

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Mumbles Community Council held on 19 May 2026 at 6.30pm (Hybrid Meeting at the Ostreme Centre and via Teams)

Members Present: Cllrs Will Thomas (Chair), Francesca O'Brien, Rebecca Fogarty, Martin O'Neill (Vice Chair), Rob Marshall, Angela O'Connor, Tim Zhou, Phil Keeton, Sara Keeton, Pam Erasmus, Richard Jarvis Dave Lewis, Carrie Townsend Jones, Ian Scott, and Laura Gilbert.

Officers Present: Kerry Grabham – CO, Mari Potter – Environmental Sustainability Officer, Cat Hiles – Marketing, Events & Editorial Officer, Sarah Thyer – Volunteer Co-Ordinator and Hannah Hunter – Facilities Manager.

C02605-01	Apologies for Absence: Cllrs - Xanthe Keeton, Helen Nelson, and Trevor Carr
C02605-02	Declarations of Interest: Cllrs Fogarty, Sara Keeton and Thomas declared personal interests as SCC Councillors in relation to agenda items pertaining to SCC matters. Cllr Fogarty also declared a personal and prejudicial interests in relation to the Underhill Park Update, agenda item C02605-21 refers. During this item Cllr Fogarty left the meeting at 8.45pm. In addition Cllr Gilbert and Hannah Hunter declared personal and prejudicial interests in relation to the Newton Athletic Grant Application, agenda item C02605-17 refers.
C02605-03	Public Participation (In accordance with Section 48 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the Standing Orders of Mumbles Community Council. Members of the Public may make representations only on published agenda items. Members of the Public who wish to make representations must inform the Chief Officer at least 3 working days before the meeting. For further guidance, please refer to the Public Participation Policy on the Council's Website.) The Chair, Cllr Thomas outlined the procedures for public participation. Tracy Anstey and Ross Elliott the chair and secretary respectively of The Mumbles Petanque Club were in attendance.

C02605-04	To receive a presentation from Mumbles Petanque Club Tracy Anstey, the chair of The Mumbles Petanque Club outlined how the club came into existence and provided context in relation to other clubs within South Wales. Tracy also outlined the potential for national, European and Worldwide participation. Tracy explained that participation can involve the whole family and covers all ages. Tracy then addressed questions from the Committee. Additional information being available through www.mumblespetanque.co.uk The Chair, Cllr Thomas thanked Tracy for the presentation and the support that she provides to the local community in Mumbles.
C02605-05	To approve the release of £6,000.00 – Petanque Pistes Reinstatement A discussion ensued between councillors on the agenda item, who were supportive of the proposal. RESOLVED: To approve the release of £6,000.00 – Petanque Pistes Reinstatement
C02605-06	To approve 2026-27 budget for Twinning (up to £1000) is released to contribute to the programme for this year's visit from twinning partners from Hennebont (10th-16th June 2026). The MCC day in the programme will take place on Friday 12th June and will include a focus on local projects that showcase sustainability and the natural environment. Catering will be provided for lunch and dinner, as well as a small memento of the visit for our guests from Hennebont. A discussion ensued between councillors on the agenda item, who were supportive of the proposal. RESOLVED: To approve 2026-27 budget for Twinning (up to £1000) being released to contribute to the programme for this year's visit from twinning partners from Hennebont (10th-16th June 2026).
C02605-07	To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 10th March 2026 RESOLVED To approve the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10th March 2026 as a true record.
C02605-08	To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2026 RESOLVED To defer the agenda item until the next meeting of Full Council.

C02605-09	Chairs Report. The Chair, Cllr Thomas outlined his report which focused on a recent allegation of racially-motivated hate crime. The incident came to the attention of MCC through social media and is being investigated by police. Cllr Thomas' thoughts are with the victims and he has reached out to them in an effort to provide support. The whole council were supportive of the victims and discussed wider issues connected to Mumbles Skatepark.
C02605-10	Chief Officers Report The CO addressed recent comments on social media. The report providing an overview of the Chief Officer's role, the growth of Council services and the staffing structure, and the operational responsibilities currently undertaken by Mumbles Community Council. Council noted that the increase in staffing reflects the expansion of community services, projects and facilities being delivered, including the operation of Underhill Sports, Community Hub and Ostreme Centre, as well as environmental initiatives, community events and engagement programmes. The report also highlighted the importance of staff wellbeing, acknowledged the impact of public commentary on employees, and reaffirmed the Council's commitment to constructive engagement, transparency and positive communication with residents. Council received an update regarding decisions made under delegated powers during the pre-election period, including: • £500 support for Volunteer Week activities; • £500 support for the Green Mumbles Green Star Rating initiative; • £600 for professional photography of Council facilities and green spaces; • commissioning of a WCAG-compliant Council website at a cost of £2,098; • operational expenditure relating to Underhill Sports and Community Hub. The Chief Officer also highlighted recent positive recognition received by MCC and its staff, including: • Ash being selected for one of 16 UK places on the Modern Gardening Course; • Sarah being invited to share MCC's volunteer programme across Swansea; • two articles published within the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) national publication, <i>The Clerk</i>; • the Chief Officer being invited to present at a national conference. RESOLVED: Council noted the report.

C02605-11	Financial Report One Recommend That: a) The payments made by the RFO in March 2026 are retrospectively approved. b) To retrospectively approve bank transfers made between Mumbles Community Council bank accounts for March 2026 Financial report had been prepared by RFO Paul Beynon who had previously provided copies to Councillors. The CO Highlighted key aspects of the report. RESOLVED To retrospectively approve payments made by the RFO in March 2026. RESOLVED To retrospectively approve bank transfers made between Mumbles Community Council bank accounts for March 2026 .
C02605-12	Financial Report Two Recommend That: a) The payments made by the RFO in April 2026 are retrospectively approved. c) To retrospectively approve bank transfers made between Mumbles Community Council bank accounts for April 2026 Financial report had been prepared by RFO Paul Beynon who had previously provided copies to Councillors. The CO Highlighted key aspects of the report. RESOLVED To retrospectively approve payments made by the RFO in April 2026. RESOLVED To retrospectively approve bank transfers made between Mumbles Community Council bank accounts for April 2026
C02605-13	Wellfest Recommend That: a) Council receive the presentation from the following Council Officers: Cat Hiles – Marketing, Events & Editorial Officer, Sarah Thyer – Volunteer Co-ordinator, Mari Potter – Environmental Sustainability Officer & Hannah Hunter – Facilities Manager b) That Council receives the report on Wellfest, discusses and considers the recommendations contained in the report. The CO provided some background information to the Wellfest Initiative and explained that if the recommendation was approved it would complement other festivals and events including MumblesFest and not replace them. A detailed report had been provided to Councillors prior to the meeting. Full Council received a detailed presentation from MCC Officers, primarily Cat Hiles outlining the range of proposed activities connected to this initiative, proposed for September 2026. The presentation was well received with Councillors enthusiastic and complimentary of the extensive preparation carried out by Officers.

	RESOLVED: To approve the recommendations made by the Committee in the report subject to the caveat that a figure of £10,000 is set for use from The MumblesFest Budget with any unspent money being returned to that budget. Recommendations set out below- 1. Notes the cancellation of MumblesFest 2026; 2. £7,000 be vired from the MumblesFest budget to support the delivery of a Christmas community event programme in 2026; 3. Remaining MumblesFest budget allocation be ringfenced to support the redevelopment and enhancement of MumblesFest for 2027; and 4. Notes the intention to bring forward further proposals regarding the future development and delivery model of MumblesFest in due course.
C02605-14	Recommendations from Culture, Tourism & Communication Committee Cllr Marshall, The Chair of the Culture, Tourism and Communication Committee set out proposed events for 2026 including the postponement of MumblesFest until 2027. A debate amongst councillors ensued discussing how much of the MumblesFest Budget for 2026 should be re-allocated and 'ring-fenced'. RESOLVED Following a number of abstractions, including the virement of £2,500 to the Folk Festival, that £13,500 should be maintained within the MumblesFest Budget for 2027 with additional budgeting needs being requested as necessary in the future RECOMMENDED The Toy and Toast Event held on Thursday Mornings at the hub to be supported with 'entertainment' for young children and their parents. This would include items such as storytelling and providing advice on nutrition. RESOLVED To provide 'entertainment' for toddlers and their parents at Toy and Toast Events with an initial budget of £1,300. From the Contingency Fund.
C02605-15	To instruct the Chief Officer to submit an expression of interest and an application to The Economic Anchor Fund – Development of Ostreme Centre The CO provided background information to this application. RESOLVED To Instruct the Chief Officer to submit an expression of interest and an application to The Economic Anchor Fund – Development of Ostreme Centre
C02605-16	To instruct the Chief Officer to submit an expression of interest and an application to The Economic Growth Fund – Underhill Developments The CO provided background information to this application. RESOLVED To Instruct the Chief Officer to submit an expression of interest and an application to The Economic Growth Fund – Underhill Developments

C02605-17	To Consider Newton Athletics Grant Funding Application The Chair, Cllr Thomas set out an application on behalf of Newton Athletic who requested £1,500 to support children (Under 13yrs through to Under 16yrs) at the Annual Newton Festival on 20th June 2026. The grant application was discussed by Councillors. RECOMMENDED To provide £1,500 to Newton Athletic to contribute towards the Newton Festival on 20th June 2026. From Budget FC1 Small and Medium Grants.
C02605-18	Exclusion of Press and Public Following the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it is proposed that the press and public be excluded from the following item of business due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. The Chair outlined that the remainder of the meeting needed to be in a 'closed session' due to the sensitive nature of information. 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 stopped at 8.32pm, and Cllr Fogarty left the meeting having previously declared personal and prejudicial interests at C02603-02.
C02605-19	To receive the honour of Mumbles nominations Two nominations were discussed RESOLVED Both nominations were approved, the details of which will remain confidential until being updated by the applicants.
C02605-20	Community Grant Fund Creation Recommended that: a) Council approves the creation of Underhill Grassroots Growth Fund b) Council approves Underhill Grassroots Growth Fund Policy Both recommendations were discussed RESOLVED To approve the creation of Underhill Grassroots Growth Fund RESOLVED To approve the Underhill Grassroots Growth Fund Policy
C02605-21	To approve the draft policy: Underhill All Weather Pitch Policy RESOLVED To defer to next meeting of Full Council

C02605-22	To consider a request received in relation to Underhill The Chair, Cllr Thomas provided key aspects from a request which had been circulated in a detailed report to Councillors prior to the meeting. RESOLVED To approve the request made in relation to Underhill Park
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Meeting Finished at 9.00pm

Next meeting 9th June 2026

ANNEX A

To be added