

## **CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDAROG COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the December 2025 Meeting of Llanddarog Community Council held at Llanddarog Village Hall on 10/12/2025 at 19.00.**

#### **146/2025-2026 Present.**

Councilors: R Owen (Chair), R Jones, J Williams O.B.E, A Aldridge.

County Cllr S Hughes.

Clerk.

Translator: H Mainwaring.

#### **147/2025-2026 To receive apologies.**

Councilors: County Cllr H Jones, C Jones, K Waters, M Griffiths, R McFarlane.

#### **148/2025-2026 To receive declarations of interest.**

None.

#### **149/2025-2026 Opportunity for the public to address the Council on agenda items.**

Members of the public attended the meeting and reported the following –

Thank you to Cllr J Williams O.B.E and the community council for all the work involved with Porthyrhyd memorial stone.

Porthyrhyd Hall Renovation Project - Porthyrhyd Welfare Committee has already secured the sum of £22,000 for initial Phase 1 costs (Design, Consultancy, Planning and Surveys)

Targeted Finance Fund - £17,600 (80%)

Welsh Church Fund - £2,750 (12.5%)

Match Funding - £1,650 (7.5%)

The Committee is in the process of applying for £300,000 funding from Welsh Government's Community Facilities Fund.

The first step is to submit an EXPRESSION of INTEREST application and if successful will be submitting a FULL APPLICATION.

As there is a need for a new roof, the above mentioned sum will only pay for future proofing the building, and further applications for funding will be made to refurbish the interior.

Porthyrhyd Welfare Committee is also in the process of securing the section 106 agreement money - "a commuted payment of £93,594 towards the improvement of the existing play and open spaces facilities in Porthyrhyd"

The sum will be paid to the CCC in three instalments of £31,198 prior to the commencement of the development, and the commencement of the 14th and 28th dwellings in the scheme.

Thank you to County Cllr S Hughes for his diligent work with regards to the flooding issues in Porthyrhyd and opening channels of communication with the developers

and Welsh Water. A letter has been received stating that Welsh Water are not breaking protocol by releasing sewage into rivers as they are allowed to do so when required. Welsh Water also confirmed that there are numerous leaks in the mains water pipes resulting in 5000 litres per hour being lost over the past 18 months.

The following email was received from Cllr C Jones following a meeting on 05/12/2025 –

**Meeting Notes: Flooding Concerns in Porthrhyd**

**Subject:** Flooding and Wastewater Capacity Issues

**Attendees:** Representatives from Jones Henllan (Developer), local residents, County Cllr Shone Hughes, Cllr Craig Jones.

**Location:** Porthrhyd

**Purpose:** Discuss ongoing and potential flooding concerns related to new housing development and existing drainage infrastructure.

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**Key Discussion Points**

• **Existing Flooding Issues:**

Porthrhyd is experiencing significant flooding, primarily due to excess water entering the wastewater drainage system.

• **New Development Concerns:**

Residents raised concerns that runoff from the new housing estate could increase flooding by placing additional strain on the system.

• **Developer Response (Jones Henllan):**

Jones Henllan:

- Walked attendees through the development's drainage design, demonstrating that the surface water system will discharge into a ditch rather than the wastewater network.
- Confirmed that rainwater from the estate is not expected to negatively impact the village.
- Reaffirmed that the scheme has been engineered to prevent additional hydraulic load on Porthrhyd.

• **Temporary Pumping Measures:**

A resident expressed dissatisfaction regarding the current pumping operations taking place within the new development.

Jones Henllan explained that:

- Pumping is a temporary mitigation measure.
- A permanent solution will be activated once the gravity drainage pipe is commissioned in January.
- This upgrade should eliminate the need for pumping.

• **Property-Specific Concern (Araul):**

A resident from *Araul* reported:

- A culvert crossing their property is flooding due to the development's lower drainage area.
- The culvert is currently blocked.

- Responsibility for clearing and maintaining the culvert rests with Carmarthenshire County Council.

• **Wastewater System Capacity Issues:**

It was noted that:

- The drainage network, built in the 1960s, is no longer fit for purpose.
- Ongoing hydraulic overload has resulted in Welsh Water deploying tankers to the village centre almost daily for the past three weeks.

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**Required Actions / Next Steps**

1. **Carmarthenshire County Council**
  - Investigate and clear the blocked culvert at Araul.
2. **Welsh Water**
  - Conduct a full survey of the drainage network.
  - Assess overload causes and propose long-term upgrades.
3. **Jones Henllan**
  - Provide updates on commissioning of the gravity drainage system.
  - Continue engagement with residents throughout the process.

County Cllr S Hughes thanked all involved for their commitment and dedication to resolving this issue.

Members of the public left the meeting at 19.52 not to return.

**150/2025-2026 County Council matters - County Cllr S Hughes.**

County Cllr S Hughes reported the following –

“I attended the Carmarthenshire Council meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November.

Various issues and queries have received a reply from the County Council- details of which have been forwarded to the Clerk

I am meeting with the Head of Horticulture, Learning and Nature at the National Botanical Garden of Wales early December to discuss enhancing the main entrance to the Garden.

A meeting has been arranged with the housing developers Jones Henllan and some residents to discuss the site.

Update received regarding the Proposed Introduction of 40 M.P.H Speed Limits at Various Locations in Carmarthenshire. The following email was received on 25/11/2025 –

“I would inform you that there has been a delay in numerous Orders due to the expected publication on the updated Welsh Government’s ‘Setting of Local Speed Limits in Wales’. The County Council sets its limits in accordance with advice and guidance within this document, however, the publication has been pushed back on several occasions and is now likely to be Autumn 2026. Bearing this in mind we have decided to progress our Orders to avoid any further delays.

In respect to advertising 50mph and 40mph Orders I would inform you that these are consulted upon and advertised as separate Traffic Regulation Orders. I would confirm that the Foegastell - Porthyrhyd Road will now be included in the next 40mph Order which is due to be advertised in February 2026.

I hope that this clarifies the current position”.

I am continuing to help and support local people with their queries and concerns, most of which are of a confidential nature”.

**151/2025-2026 Chairman's Report.**

None.

**152/2025-2026 Confirmation and signing of the Minutes of the Council Meeting 12/11/2025.**

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes for the monthly meeting on 12/11/2025. Proposed by Cllr A Aldridge and seconded by County Cllr S Hughes.

**153/2025-2026 Matters arising from the above minutes.**

None.

**154/2025-2026 To note correspondence or to list for consideration at a forthcoming council meeting.**

(All relevant correspondence is emailed to council members at the time of receipt and only brought before the meeting if necessary or specifically requested by members or the Clerk).

The following email was received from Cllr M Griffiths on 06/12/2025 –

“I attended the annual meeting in Llanddarog Hall on Wednesday night, and they were extremely flattered to receive the community's award and the generous invitation to the officers and their nominated partners to attend the annual dinner. The defined work that Mr Terry Jones did in the years leading up to the milestone of getting permission to build was awarded, and through his work, the hall received an award from performances of awards to the project. I would like to ask on behalf of the hall please perhaps to introduce Terry Jones + 1 to thank him. If he is welcome to attend, the hall is happy to pay on their behalf if supported by the community council”.

The email was discussed by council members, and it was agreed that Mr Terry Jones be invited to the annual dinner and for Llanddarog Village Hall to fund his attendance. **Resolved** for the Clerk to Invite Mr Terry Jones.

**155/2025-2026 Planning Matters.**

No objections to the following planning applications. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr J Williams O.B.E.

**PL/10106** - Installation of freestanding Air Source Heat Pumps Units within Domestic Curtilages as part of the Construction of 42no. Dwellinghouses & Apartments (granted Planning Permission under reference PL/06638) - Land part of Wern Fraith Farm, Porthyrhyd, Carmarthen, SA32 8PT

**SNN/02061** - Development of 38 new dwellings and 4 flats with new street naming.

The following email was received from Carmarthenshire County Council on 05/12/2025 and forwarded to all council members –

“Good morning, Gary. We have discussed this today. A name including Wern Fraith would cause issues both for the existing properties and the new ones. Whilst it wouldn't be an issue for Royal Mail, the courier companies are not as diligent, and we have many instances of issues in similar situations of deliveries going to the incorrect property. This would be a bigger issue here as the two properties in question are next door to the development. With that said and with the need to get a

name at the earliest convenience for the developer to obtain utilities for the new properties, we have had a look at the area and can suggest the following.

Due to its proximity to the Dulais -

Dol Dulais (Dulais Meadow)

Cae Dulais (Dulais Field)

Awel Dulais (Dulais Breeze)

As it's located in between the Gwendraeth Fach and Dulais –

Dol Dwyfron (Two Waters Meadow)

Cae Dwyfron (Two Waters Field)

The following email was received from Cllr M Griffiths in response to the above –  
“Unfortunately, 'Dwy Fron' could also be interpreted as 'two breasts' which could become a topic for discussion in the locality.

Happy with either of the other 3 but on balance 'Awel Dulais' sounds quite nice.

Another alternative could be something like 'Cysgod yr Odyn' as we are in an area renowned for quarrying and the locality is heavily populated with lime kilns”

Council members discussed all suggestions and after deliberation it was decided to propose “Cysgod Yr Odyn” as a name for the Wern Fraith development without an English translation.

**Resolved** for the Clerk to respond to Carmarthenshire County Council.

**ENF/02680** - Unauthorised works on land. The land appears to have been partitioned by a wooden fence and gate. The side entrance has been made into hard standing and contains various building material including containers of liquid of some sort and also the far side of the fence looks as if a track is being created (possibly a motorcycle track) - Land near Lanfach, Porthyrhyd, Carmarthen, SA32 8HP

The following email was received on 19/11/2025 –

“I received an email from the owner on the 10/11/25 after I sent an email for an update in relation to the planning application that was required. For some reason they had not received my email back in October, so that is why we have not received the application to date.

Due to the owner not receiving the email, an extension of time has been allowed.

They have until the 12/12/25, to submit the application, for the operational development. I have been informed that the gates have been stolen from the site.

I will email you the Planning Reference number, once it has been submitted.

**Resolved** to note.

#### **156/2025-2026 Payments.**

The below payments were certified in the November meeting and **ratified** in the December meeting. Copies of invoices sent to all members electronically prior to payment for authorization. Proposed by Cllr J Williams O.B.E and seconded by Cllr R Jones.

| <b>Method of Payment</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Suppliers &amp; Details</b> | <b>Sum £ inc VAT</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Online                   | 17/11/2025  | Service Charge                 | 4.25                 |
| Online                   | 25/11/2025  | Screwfix – A23638297117        | 7.89                 |
| Online                   | 25/11/2025  | Just Print - 69571             | 26.62                |

|        |            |                                    |        |
|--------|------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| Online | 25/11/2025 | Christmas Toybox Appeal - Donation | 50.00  |
| Online | 25/11/2025 | J G Evans – October Payroll        | 400.39 |
| Online | 25/11/2025 | J G Evans – November Payroll       | 400.59 |
| Online | 25/11/2025 | HMRC                               | 105.20 |
| Online | 25/11/2025 | HMRC                               | 105.40 |
| Online | 25/11/2025 | Dynefor Tree Services              | 300.00 |
| Online | 25/11/2025 | Ac Ati – CliDd03                   | 202.75 |
| Online | 28/11/2025 | Nest                               | 84.32  |

**157/2025-2026 Receipts.**

None.

**158/2025-2026 To discuss budget proposal.**

Community Council members discussed the budget proposal in preparation for the January precept application. The Clerk shared the 2025-2026 budget format with members and discussed each heading individually. Each member had the opportunity to propose specific requirements needed for the 2026-2027 expenditure. The Clerk reported that County Cllr H Jones proposed that the community council allocate funds to a training budget to assist council members and the Clerk in future training programs. The proposal was discussed and it was proposed by Cllr J Williams O.B.E and seconded by Cllr R Jones to allocate £500.00 to a training budget. **Resolved** to note.

Cllr R Jones proposed that an allocation be placed for election costs as there is an election in 2026 and 2027. The Clerk reported that the election costs in 2022-2023 were £161.66. It was proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr J Williams O.B.E to add £250.00 to the election budget. **Resolved** to note.

The Clerk adjusted figures where possible without placing the community council under any unforeseen risk.

The following table shows the proposed budget requirements for 2026-2027, which will be finalised by the Internal Financial Examiner Cllr R Jones and the Clerk prior to the January 2026 meeting for approval.

| HEADING  | PREVIOUS BUDGET | PROPOSED BUDGET | REASON                  |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Ground Maintenance                                 | 2200.00         | 2750.00         | Shelter/ Bench Cleaning |
| Staff Salary & PAYE                                | 8600.00         | 8600.00         | -                       |
| Admin, Inc Audit Fees                              | 3000.00         | 3000.00         | -                       |
| Insurance  | 1000.00         | 750.00          | -                       |
| Financial Assistance – Inc Standing Revenue Grants | 2000.00         | 2250.00         | Increased May 2025      |
| Seating & Asset Maintenance                        | 1000.00         | 950.00          | -                       |
|  |                 |                 |                         |

|  |                  |                  |                       |
|--|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Street Lighting Estimate                                 | 5500.00          | 4750.00          | -                     |
| Misc – Inc Subscriptions                                 | 650.00           | 700.00           | -                     |
| Members Allowance  | 468.00           | 312.00           | Currently 2 x members |
| Training Budget  | 0.00             | 500.00           | New                   |
| Election Cost  | 0.00             | 250.00           | -                     |
| Section 137  | 900.00           | 1100.00          | Increased May 2025    |
| Allocation to Special Projects<br>& Reserve from Precept | 1000.00          | 1000.00          | -                     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>26,518.00</b> | <b>26,912.00</b> |                       |

Council members thanked the Clerk for formatting the budget proposal.

Cllr A Aldridge left the meeting at 2023 not to return.

**159/2025-2026 To receive update on Porthyrhyd memorial stone.**

Cllr J Williams O.B.E reported that the research into the names of fallen soldiers was proceeding and would be announced very soon. The suggestion of a white dove on the memorial stone is favourably considered. **Resolved** to note.

**160/2025-2026 Forum in order for Members to raise reports / questions through the Chair.**

Cllr J Williams O.B.E asked the Clerk to order three Welsh Flags in preparation for 01/03/2026.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E reported that the pulley system within the flagpoles in Porthyrhyd and Mynyddcerrig had seized and required attention. **Resolved** for the Clerk to report.

**161/2025-2026 In camera 20.55.**

Those who were not Community Council members or the Clerk departed the meeting – not to return. The exclusion is due to personnel / staffing matters being discussed.

**162/2025-2026 Staff pay run December 2025.**

The Clerk reported the payroll amounts verbally to all council members. It was resolved to accept the report and ratify the payment of the sums as presented.

**Proposed** by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr J Williams O.B.E.

**163/2025-2026 Next Meeting.**

Date of the next meeting to be held at Porthyrhyd Village Hall – 14/01/2026 at 19.00.

**164/2025-2026 The meeting finished at 21.00.**

Chairman

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Date

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