

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of Llandybie Community Council held at the Council offices, High Street, Llandybie and online via Teams on Wednesday, 27th of November, 2024 at 6.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors	Cllr D. W. Hopkins	C Cllr L. Wilkins	C Cllr J. Tandy
	Cllr L. Jones	Cllr G. J. Davies	Cllr H. Davies
	Cllr E. W. Nicholas	Cllr P.H. Roberts	Cllr N. C. Davies
	Cllr A.J. Evans	Cllr S. Roberts	Cllr A. L. Thomas
	Cllr E. J. Davies		

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

Apologies Cllr C. R. Thomas Cllr R. Barnes Cllr R.A. Davies

569.

To Receive apologies for absence.

The following councillors offered apologies Cllr R. A. Davies, Cllrs R. Barnes and Cllr C. R. Thomas.

570.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were two;

Cllr J. Tandy declare an interest in a planning item on Application No. PL/08499 in the Planning meeting to follow in that he is a neighbour of the applicant.

Cllr E. W. Nicholas declared an interest in the minutes of the Finance meeting on the budget for Llandybie Tennis Courts and the interest is that he is the Club President.

Cllr A. W. Jones declared a verbal interest whilst attending online regarding the Matters Arising in the minutes regarding the proposed spend by the Clerk on the budget spend for Riverway Park, Ammanford.

571.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the following meetings as circulated were considered:

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 30th of October, 2024.

The minutes were proposed as correct by Cllr D. Thomas and seconded by Cllr E. W. Nicholas

Chair

- Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 30th of October, 2024

The minutes were proposed as correct by Cllr S. Roberts and seconded by Cllr P. H. Roberts.

- Minutes of the Employment Meeting held on the 14th of November, 2024

The minutes were proposed as correct by Cllr E. W. Nicholas and seconded by Cllr A. J. Evans.

- Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on the 14th of November, 2024

The minutes were proposed as correct by Cllr E. W. Nicholas and seconded by Cllr S. Roberts.

Acceptance of the minutes;

The Chair asked for a proposal to accept all the minutes and this was **Proposed** by Cllr J. Tandy and **Seconded** by Cllr D. Thomas with no amendments.

572.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was one matter;

Cllr A. W. Jones wanted it noted that he had asked in the previous meeting when commenting on the Finance Committee decision to refuse to award funds towards the refurbishment of the Riverway Park within the ward of Ammanford Town Council, that he had also asked that discussion take place on a parcel of land some 60 meters north of the site jointly fund a new park.

The Clerk offered to include this comment in these minutes and raise the discussion point in the next Finance Meeting in February 2025.

573.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

574.

CORRESPONDENCE

Police reports as 1st of October 2024

Llandybie Area	
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Chair

Violence and sexual offences	8
Criminal Damage and Arson	2
Burglary	1
Shoplifting	1

Penygroes including Blaenau and Caerbryn;	
Violence and sexual offences	7
Anti-Social Behaviour	1
Theft	3
Public Order	1

Saron and Capel Hendre	
Violence and sexual offences	7
Criminal Damage and Arson	2
Anti-Social Behaviour	1
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)

575.

Clerk’s Report 27/11/24

To: Chair and Members of Council.

(a) Parks;

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

Chair

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.

Discussion;

Cllr A. J. Evans commented that it was important to realise that the spend on 106 money could be key to the regeneration of the site but we still needed clarification on our actual ownership of the site. The Clerk confirmed that he was still waiting for a final response from Carmarthenshire County Council on the matter.

(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.

Discussion;

Cllr D. Thomas asked for confirmation of the sites above and the Clerk offered the information with a confirmation that he was chasing the County Council on both matters.

The final cut of paths has been undertaken by contractors within the budgeted amount set for 2024/25.

(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 emailed a request for a reply on the 22.11.2024.

(d) Banc Y Ddraenen Park Project;

An update: This project is now actioned and will be undertaken over the coming months.

- The Hedge line along the length of the park along with two planting benches had now been agreed to be installed by Carmarthenshire County Council at no cost to our budget.
- The Bird Box and Scholls project was in hand and would be carried out in the coming month.
- The two Apple Trees that failed to root are being replaced at no cost.
- The Clerk has not yet looked the 'Vision Sign' for the park to inform residents, but was planning to tackle that in the coming months and was looking at the cost of planting tubs for veg and flowers on the hard surface area.
- He was also working with the council on managing the meadow and scrub areas with sympathetic cutting and planting schemes.

(e) Llandybie Tennis Courts Moss Prevention;

The Clerk met officers from Carmarthenshire County Council on the 21st of November and the following recommendations are being confirmed in an email and are listed here as part of the Clerks full recommendations;

- There is no need to cut the trees adjacent to the courts as the problem of leaves is seasonal, but they have advised cutting back the 'crowns' of two trees and the overhanging branches to about 1.5 meters.
- Treat the new courts once the moss is eradicated by adding the new surface with a Glyphosate weedkiller in late spring and late August. The area must be sealed off until the substance dries at which point it becomes harmless. Check all soak away points to avoid contamination into the water system. Only use an approved licenced contractor.
- From early September clear the leaves weekly until early late November.
- Remove all overhanging creepers and ivy currently on the fence.

Discussion;

Cllr A. J. Evans felt that cutting the trees back 1.5mtrs was too drastic a measure, the Clerk confirmed that this was an option offered but if regular leaf clearance during the 'fall season' that there would be no need to cut the trees.

Cllr E. W. Nicholas felt that the Bowling Green had regular leaf clearance and that could be coordinated to clear the Tennis Courts at the same time.

Chair, Cllr D. W. Hopkins said that the previous groundsman had offered a solution to moss in use of a different treatment.

The Clerk **agreed** to explore the ideas offered.

(f) Heating System at Bowls and Tennis Pavilion;

The Clerk has now met a specialist company onsite who have surveyed the building and will make recommendations in order for a detailed specification to be produced. This will be shared at January’s meeting once received and it may be the case that an indication of price and grants will available by that time too. An application will be submitted for circa £7,500 for a green energy grant and £10,000 to the Betws Windfarm Fund to match the allocated £26,000 budget figure tabled to be ratified in tonight’s meeting.

(g) Clerks CiLCA Training;

The Clerk is now in the first month on his training and has found a bursary from Welsh Government to cover his fees of Circa £1000.00, the course will take 12 months. He is allocating his own time to most of the work to complete the 30 modules but is asking for some time as indicated in the ‘Time and Motion’ report to have some work time to complete the estimated 90 hours of training. He has indicated 20 hours during the year for online training and some preparation of the 90 hours. Two of the six sessions have already been completed.

The Clerk is currently updating the authorities training plan that will include recommendations for both Councillors and the Administrative Assistant.

It was **proposed** by Cllr A. J. Evans that the Clerk be awarded 20hrs to undertake his CiLCA Training and this was **seconded** by Cllr J. Tandy V. Chair. It was decided to **agree** the proposal.

Dai Nicholas – Clerk

November 27th 2024

576.

Monitoring Budget & Financial Matters.

(i) Monthly monitoring budget.

INCOME

HEADING	BUDGET	ACTUAL INCOME	DIFFERENCE
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	1410.40	610.40
Hire Agreement/Grants/106	4700.00	24126.17	19426.17
Total	222500.00	173834.87	-48665.13

Chair

EXPENDITURE

HEADING	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	DIFFERENCE
Grass Cutting	£31,500.00	£12,458.25	£19,041.75
Staff Salary and PAYE	£61,864.00	£28,959.11	£32,904.89
Office Services	£6,000.00	£7,589.14	-£1,589.14
Insurance	£2,500.00	£3,240.60	-£740.60
Financial Grants (Open Spaces, Hall, Cemetary)	£20,000.00	£14,140.81	£5,859.19
Asset Maintenance (Public conveniences, premises, parks, rights of way, burial grounds)	£54,500.00	£41,495.14	£13,004.86
Services & Subscriptions	£6,050.00	£2,809.78	£3,240.22
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	£8,550.00	£11,450.00
Lighting	£6,000.00	£0.00	£6,794.00
Community Development	£15,000.00	£13,838.00	£1,162.00
Total	£255,289.00	£142,126.09	- £113,162.91

Payments to 24th of November;

Morgan & Morgan Monthly Fibre Braodband Inv 88724	35.99
Martin Davies Translation of Finance and Env Meeting	231.07
Morgan & Morgan New Emails and IT Tablet Set up Inv 5523	144.00
EDF Electric Saron Pavilion Inv No.	63.11
EDF Electric Floodlights Capel Hendre Inv No.	48.60
EDF Electric Penygroes Pavilion Inv No.	29.76
HMRC SEPT 2024	1056.54
HMRC OCT 2024	1056.54
EDF Electric Bowls Shed Llandybie Inv No. 21149525	47.09
JJ Handyman, Safety Repair Roof Nr Bowls Pavilion Inv 177	912.50
Martin Davies Translation Ordinary & Planning Oct 2024	258.31
Salary Sian Taylor November 2024	782.70
Salary D. Nicholas Clerk November 2024	2321.08
JJ Handyman, 2nd payment Shed Roof NrBowls Pavilion Inv 178	912.50
Mike Pugh Signs, Dog Fouling signs x 20 Inv 1185	380.00

Chair

K D Gardening Toilets at Llandybie & Penygroes Inv 0194

862.50

To be paid;

HMRC November £1056

Monthly Fibre Broadband Subscription SOGEA 80/20 12 Month Contract £35.99

BT Approx £58.20

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				
				£
Brought Forward (opening balance at Bank)				£260,860.83
Add Income in the year				£173,834.87
Total				£434,695.70
Less outgoing				£151,628.80
Closing Balance Finance Spreadsheet (receipts - payments)				£283,066.90
Unpresented payments/cheques				£300.00
TRUE STATEMENT BALANCE				£283,066.90

Cllr A. W. Jones asked if the year ending projected balance at 2026 would mean we were not using any more reserves than stated in the budget.

The Clerk confirmed that this is what he was projecting but the fact that some grant applications were speculative and this might add to the income and the tax claim.

Cllr A. W. Jones asked that if some grants were not forthcoming would that any some project would not go ahead, the Clerk confirmed that whilst the grant money had been secured on the Tennis Courts that other projects might be affected but he would be able to confirm this at the February Finance meeting when he had completed applications.

The financial report by Cllr S. Roberts and Seconded by Cllr L. Wilkins.

 Chair

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

577.

Section 106 funding.

The Clerk offered the information that he had spoken to an officer at the County Council and that there were no definite developments in resolving the project budget and legal matters, Cllr D. Thomas confirmed that this was his understanding too.

578.

Request on Seminars / Joint meetings

The Chair expressed his enjoyment of attending the All Soul's Church Service and the Remembrance Services at Llandybie St. Tybie's Church and a festive book launch at Llandybie R.F.C by Trap W.I.

579.

Date of next meeting

Members **resolved** that the next Ordinary meeting of Council to be held on Wednesday 29th of January 2025.

580.

As there was no further business to discuss, the **Chair declared** the meeting closed 7 pm.