

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of Llandybie Community Council held at the Council offices, High Street, Llandybie and online via Zoom on Wednesday, 26th of June, 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. J. Davies	Cllr R. Barnes	

Attending online

Cllr A. W. Jones	Cllr P.H. Roberts	Cllr K. D. L. Davies
Cllr A. L. Thomas	Cllr S. Roberts	

Apologies

Cllr I. Rh Llewelyn	Cllr D. Thomas	Cllr E. W. Nicholas
Cllr S. E. Thomas	Cllr N. C. Davies	Cllr A.J. Evans

473.

To Receive apologies for absence.

Cllr I. Rh Llewelyn	Cllr D. Thomas	Cllr E. W. Nicholas
Cllr S. E. Thomas	Cllr N. C. Davies	Cllr A.J. Evans

474.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were none

475.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the following meetings as circulated were considered:

- Minutes of the Statutory Meeting held on the 29th of May, 2024.
- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 29th of May, 2024
- Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 29th of May, 2024

476.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were none.

477.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chair

(i) Mr Andrew Wilson.

There was one member of the public who had given prior notification to speak at the meeting and was present.

Mr Andrew Wilson whom is a Chartered Engineer and local resident addressed councillors on his views on a reply to a letter from Ken Skates the minister on 20 mph feedback.

Mr Wilson offered some valuable insight into his research into travel and transportation and offered views that the introduction of the 20 mph on many roads meant that delays in travel were affecting higher prices for transportation and services and hampering efficient travel to school and to work for many in our society. He further felt that many roads were designated in areas which felt outside any reasonable interpretation of the guidelines.

The Chair Cllr D. H. Hopkins offered thanks in conclusion and expressed his views which concurred with much of what Mr Wilson had talked about.

Cllr R. A. Davies offered his view that whilst he felt that there was a lot of agreement in the examples offered against 20 mph there were also residents that had expressed a strong agreement that the 20 mph had improved road safety especially on Llandybie to Pentregwenlais and Blaenau Road.

Cllr C. R. Thomas also felt that the 20 mph had improved safety at Cwmfferws Road, in her Saron Ward.

Cllr A. W. Jones expressed his view that the 20 mph was being introduced previous to this policy in a controlled and measured manner in consultation with Local Authorities and felt the way in which it had been pushed through had now meant that there was backtracking being undertaken to reassess roads that were hastily designated as 20 mph and whilst it was a subjective matter it has been frustrating for communities.

The Clerk closed the item by asking Mr Wilson to get his views across via email and that the matter would be discussed in more detail under correspondence.

(ii) PCSO Ian Morgan attended.

PCSO Ian Morgan addressed Councillors with an update on policing in the area and asked for questions and feedback from Councillors.

Cllr R. A. Davies asked for a Police presence at the Primary Schools to deter double parking and curb side parking which was compromising safety and also at the school gates at the top of the hill and at Parc Pencae where certain parents had been parking inconsiderably.

Cllr K. D. L Davies and Cllr G. J. Davies drew attention to parking and waiting issues at the School in Saron and Cllr P. H. Davies agreed with this concern and highlighted similar instances at Penygroes Primary School.

Cllr E. J. Davies asked what the PCSO believed was his biggest concern within his community policing role, to which the PCSO expressed his concerns regarding the effect of drugs within communities that lead to not only initial crimes but have a ripple effect to other crimes and social unrest.

PCSO Ian Morgan made a note of the concerns and offered to provide a presence at the locations concerned and to visit Llandybie Primary School to discuss issues with the Head Teacher.

478.

CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Letter from Ken Skates MS regarding 20 mph speed limit.

The Clerk drew attention to the letter circulated that had been sent by Ken Skates the minister to gather feedback and offer views in the 20 mph to the designated government portal and to the County Council.

The Clerk opened discussion by saying that some detailed debate had already been had, and that he had organised a pre council meeting with the Chair and Deputy Chair to discuss a strategy for the response.

The Deputy Chair Cllr J. Tandy took up the discussion by suggesting that Councillors of each ward meet and offer local views and knowledge to prepare a response to be discussed to contribute to the overall response and to take into consideration the views of Mr Wilson who presented earlier in the meeting as a point of community engagement.

It was resolved that the Clerk email Councillors from each ward to meet or consult to prepare a response and email the Clerk before the next Ordinary Meeting.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk report progress on a reply at the next Ordinary Meeting in July.

479.

Clerk's Report 21/06/24

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.

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.

(ii) Swings at two parks in Penygroes and other matters.

The swings for both Gors Ddu and Spien Road have been ordered and due to be installed in the in mid-August.

The Table Tennis board has been ordered with a early July installation and the replacement picnic bench has been installed.

(b) Footpaths. There are no further updates on the below Footpaths below except 61/106.

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.

- **Bonllwyn 61/106;** The Rights of Way Team at Carmarthenshire County and the legal department have now entered the legal phase to reroute the path and upgrade the entire length to once again connect Wern Ddu Road with Bonllwyn and effectively creating a loop around Ammanford with only one road crossing. The County Council will pick up the cost.
- **Caerbryn 51/56;** The Clerk has asked for a reply to his email of 4 weeks ago from the County Rights of Way team to look at removing some soils and from the top of the approach path.
- **Penygroes 51/34 and 51/35, 51/33;** Whilst 51/34 is now being looked at by our contractor, the legal team at Carmarthenshire County Council are looking at 51/13 to get the landowner to cut the overhanging branches, the Clerk has written to the Legal Dept at Carmarthenshire County Council for an update. 51/35 is being looked at as part of the Gilfach Iago development. The Administration Officer has followed up to ask for an update.
- **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.

(c) Penygroes RFC and Gate locking at night.

Menter Cwm Gwendraeth have stated that they do not wish to offer keys to users of their facility who attend events after the hours of 4pm or need to attend events at 6.15am each morning. The Clerk as per the agreement in the last 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.

(d) IT Tablets for council business.

The Clerk has issued 12 x IT Tablets and will ask councillors at the June Ordinary meeting if there are any issues or training needed. The cases for the tablets have been ordered and are expected soon.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk email all Councillors to arrange a suitable date and time to offer training.

(e) Banc Y Ddraenen Park Project;

The posters distribution is now completed and the Clerk to date has had one phone call and two emails. The Clerk will now organise a meeting of the Environment Committee for July 17th.

(f) The Asset Management Business Plan.

The Clerk has now drafted up the plan as a spreadsheet will be emailed to Councillors. The Clerk will suggest that it is discussed in detail at the September Finance Committee.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk email a draft report to Councillors to highlight any spend requests within the assets in their wards.

(g) Preparation of Internal Audit.

The Internal Audit has now been completed by Lyn Llewelyn, the Clerk is expecting the final report before the June Ordinary meeting and will read it out for Councillors at that meeting.

It was **proposed** by Cllr E. J. Davies to accept the report and **seconded** by Cllr R. Barnes.

It was **resolved** to accept the internal auditors report.

(h) Our archives.

The Clerk has arranged to meet the Archive Department of Carmarthenshire County Council to discuss the files that we have and asses the process.

Update; This is still to be done.

(i) Saron Park CCTV.

The Clerk is still chasing a third quote and is hoping to commission the work in early July.

(j) External Audit.

The Clerk will be completing the External Audit by Friday 28th of June.

Dai Nicholas – Clerk

June 21st 2024

480.

Gilfach Iago Update

The Clerk confirmed that there was no further update. This was confirmed by Cllr D. Thomas.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk update future Ordinary Meetings of progress.

481.

(i) Monthly monitoring budget.

Accounts to June 22nd 2024

INCOME as at 2nd June 2024

HEADING	BUDGET	ACTUAL INCOME	DIFFERENCE
Precept	180000.00	60000.00	-120000.00
Vat Return (Rebate)	17000.00	0.00	-17000.00
Bank interest	800.00	249.82	-550.18
Hire Agreement/Grants/106	4700.00	24126.17	19426.17
Total	202500.00	84375.99	-118124.01

EXPENDITURE

HEADING	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	DIFFERENCE
Grass Cutting	£31,500.00	£8,683.25	£22,816.75
Staff Salary and PAYE	£61,864.00	£11,213.42	£50,650.58
Office Services	£6,000.00	£4,088.89	£1,911.11
Insurance	£2,500.00	£3,240.60	-£740.60

Chair

26th of June 2024

Financial Grants (Open Spaces, Hall, Cemetary)	£20,000.00	£6,210.00	£13,790.00
Asset Maintenance (Public conveniences, premises, parks, rights of way, burial grounds)	£54,500.00	£25,074.89	£29,425.11
Services & Subscriptions	£6,050.00	£0.00	£6,050.00
Members Allowances & Paye	£15,875.00	£977.00	£14,898.00
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	£603.13	£14,396.87
Total	£255,289.00	£68,119.44	£187,169.56

(ii) Payment of accounts.

Payments made to June 22nd 2024

03/06/2024	Online	Dwr Cymry Inv 5069084798 Sports Pavilion Saron Electric	321.02
03/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019104507 Sports Saron Pavilion Electric	32.77
03/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019108655 Capel Hendre Floodlights Electric	21.96
03/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019144915 Penygroes Pavilion Electric	25.96
03/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019161042 Pavilion Woodfield Road Electric	5.18
03/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019139017 Bowls and Tennis Electric	186.64
03/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019212052 Shed Bowls LlandybieElectric	39.1
03/06/2024	Online	Gallagher Annual Insurance Inv 532849341	3240.6
03/06/2024	Online	Morgan & Morgan Inv 00084462 Broadband Monthly	35.99
03/06/2024	Online	Martin Davies Translation Ordinary meeting April	228.8
03/06/2024	Online	K D Gardening Services May Inv 159 . Cleaning Toilets	891.25
10/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019386599 Sport Pavilion Saron Electric	70.21
10/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019387339 Pavilion Penygroes Electric	56.03
10/06/2024	Online	EDF Energy Inv 000019389065 Capel Hendre Floodlights Electric	47.11
10/06/2024	Online	HMRC May Ref 615PF00123687 PAYE Contribution	1005.54
10/06/2024	Online	D. Nicholas reimbursment Tennis Nets for Court 3	
10/06/2024	Online	Jems Environmental Legionairs Testing Inv 2572 Toilets/buildings	843.77
10/06/2024	Online	Jems Environmental Legionairs Testing Inv 2703 Toilets/buildings	1687.54
10/06/2024	Online	Morgan & Morgan Inv 00085057 IT Tablets x 10	1755.96
10/06/2024	Online	Morgan & Morgan Munites Paper Inv 00085011 For annual minutes	71.86
10/06/2024	Online	Martin Davies Ordinary minutes, staturory and planning	276.83
10/06/2024	Online	Uniserve Wales Fire Extinguisher Annual Check Fire Extinguishers	289.2
10/06/2024	Online	Uniserve Wales Fire Extinguisher Annual Check Fire Extinguishers	333.6
10/06/2024	Online	Uniserve Wales Fire Extinguisher Annual Check Fire Extinguishers	54
10/06/2024	Online	Sian Taylor 3 months expenses travel and out of pocket	162.35

Payments to be made by End of June 2024;

- HMRC Payment month ending July 5th £1,005.
- Newhall Janitorial Toilet supplies £196.16
- Martin Davies Translation of notes £40.00
- BT Office Connection and phone £58.00
- Morgan and Morgan 12 Month Fibre contract 35.99
- Morgan & Morgan IT Tablet set up as per agreed quote £351.19
- Morgan & Morgan 2 month photocopier charges £10.18
- EDF Energy electric Bowls and Tennis Pavilion, Llandybie £50.87
- EDF Energy Shed electric at Llandybie Pavilion £39.09
- EDF Energy Electric MUGA Llandybie £24.13
- SSE Energy electric Offices and Chamber Llandybie 6 months £834.50

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDYBIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL				
Mantolen 2024-2025 Accounts from April 1st				

Chair

Prepared by - D Nicholas				
Financial year ending 31/04/2025				
BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS				
				£
Brought Forward (opening balance at Bank) including uncashed cheques				£312,607.63
Add Income in the year				£85,776.02
Total				£398,383.65
Less outgoings				£59,366.20
Closing Balance Finance Spreadsheet (receipts - payments)				£339,017.45
Unpresented payments/cheques				£600.00
TRUE STATEMENT BALANCE				£339,017.45

Cllr R. A. Davies asked the Clerk to include more detailed descriptions payments such as Toilets and as an example the servicing of Fire Extinguishers as to which toilets or building it was referring too, the Clerk agreed to rectify this for the next financial report to be presented at the July meeting.

Cllr R. A. Davies further expressed his concern regarding the electricity costs at the Bowls and Tennis Pavilion at Llandybie, the Clerk stated that he was asking a heating engineer to look at more economic electric heaters. Cllr A. W. Davies aske that as part of that process, grants be looked at and solar panels may offer an opportunity for longer term savings.

It was proposed by Cllr C. R. Thomas to accept, with amendments, the budget and payment of accounts and seconded by Cllr G. J. Davies.

Members **resolved** to ask the Clerk amend the entries and approve the budget and payments as correct and to explore the heating solution at the Bowls and Tennis Pavilion, Llandybie.

(iii) Internal audit and Annual Accounts and Annual Return.

The Clerk explained that the final Annual Accounts were now complete and he had circulated the final accounts statement which balanced and reconciled with the bank statements.

The Clerk aske that then final Annual Accounts be accepted as complete and true, this was proposed by Cllr and Seconded by Cllr

Chair

The Clerk further declared that the Council had formally passed the Internal Audit and drew attention to the fact that the Final Internal Audit report by Lyn Llewelyn had been circulated prior to the meeting and asked that this be accepted and noted in the minutes.

This was proposed by Cllr E. J. Davies and Seconded by Cllr R. Barnes.

It was **resolved** to accept the final Annual Accounts presented by the Clerk.

It was further **resolved** to accept the final Internal Audit report undertaken by the Internal Auditor.

482.

Staff Pension Scheme update.

The Clerk explained that he had only just had a reply from the Dyfed Pension Fund on an explanation as to the acceptance on to the Pension Scheme but with a 27% contribution from the salary budget annually.

Cllr A. W. Jones felt that this figure was rather high and that he understood that Local Government pension schemes were expensive but also that there were other schemes available and could these be explored.

The Clerk explained that the fund officers at Carmarthenshire County Council had explained that given the age of the Clerk and the Administration Officer and that they were joining a mature scheme that a higher contribution was required.

Cllr C. R. Thomas asked that a vote be taken, but it was explained by the Clerk that it was basically a statutory right to pay staff a pension and that he himself wanted further clarification on the figures, Cllr R. A. Davies felt that it was now for the Clerk to ask for a breakdown in explanation of the pension package before a decision could be made.

It was **resolved** to defer the decision until the Ordinary Meeting in July to give the Clerk an opportunity to explore the position further by asking the Dyfed Pension Fund Officers to offer a more detailed breakdown and explanation of the package being recommended.

483.

Section 106 funding.

There was no further information offered by County Councillors present.

Request on Seminars / Joint meetings

There was no information offered.

Chair

484.

Date of next meeting

Members **resolved** that the next Ordinary meeting of Council to be held on Wednesday 31st of July 2024. The Clerk also asked that the Annual Policy meeting be called for 6.30pm and an Environment Meeting called for 7pm on the 17th of July, this was agreed.

485.

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