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 SPORTS PAVILLION, BETWS YN RHOS AT 7.30pm ON MONDAY 5th JANUARY 2026

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1.WELCOME – The Chair, Councillor Glena Humphrey welcomed all to the meeting and wished everyone a happy New Year.

2. PRESENT – Councillors Glena Humphrey, Gethin Owen, Goronwy R. Williams, D Gwyn Jones, John Evans, Hefin Williams, County Councillor Ifor G. LloydClerk Mel Jones.

3. APOLOGIES – Councillors Gwawr Thomas, Irwedd Griffiths, Gwenda Davies, Hefin Williams, County Councillor Ifor G. Lloyd

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 was no declaration of interest.

5. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd November 2025 were read. The minutes were approved and signed. (Proposed by Councillor Goronwy Williams and seconded by Councillor Gwyn Jones.)

6. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk updated that he had spoken with Bryn Jones, who had profusely apologised that he missed the meal arranged at the White Lion in Llanelian. His wife's operation was cancelled at the last minute, and Bryn was therefore unable to attend. The Clerk had visited Bryn Jones and handed over gifts from the Council.

The vacancy for the Councillor to replace Bryn Jones had been advertised on the Council website and on Notice Boards. No applicants received to date albeit interest had been shown. Any interested party to E mail the Clerk.

The issue raised at the last meeting by Councillor John Evans regarding Grant assistance for the Youth Club at Betws yn Rhos to be discussed at Item 9.

7. FINANCE

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

Ending 20th November 2025

(1) Community Account = £4,495.07 (Brought Forward)

Money Received = NIL

Money Paid Out

= £132.00 (Batteries for Defibs)

= £400.00 (Clerk's wages)

= £212.97 (Clerk's wages)

= £50.00 (Chq 200161 RBL 2 Wreaths)

= £100.00 (Grant – Gadlas Newspaper)

= £95.98 (BT Invoice WiFi)

= £205.60 (HMRC Clerk's salary)

= £110.00 (Hilda Gibbs gardening)

TOTAL – £1,306.55

Community Account = £3,188.52(Carried Forward)

(2) Business Account = £4,104.58(Brought Forward)

Money Paid Out = NIL

Money Received = NIL

Business Account = £4,104.58 (Carried Forward)

Total = £7,293.10 (Carried Forward)

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

Ending 20th December 2025

(1) Community Account = £3,188.52(Brought Forward)

Money Received = £6,000 (CBBC Precept payment)

Money Paid Out

= £133.50 (Grant Betws Children's Party)

= £400.00 (Clerk's wages)

= £212.97 (Clerk's wages)

= £500.00 (Llanelian Pensioners Lunch)

= £0.40 (Bank Charges)

= £403.98 (Purchase of Council Laptop)

= £95.98 (BT invoice WiFi)

TOTAL – £1,747.03

Community Account = £7,441.49(Carried Forward)

(2) Business Account = £4,104.58(Brought Forward)
Money Paid Out = NIL

Money Received = £14.95 (Interest to 4/12/25)

Business Account = £4,119.53 (Carried Forward)

Total = £11,561.02 (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.

BT invoices for £95.98 to be received. It was agreed that these invoices could be paid.

The Clerk had purchased a Lenovo Ideapad 256 GB with 12 months MacAfee protection and 12 months Microsoft 365 subscription for £403.98 including VAT which was which was well within the £500.00 budget agreed. This had been repaid to the Clerk.
The new laptop to be included in the asset register. The Clerk will liaise with Conwy CBC IT department with regards to disposal of the old laptop.

Data Protection fee of £47 due (£52 with £5 reduction for direct debit payment) on the 29/1/2025. It was agreed that this invoice could be paid.

Invoice for £160.00 from Llanelian Village Hall for rent for Council meetings from 2/2/2026 to 7/6/2025. It was agreed that this invoice could be paid.

Scheduled payment of £65.60 to Aston Hughes for payroll services. It was agreed that this invoice 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

1. Responses and enquiries to CCBC's Planning Department
2. Letters and emails received requiring forwarding to Councillors.

Responses and enquiries to CCBC's Planning Departmen Letters and emails received requiring forwarding to Councillors.

9. GRANTS

Applications to the Community Council.

1. As agreed at the last meeting the grant of £100.00 had been paid to 'Y Gadlas' newspaper and confirmation of receipt had been received.
2. As agreed at the last meeting the grant of £500.00 had been paid to Llanelian yn Rhos Pensioners Committee to arrange an annual Christmas dinner at the White Lion for the pensioners of the village and provide hampers.

A Thank You card received from Delyth Jones Secretary of the Llanelian yn Rhos Pensioners Committee.

3. As raised in any other business at the last meeting by Councillor John Evans a formal grant request had been received from Betws yn Rhos Youth Club which arrange Friday evening sessions for between 10 and 30 local children where food is supplied. The annual costing is £700.00 but the application is for £400.00 There was unanimous agreement for the grant of £400.00 to be paid.

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: 0/53039 **Applicant: Ms R Jones**

Proposal: Proposed conversion of redundant farm outbuildings into residential accommodation including extensions to building

Location: Nant Ucha, Nentydd Road, Rhyd Y Foel, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8EF

The planning application documents were examined. Following discussion there were no objections to the Planning Application and the Councillors were content for the Planning Department to make the final decision. The Clerk to update the Planning Department.

NEW APPLICATION

Reference: 0/53008 **Applicant: Mr Mark Blissitt**

Proposal: Retrospective planning for an agricultural shed

Location: Aelwyd Uchaf, Cill Llidiart Road, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8AG

The planning application documents were examined.

The Councillors were aware the CCBC have taken enforcement action against Mr Blissitt at the site subject to this retrospective application for various planning infringements

One of the issues subject to the enforcement action was, without planning permission, the construction of a building not in accordance with plans approved under application reference 0/49521.

It is not clear within the papers submitted by the applicant whether this retrospective planning application refers to the building which was erected under reference 0/49521 without the requisite planning permission.

To make any recommendations the Council requested that the Clerk sought that clarity, and an E mail will be forwarded to the Planning Department.

Reference: 0/52910 **Applicant: Mr Sean McBride**

Proposal: Variation of condition no 1 of planning approval 0/45158 (Development of Land Opposite Bryn Rodyn, (Dolwen Road) Old Colwyn, for residential housing (Outline Planning Permission) (Phase 2)

Location: Land at Dolwen Road, Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay, Conwy, LL29 8UP

Matter being considered by the Planning Department

Reference: 0/52909 **Applicant: Mr Sean McBride**

Proposal: Variation of condition no 1 of planning approval 0/45161(Approval of matters reserved in respect of outline planning permission 0/42351 (Development of Land Opposite Bryn Rodyn, (Dolwen Road), Old Colwyn, for residential housing (Outline Planning Permission) (Phase 1))

Location: Land at Dolwen Road, Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay, Conwy, LL29 8UP

Matter being considered by the Planning Department

Reference: 0/52869 **Applicant Mr and Mrs Macbeth**

Proposal: Proposed ground floor internal alterations to include: Removal of internal wall, installation of trap door access to cellar, reinstatement of 2no working chimneys, reinstatement of redundant

door opening and the closure of 2no openings from games room into owners kitchen and hall into dining room Proposed first floor internal alterations to include: Installation of stud wall to create access into new lettable bedroom, installation of ensuite, part removal of wall to facilitate access into shower room from new staff bedroom, Proposed external alterations include: Installation of EV charging points

Location: Ffarm Country House, Cill Llidiart Road, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8AR

Planning application approved by the Planning Department

Reference: 0/52771 Applicant: Mr T Williams

Proposal: Enlarge hardstanding at entrance construction of timber clad field shelter / tool shed / store with secure steel container and caravan within. Note caravan only to be used as a field shelter only with no overnight or residential activity

Location: Coed Ty Brith, Abergele Road, Betws Yn Rhos, LL22 8AE

Planning application approved by the Planning Department

Reference: 0/52584 Applicant: Mr Max Jones

Proposal: Change of use of land from an agricultural field to a dog exercise area (unique use) along with associated works for parking and landscaping

Location: Land Adjacent to Bryn Rodyn, Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay Conwy LL29 8UU

Matter being considered by the Planning Department

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

The Wales Audit report had been received following the Council meeting in November. The report was shared with the Councillors. There are a few queries regarding the alleged lack of information which the Clerk will address with Audit Wales. It was agreed that the report should be circulated as per the instructions.

The Clerk had prepared a Training Plan which was shared with the Councillors. In essence it is a live document which will need updating as and when Training is organised and completed. The document was reviewed and approved.

In respect of Training there are approximately 5 Councillors who have not completed the Councillors Induction training -Module 1 and 2 -. It was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with Clerk at Llanfair T.H regarding the possibility of joint training. The Clerk to update in due course.

The joint training for the two Community Councils in respect of Module 9 – Code of Conduct had been held at the Sports Pavilion in Betws yn Rhos on the 2nd of December 2025 which 6 councillors and the Clerk attended.
There will be a requirement to now include Training Costs in the Precept Application and there is a bursary available.

12. **CONWY COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS - COUNCILLOR IFOR LLOYD**.

Councillor Lloyd had offered his apologies and was not present at the meeting.

In respect of the discussion at the last meeting for a Facebook/Internet site to be commissioned for Betws yn Rhos and Llanelian Village in a similar vein to the one currently used by the Llanfair TH Village Hall. The Clerk had sent the link to Councillors and although there was praise for the initiative it was felt that in the current climate the cost of approximately £3,000 to set up followed by a monthly cost was too much of an expenditure. There is a website in place for the Community Council.

13. **MAINTENANCE OF RESOURCES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA.**

a. **Playground at Betws yn Rhos/Llanelian**

The Clerk had received the updated quotation from KOMPAN for Four Tower Unit, tunnel and slide and Water Lilies 4-way springer. The total cost to include supply and fitting is £30,524.61

Conwy CVSC have updated the Clerk with details of organisations that may assist with grant aid.

As the installation is on CCBC property Mr David Dudley – Playground Inspector- has updated that the installation would be monitored by CCBC and they will seek other quotations and update the Clerk. Mr Dudley will liaise directly with KOMPAN. Due to pressure of work Mr Dudley has not completed this task but will endeavour to do so as soon as possible.
The Clerk updated that he was still awaiting information from Mr Dudley regarding the details of leasing the playground to the Community Council as many grants are dependent on this. The Clerk will make contact again with Mr Dudley.

It is a possibility that assistance could be sought from the Solar Park fund.

b. **Defibrillators**

All defibrillators checked on the 2/1/26 and in order

The Clerk had spoken with Tomos Hughes regarding defibrillator training sessions for the communities of Llanelian and Betws yn Rhos. Still awaiting a response to an early evening session from Tomos Hughes. The Clerk will chase the matter up.

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. Hilda is now utilising the wooden flowerpots that were not being used and has also made another four for plants. The invoice for £110.00 to include four new wooden flowerpots had been paid.

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 outbuilding as a public toilet which would negate the need to build a new facility. There has been no update on this and it was agreed that it could be removed from the Agenda.,

In regard to the transfer of toilets at Llanellen Mr Dylan Llyr Roberts has now left the company but a replacement Solicitor is carrying out the work. To date no updates received and the Clerk will request information. It is imperative that this is resolved as soon as possible as the toilets will be due to open in April 2026.

All the necessary details had been shared with Zurich Insurance and the quote was £613.90 (which includes the normal annual insurance) When the lease is progressed the Clerk will source another quote to compare.

General issues

Land at Nant Uchaf, Betws yn Rhos. Field being used for storage of plant equipment. The County Council will update of any developments.
Councillor Goronwy Williams previously highlighted that the two old telephone kiosks – one in Betws yn Rhos and one in Dolwen – needed repainting. The Clerk had contacted Mel Ellham who carries out painting work in the village, and she will provide a quotation in the Spring to repaint the two kiosks. She has carried out this work for Llanefydd Community Council.

Following Councillor Gwyn Jones raising concern following a Road Traffic Collison between two Water Board vans on Ffordd Galch, Llanelian. The Clerk has informed ERF at Conwy County Council that there was a need for the County Council to assess signage at the location and a ‘SLOW’ sign should be considered prior to the bend where several accidents have occurred. No update from ERF.

The Clerk updated that the County Council had installed the Christmas lights at the usual place in Betws yn Rhos. Contact had been made for them to be removed. Bryn Jones is happy to store them as usual.

Concern had been raised regarding the condition of the historical information board sited near the village hall. The Clerk had examined the board, and it is faded and some paint has flaked off albeit it remains legible. The Clerk had contacted the supplier – Bruce Atkins Heneghan 01690 750367 a Dolgarrog based Company. The board was sited in the millennium and in their view has lasted well. They do not refurbish the board, but a replacement board would cost in the region of £1,000. The Chair asked that Councillor had a look at the board to have their views.

14. ANNUAL BUDGET / PRECEPT

The full precept of £18,000 for 2025/2026 had now been received from Conwy County Council.
Details have been received from the County Council that the precept application for 2026/2027 will need to be submitted by 16/1/2026.
The Annual Budget for 2026/2027 was discussed and a draft budget had been prepared following the last meeting. All the forecasted expenditure was examined. It was agreed that there would be a need to add £200.00 for training costs.
The expected expenditure for 2026/2027 is £24,558.25
There had been a circulation from Conwy County Council highlighting that there would be no budget for playground repairs or Play Sessions for the forthcoming financial year and that any such costs would have to be met by the Community Council.
The reserves would need to be utilised for these costs and any other unexpected costs.
The decision was that a precept application be submitted for £22,000 with £2,558.25 met from reserves leaving £5,475.52 in the reserves which is just under the advised 25% of the annual precept. However, it was felt that this was sufficient and that the burden upon local rate payers for a reserve pot was not justified.

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. **Y GADLAS**.

No suggestions for an article.

17. **ANY OTHER MATTERS**

Councillor Goronwy Williams raised the issue of a collapsed BT Manhole on the B5383 near Twnan Crossroads. The Clerk to inform ERF.

There being no further matters the meeting was closed at 9.10.p.m.

CHAIR…… Glena Humphrey

CLERK…… Mel Jones

DATE: 2nd February 2026