

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of Llandybie Community Council held at the Council offices, High Street, Llandybie and online via Teams on Wednesday, 25th of September, 2024 at 6.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors	Cllr C. R. Thomas	Cllr G. J. Davies	Cllr H. Davies
	Cllr D. W. Hopkins	Cllr R.A. Davies	Cllr J. Tandy
	Cllr E. W. Nicholas	Cllr R. Barnes	Cllr N. C. Davies
	Cllr A.J. Evans	Cllr L. Wilkins	

Attending online	Cllr K. D. L. Davies	Cllr D. Thomas	Cllr A. W. Jones
	Cllr E. J. Davies	Cllr A. L. Thomas	

Apologies	Cllr P.H. Roberts	Cllr S. Roberts
------------------	-------------------	-----------------

510.

To Receive apologies for absence.

The following councillors offered apologies Cllr P. H. Roberts, Cllr S. Roberts

511.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were three;

Cllr E. W. Nicholas and Cllr R. A. Davies declared an interest as members of Llandybie Tennis Club on item 10 regarding Floodlighting at the Tennis Courts.

Cllr. Tandy declared an interest on item 7 as his wife had applied to be co-opted for the vacant seat at Penygroes Ward.

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on the 31st July, 2024 Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 31st July, 2024 Minutes of the Special Co-option Meeting held on the 4th September, 2024 Minutes of the Employment Committee meeting held on the 4th September, 2024 Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 4th September, 202

512.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the following meetings as circulated were considered:

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 31st of July, 2024. Proposed; Cllr R. A. Davies. Seconded; Cllr D. Thomas
- Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 31st of July, 2024 Proposed; Cllr H. Davies Seconded; Cllr J. W. Tandy

Chair

- Minutes of the Employment Meeting held on the 4th of September, 2024
Proposed; Cllr S. Roberts Seconded; Cllr A. J. Evans
- Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on the 4th of September, 2024
- Minutes of the Special Co-option meeting held on the 4th of September, 2024

513.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Clerk offered an update on the Finance Meeting in terms of two actions on the grant awards and confirmed that St. Marks Church had offered a letter confirming the funds would be used for Christmas Lights and asked that it be agreed the grant be awarded, this was proposed by Cllr R. A. Davies and Seconded by Cllr D Thomas.

The Clerk further confirmed that sufficient evidence to draw down award asked for by Llandybie Primary School hadn't been forthcoming, and asked that the award be deferred until February to offer them a chance to provide the information required. This was proposed by Cllr C. R. Thomas and Seconded by Cllr D. Thomas

514.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

515.

CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Police Crime report.

The Clerk explained that the crime reports had now began to be updated monthly on the Police Crime Website and reported the following;

Police reports as 1st of Aug 2024

Llandybie Area	
Violence and sexual offences	5
Anti-Social Behaviour	6
Public order	2
Drugs	1

Penygroes including Blaenau and Caerbryn;	
Violence and sexual offences	7

Chair

Public order	3
Criminal Damage & Arson	2

Saron and Capel Hendre	
Violence and sexual offences	12
Criminal Damage and Arson	2
Public Order	4
Drugs	1

For members and wider public information, Llandybie Community Area Crime figures below are available using the link below. The Clerk recommends that the look at the crime map of their area which offers some detail of the breakdown of the crime figures by searching ‘in my area’.

[Llandybie | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](http://www.police.uk)

516.

To discuss applications for co-option to the Penygroes Ward.

The Clerk explained that the closing date and time for applications for co-option for the Penygroes Ward and two applications had been received from Leila Jones who lives in Gorslas and Caryl Jones from Penygroes, both within 3 miles of the ward.

The Clerk read out both CV submissions and asked for any observations or questions.

Cllr D. Thomas felt that he should mention as per the previous co-option that candidates that had failed previously to be elected should not be considered as it was not democratic as the public had already rejected the candidate.

Cllr R. A. Davies disagreed as did Cllr A. W. Jones and felt that the due process had been followed and both CVs should be considered on each individual merit.

As there were no further comments the Clerk clarified that the process was now to decide on whether to vote via a show of hands or a secret ballot and through the Chair asked for a show of hands.

The vote was unanimous to conduct a secret ballot with those participating online texting their preference via text message in confidence to the Clerk.

Leila Jones was elected by 9 votes to 7.

Chair

517.

Clerk's Report 25/09/24

To: Chair and Members of Council.

(a) Parks;

(i) Penygroes Parks; The swings at Spien Road and Gors Ddu have now been installed with the further upgrade to a park climbing frame at Spien Road. The Table Tennis Table is being installed on the 26th and 27th of September.

(ii) Saron and Capel Hendre 106. Still on the list of follow up with Carmarthenshire County Council.

There is no further update on the two amounts of £22,320.00 for future education provision at Saron and £17,680.00 for Cwmgwili park. The Clerk is pressing for news before the September Budget Meeting.

(b) Footpaths. There are no further updates on the below Footpaths.

The Clerk and Administrative assistant continue to press the County Council team of the following footpaths and will keep these in the Clerk's Report until they are resolved.

- **Penygroes 51/34 and, 51/33;** the Clerk will investigate and update on these at the meeting. 51/33 is to get the landowner to cut the overhanging branches.
- **51/51;** This is still being dealt with by Carmarthenshire County Council's legal team as a resident has built a garage base over the right of way and another resident has put play equipment across it. Clerk to update councillors at the meeting.
- **Bonllwyn 51/75;** Overgrown footpath shared with Ammanford area at Bonllwyn to Nantlais, the Clerk will be investigating this during the coming week.

(c) Penygroes RFC and Gate locking at night.

The Clerk as per the agreement in the May meeting has written to Carmarthenshire County Council and asked them that offer responsibility if Community Council property is damaged overnight. He is still waiting for a reply.

Update; the Clerk as of writing this report has not received a reply.

Chair

(d) Banc Y Ddraenen Park Project;

A smaller project is now being looked at due to the poor response to the public consultation. The Clerk has met with Carmarthenshire County Council who have offered to fund further tree planting, two more planting benches and the hedgerow along the perimeter, a full list is expected soon via email. The County are also offering to organise a Bat Box and Bird Box workshop with local schools and advise of meadow planting and to further advise on improvement to the seasonal grass cutting to better suit nesting seasons and flowering seasons.

Update; the Clerk has arranged to meet Carmarthenshire County Council officer Matthew Collinson week beginning 30th of September, he will then organise an Environment Committee during October/November.

Cllr A. W. Jones expressed his concerns that whilst tree planting is commendable the upkeep of trees will need to be managed along with associated costs.

The Clerk agreed and explained that specialist officers from the County Council would be advising on the right type of tree for each location, and that his original idea had been to use fruit trees, shrubs and small trees that grow to a low height and to keep in mind visibility at road junctions.

(e) Job Evaluation/'time and motion';

Paul Egan of One Voice Wales has now been asked to undertake the exercise as per the agreement in the Employment Committee of the 4th of September.

(f) Community Grant Awards Evening.

The Administrative Officer will send out letters to all successful recipient groups and after ratification of the awards proposed at the Ordinary Meeting and they will be invited to a presentation evening with buffet at Llandybie RFC on Friday 18th of October.

(g) Green energy grant opportunity;

The Clerk attended a seminar early in September with Welsh Government where he has identified an opportunity to upgrade the Bowls & Tennis Pavilion at Llandybie with Solar Panels, Air Source Heat Pump and new indoor heaters with a data control box to control energy usage.

The Clerk is constantly under pressure to look at energy costs with an outdated and expensive heating system, this will also monitor the floodlights at the Tennis Courts. The grant on offer can be 100% of the cost, but they favour applicants who offer something towards the costs. The deadline is the 18th of October and the Clerk would like Councillors to discuss him at least going to contractors to ascertain quotes and then have a short special meeting the next two weeks to see if a Finance Committee can discuss his findings.

Dai Nicholas – Clerk

Chair

September 25th 2024

518.

Discussion on Green Energy Grant for Llandybie Tennis & Bowls Pavilion.

The Clerk explained that he had attended a seminar on the grant earlier in the month and as the deadline for submission was the 18th of October, he had on reflection realised that with such a complex project this was not a deadline he could work within and therefore asked that the idea of a Green Energy Grant be noted and the meeting move on to the next agenda item.

Cllr A. J. Evans agreed but asked that the project be looked at for future reference, the Clerk explained that he was meeting a Green Energy specialist the following Sunday to look at the Pavilion with a view to developing a brief in order to ascertain costs for reference future grant funding rounds.

The Chair **agreed** that the meeting move on the next agenda item.

519.

Cost of Floodlighting at Llandybie Tennis Courts.

The Clerk explained that when preparing the agenda the cost of changing two bulbs on the floodlights was prohibitive in terms of value for money against budget but the contractor had since offered a more cost-effective solution and the cost had now been reduced to £360 plus vat including time and a tower scaffold system.

It was proposed by Cllr R. A. Barnes that the cost be accepted and the Clerks intention to look at a cheaper cost solution in future instances on needing new bulbs be accepted. The Clerk explained that with the nights getting darker speed was of the essence, this was seconded by Cllr A. J. Evans with the assurance that greener energy bulbs be looked as a future action for the floodlights.

520.

Monitoring Budget & Financial Matters.

(i) Monthly monitoring budget.

INCOME

HEADING	BUDGET	ACTUAL INCOME	DIFFERENCE
---------	--------	---------------	------------

Chair

Precept	180000.00	120000.00	-60000.00
Vat Return (Rebate)	17000.00	14613.18	-2386.82
Administration	20000.00	13685.12	-6314.88
Bank interest	800.00	462.12	-337.88
Hire Agreement/Grants/106	4700.00	24126.17	19426.17
Total	222500.00	172886.59	-49613.41

EXPENDITURE

HEADING	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	DIFFERENCE
Grass Cutting	£31,500.00	£12,378.25	£19,121.75
Staff Salary and PAYE	£61,864.00	£24,577.98	£37,286.02
Office Services	£6,000.00	£5,797.25	£202.75
Insurance	£2,500.00	£3,240.60	-£740.60
Financial Grants (Open Spaces, Hall, Cemetery)	£20,000.00	£6,291.81	£13,708.19
Asset Maintenance (Public conveniences, premises, parks, rights of way, burial grounds)	£54,500.00	£36,710.70	£17,789.30
Services & Subscriptions	£6,050.00	£0.00	£6,050.00
Members Allowances & Paye	£15,875.00	£1,017.00	£14,858.00
Election Costs	£16,000.00	£8,028.26	£7,971.74
Section 137	£20,000.00	£0.00	£20,000.00
Lighting	£6,000.00	£0.00	£6,794.00
Community Development	£15,000.00	£5,495.10	£9,504.90
Total	£255,289.00	£103,536.95	£151,752.05

Payments made in August and to date in September;

EDF Electric Bowls Pavilion Llandybie Inv 000019903793	100.26
Dynevor Tree Services Extra Cuts Llandybie Inv 379	255.00
Dynevor Tree Services Cut and Remove fallen tree Inv 380	100.00
Sian Taylor Expenses	95.40
SSE Solutions Penygroes Toilets Electric Inv No. 01120715	191.62
Dwr Cymry Inv 5073450895 Bowls and Tennis Pavilion	81.81
Sian Taylor Salary Aug 2024	793.65
D Nicholas Salary Aug 2024	2426.20

TreeWorks West Wales Tree Surveys at 11 Parks Inv 9400	1512.00
EDF Energy Electric Inv 000020178270 Bowls Shed Llandybie	43.90
EDF Energy Electric Inv 000020179310 Pavilion Llandybie	23.60
EDF Energy Electric Inv 000020154402 Pavilion Penygroes	31.07
EDF Energy Electric Inv 000020159018 Floodlights Capel Hendre	26.65
EDF Energy Electric Inv 000020155044 Saron Pavilion	41.31
K D Gardening Serv Monthly Toilet Services Aug Inv 0181	891.25
Morgan & Morgan A4 Paper Inv 00086772	26.34
Morgan & Morgan Internet Inv 00086442	35.99
BT Broadband Inv M0210Q	59.64
Audit Wales 2022 23 Audit Inv 011579	278.50
Martin Davies Meeting Translation at Chamber 27th July	54.40
Harcourt Colour Print Inv 88039 Footpath Signs Llandybie	240.00
SSE 10 MONTHS ELECTRIC Council Offices Inv 01372818	1751.22
EDF Bowls & Tennis Llandybie Electric Inv 000020303269	52.48
EDF Sport Pavilion Saron Electric Inv 000020296076	33.19
EDF Floodlights Electric C Hendre Inv 000020295976	25.34
EDF Pavilion Penygroes Electric Inv 000020295953	24.95
Welsh Water Bowls Pavilion Llandybie Inv 4741245001	81.81
JJ Handyman Minor repairs Penygroes Park Inv 0159	54.99
JJ Handyman Repairs Llandybie Park Inv 0162	78.80
One Voice Wales Training for V. Chair Inv 8400	40.00
One Voice Wales Training for V. Chair Inv 8400	490.00
Morgan & Morgan Usage Photocopier Inv 201944	6.38
Morgan & Morgan Microphone for Meetings Inv 00086813	106.80
HMRC August PAYE	1056.54
EDF Energy Electric Inv 000020531978 Pavilion Llandybie	23.56
EDF Energy Electric Inv 000020533262 Shed - Bowls Llandybie	41.18
JJ Handyman Services Upgrade Spien Rd Park Inv 0164	625.00

To be paid;

EDF Electric Bowls & Tennis Llandybie £56.37

BT Phone & Broadband Chamber & Office £84.12

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDYBIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL				
Mantolen 2024-2025 Accounts from April 1st				
Prepared by - D Nicholas				
Financial year ending 31/04/2025				
BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS				
				£

Chair

Brought Forward (opening balance at Bank)					£260,860.83
Add Income in the year					£172,886.59
Total					£433,747.42
Less outgoings					£111,714.22
Closing Balance Finance Spreadsheet (receipts - payments)					£322,033.20
Unpresented payments/cheques					£300.00
TRUE STATEMENT BALANCE					£322,033.20

The financial report by Cllr R. A. Davies and Seconded by Cllr R. Barnes.

It was **resolved** to accept financial report presented by the Clerk.

521.

Section 106 funding.

There were no updates offered by County Councillors present.

522.

Request on Seminars / Joint meetings

The Chair expressed his enjoyment of two events where he had represented the councillor. He led the procession at Llandybie Carnival and

Cllr J. Tandy gave a short account of an enjoyable night deputising for the Chair at

The Clerk lastly stated that he had attended a Green Energy Seminar ‘Ynni’ organised by Welsh Government.

523.

Date of next meeting

Members **resolved** that the next Ordinary meeting of Council to be held on Wednesday 30th of October 2024. It was further agreed that a meeting of the Finance Committee and an Environment Committee be scheduled for Thursday 24th of October. This was agreed with timings to be 6.30pm, 7.15 pm and 7.15pm respectively.

524.

Chair

25th of September 2024

As there was no further business to discuss, the **Chair declared** the meeting closed 7.50 pm.