

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDAROG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the October 2025 Meeting of Llanddarog Community Council held at Porthyrhyd Village Hall on 08/10/2025 at 19.00.

105/2025-2026 Present.

Councilors: R Owen (Chair), County Cllr H Jones, J Williams O.B.E, C Jones, T Evans.

County Cllr S Hughes.

Clerk.

Translator: H Mainwaring.

106/2025-2026 To receive apologies.

Councilors: M Griffiths, K Waters, R McFarlane, R Jones, A Aldridge.

107/2025-2026 To receive declarations of interest.

None.

108/2025-2026 Opportunity for the public to address the Council on agenda items.

None.

109/2025-2026 County Council matters - County Cllr S Hughes.

County Cllr S Hughes reported the following –

“I attended the Carmarthenshire Council meeting on 10/09/2025.

I am meeting with Donald Murry, Head of Horticulture, Learning and Nature at the National Botanical Garden of Wales on 09/10/2025 to discuss closer relationship with the local community and the roundabouts close to the Garden entrance.

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

Cllr J Williams O.B.E reported that the Highways Department had maintained the road gutters in Porthyrhyd.

County Cllr S Hughes stated that it was Carmarthenshire County Councils responsibility to maintain the gutters to eradicate surface water and Welsh Waters responsibility do deal with sewage issues. Welsh Water are currently investigating the issues regarding sewage in Porthyrhyd and expanding their survey further afield.

110/2025-2026 Chairman's Report.

None.

111/2025-2026 Confirmation and signing of the Minutes of the Council Meeting 10/09/2025.

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes for the monthly meeting on 10/09/2025. Proposed by Cllr J Williams O.B.E and seconded by Cllr R Owen.

112/2025-2026 Matters arising from the above minutes.

The Clerk informed council members that all matters discussed had been **resolved** and if correspondence had been received, a copy of the Email had been sent to each member for information.

113/2025-2026 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 06/10/2025 –

“Please advise the council that regardless of the council's decision not to pursue a path to return the telephone box in Llanddarog any further, that respectfully I will continue to work this on a personal level. X2 Connect advised me that they are 'drip fed' telephone boxes from DC Transport and Engineering and that they have at my request reserved telephone box 01267 275311 on receipt at their premises. It was confirmed that they had not yet received from DC transport. The effort may be futile and any costs may not be agreed or funded but I suggest crossing that bridge if and when it arises.

A point I had asked to be discussed in the last meeting but did not come across in the meeting minutes was the poor performance of the surface water drain/culvert at Wernfraith residential development site. We were led to believe that the root cause of this problem was well understood and that the 'defect' which by memory was a collapsed or blocked culvert had been addressed. Even before the heavy rains of Sept 2nd - 4th it was clear that the surface water was struggling to flow, and large body of water was forming.

If my understanding is correct, I suggest we contact Welsh Water to ratify the status relative to earlier report and remedial actions taken”.

Council members discussed the email at length and agreed that if Cllr M Griffiths wishes to pursue the matter himself and report back to the council if the kiosk is located, then the matter could be discussed again.

Council members agreed that a large body of water was currently situated at the entrance of the development site and that drainage was non-existent. As the development is in its infancy and the developers are aware of the drainage issue, council members agreed that the developers be allowed time to resolve and eradicate the issue in the correct manner. **Resolved** to note.

114/2025-2026 Planning.

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

PL/09881 - Proposed front side and rear single storey extensions. 4 Is Y Llan, Llanddarog, Carmarthen, SA32 8NX.

PL/09882 - Proposed single storey side extension. 6 Is Y Llan, Llanddarog, Carmarthen, SA32 8NX.

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 update was received on 12/09/2025 and forwarded to all council members –

“I have made a site visit and have been in conversation with the tenant in relation to the above.

I was informed by the tenant that he plans to keep pigs on the land, but that during the school holidays his children have been using the land for their quad bikes, hence the track like appearance on the land.

A further site visit was arranged to meet up with the tenant on the land to discuss the operational development inside the main gated area. I have been unable to contact the tenant since. Due to this I have served a Planning Contravention Notice on the Landowner, on the 03/09/25, they have 21 days to return the completed Notice”.

The Clerk informed council members that no further updates had been received and agreed to contact Carmarthenshire County Council if no further information has been received prior to the November meeting on 12/11/2025. **Resolved** to note.

115/2025-2026 Payments.

The below payments were certified in the June monthly meeting and **ratified** in the July monthly 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 Owen.

Method of Payment	Date	Suppliers & Details	Sum £ inc VAT
Online	16/09/2025	Service Charge	4.25
Online	17/09/2025	Shaun A Burgess - Donation	30.00
Online	17/09/2025	HMRC	105.40
Online	17/09/2025	J G Evans – September Payroll	400.39
Online	17/09/2025	SLCC – Administration Error	242.00
Online	17/09/2025	Porthyrhyd Welfare – Defibrillator Cabinet Donation	267.00
Online	17/09/2025	One Voice Wales	242.00
Online	22/09/2025	Nest	42.16
Online	29/09/2025	Dynefor Tree Services – 23/09/2025	300.00
Online	29/09/2025	Post Office – Audit Wales Parcel	10.95

116/2025-2026 Receipts.

25/09/2025 – SLCC £242.00 Refund

117/2025-2026 To discuss the Audit Wales Report 2024 - 2025.

The following Email was received from Audit Wales on 25/09/2025 and forwarded to all council members.

I certify that I have completed the audit of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2025 of **Llanddarog Community Council**. My audit has been conducted on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales and in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 (the 2004 Act) and guidance issued by the Auditor General for Wales.

Audit opinion: Qualified

Except for the matters reported below in my Basis for Qualification, on the basis of my audit, in my opinion no matters have come to my attention to give cause for concern that, in any material respect, the information reported in this Annual Return:

- has not been prepared in accordance with proper practices;
- that relevant legislative and regulatory requirements have not been met;
- is not consistent with the Council's governance arrangements; and
- that the Council does not have proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Basis of Qualification

Annual Governance Statement

In my opinion, the Annual Governance Statement is not consistent with the Council's internal controls and governance arrangements for the year:

- Assertion 4: The Clerk/RFO has not certified and signed the Accounting Statement as required by the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014

Other matters and recommendations

I draw the Council's attention to the following matters and recommendations which do not affect my audit opinion but should be addressed by the Council.

General Power of Competence (AGS assertion 10)

The Council has provided a positive response to assertion 10 in the Annual Governance Statement. I have confirmed with the Council that the response provided was incorrect and that the Council does not meet the conditions required to exercise the General Power of Competence.

We recommend that before it provides positive responses to the assertion in the Annual Governance Statement, the Council carefully reviews the statement to ensure that its responses are accurate. There are no further matters I wish to draw to the Council's attention.

Richard Harries, Director, Audit Wales

For and on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales

Date: 25/09/2025

Members thanked the Clerk for his rigorous work in the audit preparation. The Clerk stated that it was his error that the document had not been signed. It was proposed by Cllr J Williams O.B.E and seconded by County Cllr H Jones to accept the report.

118/2025-2026 To discuss Asset Maintenance Report.

The Clerk Emailed a copy of the Asset Register and Maintenance Report to all council members on 02/10/2023. The report included a recent list of all assets belonging to Llanddarog Community Council, their condition, audit value and insurance value. The Clerk stated that no work was required but recommended that all seating be cleaned/pressure washed before the Spring season to remove algae. Council members agreed with the suggestion and asked the Clerk to obtain a quotation. Proposed by Cllr R Owen and seconded by County Cllr H Jones.
Resolved for the Clerk to obtain a quotation.

119/2025-2026 To receive update on Porthyrhyd memorial stone.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E stated that the next stage of the project is to place a provisional sign on the memorial stone with the phrase "In memory Lest we forget". The plaque

to be in a copper/rust colour with the “Times Roman” font. **Resolved** for the Clerk to organise.

The following email was received from a community member on 08/10/2025 –
“The memorial stone looks special in its place. Thanks to Mr John Williams. How about a white dove as a sign of peace on it or a white baby that remembers those lost and a symbol of hope for peace”.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E suggested that the suggestion be discussed once the community council adopt the memorial stone. **Resolved** to defer.

120/2025-2026 Forum in order for Members to raise reports / questions through the Chair.

Cllr T Evans reported that the Highways Department had still not resolved the issue of standing surface water on the A48 dual carriageway 150m before the Llanddarog junction as another vehicle had been involved in an incident, left the highway and ended in the field below. This is probably the 6th incident in 3 years. **Resolved** for the Clerk to report again to the relevant department.

The Clerk asked if wreaths were required for Remembrance Day on 09/11/2025. Cllr R Owen stated that none were required as he was in possession of three wreaths. **Resolved** to note.

121/2025-2026 In camera 19.56.

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.

122/2025-2026 Staff pay run October 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 Owen and seconded by Cllr J Williams O.B.E.

123/2025-2026 Next Meeting.

Date of the next meeting to be held online – 14/10/2025 at 19.00.

124/2025-2026 The meeting finished at 20.03.

Chairman

Date
