

Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday 3 February 2026
Rhossili Village Hall and via Zoom

- 1 Welcome and Introductions and meeting guidelines**
- 2 Apologies for absence**
- 3 Declarations of interests**
- 4 Minutes**
 - 4.1 Approve and sign the Minutes of the RCC meeting of Tuesday 3 February 2026.
- 5 Strategic Priorities and Current Issues**
 - 5.1.1 South Gower Flooding and Council Works, December 2025
Written report from Chair, reported a positive site meeting with the CCS Highways team and Cabinet Member. Two improvement projects being developed and information on these awaited. Local consultation event planned to share the proposals – date tbc
 - 5.1.2 Special Outdoor Events and City and County of Swansea Strategy
CCS consultation has taken place. Draft strategy awaited. Event information will become available online. RCC notes verbal report and will work with neighbouring councils and event organisers.
 - 5.1.3 Emergency Planning – next steps RCC to move forward in 3 phases: inviting volunteers to develop different parts of the plan; holding mini workshops to bring the parts together for Rhossili; collaborating with neighbouring councils.
 - 5.1.4 Community Wellbeing
Verbal report noted. Results of community poll indicates support for four different free first aid events. Awaiting dates from St John's Ambulance. Likely start date April 2026. Involve neighbouring councils where space available. Also exploring possible event with Age Cymru.
 - 5.1.5 Recycling Workshop
Verbal report noted. Date awaited from CCS team who will deliver the workshop.
 - 5.1.6 Local Tourism Investment

RCC meeting with CCS to explore bespoke Rhossili bus stop options to transform the space into an attractive area with an improved shelter. CE/IB

5.1.7 Road Safety

Verbal report noted. Contact to be made with CCS to review areas of concern, including occurrence of slurry on road, with aim of identifying potential solutions. JS

Current Issues:

5.2.1 Grazing on Rhossili Cliffs and Management Plan

Report from the community meeting of 14 January 2026 was noted. It was resolved that RCC would facilitate a further meeting with the principal partners to develop the outline of a plan for wider consultation with resources to be secured for consultation work from one or more of the partners. JS/CE

5.2.2 Illegal Hunting Activity

Verbal reports of organised illegal hunting activity involving dogs across Gower. RCC to help publicise the advice from Police on reporting suspicious acts and incidents promptly.

5.2.3 Disruption to Domestic Water Supplies

Verbal report noted concerning 3 water outages, one of 4 days duration, reported in the area in the last year. RCC to contact Welsh Water to seek assurances on the resilience of the local water supply pipework system. CE

6 Biodiversity

6.1 Tree and Scrub Removal at Upper Pitton Valley

Verbal and written report presented. Concern expressed at extent of removal old trees/hedges in area adjoining SSSI along with concern for effect on pasture. Further action to be taken to obtain responses from authorities involved. FM

6.1.2 Biodiversity Officer

It was resolved to adopt the description for this new role to which FM had been appointed at the last meeting.

6.1.3 Biodiversity Reports

Verbal and written report was noted, summarising three national reports of interest:

- i. Welsh Government (Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales). **Protected sites in Wales**, (15 January 2026)

ii. HM Government. **Global biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and national security. A national security assessment.** (20 January 2026)

iii. Natural Resources Wales. **State of Natural Resources 2025** (18 December 2025, updated 28 January 2026)

RCC will publicise links to these reports. MK

6.1.4 Biodiversity Action Plan – RCC’s plan underway to cover the period to 2028, post-merger – contributions for local initiatives required. MK/FM

7 Footpaths and Rights of Way

7.1 Repair of Beach Access Path – verbal report was noted. The ramp at the lower path has now been repaired. CCS have indicated that the remainder of the beach access path will be repaired by October 2026. RCC to request sight of formal commitment along with specification. CE

7.2 Historic Ladder on Coastal Footpath

Verbal report noted. RCC to advise CCS that the iron ladder is an historic artefact which should remain in place. CCS should give consideration to repair and/or safety warning signage and fencing for its preservation. LAN

7.3 Style RH26 missing – CCS to be requested to replace the missing style. LAN

8 Planning

8.1 **Current planning applications –**

8.1.1 Carissima - CCS has granted an extension to date and comments must be submitted by 6th February 2026. Unanimous objection from RCC: that the Community Council objects to the planning application for a variation in stone treatment finishing, from the previously approved planning application, as the proposed stone finish of Blue Pennant Sandstone is out of character/ not in keeping with the surrounds and the traditional stone work of the area.

8.2 **Retrospective approval of comments submitted to the planning Authority**

The Council members made the following comments on specific applications in the interim period since the last meeting. The Council was asked to approve these comments retrospectively:

8.2.1 Mewslade View – Application 2025/2634/TEM – approved

8.2.2 Newton Lodge – Application 2025/2640/TEM – approved

8.2.3 Eastmoor Farm – Application 2025/2645/TEM - approved

The Council has reviewed the application against its newly adopted biodiversity checklist and has no specific comments to make on biodiversity.

9 Governance & Finance

9.1 Governance

9.1.1 Community Boundary Review

Verbal and written report noted. Three affected councils will meet to discuss merger. OVW running a series of online events addressing merger issues. CE/JC

9.2 Finance

9.2.1 Receive the Financial Report for February 2026. The verbal report was noted.

9.2.2 Confirm authorisations for RVH bookings payment:

9.2.2a 13/01/2026 - RCC Meetings 2026 - H-25-080/H-26-002/ - approved

9.2.2b 13/01/2026 - Rhossili Cliffs Meeting - H-25-112 – 14th Jan 2026 - approved

9.2.2c 19/01/2026 - £40 - RCC Meetings 2025 - H-25-012/048/063/1 - approved

9.2.3 Acknowledge and approve income from sponsorship of Annual Magazine - £221 (total received to date £561 of £824 projected). Several invoices outstanding. Chase. JC

9.2.4 Donations of £300 planned for 2026/27 with distribution of £100 each to Knelston School, St Mary's Church and Pitton Chapel. Approved.

10 Administration

10.1 Annual Community Magazine

Verbal report noted. It was resolved to continue with the Annual magazine for 2026. Planning to be discussed at April 2026 meeting. MK/JC

10.2 Ongoing IT support

Verbal report noted. Resolved to accept Maintenance only support package at £300 p.a. for 2026/27.

10.3 Policy Decisions on Unsolicited/Unbudgeted Funding Requests – noted that no new requests to be considered.

10.4 Schedule of Ordinary Meetings of RCC for 2026: 7/4/26; 2/6/26; 4/8/26; 6/10/26; 1/12/26. Date of Annual Council Meeting: 11/5/26. Approved.

11 Local Correspondence

All local correspondence was noted.

12 Updates from RCC representatives

12.1 Gower Community Council Forum – No report

12.2 One Voice Wales – Nature Hub – verbal report was noted. Information on biodiversity matters currently being sent only to Clerks following staff reorganisation, but this is being addressed. Forward relevant emails to MK/FM in the interim- JC

12.3 One Voice Wales – Swansea Area Committee – verbal report was noted.

12.4 One Voice Wales AGM – took place in January 2026. Well-attended >180 councils, including RCC rep MK. One key motion approved was to agree that a quorum for the Annual General Meeting be 10% of the representatives of member Councils. Other motions approved were noted.

12.5 Gower Forum – no decisions at this event, just sharing and networking. Good presentations and request from RCC to be made to acquire these if possible. CE

12.6 Rhossili Community Hwb Steering Group – No report

12.7 Swansea Local Nature Partnership - meeting on 12/12/25. Interesting report from SE Wales Biodiversity Records Centre – Database of species by area including Gower. Suggestion to invite SEWBREC to talk at RVH about the use of the database. MK

12.8 Rhossili Bunkhouse & Village Hall Trustees – No report

12.9 Knelston School – Roof replacement in-hand

12.10 National Trust – New ranger for Rhossili – 2 days per week. Noted that residents with any feedback should emailp Alison Probert directly, not to the Welcome Team.

12.11 Gower Commoners Association – No report

12.12 The Gower Society – No report