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 2nd JUNE 2025

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1.WELCOME –The Chair, Councillor Glena Humphrey, welcomed all to the meeting. The Chair expressed her gratitude to Councillor John Evans for performing the role of Chair for the past two years. This was supported by the other members present.

Councillor Gethin Owen, who was not present for the Annual General Meeting confirmed that he was content to act as Vice Chair of the Community Council for the forthcoming two years.

2. PRESENT – Councillors Glena Humphrey, Irwedd Griffiths, Goronwy R. Williams, D Gwyn Jones, Gwenda Davies Gethin Owen County Councillor Ifor G. Lloyd and the Clerk - Mel Jones.

3. APOLOGIES – Councillors John Evans, Bryn Jones, Hefin Williams, Gwawr Thomas.

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 no declarations of interest.

5. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th May 2025 were read. The minutes were approved and signed. (Proposed by Councillor Gwyn Jones and seconded by Councillor Goronwy Williams)

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

The relevant document has been drawn up for Councillor Gwawr Thomas to sign and due to her apology for an urgent family issue this will be processed at the next meeting

7. **FINANCE**

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

Ending 20th May 2025

(1) Community Account = £6,068.05 (Brought Forward)

Money Received = NIL

Money Paid Out = £400.00 (Clerk's wages

= £95.93 (BT monthly WiFi invoice)

= £200.00 (Grant – Tenovus Cancer)

= £94.30 (HMRC Clerk's pay)

= £5.00 (Bank Charges)

= £264.00 (Zurich Insurance Policy)

= £150.00 (SLCC Annual membership)

= £95.93 (BT monthly WiFi invoice)

= £197.43 (HMRC Clerk's pay)

TOTAL – £1,502.69

Community Account = £4,565.36 (Carried Forward)

(2) Business Account = £4,071.02(Brought Forward)
Money Paid Out = NIL

Money Received = NIL

Business Account = £4,071.02 (Carried Forward)

Total = £8,636.38 (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:

£95.98 – BT Monthly Wi Fi invoice.
£333.60 – Invoice from JDH for local annual audit
£70.50 - payment to Mrs Hilda Gibbs for floral arrangements in Betws village
£170.00 – Cradur.com. Annual management of website

It was agreed that these payments could be made.

The Clerk reported that he had submitted a VAT reclaim for £596.61 for the last financial year.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Received

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

2. The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from Conwy County Council regarding the review of Community

Councils. The questionnaire was read through and the views of the Councillors recorded. The Clerk will submit the completed document to Conwy County Council.

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.

1. The Clerk reported that an E mail had been received from Ifor Jones requesting grant to Betws yn Rhos cemetery. A payment of £500.00, as recorded in the precept application, was unanimously agreed and the Clerk was authorised to make payment.
2. Letter of thanks received for the £200.00 grant paid to Tenovus Cancer Care.

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

There were no new planning applications.

Reference: 0/52538 **Applicant: Mrs Elmaira Watson**

Proposal: Conversion of a disused agricultural stonework building and barn in addition to a steel framed storage shed into a single-family dwelling.

Location: Tyn Y Wal Farm, Pencraig Road, Dolwen, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8NT

Matter being considered by the Planning Department

Reference: 0/52481 **Applicant: Mr Clwyd Roberts**

Proposal: Construction of Track (Agricultural Prior Approval)

Location: Ty Newydd, Cilgwyn Road, Llanelian Yn Rhos, Colwyn Bay, Conwy, LL29 8YR

Prior Approval not required

Reference: 0/52477 **Applicant: Mr Hughes**

Proposed agricultural shed for storage of agricultural implements

Location: Plas Meredydd, Pen Y Ffrith, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8BU

Matter being considered by the Planning Department

Reference: 0/52408 **Applicant: Castle Green Homes**

Proposal: Amendment to Planning consent 0/42351 to landscaping at the completed housing estate.

Location: Parc Elian, FFordd Dolwen, Old Colwyn

Planning application withdrawn

Reference: 0/52410 **Applicant: Castle Green Homes**

Proposal: Amendment to Planning consent 0/42351 to landscaping at the completed housing estate.

Location: Parc Elian, FFordd Dolwen, Old Colwyn

Planning application withdrawn

Reference: 0/52387 **Applicant: BR Storage**

Proposal: Change of use of land for the storage of caravans with associated landscaping

Location: Bryn Rodyn, Dolwen Road, Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay, LL29 8UU

Matter still being considered by the Planning Department.

Reference: 0/52339 Applicant: Ywain Williams

Proposal: Demolition of an existing shed to be replaces by a 2 storey extension to provide ground floor bedrooms, utility and garage along with a first-floor open plan kitchen living.

Location: Ael Y Bryn, Ffordd Llanelwy, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8AN

Application approved by Planning Department.

11. **INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDIT MATTERS**.

The Accounting statement for 2024-2025 had been drafted and sent to the Local Auditor JDH Business Services. A written audit report had been received which was shared with the Councillors.
The draft Accounting Statement needs amending to show balances carried forward as £13,998 and other receipts amended to £278. The amended Accounting Statement was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.
The following was the action plan drawn up by JDH

The council did not review, update and approve a risk assessment during the financial year. The risk assessment should be reviewed, updated and approved by council each financial year.

The Councillors agreed to review the Risk assessment.

General reserves have decreased significantly over the prior year to £4,506 and £2,388 of reserves are being used to fund the 25/26 budget leaving a remaining reserve of £2,118.This is approximately 12% of the 25/26 precept. Sector guidance is that councils should aim for a general reserve level of between 25% and 100% of the precept or

net operating expenditure. The Practitioners Guide also notes this recommended level of reserves. The council should review general reserves during the budget setting process with reference to sector guidance and ensure adequate levels are maintained from year to year.

The Councillors agreed to review the general reserve at the precept setting but were concerned as to how any rise in the precept to maintain a reserve would be viewed by the Community

The Clerk's contract states salary is Grade SCP 17 as set out in the 2004 National Agreement on Salaries and Conditions of Service of Local Council Clerks in England and Wales. The rate of pay paid in 2024/25 is the 2023/24 rate for SCP 17 and not the 2024/25 rate. The Council should ensure that the Clerk is paid as per the agreed contract of employment.

There was an issue with the increased salary being communicated to the Community Council in 2024/2025. The current Clerk was content with the salary. The correct rate of payment had been put in pace for the 2025/ 2026 financial year.

The Councillors were content for the audit papers to be forwarded to Audit Wales and to being posted onto the website.

The Audit Wales report for the full annual return for the year ended 31st March 2024 has now been received on the 29th May 2025.

The report was discussed by the Councillors and the observations noted. The following recommendations were accepted by the Councillors and the recommendations will be actioned

1. No minutes were provided which approved both the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. We recommend that these are reviewed periodically and approved by the Council.
2. Assets with material value were disposed but no disposals were mentioned in the Asset Register. We recommend that the Council keep the Asset Register up to date with all disposals as well as acquisitions.

The Councillors agreed that the Notice of the conclusion of the Audit should be posted as directed buy Audit Wales

12. CONWY COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS - COUNCILLOR IFOR LLOYD

The Chair welcomed Councillor Ifor Lloyd and he had been missed at the Community Council meetings due to a period of illness. The Chair wished him well in his continuing recovery.

Councillor Lloyd updated that Conwy County Council offices had now been relocated fully from Bodlondeb, Conwy to Coed Pella in Colwyn Bay.
Councillor Lloyd had been elected as the Chair of the County Planning committee and will take up that position.
Work on the refurbishment of rural roads has been commenced with £4.7 million allocated to the budget. The list of roads in need of refurbishment within our community has been submitted. The work to cut back hedgerows has also commenced.

13. MAINTENANCE OF RESOURCES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA.

a. Playground at Betws yn Rhos/Llanelian

Councillor Gwenda Davies updated that she had consulted as promised. The favoured new installations would be the following from the KOMPAN Catalogue
Page 84 MSC 5424
Page 100 PCM 400221
Page 152 M128/M175

The Clerk will liaise with KOMPAN and request a quote.

b. Defibrillators

Nothing to report regarding the defibrillators.

The Clerk is trying to source defibrillator training sessions for the communities of Llanelian and Betws yn Rhos and is awaiting a response from Mr Tomos Hughes of Welsh Ambulance.

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 has carried out the maintenance and flowers have been planted.

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 One Voice Wales have been contacted and will not provide free legal advice for the lease for the Llanelain Toilets. They advise that legal advice should be sought
The Clerk was requested to obtain an estimate from Dylan Llyr, Solicitor, Howell Jones and Co, Llanrwst.
All the necessary details had been shared with Zurich Insurance to obtain a quote for ensuring the Toilet Block and the quote is still awaited.
It was agreed that the Clerk could update Councillors by E mail in order for decisions to be made prior to the next meeting.

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 Cochl has yet to be attended to.
Coed Ty Brith, Abergele Road, Betws yn Rhos - reports of a field being used as a Dog Park and Tepees located at that location. As previously discussed, the Planning Authority are aware and updates will be provided when matters proceed.

The Clerk had informed the Planning Authority that two teepees had been seen at the location. The update from the County Council was that they had contacted the land owner for an explanation

Land at Nant Uchaf, Betws yn Rhos. Field being used for storage of plant equipment. The County Council will update of any developments

There was a need to replant the Monkey Tree that had been planted in the grounds of the Sports Pavilion at Betws yn Rhos as it was in the way of the new parking area. The contractors – AJC Contractors – have stated that they will replant the tree. Councillor Ifor Lloyd agreed to liaise with AJC Contractors owner.

The hedge on Ffordd Abergele, Betws yn Rhos opposite Nant y Ffordd is overgrown and needs trimming. The Clerk will inform ERF.

14. **ANNUAL BUDGET / PRECEPT**

The precept application of £18,000 has been approved by Conwy County Council. £6,000 had been credited to the Bank Account on the in April 2025 and the other two payments will be made in August 2025 and December 2025.

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

No formal update regarding the proposal for wind turbines and solar park at Llanelian Mountain

The matter will be monitored.

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 Clerk reported that the BT Ombudsman had reached a decision regarding the complaint lodged against BT Business. The conclusion was that BT were to apply their maximum compensation of 12 days' worth of line rental, provide a written apology and apply a £50 credit to the Councils BT business account. It was agreed that the conclusion should be accepted and the matter was therefore closed.

In view of this matter having been concluded there will no longer be a need to have the Community Centre as a separate heading in the agenda and matters can now be discussed under Maintenance of Resources.

17. Y GADLAS.

No suggestions for an article.

18. ANY OTHER MATTERS

Councillor Glena Humphrey updated that John and Aloma Wheway are opening the Sports Pavillion at Betws yn Rhos every Friday evening for the local youths to have a meeting place. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk would convey the Council's gratitude for this commitment by John and Aloma Wheway.

The Councillors conveyed their congratulations to Councillor Glena Humphrey for the success of her pupils from Ysgol Glanwydden at Eisteddfod yr Urdd.

There being no further matters the meeting was closed at 9.30.p.m.

CHAIR……

CLERK…… Mel Jones

DATE: 7th JULY 2025.