



**Clydach Community Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee**  
Held Tuesday, 9 June 2026 at 5:00 PM  
Waterfall Suite, Forge Fach Resource Centre and online.

**Attendees:** Councillors E Jackson, S Evans-Jones, S Powell, and Michaela Chaplin (Clerk to the Council).

**1. To elect a Chair for 2026 – 2027**

It was proposed, seconded, and RESOLVED to elect Cllr. Susan Powell as Chair of the Environment Committee for the 2026 – 2027 term.

**2. To elect a Vice-Chair for**

It was proposed, seconded, and RESOLVED to elect Cllr. Siubhan Evans-Jones as Vice-Chair of the Environment Committee for the 2026 – 2027 term.

**3. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were noted from Cllrs. J Hill

**4. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made by members in relation to the agenda items.

**5. Public Questions**

No public in attendance

**6. To discuss the Terms of Reference and if necessary, make any suggested changes to full council**

RESOLVED to not make any changes to the Terms of Reference.

**7. To discuss a suitable day and time for meetings**

Due to there already being two meetings on the second Tuesday of the month with three taking place every quarter, alternative days and times were discussed with all current members expressing a wish for daytime meeting. RESOLVED that the Environment Committee would meet on the second Monday of the month at 2pm. It

was also expressed by members that a What's app group for the committee would be helpful as there will be a lot of practical elements to the committee and this would allow for quick communications. RESOLVED that the Clerk is to set a What's App group up.

#### **8. To discuss the Community Councils Biodiversity Action plan**

The Committee considered the Action Plan and noted that it had previously been approved by Full Council. It was RESOLVED that the Action Plan be adopted as the blueprint for future work, with the Committee progressing the actions contained therein.

**Next review:** June 2027.

The Committee was updated with regards to The River Trust not being awarded the funding that they had hoped for and therefore currently were unable to work collaboratively with the Council. However, there was other funding that was being applied for.

Invasive Species specifically Himalayan Balsam and Knotweed continue to be an issue. It is a continued thought that expert advice was needed in treating these invasive species. These requirements need to be considered within the budget.

Cllr. S Powell has made contact with organisers at Glantawe Riverside Park who currently hold several events including coffee mornings.

**ACTION** – The Clerk and Cllr. S Powell will arrange a suitable time to have a chat with the organisers to see what support they can offer us.

Discussions took place regarding possible external support that maybe available including River Trust, Natural Resource Wales and Riverside Park.

**ACTION** – Cllr. S Powell to make contact with relevant bodies regarding support and advice for the Summer Holidays Nature events which forms part of the 'All together Wednesday' programme.

Discussions took place regarding the area of Cae Charles, following on from a visit and report by OVW Biodiversity Officer Rachel Carter. This centred around encouraging and enabling the natural development of a wildflower meadow in this area. As well as contributing to the biodiversity environmental requirements the aim would also be to create a peaceful area which could be enjoyed by all members of the community. The provision of benches and information boards at each end of the area detailing the types of wildflowers was agreed as a way forward. 'Cut and Collect' twice a year was recommended maintenance regime.

**ACTION** – The Clerk to look through the information provided by OVW Biodiversity Officer and report back to the committee.

It was highlighted that communication with residents is extremely important especially as we progress with leaving areas to grow.

**9. To discuss available training**

The Clerk explained that OVW offers three modules for biodiversity. Biodiversity basics Part 1 and Part 2 and Nature Project Management. Free Spaces are available for the biodiversity basics Part 1 and 2. Cllr. S Powell has previously attended Biodiversity basics Part 1 and Part 2. The Clerk has booked onto Part 1 on the 18 June.

**ACTION** – The Clerk is to be book Cllr. S Evans-Jones onto Part 1 on 18 June. Cllr. E Jackson to let the Clerk know when they would like to attend.

**10. To receive an update on the planters**

Councillor S. Powell gave a verbal update on the condition and maintenance of the planters. Councillors J. Hill and S. Powell have been actively tidying the planters. Cllr. S Powell reported that advice had been sought on drought-resistant plants, as regular watering of the planters is not feasible. A variety of bee-friendly and perennial plants have been introduced, including a trial of lavender in two planters and wildflower seeds in a further two. It was noted that the soil contains a significant number of roots, making planting and maintenance more difficult.

The Committee discussed the need to refresh the appearance of the planters themselves, possibly removal of the stickers and the introduction of artwork on the planters were considered. Further discussions will take place.

**11. To discuss possible projects including Keep Wales Tidy Packages**

The Committee discussed potential projects including regular litter picks and the need for a dedicated budget to support biodiversity initiatives and related activities. Members noted the importance of biodiversity within the Council's objectives and acknowledged the Council's statutory obligations in this area.

Following discussion, it was RESOLVED biodiversity and environmental aspects remains a key priority for the Council. It was further RECOMMENDED that the Committee request a budget allocation of £8,000 for the 2026/27 financial year to support the delivery of biodiversity and environmental projects and initiatives.

**12. To confirm the date of next meeting**

RESOLVED next meeting Monday 13 July 2026 at 2pm.

Meeting concluded at 6.01pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_