

No.

WELSH CHURCH ACT ESTATE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Remote Meeting held on 24th June, 2025.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor M.R. Wilson (Chair); Councillor P. Drake (Vice-Chair);
Councillors C.E.A. Champion, J.E. Charles and E.J. Goodjohn.

117 ANNOUNCEMENT –

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Committee, the Chair read the following statement: “May I remind everyone present that the meeting will be live streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing”.

118 [MINUTES](#) –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 20th January, 2025 be approved as a correct record.

119 [DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST](#) –

Councillor C. Champion declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 6 – Applications for Financial Assistance 2025/26 Tranche 1 – a Prejudicial Interest. Councillor Champion was a member of the Cowbridge United Free Church Excepted Charity which had raised an application, as set out at Application 9 within Appendix A1 to the report. Therefore, the Councillor withdrew from the meeting prior to the particular application being considered.

120 [LAND AT GLEBE FIELDS, SULLY – TOWN AND VILLAGE GREEN INQUIRY APPLICATION \(DCR\)](#) –

The Principal Lawyer presented the report which was a further update on the matter of Trust land at Glebe Field having been the subject of a Town and Village Green Application.

The Trust had previously appointed specialist legal Counsel and objected to the Application. Following an extended period of correspondence to narrow the issues, the Council in its role as Commons Registration Authority, had obtained authority from the Vale of Glamorgan Public Protection Licensing Committee to appoint an independent inspector to hold a non-statutory public inquiry.

No.

The Principal Lawyer advised that, once an Inspector had been appointed, directions would be provided at the September 2025 meeting to set out a timeline leading up to the Inquiry.

RESOLVED – T H A T the update in respect of the Town and Village Green Application be noted.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the content of the report and subsequent discussion at the meeting on the progress of the Application.

121 [CADOXTON COMMUNITY ORCHARD PROPOSAL, ST. OSWALD'S RD, CADOXTON \(DCR\)](#) –

The Operational Manager for Property advised that the report updated Committee, following previous resolutions of Committee, to enter into a lease with the applicants to enable them to develop a Community Orchard and meadow on land owned by the Trust. Since the last report to Committee, negotiations had been ongoing with the applicant and the report updated on the current position.

Councillor Goodjohn expressed concerns over safety at the end of the site which involved a steep drop and enquired if safety fencing could be looked in to in order to secure the site. In response, the Operational Manager thanked Councillor Goodjohn for their suggestion and confirmed that Officers would be happy to look in to any suggestions raised by the Committee. The Chair also offered to look in to Councillor Goodjohn's fencing suggestion and to feed back at the next Committee meeting. The Officer also added that a site visit had already been suggested by the Chair and therefore any and all suggestions of the Committee would be taken forward following said visit.

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the contents of the report and the fact that the Applicant had confirmed that they no longer wished to progress with the lease of the land be noted.

(2) T H A T a Committee site visit be arranged at St. Oswald's Road, Cadoxton, Barry on Monday, 7th July, at 5.00pm, prior to a further update report on the Cadoxton Community Orchard Proposal being presented to the Committee at its September 2025 meeting.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the report and subsequent discussion at the meeting on the Applicant's decision.

(2) To assess the future use of the land.

No.

122 [APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2025/26 TRANCHE 1 \(DCR\)](#) –

Councillor C. Champion declared a prejudicial interest in Application 9 within Appendix A1 to the report. Therefore, the Councillor withdrew from the meeting prior to the particular application being considered.

The Operational Manager for Accountancy advised that a budget of £60k had been set for issuing grants during 2025/26 and that there was a small net reduction in the Welsh Church Act's reserve at 31st March, 2025 of £1k.

It was proposed £20k of the general reserves sum be utilised in 2025/26 for grants and therefore the total grants budget for 2025/26 was now set at £80k.

The maximum grant that could be potentially awarded had been maintained at £10k and grants totalling £75,201.70 (as set out in Appendix A to the report) were recommended as part of the report.

Therefore, a remaining sum of £4,798.30 was available for allocation during 2025/26 and the Chair suggested that Committee consider what to do with any remaining grant funds, and therefore any further grant applications, alongside the Trust Accounts report expected for the September meeting.

RESOLVED – T H A T the applications for grant assistance, as set out in Appendix A of the report, be approved.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the report and subsequent discussion at the meeting in furtherance of the objectives of the Trust.