

**MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of Llandybie Community Council held at the Council offices, High Street, Llandybie and online via Teams on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> of May, 2025 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present**

Councillors	Cllr D. W. Hopkins	Cllr L. Wilkins	Cllr J. Tandy
	Cllr A.J. Evans	Cllr R. Barnes	Cllr P.H. Roberts
	Cllr G. J. Davies	Cllr E. W. Nicholas	Cllr H. Davies
	Cllr R.A. Davies	Cllr L. Wilkins	

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

**Apologies** Cllr C. R. Thomas Cllr S. Roberts D. Thomas  
Cllr N C Davies Cllr E. J. Davies

**718.**

**To Receive apologies for absence.**

There were five, Cllrs C. R. Thomas, E. Davies, N. C. Davies, D. Thomas and A. L. Thomas.

**719.**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

There was one, Cllr R. Barnes declared an interest in the item (g) in the Clerks report on Saron Juniors Football Club.

**718.**

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the following meetings as circulated were considered:

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 30<sup>h</sup> of April, 2025.

The minutes were proposed as correct by Cllr A. J. Evans and seconded by Cllr G. J. Davies.

- Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, 2025

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

**Acceptance of the minutes;**

The Chair asked for a proposal to accept all the minutes and this was **Proposed** by Cllr S. Roberts and **Seconded by** Cllr P. H. Roberts.

**719.**

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Chair

## MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were none.

**720.**

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

**721.**

### CORRESPONDENCE

#### Police reports as 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2025

<b>Llandybie Area</b>	
Violence and sexual offences	7
Anti-Social Behaviour	2
Public Order	2
Criminal Damage & Arson	1

<b>Penygroes including Blaenau and Caerbryn;</b>	
Violence and sexual offences	7
Criminal Damage & Arson	2
Public Order	1
Other crime	1

<b>Saron and Capel Hendre</b>	
Violence and sexual offences	13
Anti-Social Behaviour	2
Vehicle Crime	2
Criminal Damage & Arson	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)

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Chair

722.

**Clerk's Report 24/05/25**

**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.**

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. No further news to report.

**(b) 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 is still chasing the County Council for an update. 51/33 is to get the landowner to cut the overhanging branches. The Clerk with as within our right get our Footpath Contractor to cut the branches that directly overhang the path. **The Clerk will now asked our successful Footpath Contractor to cut the branches from the footpath side.**
- **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. See comments below.

**Update on other paths;**

Clerk has now worked with Betws Ramblers who are volunteers appointed by the Carmarthenshire County Council Rights of Way Team, he walked several walks around Bonllwyn, Glynhir, Pentregwenlais and Dyffryn Road over the last month, he has now organiosed a meeting with the Rights of Way Team to discuss a schedule of works.

**(c) Banc Y Ddraenen Park Project;**

The Clerk offered the following update;

- The nature reserve area works had now been costed by the consultants pending a 106 grant of monies. The cost was circa £5,000 with a cost of £1,000 annually over 25 years to be deposited with Carmarthenshire County

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Chair

Council to be released yearly to cover the cost of the upkeep of the area in terms of cutting and mowing.

- The Clerk is now waiting for notification after the planning on a nearby site was granted to see when the 106 monies to cover the work is forthcoming to begin the project. It's worth noting that this may have implications regarding Saron Park.

**Update;** Cllr K. D. L. Davies offered information that there had been a challenge to the approval on the planning application at a local development site and there was an ongoing appeal and to keep this in mind when planning the project in case this appeal was successful and the 106 monies were not forthcoming.

**(d) Llandybie Tennis Courts;**

The markings are going on 30<sup>th</sup> of May to complete the project and the Clerk met contractors on site on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May to check the tarmac surface before the paint layer goes on. The courts will be playable on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2025.

**(e) Heating System at Bowls and Tennis Pavilion;**

The Betws Wind Farm Fund meeting was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May and the Clerk will update councillors at the Ordinary Meeting on the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> of May.

**Update;** The Clerk declared he had signed off the court surface before the paint is applied subject to fair weather on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May with the courts being playable on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June.

**(f) Dog Fouling Project;**

The mobile CCTV cameras with Ai recognition has been onsite at Saron Park for two weeks and is currently onsite at the lower end of Penygroes Park, another Press Release will go out in the papers this week.

The Administrative Officer has now written to all Primary Schools in our area to offer them the opportunity to compete in the Littering/Dog Fouling poster competition.

The Clerk is regularly in touch with the Environment Enforcement Officer and our PCSO and regular walkabouts are taking place to monitor progress.

**Update;** Cllr A. W. Jones asked if Bonllwyn and Aberlash junction could be added to the list of hot spots and offered to host the mobile CCTV Camera at his ward, the Clerk offered to site visit to explore, which was agreed.

**(g) Saron Junior Football Club;**

The Clerk has met the club and they have requested a new longer term lease so that they can apply for grants from the Football Association of Wales, currently they

want spend circa £50k updating facilities including drainage. The Clerk would discussion and debate and the Ordinary Meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May to allow this option to be explored, they envisage a 7 year lease to be paid for annually.

**Update;** It was agreed that the Clerk explore to option and its implication of longer term ‘leases’ to allow grant monies to enhance the councils assets and offer better value on the precept for residents.

Cllr P. H. Roberts wanted it noted that any agreement should include a clause that the area was open to the community and not fenced off, the Clerk explained that the Saron Playing Field was already fenced off with unlocked gate access to deter dog fouling ion the playing surface.

**(h) Rights of Way Tender;**

Formal Tenders were sent out and replies received by Carmarthenshire County Council (£7271.32) and Dynefor Tree Services (£3,745), at the time of writing the report he is awaiting a 3<sup>rd</sup> quote after going to 5 contractors in total, one of those has declined to quote.

Update; The Clerk declared that since writing the report a third quote had been received at £5,710 and asked that Dynevor Tree Services be appointed and that the Chair meet with the Clerk to sign the a paperwork.

It was **Resolved** to accept the Clerks request and Dynevor Tree Services be awarded the three year contract.

**(i) Saron CCTV;**

Two contractors have now quoted with a 3<sup>rd</sup> due the week of 26<sup>th</sup> of May, the Clerk having met the contractor onsite.

**(j) Dog Fouling and tree planting spreadsheet;**

The Clerk will circulate a spreadsheet for discussion at the meeting, it’s for councillors to update him of Dog Fouling Hot Spots and Tree Planting opportunities.

**(k) Tree or plaque request for Llandybie Square;**

The family of the late Chris Davies have asked for a small plaque to be placed on the square, or a small tree planted in his memory, the Clerk would like discussion at the meeting.

**Update;** It was decided that as per previous requests being turned down where new benches were not being replaced for old, or plaques were being asked to be placed on

council property, it was agreed that this request be respectfully turned down for fear of setting a precedent and inviting other requests on council assets.

Dai Nicholas – Clerk

May 24<sup>th</sup> 2025

**723.**

### **Update on Gilfach Iago.**

The Clerk confirmed that the update had been received the County Council were still waiting for date in court.

**724.**

### **Monitoring Budget & Financial Matters.**

#### **(i) Monthly monitoring budget.**

Finance Report as at 24th May 2025

#### **INCOME**

<b>HEADING</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL INCOME</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
Precept	193860.00	64620.00	<b>-129240.00</b>
Vat Return (Rebate)	24000.00	0.00	<b>-24000.00</b>
Administration	3000.00	3000.00	<b>0.00</b>
Bank interest	4300.00	19.65	<b>-4280.35</b>
Hire Agreement/Grants/106	20000.00	0.00	<b>-20000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>245160.00</b>	<b>67639.65</b>	<b>-177520.35</b>

#### **EXPENDITURE**

<b>HEADING</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
Grass Cutting	£31,500.00	£610.00	<b>£30,890.00</b>
Staff Salary and PAYE	£57,252.00	£9,608.02	<b>£47,643.98</b>
Office Services	£7,500.00	£7,103.16	<b>£396.84</b>
Insurance	£3,600.00	£3,295.22	<b>£304.78</b>
Financial Grants (Open Spaces, Hall, Cemetery)	£20,000.00	£0.00	<b>£20,000.00</b>

Asset Maintenance (Public conveniences, premises, parks, rights of way, burial grounds)	£47,495.00	£3,712.21	<b>£43,782.79</b>
Services & Subscriptions	£6,050.00	£0.00	<b>£6,050.00</b>
Members Allowances & Paye	£15,000.00	£583.00	<b>£14,417.00</b>
Election Costs	£8,000.00	£7,011.27	<b>£988.73</b>
Section 137	£20,000.00	£0.00	<b>£20,000.00</b>
Lighting	£4,000.00	£6,207.42	<b>£4,000.00</b>
Community Development	£48,500.00	£0.00	<b>£48,500.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£268,897.00</b>	<b>£38,130.30</b>	<b>- £230,766.70</b>

**Payments made till May 24th;**

One Voice Wales Annual Membership Inv ref; 2025 26	2300.00
Morgan & Morgan annual Microsoft Subscription Inv 94699	2606.40
Carmarthenshire CC Saron Election Charge Inv 97935224	7011.27
Gallagher Insurance Brokers annual cover ref no. 27817031	3295.22
Carmarthenshire CC Public Lighting Inv 97936455	6207.42
Sian Taylor Out of pocket Expenses Dec to April 2025	55.19
Sian Taylor Petrol Expenses Dec to April 2025	112.50
Lyn Llewelyn Last Years Internal Audit Payment	690.00
Martin Davies Translation of April 2025 Minutes	155.87
BT Charges two months	110.00
D. Nicholas Salary for May 2025	2461.00
S. Taylor Salary for May 2025 plus underpayment	1309.23

**Payments for invoices received at 24<sup>st</sup> of May**

Software annual charge and training £154.80

Morgan &amp; Morgan Laptop upgrade £875.00

Wales Audit Office fee £215.00

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDYBIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL					
Mantolen 2025-2026 Accounts from April 1st					
Prepared by - D Nicholas					
Financial year ending 31/04/2026					
BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS					
					£

Chair

<b>Brought Forward (opening balance at Bank)</b>					<b>£244,242.20</b>
<b>Add Income in the year</b>					<b>£67,639.65</b>
<b>Total</b>					<b>£311,881.85</b>
<b>Less outgoings</b>					<b>£38,130.30</b>
<b>Closing Balance Finance Spreadsheet</b>					<b>£273,751.55</b>
<b>(receipts - payments)</b>					
<b>Unpresented payments/cheques</b>					
<b>TRUE STATEMENT BALANCE</b>					<b>£273,751.55</b>

Cllr R. A. Davies asked that the Clerk explain why it was necessary to move monies between the Savings account and the Business Account after he had been asked to sign off as a signatory and the Clerk had explained the need to use monies from the Savings Account.

The Clerk explained that as there had been a few large payments that were asked of the council in the first two months and this had put a short term strain on cashflow in the Business Account and the Access Account and that in order to pay the contractor for the completion of the tennis courts he needed to transfer money across until the grant from the Betws Wind Farm Fund was paid out, the VAT claim at the end of June went in and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Precept payment was realised around August September.

Cllr A. W. Jones questioned whether this transfer of funds needed to be agreed by council or the Finance Committee. The Clerk felt that if audited it would be good practice to at least have it recorded in these minutes, but confirmed the spend had already been agreed in Finance and that the three authorisation signatories had been consulted and documentation signed, Chair Cllr J. W. Tandy felt that it was not necessary to seek Finance Committee approval to move funds around, especially as in this case it was an agreed budget item where the money would be transferred back, the Clerk interjected by explaining there would be a loss of interest due to less money being in the account for a period, but felt that the money was there for projects if needed.

Cllr A. W. Jones asked that if in future where there were strains on the cashflow whether deferred payments to the authorities such as the County Council be looked at, the Clerk said that this in principle seemed a good idea and he would enquire as to its practicality for future reference and report back to the next Ordinary Meeting in June.

V. Chair Cllr A. J. Evans **proposed** that the transfer of funds be noted and agreed, this was **seconded** by Cllr S. Roberts.



It was **Resolved** to continue to make the funds available from the Swansea Building Society Savings Account to cover the cost of the Tennis Court resurfacing.

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

**(ii) Update on Internal and External Audit 2024/25**

The Clerk confirmed that the Internal Audit information was ready to hand to the Internal Auditor and the External Audit Information was on target for the August deadline.

**(iii) Approval of Annual Financial Governance Statement 2024/25**

The Chair confirmed that this had been completed and reviewed.

It was **Resolved** to accept the statement as named above.

**(iv) Final Accounts for 2024-25.**

The Clerk asked and was granted by the Chair to ask the members to agree the accounting statement presented to be audited by the Internal Auditor before being passed to external Welsh Audit Office for final audit.

It was **Resolved** to pass Accounting Statement and the Chair to sign the statement to be passed with the draft accounts for the Internal Auditor to audit.

**(v) Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2024/25 and 2025/26;**

It was **Resolved** that Lynne Llewelyn once again be appointed.

**725.**

**Section 106 funding.**

There no update from County Councillors present,

**726.**

**Request on Seminars / Joint meetings**

The Clerk announced that he had a very enjoyable and informative evening deputising for the Chair and V. Chair at the recent Cwmaman Town Council Mayoral Evening.

**727.**

**Date of next meeting**

Members **resolved** that the date of the next Ordinary meeting be the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 2025

**728.**

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

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Chair

28<sup>th</sup> of May 2025

8 pm.