

CYNGOR CYMUNED BETWS YN RHOS A LLANELIAN YN RHOS.

BETWS YN RHOS AND LLANELIAN YN RHOS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CLERK : Mel Jones, 2 Lon Hafan Abergele LL22 8QJ
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, LLANELIAN
AT 7:30pm ON MONDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2025

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1.WELCOME –The Chair, Councillor John Evans, welcomed all to the meeting.

2. PRESENT – Councillor John Evans, Irwedd Griffiths, Glena Humphrey, Gwenda Davies, Goronwy R. WILLIAMS, Bryn Jones, Gethin OWEN, D Gwyn Jones, Hefin Williams and the County Councillor Ifor G. Lloyd, Clerk - Mel Jones.

3.APOLOGIES – None. All in attendance.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members are reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of any personal interests using the form provided for the purpose. Councillor Ifor LLOYD has stated that he sits on the planning committee and as such cannot take part in any decisions made on applications being discussed, but he could answer questions relating to planning regulations and policies.

There were declarations of interest by Councillors Hefin Williams, Glena Humphrey and Gwyn Jones in relation to Planning applications on the agenda.

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th January 2025 were read. The minutes were approved and signed. (Proposed by Councillor Gwyn Jones and seconded by Councillor Hefin Williams)

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising

7. **FINANCE**

The monthly Financial Statements were produced for the period ending 20th January 2025.

Ending 20th January 2025

(1) Community Account	= £5,882.33 (Brought Forward)
Money Received	= NIL
Money Paid Out	= £570.12 (Clerk's wages
	= £142.40 (HMRC)
	= £1,500 (Grant Betws Cemetery)
	=£59.40 (Aston Hughes -payroll)
	= £135.00 (Betws Sports Pavilion rent)
	=£100.00 (Llanelian Hall Rent)
	= £5.00 (Bank Charges)
	= £86.28 (BT Invoice)
	= £218.87 (Betws Pensioners Lunch)
	= £127.11 (Betws Children Xmas gifts)

Community Account = £2,938.15 (Carried Forward)

(2) Business Account	= £4,052.66(Brought Forward)
Money Paid Out	= NIL

Money Received	= NIL
<u>Business Account</u>	= £4,052.66 (Carried Forward)
<u>Total</u>	= £6,990.81 (Carried Forward)

Members noted the financial situation and the Bank account as listed above.

All agreed that the accounts were correct.

Following the Internal Audit, it is now necessary to have the Council's agreement before any invoices are paid on-line. The following Invoices require paying:

Upcoming £86.28 – BT Monthly WiFi invoice

Payment of £90.00 to Aloma Wheway for purchasing urgent water supplies from Decante for elderly/vulnerable residents in Betws yn Rhos. This was agreed as an urgent requirement by the Chair, Councillor John Evans and the Clerk at the time of the water outage.

It was agreed that the invoices could be paid

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Received

Regular emails from One Voice Wales, Public Service Executive etc. with those relevant being forwarded to the councillors, and available from the Clerk.

Sent

- a. Responses and enquiries to CCBC's Planning Department
- b. Letters and emails received requiring forwarding to Councillors.

9. **GRANTS**

Applications to the Community Council.

Letter received from Theatre Bara Caws requesting consideration for grant assistance for the forthcoming financial year. Following a discussion, it was decided that no contribution would be given as the precept was already submitted and the Community Council were committed to support local ventures. The Clerk to update Theatre Bara Caws.

Applications by the Community Council

CVSC are now assisting the Community Council to resource suitable grants for various projects within the community. A future application will be submitted in relation to the upgrade of the Betws yn Rhos Playground.

10. **PLANNING - <http://www.conwy.gov.uk/planningexplorer> NEW APPLICATION**

Reference: 0/52242

Applicant: Rhys and Rosie Jones

Proposal: Two storey side extension and a single storey rear extension along with some internal alterations

Location: Pencraig, Pencraig Road, Dolwen, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8NT

Councillor Gwyn Jones had notified a declaration of interest and left the meeting room whilst the matter was discussed

It was noted that a previous application had been refused by the Planning Department. The planning documents were viewed and following discussion the decision was that the Community Council had no objection to the planning application. The Clerk to update the Planning Department.

At the conclusion of the discussion Councillor Gwyn Jones joined the meeting.

NEW APPLICATION

Reference: 0/52273

Applicant: Mr Mark Blissitt

Proposal: Farm track to agricultural sheds and hay feeder (Agricultural Prior Approval)

Location: Aelwyd Uchaf, Peaceful Mountain Farm, Cil Llidart Road, Betws yn Rhos, Conwy, LL22 8AG

The planning application documents were reviewed. It was noted that previous applications to build a dwelling on this site and a previous application (0/52202) for Farm Tracks were refused by the Planning Department.

The planning application documents were reviewed. The Community Council were of the same view as the application 0/52202 in that there were concerns that to grant such an application would set a dangerous precedent.

The proposed development would in essence be on a greenfield site and would be highly visible on the landscape. Access is currently made to the buildings without any such road in place. This can continue.

There are concerns that it will impact on the heritage byway in that area and that there would be a likelihood of increased traffic on the access road.

A question was posed as to the long-term sustainability of the enterprise.

There are concerns that this development may be contrary to Technical Advice Note 24.

The Council are therefore unable to support the planning application.

It was noted that the name 'Peaceful Farm' is recorded on the planning application. There is apparently no such farm. The Clerk to update the Planning Department and to query whether this is a change of name for Aelwyd Uchaf and if there is any process that needs following to change a name of premises.

If any additional documents are posted onto the portal this will be considered.

Reference: 0/52229

Applicant: Mr Hefin Williams

Proposal: New slurry pit to support the current farm stock in line with the latest legislations

Location: Caeau Bedw, Nentydd Road, Rhyd Y Foel, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8EE

This was not discussed as the matter is being considered by the Planning Department. Councillor Hefin Williams had notified a declaration of interest at last month's meeting but as the matter was not discussed there was no need for him to leave the meeting.

Reference: 0/52202

Applicant: Mr Mark Blissitt

Proposal: Farm tracks, for agricultural sheds to pig arks, to hay feeder (Agricultural Prior Approval)

Location: Aelwyd Uchaf, Peaceful Mountain Farm, Betws yn Rhos, Conwy, LL22 8AG

APPLICATION REFUSED BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Reference: 0/52175

Applicant: Mr Berwyn Jones

Proposal: Outline consent for the erection of a new rural enterprise dwelling on land at Bryn Ffanigl Ganol, Abergele

Location: Bryn Ffanigl Ganol, Bryn Ffanigl Road, Rhyd Y Foel, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8NF

This was not discussed as the matter is being considered by the Planning Department. Councillor Glenna Humphrey had notified a declaration of interest at last month's meeting but as the matter was not discussed there was no need for her to leave the meeting.

Reference: 0/52145

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Davies

Proposal: Proposed Agricultural Slurry Lagoon

Location: Peniarth Fawr, Abergele Road, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8AE

Matter still being considered by the Planning Department.

Reference: 0/52118

Applicant: Mr Dewi Jones

Proposal: Temporary 80m guyed meteorological monitoring mast with lightning protection (overall height not exceeding 80.4m) for a period of three years from date of first operation, to record data on the available wind resource at the site.

Location: Agricultural Grazing Land to the South of Mynydd Llanelian

Matter still being considered by the Planning Department.

Reference: 0/52094

Applicant: Sports Association

Proposal: Creation of new parking spaces (not commenced) and installation of storage containers (installed)

Location: Sports Pavilion, Dolwen Road, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8AW

APPLICATION APPROVED BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

11. INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDIT MATTERS.

The final report from the Wales Audit Office is still awaited. This is similar to many Community Councils.

12. CONWY COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS - COUNCILLOR IFOR LLOYD

Councillor Ifor Lloyd updated that Government Funding to bring full fibre deployment to premises in the Dolwen Telephone exchange area -primarily Betws Yn Rhos and Dolwen - was only 70% subscribed and there is a need to raise the numbers. Councillor Lloyd requested that the information is shared further with the community. The information is already on the Community Council website.

Councillor Lloyd wanted to record his thanks to everyone who assisted within the community during the recent water outage. There were issues with GDPR that prevented Welsh Water sharing the details of vulnerable people within the Community and this has been addressed via the Civil Contingencies Group and the Gold Group meetings.

13. MAINTENANCE OF RESOURCES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA.

a. Playground at Betws yn Rhos/Llanelian

The Clerk is meeting David Dudley the Playground Inspector for Conwy County Council at Betws yn Rhos Playground on Thursday 6th February 2025. The proposals for the Playground and the estimates have been shared with him. Mr Dudley will be able to assist with identifying further suppliers.

There will be a requirement for grants to be applied for and the Clerk will liaise with CVSC in due course.

b. Defibrillators

With regard to the siting of a defibrillator in the Dawn area the Clerk had explored the possibility of having a Solar Power source for a defibrillator in that area. Enquiries had been made with Tomos Hughes (Welsh Ambulance) and also Defib suppliers. There is a Solar Power cabinet available but the cost is circa £3,200 plus VAT with the cost of the Defibrillator another £700-£900. A suggestion was that an ordinary cabinet be purchased but that would need checking weekly in case of frost and it would have to be removed to a safe place when there was a heavy period of frost/cold weather. Following discussion, it was considered that the risk of having an unheated cabinet was too high. In view of the costs involved it was with much regret that it was decided that the siting of the defibrillator in Dawn was not a feasible option.

c. The Hub'/ 'Yr Hwb'.

Volunteers are still required to supervise the meetings which will run between 9:00 and 12:00pm every Tuesday morning at the Sports Pavilion, Betws yn Rhos.

d. Flower beds/Public Benches, Abergele Road.

Hilda Gibbs to carry out the maintenance moving forwards.

e. Toilet Facility at Betws yn Rhos/Llanelian.

Councillor John Evans previously updated that the Church committee at Betws yn Rhos were looking at refurbishing an out building as a public toilet which would negate the need to build a

new facility. Further updates will be given when there is progress to report. The Community Council agreed to provide necessary assistance.

The Clerk reported that Gary Williams of Conwy County Council was aware that the Community Council wanted to operate the Toilet facility at Llanelian. The running cost had been included in the precept but the amount of precept will not be received until the end of March. The County Council wanted a commitment from the Community Council that we were fully decided to taking over the running of the toilets at Llanelian. It was decided that there was a commitment and the Clerk to inform Mr Gary Williams and for the process to be progressed.

f. General issues

The Clerk had written to ERF at Conwy Council regarding the barrier at the end of the public footpath and also the decking on the river bank at Llais Afon flats. They had acknowledged receipt under reference 112632. The work is classed as non-urgent

The issue raised on the 15th July by Councillor Irwedd Griffiths regarding the roadway near Nant Coch has yet to be attended to.

In respect of the issue of no covered Bus Stop in Betws yn Rhos village the County Council had replied that they had no funds to install any Bus Stops. The Clerk had requested costings from them and it was in the region of £7,000 installed. After a discussion it was decided that the cost was prohibitive and the matter would not be progressed.

Regarding the report that was received regarding a tree growing at the wall near the old toilets/flats at Llais Afon Inn. The Clerk had reported the matter to ERF. It was not on Council land and there were no details on the Land Registry as to who owned the land. The County Council were now aware of the owner of the land and a letter had been forwarded to the owner by Openspaces Trees Section.

Regarding the issue with a tree overgrowing onto the roadway at 2/3, Dolwen Road, Betws yn Rhos. CCBC now confirm that they have investigated the report. Following inspection, CCBC do not feel

that any action is necessary at this time. They will continue to monitor this location as part of their routine inspections

A planning decision has been approved for the Car Park at the Sports Pavilion grounds in Betws yn Rhos. Any requirement to move the Monkey Tree will be monitored by Councillor John Evans who sits on the Sports Association Committee.

The Christmas lights at Betws yn Rhos had been removed by the Conwy Council and Councillor Bryn Jones was storing them again.

The Clerk had written to ERF with a request that a road sweeper needs attending the B5383 Dolwen Road from Dolgau to Dolwen ERF had confirmed that this work had been scheduled.

A report had been received that the roadside on the B5381 between Penrefail Crossroads and Hunters Hamlet had collapsed onto the road narrowing the carriageway. The Clerk to write to ERF.

Councillors have had reports regarding the following locations which seem to have change of use/planning issues

1. Coed Ty Brith, Abergele Road, Betws yn Rhos - reports of a field being used as a Dog Park and Tepees located at that location
2. Land at Nant Uchaf, Betws yn Rhos. Field being used for storage of plant equipment.

The Clerk to write to the Planning Department.

14. **ANNUAL BUDGET / PRECEPT**

The precept application of £18,000 with the Community Council utilising £2,387.76 from balances had been submitted within the timeline to Conwy County Council. The Clerk will update with any developments.

15. **ON and OFF-SHORE WIND FARMS AWEL Y MOR/GWYNT Y MOR/MONA**

This subject remains on the agenda, and any developments discussed at every meeting. Any further plans or applications will be monitored closely.

See the following links for further information:

[Overview](#)

[About us](#) [About the Project](#) [What the Project will look like](#) [Processes and Next Steps](#)

[Our work so far](#) [Interactions with other marine users](#)

[Information Hub](#) [Visualisations of the windfarm](#) [Interactive map](#)

16. **LLANELIAN YN RHOS COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

This item had remained on the agenda so that we could keep up with how the project is progressing, and could offer support when required.

The formal opening day of the new Community Centre on Saturday 18th January 2025 had been well attended and it was a successful afternoon.

BT had responded to the E mail from the Clerk regarding the delays involved in the WiFi installation at the premises. This was discussed and it is clear that it was very much a technical response. It was decided that the Clerk should request compensation for the delay.

17. **Y GADLAS**

An article has been submitted regarding the opening day of new Llanelian Community Centre.

18. **ANY OTHER MATTERS**

The Clerk updated that to date there had been no interest to the advertisement placed on the website for the vacancy on the Community Council. Councillor Glenna Humphrey had been approached

by an individual who had shown an interest and has arranged for that person to contact the Clerk.

Councillor Gwyn Jones updated that Llanelian Community Association had submitted a grant application from the Solar Park for blinds for the doors and windows at the new Hall and also for a patio area outside the French doors. Various estimates had been received. The cost was in the region of £8,500. There was support for the application.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

CHAIRMAN..... John Evans

CLERK..... Mel Jones

DATE: 3rd MARCH 2025.