

**MINUTES OF LLANDYFAELOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 15 MAY 2024 AT 7.30PM**

1. Present: Cllrs Nicola Jones (Chairman), Philip Davies, Eifion Jones, Meinir James, Elfyn Williams, Jenny Jones, Janet Knott, Carys Thomas, Rheinalt Jones and Arfon Davies (Clerk).

Apologies: Cllrs Shan Rees and Viv Davies.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations.

3. Public Participation

It was noted that no Members of the public were in attendance on this occasion.

4. Minutes of the meeting of Council held on the 4th April 2024 were confirmed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

1. **Lighting project at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Myrddin** – Council awaited further updates on the matter. Noted.
2. **Planning application, PL/02147 in property in woodland area – Idole to Pentrepoeth** – The matter was now noted to be being considered by an inspector. Noted.
3. **Concerns relating to parking on double yellow lines in Llandyfaelog** – Council awaited further updates on the matter. Noted.
4. **FP29/4 Pentrepoeth** – Council awaited further updates on the matter. Noted.
5. **Planning Enforcement Issues at fields in Idole** – Council awaited further updates on the matter. Noted.
6. **PL/04973 – Gelligaeros Industrial Estate, Idole** – Updates were received that a ‘call in request’ had been submitted to the Wesh Government in relation to the application. The information will be circulated to members. This had the impact that approval of the application was not possible during this consideration, but the application could be refused. More information was awaited.
7. **Public Litter Bins in the Community** – The Clerk had requested that consultation was carried out with the Community Council on any further removals of litter bins.
8. **National Grid – Substation in Llandyfaelog Area** – Council received further updates on the matter. Confirmation was received that a consultation event on the project will be considered for the Llandyfaelog Area. The Clerk will request a dispensation from the County Council Standards Committee for members to discuss and vote on this matter.
9. **Flooding Issues at Cilgadan** – The Clerk confirmed that works were due to commence soon.
10. **Flooding Issues in the Community** – The Clerk had received confirmation that the outlets and grips had been cleared between Coedlleine / Ystrad Ferthyr. Noted.

11. **Wales Audit** – Council awaited further updates on the matter. Noted.
12. **Road Verge at Tŷ Hir** – The Clerk had received confirmation that the works to provide hardstanding at this area had been completed. Noted.
13. **Road safety issues at Bancycapel** - Council awaited further updates on the matter. Noted.
14. **Llandyfaelog Church Flower Festival** – A letter of thanks for the Council's contribution to the Festival was received from Llandyfaelog Church.
15. **Councillor Meinir James noted her interest in this matter - Consultation on the proposed prohibition of waiting at any time / prohibition of stopping at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Myrddin** – Council awaited an update on the matter.
16. **Flytipping at Sgwar Bryncochbach** – The County Council had confirmed that as the flytipping was on private land that they were unable to collect the items. Noted.
17. **Speed feedback sign at Cwmffrwd** – The sign was noted to still not be operational.
18. **Footway lights at Frondeg** – Consideration was raised by the County Council of the possible removal of the lights. The Clerk had requested the costs.
19. **Damaged stop sign at Y Lan and the 50mph sign at Garthowen** – These had been repaired by the County Council. Noted.

6. Correspondence

1. **One Voice Wales** – April, May and June training events. Noted.
2. **One Voice Wales** – Cost of living crisis newsletter. Noted.
3. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Notification of a temporary road closure of the C2057 between Nonam House and Sgwar Bryncochbach, on Monday 8th July 2024 for a period of 5 days. Noted.
4. **One Voice Wales** – Information on the pre-election period. Noted.
5. **One Voice Wales** – Information in relation to payments for Town and Community Councillors. Noted.
6. **One Voice Wales** – Information on the preparation and publication of the Council Annual Report. Noted.
7. **One Voice Wales** – Information on the Carmarthen Area Committee held on the 23rd April. Cllr Meinir James gave a report of the meeting.
8. **Welsh Government** – Consultation: Securing a Sustainable Future: Environmental Principles, Governance and Biodiversity Targets for a Greener Wales. Noted.
9. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Invitation to Code of Conduct Training to be held on the 28th June 2024. Noted.
10. **Carmarthenshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs** – Invitation to the County Rally held on the 11th May. A report was provided on the event by the Chair.
11. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Emergency road closure of the C2074 at Bancycapel on Friday 19th April 2024 for a period of 1 day. Noted.
12. **One Voice Wales** – Awards Conference report for 2024. Noted.
13. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Emergency road closure of the C2075 at Llandyfaelog on the 22nd April 2024. Noted.

14. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Confirmation of payment of 1/3rd of the 2024-25 Precept being £9,106.66. Noted.
15. **Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue** - Calon Tân Magazine. Noted.
16. **One Voice Wales** – Latest News. Noted.
17. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Emergency road closure of the C2075 Llandyfaelog on Tuesday 30th April 2024 between the hours of 09:30 and 15:30. Noted.
18. **Carmarthenshire County Council** - Outcome of Primary Rising 4s Policy 2025/26 Consultation. Noted.
19. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Temporary road closure along the length of road known as Penyfedw Road, Llandyfaelog, from its junction with the C2074, for a distance of 200 metres in a south-easterly direction on 22nd May 2024 from 09:00 to 17:00. Noted.
20. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Temporary road closure of the U2211 Trelymsi, Llandyfaelog to its junction with the U2211 Cwmburry road for a distance of 643 metres in a Westerly direction on Monday 10th June 2024 between the hours of 09:45 and 15:45. Noted.
21. **One Voice Wales** – Invitation to attend the official online launch of the One Voice Wales new resources for Biodiversity. Noted.
22. **Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine** – Noted.
23. **Cymdeithas yr Iaith** – Information on an open forum on ‘Local Community Enterprises to drive the Welsh Economy’ to be held on the 18th May in Carmarthen Library. Noted.
24. **Carmarthenshire County Council** – Code of conduct information request. The Clerk confirmed provision of the data.

7. Idole Field and Community Amenities

1. Defibrillators

- a) The Clerk confirmed replacement of the Idole Unit pads with a cost of £159.00 plus VAT to Defib Warehouse approved.
- b) The Clerk confirmed that the Units at Cwmffrwd and Croesyceiliog had been relocated into the bus shelters at these locations. Purchase of signs from Medisave with a cost of £12.27 plus VAT was approved.
- c) The Clerk confirmed the information received in relation to the process for obtaining approval for relocating the Glanmorlais Unit into the Bus Shelter along with the responsibilities that flowed from carrying out this work.

Following further consideration of the matter it was agreed to look to purchase a new case for the defibrillator. It was also noted that Solar Powered units were not available

8. Community Handyperson

The Clerk confirmed 28 hours worked in April with a cost of £616.00 along with materials of £13.50 approved. Grass cutting charges for April at a cost of £308.00 was also approved.

9. General Power of Competence

The Clerk noted that Llandyfaelog Community Council currently met the requirements of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 to remain an eligible Council able to exercise the general power of competence.

Council considered the issues and unanimously agreed a resolution confirming that Llandyfaelog Community Council continues to meet the conditions in accordance with Schedule 4, Part 1 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and therefore wished to remain an eligible community council able to exercise the general power of competence.

10. Members Payments and Allowances 2024-25

Consideration was given to the deliberations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales for the 2024-25 year as follows.

Cost of Care – The Council must provide for the reimbursement of necessary costs for the care of dependent children and adults (provided by informal or formal carers) and for personal assistance needs.

This would be reimbursed at the meeting following a claim being submitted to the Clerk. This was noted.

Costs and Expenses 1 – The Council must make available a payment to each of its members of £156 per year towards the extra household expenses (including heating, lighting, power and broadband) of working from home.

This will be paid in February of each year unless a member confirms to the Clerk that they do not wish to claim all, or part of it. This was noted.

Costs and Expenses 2 - Councils must either pay their members £52 a year for the cost of office consumables required to carry out their role, or alternatively councils must enable members to claim full reimbursement for the cost of their office consumables.

It was agreed to provide for reimbursement for the cost of office consumables. This will be paid in February of each year unless a member confirms to the Clerk that they do not wish to claim all, or part of it. This was noted.

Senior Roles – The Council may make available an annual payment of £500 each to from one and a maximum of three members in recognition of specific responsibilities. This is in addition to the £156 and £52 payments for costs and expenses. It was agreed not to take forward this payment.

Travel – The Council can make payments to each of their members in respect of travel costs for attending approved duties. This is optional. This was noted and approved.

Overnight stays – The Council, if a duty requires an overnight stay, may authorise reimbursement of subsistence expenses to its members at the maximum rates as published. This is optional.

This would be reimbursed at the following meeting after a claim is submitted to the Clerk. This was noted and approved.

Financial Loss – The Council can pay financial loss compensation to each of their members, where such loss has occurred, for attending approved duties as published.

This would be reimbursed at the following meeting after a claim is submitted to the Clerk. This was noted and approved.

Attendance Allowance – The Council can pay an attendance allowance for members. The mandatory maximum for each qualifying event is £30 and a member in receipt of financial loss compensation will not be entitled to claim attendance allowance for the same event.

If the council decides in favour of attendance allowances, it must produce a scheme for formal adoption and make provision for it to be publicly available.

Payments for attendance must be in respect of official business or approved duty which are identified in the council's Standing Orders or alternatively by specific resolution. The scheme should specify for which events payments will be made.

All members of the council will be entitled to the payment for attendance at the events specified in the scheme, but an individual member may decline to receive payment by informing the Clerk (in writing). It was agreed not to take forward this allowance for the Council.

Civic Head – The Council can provide a Civic Head payment to the Chairman up to a maximum of £1,500. This is in addition to the £156 and £52 payments for costs and expenses and the £500 senior salary if these are claimed by that member. This payment is in addition to the budget of £420 that is allocated to the Chair's activities. It was agreed not to take forward this allowance for the Council.

Deputy Civic Head – The Council can provide a Deputy Civic Head payment to the Vice-Chairman up to a maximum of £500. This is in addition to the £156 and £52 payments for costs and expenses and the £500 senior salary if these are claimed by that member. It was agreed not to take forward this allowance for the Council.

11. 2024-25 Insurance Agreement

Consideration was given to the Council Insurance Policy for the 2024-25 Financial Year with the 3rd year of the 5 year agreement noted and approved at a cost of £625.30.

12. Community Events 2024

Council discussed possible Community Events in 2024 as follows:

- Garden Competition – Vegetables (June) and Flowers (August);
- Scarecrow Competition – Olympics theme.

The Clerk confirmed that Graham Green was unable to carry out the Judging. Following provision of other suggestions, Elin Forsyth had agreed to carry out the role. The Chair will contact the judge to agree dates. Contact will be made with Kidwelly Camera Club to seek a photographer for the competition.

13. Accounts

a) The following payments were approved:

1. **Medisave** **£14.72** Defib signs (see item 7.1.b above)
£12.27 plus £2.45 VAT.
2. **Defib Warehouse** **£190.80** Defib pad (see item 7.1.a above)
£159.00 plus £31.80 VAT.
3. **Zurich Municipal** **£625.30** 2024-25 Insurance Policy (see item 11)

4.	Description	Salary	Expenses	Total Gross	Tax Deducted	NI Deducted	Net Pay
Arfon Davies	April Salary and costs	£722.43	£26.00 £7.00 £11.70 £13.60	£780.73	£298.60		£482.13

5. **Information Commissioner** **£40.00** 2024-25 Registration Fee
6. **Michael Leefe** **£629.50** Handyperson April (see item 8)
7. **Michael Leefe** **£308.00** Grass cutting April (see item 8)
8. **Sixways Florists** **£42.00** Bouquet for Council Chair following an operation (£35.00 plus VAT)
9. **Prince Philip Hospital Gardens Appeal** **£50.00** Donation agreed in March 2024 meeting
10. **Cllr Shan Rees** **£400.00** 2023-24 Chairman's Expenses

14. Any Other Business

1. The Clerk had reported the following issues to the County Council:
 - a. Missed collection from the Bancycapel Amenity Area bin:
 - b. A need to cut hedge growth obstructing views at Heol y Lan junction with the A484 and at Maescyneiddion in Bancycapel.
2. An email was received from residents asking for Council support to oppose the Bute Energy and National Grid proposals. The Clerk will respond to the email confirming the current position of the Council.
3. The Clerk will confirm if the pavement alongside the new development site at Croesyceiliog had been adopted by the County Council.
4. Congratulations were expressed to Llinos Jones and Caroline Stiles on being chosen to represent Wales in Short Mat Bowls.
5. The Clerk to report a hole in the road at the top of Llandyfaelog hill alongside the pavement.

6. The Clerk will seek prices for replacement bars for the Chairman's Chain.
7. Congratulations were expressed to Elgan Thomas of the St Ishmaels YFC for being chosen as County Ambassador.

The next meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 6th June 2024.