

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Mumbles Community Council held on 20 May 2025 at 6.30pm (Hybrid Meeting at the Ostreme Centre and via Teams)

Members Present: Cllrs Will Thomas (Chair), Martin O'Neill (Vice Chair), Rob Marshall, Angela O'Connor, Francesca O'Brien, Ian Scott, Rebecca Fogarty, Trevor Carr, Richard Jarvis, David Lewis, Tim Zhou, Helen Nelson and Laura Gilbert

Officers Present: Paul Beynon – RFO and Ian Hughes – CSO.

C02505-01 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs, Sara Keeton, Phil Keeton, Pam Erasmus, and Carrie Townsend Jones

C02505-02 Declarations of Interest:

None declared at the outset of the meeting.

When the recommendation relating to Newton Athletic Football Club was raised (agenda item **C0250503** refers) both Cllrs Gilbert and O'Connor declared a prejudicial interest due to being associated with that club. Both Councillors left the meeting whilst the grant application was discussed and did not participate in the voting process.

C02505-03 Public Participation

Members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at this meeting in respect of the business on the agenda.

No members of the public were present, and no representations had been made by the public prior to the meeting.

C02505-04 To approve the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 8th April 2025

To approve the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 8 April 2025 as a true record.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 8 April 2025 as a true record.

C02505-05 To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 13th May 2025

To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 13th May 2025 as a true record.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 13th May 2025 as a true record.

C02505-06 Clerk's Report

The Clerk is currently working in Hennebont, France as part of the twinning delegation from MCC. The Clerk provided an update at the recent Annual Meeting (13.5.25) and will provide a further update at June's Meeting.

C02505-07 Chair's Report

Cllr Will Thomas took over the 'Chair' role from Cllr Martin O'Neill at The MCC Annual Meeting on 13th May 2025 when Cllr O'Neill provided his outgoing report. Cllr Thomas will provide an update at June's Full Council Meeting.

Cllrs Zhou and O'Connor arrived at the meeting at 6.32pm

C02505-08 Financial Report for May 2025**RECOMMENDED that**

1. The payments made by the RFO for April 2025 be retrospectively approved
2. The bank transfers made by the RFO in April 2025 are retrospectively approved.
3. To approve the budget monitoring report for March 2025

Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon had previously been provided to councillors and outlined developments including the addition of bank transfers to this and future recommendations.

In answer to queries raised by Councillors, the RFO also confirmed that the transfer of MCC funds into higher yielding interest accounts was being researched.

RESOLVED to retrospectively approve payments made by the RFO for April 2025.

RESOLVED to retrospectively approve bank transfers made by the RFO in April 2025

RESOLVED to approve the budget monitoring report to 31/03/2025.

Cllr Nelson arrived at the meeting at 6.33pm

Reports attached at **Annex A**

C02505-09 Report from Outgoing Chair of Finance and Compliance Committee

Cllr Rob Marshall highlighted funding that had contributed to a range of activities that covered a wide age spectrum for people living within all the wards of MCC with varying degrees of mobility. Activities include the use of the Bowls Club, regular Coffee with Friends Meetings; in addition to one-off successful events such as the recent 80th anniversary event at Ostreme commemorating VE Day. Notable grant applications include donations to The Movers & Groovers, Sunshine Yoga and Cardiac Screening for young people.

In addition, Cllr Ian Scott highlighted the excellent grant report prepared by Diane Athernought, the Customer Services Officer, outlining grant applications throughout the financial year (2024/25).

C02505-10 Report from Outgoing Chair of Community and Social Development Committee

Cllr Ian Scott provided an update on the successful completion of projects including the installation of exercise equipment at the West Cross Seafront. Cllr Scott will be looking to address outstanding projects including the provision of a 'Community Bus', a 'Bereavement Support Scheme' and completion of the fencing and playing surface at Langland Tennis Courts during upcoming committee meetings.

C02505-11 Report from Chair of Environmental Committee

A detailed environmental report prepared by Robert Hernando had been circulated prior to the meeting, and no questions were raised.

C02505-12 Report from Outgoing Chair of Culture, Tourism and Communications Committee

Cllr Angela O'Connor thanked all Councillors and Officers for their contributions in making so many projects successful for everyone connected to the area within MCC, notably MumblesFest and the recent 80th Anniversary Event commemorating VE Day. Cllr O'Connor is eagerly anticipating making a contribution with other team members from the committee to future projects during the current financial year (2025/26)

C02505-13 Committee Recommendations

To consider the recommendations to Council made by Committees at their April meetings.

The Chair outlined the following recommendations the Finance and Compliance Committee Meeting held on 14 April 2025

- 1) RECOMMENDED:** That the three areas highlighted by The RFO for the transfer of funds from 'Contingency' namely, Business Rates, Scribe Booking System and Health and Safety Consultant be approved by Full Council

The RFO provided a breakdown of the three areas in question which totalled £10,850. In answer to Councillors questions The RFO informed The Committee that the Business Rates covered a two-year period as no invoice had been received for the first year. The Contingency Fund for the 2024/25 financial year is in the region of £59,000, leaving approximately £48,000 in the event of the recommendation being approved.

RESOLVED: To approve that the three areas highlighted by The RFO for the transfer of funds from 'Contingency' namely, Business Rates, Scribe Booking System and Health and Safety Consultant be approved.

- 2) RECOMMENDED** that a grant of £3,350 be made to contribute towards the Beach Sculpture Festival 2025 and pre-festival children's workshops. Providing healthy mind and body activities.

Councillors discussed making a grant award on the same basis as other recent awards, namely contributing 50% towards the total cost of the project. The total cost of this project is £ 4,350 with SCC contributing £1,000.

RESOLVED: To approve that a grant of £2,175 (50% of total funding required) be made to contribute towards the Beach Sculpture Festival 2025 and pre-festival children's workshops. Providing healthy mind and body activities.
From **Budget FC1 Small and Medium Grants.**

Cllr Nelson left the meeting between 6.42pm and 6.44pm

- 3) RECOMMENDED** that a grant of £1,500 to contribute towards the. Newton Athletic Football Festival (Children)

As previously outlined ([C02505-02](#)) both Cllrs Gilbert and O'Connor left the meeting at 6.50pm and did not participate in the voting due to their prejudicial connection with Newton Athletic FC.

RESOLVED: To approve a grant of £1,500 to contribute towards the. Newton Athletic Football Festival (Children). The recommendation was approved on the understanding that full financial breakdowns will be provided with future grant applications.
From **Budget FC1 Small and Medium Grants.**

The Chair outlined the following recommendation the Finance and Compliance Committee Meeting held on 19 May 2025

RECOMMENDED: That in relation to The RFO considering suitable areas to vire money (to the areas highlighted in his report), The RFO should be authorised to vire money from budgets as appropriate.

The RFO outlined the desirability of him being able to authorise such funds which would be small in size and detailed in subsequent financial reports.

RESOLVED: To approve The RFO considering suitable areas to vire money (to the areas highlighted in his report), The RFO should be authorised to vire money from budgets as appropriate.

The Chair outlined the following recommendation the Culture, Tourism and Communication Committee held on 16 April 2025

RECOMMENDED to approve the suggestions of the RFO to address the overspending of budgets as set out in his reports.

The RFO again outlined the desirability of transferring funds as proposed. The sums involved are small, under £1,000 and could be funded through savings elsewhere including the budget relating to The MCC Newsletter, which is now being distributed primarily 'online' without the need for postal costs.

RESOLVED: To approve the suggestions of the RFO to address the overspending of budgets as set out in his reports.

The Chair outlined the following recommendation the Culture, Tourism and Communication Committee held on 14 May 2025

RECOMMENDATION: MCC to provide support to The RNLI in relation to The Summer Raft Race on 16th August 2025. Budgeting implication to be provided to Councillors at Full Council

Cllr O'Connor set out the background to this recommendation and whilst further liaison with The RNLI will be necessary some formal approval of the recommendation would be desirable in

progressing arrangements. A budget of £1,600 would be necessary although security arrangements if necessary have yet to be costed.

Members of The Council were enthusiastic in their support for their support to The RNLI on this high profile and worthwhile event. Due to time restraints a formal agreement to provide funding was proposed.

RESOLVED: Subject to discussions with The RNLI an initial budget of £2,000 was approved. Should MCC assist The RNLI, funding will be vired from an 'underspent' budget.

C02505-14 To consider the request from the Clerk at attend the SLCC Conference in October 2025

All Councillors were supportive of The Clerk's attendance at this national award ceremony where MCC will be submitting an entry for the 'Heart of the Community'.

RESOLVED: To approve the Clerk's attendance at the SLCC National Conference in October 2025 at a cost of £660;

RESOLVED: To approve attendance for one additional delegate (either a Councillor, subject to SLCC eligibility, or staff member).

RESOLVED: To endorse the submission of the *Heart of the Community Award*,

C02505-15 Exclusion of Press and Public

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it is proposed that the press and public be excluded from the following items of business due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

RESOLVED that due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

The recording of the meeting was suspended at 7.24pm.

C02505-16 To consider a dispensation request

Agenda item withdrawn

C02505-17

Underhill Update

The Clerk outlined updates in relation to Underhill Park

Meeting Finished at 7.38pm

Next meeting: Full Council 27th May 2025

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C02504-18

C02504-19

C02504-20

C02504-21

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ANNEX A

To be added

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