments were required to ensure that the application related specifically to eligible capital works.

Members were advised that the amended application would now focus on obtaining revised quotations for capital improvement works at the George Edwards Hall and for the installation of a climbing frame at Plaskynaston MUGA.

It was reported that the proposed works at the George Edwards Hall would include flat roof replacement and re-boarding, installation of a new rubber roof, replacement gutters, front fascia works to the building, installation of new PVC covering and replacement or repair of any rotten timber. Further works would include rear downpipes and fixtures replacement, black half-round guttering, replacement double glazing in the stairwell, removal and disposal of the old window, installation of a new double-glazing unit, repair and full sealing of the lead flashing to the front building elevation, and the installation of a balcony balustrade using toughened glass.

Members were further advised that the amended costs and quotations were expected to be approximately £24,000 for the proposed climbing frame at Plaskynaston MUGA and approximately £19,500 for the George Edwards Hall capital works. It was noted that the amended information would need to be resubmitted before Monday, 8th June 2026, for reassessment.

The Community Development Officer also expressed that any proposed climbing frame should include sensory and activity-based features, where possible, to make the equipment more inclusive, engaging and beneficial for a wider range of children and young people.

Members were also advised that potential consultation evidence could be included as part of the resubmission, including feedback from local residents, service users, community groups and school children, where appropriate, to demonstrate community need and support for the proposed capital improvements.

Recommendation: Unanimously approved by the development committee. To approve the amended Pride in Place Fund application information being resubmitted before Monday, 8th June 2026, ensuring that the application focuses on eligible capital works, including the proposed George Edwards Hall improvement works and a climbing frame at Plaskynaston MUGA with sensory and activity-based features where possible. It was further recommended that relevant consultation evidence be included where appropriate, and that a Plan B of quotations be prepared for any potential further or extension funding available through the Pride in Place Fund.

3.7 Item 9 of the previous Minutes – To update regarding the NEWFA Primary Schools League starting in April 2026

The Community Development Officer reported that the NEWFA Regional Primary Schools Futsal League was continuing to go from strength to strength, with excellent feedback received from participating schools, parents and young people.

Members were advised that the league had been breaking Welsh primary school futsal attendance records, with the most recent fixture attracting 88 people in attendance. It was reported that parents had provided positive feedback on the inclusive environment being created, with children being given the opportunity to play alongside friends and represent their schools in a positive sporting setting.

The Community Development Officer further reported that the league was already showing signs of success, with some players gaining opportunities and trials with organisations such as Wrexham Schoolboys. Members noted that this demonstrated the wider sporting, social and developmental value of the project.

Members were advised that further planning was now required regarding future funding, whether Ysgol Garth could apply to join as a separate school in the league, and whether The New Saints Football Club may allow the Community Development Officer time to continue updating fixtures and working with community councils.

The Clerk explained that she was preparing to hold a meeting with The New Saints Football Club Chairman, Mr Mike Harris, and Chief Operating Officer, Mr Ian Williams, to establish whether the #StayOnSide Project and the NEWFA Regional Primary Schools Futsal League could continue under The New Saints colours, and whether a future collaboration could be agreed between The New Saints, Cefn Community Council, community councils and other partners.

It was also noted that Active Wrexham may face some barriers to involvement if the Community Development Officer was operating under The New Saints' colours, and that this would need to be explored further as part of any future partnership discussions.

The Community Development Officer further reported that he had spoken with Mr Paul Kelly of Wrexham Futsal over the weekend, who had kindly agreed to join the league as a volunteer referee. Members welcomed this additional support, which would help strengthen the delivery of future fixtures.

Recommendation: To continue to note the positive progress of the NEWFA Regional Primary Schools Futsal League, including strong attendance figures, positive parental feedback, inclusive participation opportunities and player development pathways. Members further agreed to consider future funding, the potential inclusion of Ysgol Garth, and any ongoing support or collaboration arrangements involving The New Saints Football Club, Cefn Community Council, community councils, Active Wrexham and NEWFA, and to welcome the support of Mr Paul Kelly of Wrexham Futsal as a volunteer referee.

The Development Officer and Active Wrexham's Liam Jones were asked to leave the room for a private discussion after this update. A Discussion took place regarding an upcoming meeting to be held with Mr Ruscoe's new employers. The meeting is to discuss any possibility of collaboration with the Employer and Cefn Community Council to enable the continuation of the 'Stay on Side' project and the Futsal League to be delivered by Mr Ruscoe. A proposal was also discussed to establish if Mr Ruscoe could remain employed by Cefn Community Council for one day a week to assist the Clerk. The Clerk will report back to Council with an update after the meeting.

4. To update on Cefn Health Games & Olympics

The Development Officer and Active Wrexhams Liam Jones returned to the room after the private discussion.

The Community Development Officer, together with Active Wrexham Officer, Mr Liam Jones, provided Members with an update on the Cefn Health Games and Olympics.

Members were advised that the Cross-Country route at Ty Mawr had been set and planned. Mr Liam Jones explained that the event was also being planned to support the upcoming Active Wrexham Junior Park Run, and that the risk assessment had been based on the Junior Park Run arrangements.

It was reported that 10 volunteers and 2 scorers would be required on the day to support the safe and effective running of the event. Members discussed the need for a clearer scoring structure to ensure that results could be collected, recorded and confirmed efficiently. It was suggested that radios could be used by volunteers and scorers to provide information in a synchronised manner, improving communication across the event areas and ensuring results were captured accurately.

It was further agreed that a volunteer schedule should be prepared in advance of the event, setting out roles, locations and timings for marshals, scorers and supporting volunteers.

Members discussed participation in the Cross-Country event and noted that, at present, only three schools were taking part. It was agreed that further encouragement should be given to schools to allow more pupils to participate where possible. It was also agreed that schools should be encouraged to bring additional children to support the event and help build the atmosphere, which may also assist schools by reducing the need for additional cover arrangements.

The Community Development Officer further reported that two maps had been produced for the Groundsman to assist with the layout and organisation of the event areas.

Members were advised that schools had already started attending sessions to collect and familiarise themselves with the equipment, and that further sessions had been booked in before the event to support preparation.

Members discussed the afternoon schedule and instructed that the Tug of War event be rescheduled to the end of the afternoon programme.

Members also discussed whether the kitchen facilities could be opened during the event, with the possibility of teas and coffees being sold to those attending. It was agreed that this should be explored further as part of the event planning arrangements.

It was also agreed that Active Wrexham should be asked whether they could provide water and fruit for the participating children on the day, to support hydration and wellbeing during the event.

It was agreed that Councillors who hold current DBS checks would be contacted by email and asked if they were available to assist with scoring and marshalling on the day.

It was further agreed that the Community Development Officer would continue to work with the participating schools in advance of the event and continue liaison with Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, to support the successful delivery of the Cefn Health Games and Olympics.

Resolved: To note the update provided and to approve the continued planning arrangements, including the requirement for 10 volunteers and 2 scorers for the Cross-Country event, the use of the Junior Park Run-based risk assessment, the development of a clearer scoring structure, the potential use of radios to synchronise communication and results, the preparation of a volunteer schedule, efforts to increase school participation and encourage pupils to attend in support, the use of the two maps produced for the Groundsman, the pre-event equipment sessions with schools, the rescheduling of the Tug

of War to the end of the afternoon programme, exploring whether the kitchen can be opened for the sale of teas and coffees, asking Active Wrexham whether water and fruit can be provided for participating children, emailing Councillors with current DBS checks to request assistance with scoring and marshalling, and continued work with the schools and Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones.

5. To provide a quote for the Community Notice Board

Members were advised that this item had been updated through the Community Development Officer's report, as part of the update from the previous minutes.

The Chairman requested that the proposed size of the Community Notice Boards be re-examined to ensure that they would be suitable for the size of posters and notices likely to be displayed.

The Community Development Officer reported that he had managed to have the price reduced, on the basis that Cefn Community Council would provide social media coverage and recognition for the company involved.

Members agreed that the matter should remain on the agenda for future updates until the work has been completed.

Recommendation: To keep the Community Notice Boards item on the agenda for future updates until the job is complete, to re-examine the proposed board sizes, and to double-check the actual poster sizes that can be displayed within the Community Notice Boards.

6. Update on the boundary wall at the George Edwards Hall

This was updated via The Community Development Officers report of Update from previous minutes.

Recommendation: To keep on the agenda for future updates until job is complete.

7. General Discussion / Action Plan

7.1 Update on the Bike Track at Ty Mawr

Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, informed the Development Committee that the official opening event for the new Bike Track at Ty Mawr would take place on Thursday, 28th May 2026.

Members were advised that footfall had increased since the Bike Track had opened, demonstrating positive community use and interest in the new facility.

It was further reported that the opening event was being developed as a wider community day during half term, with a number of partners and activities involved. Members were advised that Wrexham AFC would be attending, Cefn Mawr Rangers would be delivering football activities, and Rhos Rugby Club would be supporting rugby activities.

Members were also advised that Youth Services would be attending with their new mobile youth club, and that PCSOs would be present to offer free bike checks and bike registration. The event would also include inflatables, activities involving young carers, and bike-fixing support.

It was noted that work was being carried out closely with the Play Scheme, who were involved in building the sand pit as part of the wider provision for children and young people.

Councillor Gaynor Wright complimented the artwork used for the event graphic and praised Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, for his work in supporting the project and event arrangements.

Members praised the strong collaboration between Cefn Community Council, Active Wrexham and wider community partners, and formally thanked Mr Liam Jones for his continued work, support and commitment to delivering the project.

It was requested that all Councillors attend the opening event where possible, to show support for the project and the wider community partnership work involved.

Resolved: To note the update provided by Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, regarding the new Bike Track opening event on Thursday, 28th May 2026, to acknowledge the increased footfall since the facility opened, to note the wide range of community partners and activities planned for the half-term community day, to recognise the positive collaboration between Cefn Community Council, Active Wrexham and wider community partners, to formally thank Mr Liam Jones for his continued support, and to request that all Councillors attend the event where possible.

7.2 Continued Attendance of Active Wrexham at Future Development Committee Meetings

The Community Development Officer proposed that Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, continue to attend future Development Committee meetings for the foreseeable future, in order to maintain and strengthen the positive working relationship between Cefn Community Council and Active Wrexham.

Members discussed the proposal and agreed that Mr Jones' continued involvement would be beneficial, particularly where updates are required on joint projects, community events, sports initiatives and wider community development work.

Members further noted the positive contribution made by Mr Jones and Active Wrexham to recent partnership projects and welcomed the opportunity to continue this collaborative approach going forward.

Recommended: That Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, continues to attend future Development Committee meetings when required, or when he has relevant updates to provide to Members, in order to support ongoing partnership working between Cefn Community Council and Active Wrexham.

7.3 The Cefn Health Games – Over 50s Event

The Community Development Officer reported that he had asked whether Active Wrexham could support the Cefn Health Games Over 50s event at the George Edwards Hall.

Members were advised that the proposal was for Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, to deliver a Boccia competition from 12.30 pm until 2.30 pm, followed by a dancing competition led by Mr Geoff Langford from 2.30 pm.

It was requested that the event take place on 24th June 2026 at the George Edwards Hall.

Members further discussed the possibility of purchasing two small trophies for the event, one for the Boccia competition winner and one for the best dancer.

Recommended: That Active Wrexham be asked to support the Cefn Health Games Over 50s event at the George Edwards Hall on 24th June 2026, with Mr Liam Jones delivering a Boccia competition from 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm and Mr Geoff Langford supporting a dancing competition from 2.30 pm. It was further recommended that two small trophies be purchased for the Boccia winner and best dancer.

7.4 Active Wrexham's Praise to Councillor Isabel Twigg and Councillor Phil Vaughan
Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, provided positive feedback regarding the Plaskynaston Bowls event, which had taken place the previous month.

Members were advised that the event had been well received by the children who attended. Mr Jones reported that Councillor Isabel Twigg had kindly supported the event by coaching the children in bowls, while Chairman, Councillor Phil Vaughan, had provided the children with a tour of Cefn Mawr Museum.

Mr Jones advised Members that the children had continued to speak positively about the event afterwards, demonstrating the impact and enjoyment generated through the partnership activity.

Recommended: To note the positive feedback provided by Active Wrexham's Officer, Mr Liam Jones, and to formally thank Councillor Isabel Twigg and Chairman Councillor Phil Vaughan for their support in delivering a successful and memorable activity for the children.

8. Next Development Committee Meeting

Scheduled by Members for the next Development Committee meeting on the **13th July 2026 at 10am** at the George Edwards Hall.

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.