

ESCLUSHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes: Council Meeting Monday 10th November 2025

Present: Cllrs M. Pickering, N. Cargius. J. Kelly, Darcy Davies-Williams, C. Luckcock, S. Love, V. Morgan. G. Richards, J. Perkins, N. Davies-Williams, M Pritchard, C Badwick, P Searle, and the Clerk M. Andrew

Apologies: Cllrs. G. Bellamy, G. Blackmore

AGENDA

PRELIMINARIES

- 1) Solar Panel/Battery Group - Allan Jones, Ian Lloyd

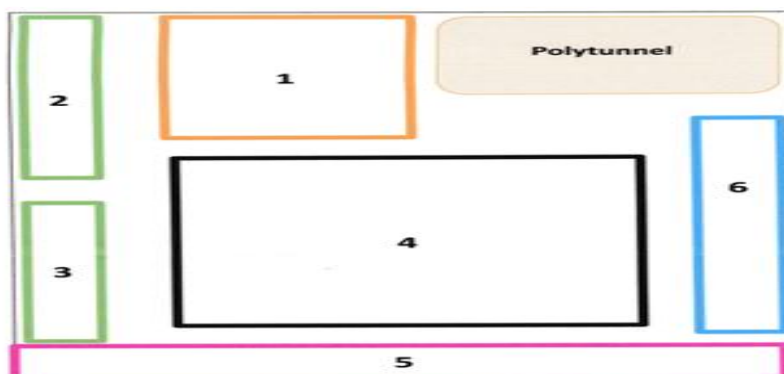
Concerns were raised that the information given at the public consultation was not representative of that in the planning proposal. Comments were raised that the planning application for the 3 sites was being bundled together to be dealt with by the Senedd rather than 3 separate planning applications that would be dealt with by WCBC with input from the relevant Community Councils concerned. Action - The Clerk was asked to contact the relevant Community Councils for their support. Additionally, concerns were also raised that the weir at Bersham is in a dangerous condition and the wall and bank could collapse. Action - The Clerk will contact WCBC health and Safety to report the issue.

- 2) Community Allotment Proposal - Natalie Dugdale

The proposal for the small allotment site at the rear of the hall was discussed. The Council agreed in principal to works starting to clear the site. Proposed VM, Seconded NC, carried unanimously

Intention:

1. To provide a green space for the community where people can learn about plants, food and ecosystems.
2. To inspire people to grow their own food and help people understand the health and environmental benefits of doing so.
3. To provide fresh, local food to the community.



Polytunnel: For growing on seedlings and heat-loving foods like peppers and tomatoes.
Bed #1: Full Sun. Mixed veg that enjoys sun - carrots, garlic, green beans, courgettes, lettuce.
Bed #2: Full Sun. Climbing plants up fence (runner beans, cucumbers), squash on the ground.
Bed #3: Mostly Sunny. Climbing plants up fence (peas, mangetout), kale and spinach on the ground.
Bed #4: Mostly Sunny. Mixed veg - brassicas (cabbage/broccoli), potatoes, beetroot, parsnips, etc.
Bed #5: Mostly Shaded. Shade tolerant herbs, swiss chard and rhubarb.
Bed #6: Morning Sun. Herbs and berries/currants.

Costs:

- New fencing
- Seeds
- Perennial Plants (berries)
- Compost (?)
- Woodchip (?)

PRELIMINARIES (Agenda Items)

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Agenda items)

1. Apologies - *Cllrs G.B and G. Blackmore*
2. Chair's announcements - *None*
3. Declarations of interest - *None*
4. Ratification of minutes from the meeting of Monday 13th October 2025
5. Members' Items - *None*
6. Bank Transactions

Premier A/C	Date	Exp	Inc	Balance
HMRC VAT	7-Oct-25		1,672.15	9/10 34,809.06
Interest	9-Oct-25		17.99	34,827.05
Transfer to c/a (online)	20-Oct-25	2,000.00		32,827.05
Transfer to c/a (online)	24-Oct-25	2,000.00		30,827.05
Transfer to c/a (online)	30-Oct-25	3,000.00		27,827.05
HMRC VAT	31-Oct-25		213.49	28,040.54

7. Cash Transactions

Petty Cash A/C	Date	Rec No	Exp	Inc	Balance	Bank
Opening Balance 1st April 2025					start 54.43	
Voucher for departing clerk	27-May-25		50.00		4.43	
Transfer from Imprest	27-May-25			130.00	134.43	
Purchase bouquet	10-Jun-25		15.00		119.43	
Chain of Office	19-Jun-25		60.00		59.43	

8. Invoices/Quotations - • Cellar

Shield to;

- Excavate sump / pump chamber (internally) to use house sump / pump chamber
- Excavate around the perimeter to create a rebate to hold drainage channel, leading back to newly excavated sump / pump chamber
- Apply tanking slurry to newly formed drainage channels
- Supply and install Pump System into newly formed sump chamber and concrete into place
- Connect discharge pipework and route to a discharge point
- Wire up pumps to separate RCD's
- Supply and install newly formed perimeter drainage channels leading back to sump / pump chamber
- Supply and install all connections required to connect base drain together and create a complete circuit back to sump / pump chamber
- Supply and install 8mm cavity drain membrane to all walls, securing place with specialist plugs as required
- Seal all joints / overlaps
- Supply and install 20mm cavity drain membrane to entire floor area
- Seal the floor membrane to the wall membrane with corner tape
- Provision of 10 Yr Guarantee

The cost to undertake these works would be £20,218.16 + VAT. This provides a waterproofing solution conforming to BS8102:2022

It was proposed that a drainage survey be carried out prior to any works proceeding. Proposed Cllr M. Pritchard, Seconded G.R. Ratified unanimously.

- Jones Lighting - £1,034.32

 JONES <small>A United Living Group company</small> <small>Esculsham Community Council</small>	<small>Page 1</small> Jones Lighting Ltd Suite 5, Farington House Lancashire Business Park Centurion Way Lancashire VAT Reg No: 937 0409 25 Invoice No. 6746 Invoice Date 31/10/2025 Customer Order No. Account Ref. ESCLUSHA
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Quantity Details	Unit Price	Net Amt	VAT %	VAT
1.0000 As per summary	861.9300	861.93	20.00	172.39

Jones Lighting Ltd: Registered Office: Suite 5, Farington House, Lancashire Business Park, PR26 6TW Company No :06643355 Tax Point is issue date above <u>Days</u> Sort Code: 01-05-14 Acc No:37242431	Total Net Amount 861.93 Carriage Net 0.00 Total VAT Amount 172.39 Invoice Total 1,034.32
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For information the Clerk noted that with the darker nights coming in there has been an increase in reports of defective lighting.

9. Statement of Accounts

	Date of Statement 07/11/2025	Current Balance/Cashbook
Business Instant Account		£28,040.54
Current Account		£2,055.21
Imprest Account		£3,000.00
Petty Cash Account		£59.43
		£33,155.18

FYI: Online banking now in place for real time accounting reconciliation.

The situation regarding the **Trust fund** is recorded below for information.

<u>RPHT Current A/C</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Chq</u>	<u>Exp</u>	<u>Inc</u>	<u>Balance</u>
BCU Cardiac Rehab Group (Sept)	1-Oct-25			160.00	14,496.02
Powis Commun	2-Oct-25			75.00	14,571.02
Louise Fisher	3-Oct-25			55.00	14,626.02
Transfer from Petty Cash	7-Oct-25			475.00	15,101.02
Aikido Class (September)	8-Oct-25			120.00	15,221.02
Pete Reynolds (Wedding)	20-Oct-25			155.00	15,376.02
Paige Street Dance (Sept)	24-Oct-25			70.00	15,446.02
Playgroup	27-Oct-25			55.00	15,501.02
Caia Park Partnership (September)	29-Oct-25			140.00	15,641.02
BCU Cardiac Rehab Group (Oct)	31-Oct-25			160.00	15,801.02
Transfer from Petty Cash	3-Nov-25			780.00	16,581.02
Aikido Class (Oct)	3-Nov-25			120.00	16,701.02

RPHT Petty Cash A/C	Date	Rec No	Exp	Inc	Balance	Bank	
Bowls	1-Oct-25	3828		30.00	273.00	420.99	
Jenny Davies	5-Oct-25	3829		80.00		500.99	
Transfer to current	7-Oct-25					25.99	475.00
Zumba	7-Oct-25	3830		20.00	80.00	45.99	
Bowls	8-Oct-25	3830		30.00		75.99	
Snooker Group	8-Oct-25	3832		10.00		85.99	
John Lord Tai Chi Class (Fri)	10-Oct-25	3833		30.00		115.99	
Victoria Jones dep party	11-Oct-25	3834		55.00	145.00	170.99	
Zumba	14-Oct-25	3835		20.00		190.99	
Bowls	15-Oct-25	3836		30.00		220.99	
Snooker Group	15-Oct-25	3837		10.00		230.99	
John Lord Tai Chi Class (Fri)	17-Oct-25	3838		30.00	90.00	260.99	
Zumba	21-Oct-25	3839		20.00		280.99	
Bowls	22-Oct-25	3840		30.00		310.99	
Snooker Group	22-Oct-25	3841		10.00		320.99	
John Lord Tai Chi Class (Fri)	24-Oct-25	3842		30.00	90.00	350.99	
Income > 'Tea Room' at the Parish Hall	28-Oct-25			211.13		562.12	
Zumba	28-Oct-25	3843		20.00		582.12	
Bowls	29-Oct-25	3844		30.00		612.12	
Snooker Group	29-Oct-25	3845		10.00		622.12	
John Lord Tai Chi Class (Fri)	31-Oct-25	3846		30.00		652.12	
L Ellis Party (Dep paid by BACS)	2-Nov-25	3847		75.00		727.12	
Kerry Williams (dep paid 2/11)	3-Nov-25	3848		75.00	451.13	802.12	
Transfer to current	3-Nov-25					22.12	780.00

RPHT

Current Account
Petty Cash Account

**Date of
Statement**

09/10/2025
09/10/2025

**Current Balance
Cash Book**

£
16,701.02
22.12
£16,723.14

10. Budget Position: 10/10/2025

RCPTS & PYMNTS BUDGET ANALYSIS - ACT PAYMENTS Y/E 31 March 2026									BUDGET ANALYSIS	
			P Cash	Current	Imprest	Bus Sav	IR&NI	Total to Date	BUDGET	Variance
Expenditure										
VH Maintenance	1.1	Employee Costs			16,138.86		131.94	16,270.80	26,500.00	10,229.20
	1.2	Power		6,441.36				6,441.36	12,000.00	5,558.64
	1.3	Repairs		966.85	0.00			966.85	1,500.00	533.15
	1.4	Waste		1,443.10				1,443.10	1,700.00	256.90
VH Capital	2.1	Plans/Equipme nt	0.00	852.30				852.30	1,500.00	647.70
	2.2	New Build/ Improvements		632.73				632.73	1,500.00	867.27
Street Lights	3.1	Maintenance		5,232.57				5,232.57	4,500.00	-732.57
	3.2	Power		3,988.89				3,988.89	14,000.00	10,011.11
Lights/ Signs Capital	4.1	New lights/fittings		482.75				482.75	2,000.00	1,517.25
Sch Crossing/ P'schem e	5.1	School Crossing		1,485.00				1,485.00	5,800.00	4,315.00
	5.2	Playscheme		0.00				0.00	5,900.00	5,900.00
Admin	6.1	Employee Costs		16,786.06			6,498.08	23,284.14	30,000.00	6,715.86
	6.2	Stationery	0.00	670.15				670.15	1,000.00	329.85
	6.3	Telephones		693.88				693.88	1,000.00	306.12
	6.4	Subs & Insurance		839.33				839.33	4,500.00	3,660.67
	6.5	Expenses	0.00	392.34				392.34	250.00	-142.34
Comms	7.1	Website/Press	0.00	133.00				133.00	500.00	367.00
Admin Capital	8.1	Office Equipment		103.17				103.17	200.00	96.83
Sec 137	9.1	Donations		1,575.00	0.00			1,575.00	1,500.00	-75.00
	9.2	Gifts & parties	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
	9.3	Chair Allowance		0.00	0.00			0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
	9.4	Cutting		0.00	2,580.00			2,580.00	3,500.00	920.00
Misc.	10.1	PWLB (loan repayment)		0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
	10.2	Facilities		2,863.50				2,863.50	6,000.00	3,136.50
	10.3	Pension set-up costs etc		0.00				0.00	200.00	200.00
	10.4	General (inc Yth Service)	125.00	3,405.63	50.60			3,581.23	3,000.00	-581.23
Totals			125.00	48,987.61	18,769.46	0.00	6,630.02	74,512.09	132,250.00	57,737.91
									Check	57,737.91

Signed: N. Cargius

Date: 08/12/2025

FULL COUNCIL (Agenda Items)

1. Apologies - *Cllrs G. B and G. Blackmore*
 2. Chair's announcements - *The Chair commented on the Remembrance Sunday services and thanked everybody for their input.*
 3. County Councillor's Report - *Feedback form the Ward on the Remembrance Services was positive.*
 4. Declarations of interest - *None*
 5. Ratification of minutes from the meeting of Monday 13th October 2025 - *Proposed Cllr N. C, seconded Cllr S. L, ratified unanimously*
 6. Members' Items/Action List
- a) NWP/ECC police liaison meeting > 4th November 2025

Present:- *CPSO's Sara Williams and Gethin Thomas, Cllrs Mark Pritchard, Graham Blackmore, John Perkins, and the Clerk Mark Andrew*

- 1) *Speeding - there have been further reports of speeding by a red Audi around Henry Street and Tudor Grove. The officers noted this and have asked that if a registration can be identified action will follow.*
- 2) *Dangerous Dog - It needs to be verified by rural that the dog has now been removed.*
- 3) *Neighbourhood Issues - Esless Park residents have encountered intimidation by a neighbour which has previously been reported to the Police. Cllr Pritchard asked if this could be followed up as it is ongoing and concerning. (Name and address were supplied to the officers present)*
- 4) *Criminal Activity*
 - a. *Trinity Street residents have had doors knocked and tried.*
 - b. *Football Pitch damage has been reported to the police and will be an ongoing discussion.*
 - c. *'Local' residents have had a Breach Letter issued following the recent events where a family caused issues.*
- 5) *Liaison with Rural - The Clerk requested that the PCSO's present contact Rural to request they make contact with him as he cannot get a response from them.*

- b) Football Pitch security

The damage of the pitch was discussed at length with regards to what support the community council could give to the Football Club. Unfortunately, due to a number of covenants on the recreation park this is not an option as the park has to remain an open public space with no building works allowed. The council discussed of the installation of kissing gates could be carried out to stop bikes being brought onto the fields. It was also discussed if CCTV could be installed that covered both the football pitch and the surrounding roads. Action. The Clerk was asked to investigate costs and contact NWP regards the type of camera that should be used.

- c) Remembrance Sunday - Review

The comments made were that the events was well received. The loudspeaker system worked much better this year and the addition of the roll call at the memorial gardens was deemed an improvement. The Vicar has suggested we review the Memorial Garden service for next year to fully represent the community and to differentiate it from the Church service.

- d) Christmas tree and carols

- *Purchase tree has been purchased and will be delivered on 28/11 and decorated on the 29/11*
- *Lights have been agreed that the turn on will be 03/12 @ 18.30hrs*
- *Invitation to church after for mulled wine and mince pies (Cllr S.L and the Clerk will meet Father Dylan to finalise the vents on the night). It was proposed that £500 be used from the Chairs allowance for the purchase of lanterns for the children to constructed and used on the night. The Chair agreed.*

- f) Pensioners Party

- *Catering has been booked through Country Buffets as normal. There has been a small increase in price to £10.50 per head*
- *Refreshments have been donated this year via The Hole in the Wall (Hydes) and Wrexham Lager.*
- *Entertainment - has been booked (60's and 70's band)*
- *Gifts have been requested via the local businesses*
- *Advertising will be by poster and facebook*

f) Development of Space adjacent to Crematorium - Cllr Val Morgan

Cllr Morgan has approached the Council regards to developing a small plot of land adjacent to the Crematorium. Coleg Cambria have been approached to ask for input over 2 academic years. The land is believed to be owned by the Crematorium. Action - The Clerk to contact Steve Plack with regards to ownership.

ACTION PLAN:

ITEM	Resp	Status
Sep-23		
Suitable signage for car park: Hall/environs users only > re-invigorate in summer 2025	Clerk	Ongoing
Apr-24		
Liaise WCBC > 'speed bands' > Croesfoel to Packsaddle - re-visit with WCBC: look at after Bersham Rd	Clerk	Ongoing
May-24		
Finial' on P Hall roof. Cllr MP taken the 'old' one away to see what can be done: ask MP for update in Q2	Cllr MP	Ongoing
Sep-24 (RPHT)		
Obtain Q for a full re-decoration of the Bersham Room > look to get Quote asap (above is to follow)	Clerk	Ongoing
Obtain Q to 'freshen-up' the two gables along the P Hall frontage - look to get quotes in late HY1 2025	Clerk	Ongoing
Sep-24		
Gateway signage to Rhostyllen and Bersham - Cllrs SL and MP liaise with the Clerk in HY1 2025	Clerk	Ongoing
Bicycle Pump track - Cllr GB to make further investigations: by end HY1 2025	Cllr GB	Ongoing
Nov-24		
Obtain quotes for finalising work along fence line from existing wall to Bowling Club: by end summer 2025	Cllr MP	Ongoing
Jan-25		
Liaise with Ysgol Rhostyllen re poss 'Esclusham'-specific posters re dog fouling: Cllr GR conf > in hand	Cllr GR	Ongoing
May-25 AGM		
Chairs allowance (to be discussed at next budget meeting Nov 2025)	Clerk	Nov 25

7. Planning Items & Reports

Reference: P/2025/0798

Proposal :Works to trim back tress under TPO

Location: 63 & 65 WILKINSON DRIVE

"The gardens at the rear of 63 and 65 Wilkinson Drive are experiencing a substantial level of branch encroachment and crown dominance over the two gardens. This encroachment comes from 4 Sycamore trees on the land that immediately backs onto the rear gardens of Nos. 63 and 65.

The proposed work is for a slight reduction of the crowns over our gardens.

a) A crown reduction of 2 - 3 metres.

b) The removal of all growth on the main trunks, up to a height of 5 metres."

Council agreed to have no objections but ask that all works be carried out by a certified company.

Reference: P/2025/0780

Proposal :ADEILADU FFENS I FLAEN A OCHR/ERECTION OF WALL TO FRONT AND SIDE

Location: GERNANT, WREXHAM ROAD, PENTRE BYCHAN, WREXHAM, LL14 4DS

'Front wall adjacent to the main road on either side of property to be raised to 2 meters and also wall facing corkscrew lane to be raised to 2 meters'

Council agreed to have no objections but ask that all works be carried out to local and national building regulations.

Withdrawals

None

Reports/Appeals

None

Decisions

None

8. **Correspondence** - for attention of the Council

a) Governor vacancy for Rhostyllen School has been filled by Cllr Darcy Davies Williams

b) Footpath Order Notice issued by Sean Hanratty WCBC will be displayed for the appropriate time

9. **Items for the Clerk**

a) Sub-Committees

a. Biodiversity and environment.

b. Parish Hall upgrades

b) Website improvements

Signed: G. Richards

Date: 08/12/2025