

**Canolfan Dewi Sant and via Zoom**

**1. Present:** Susan Jones (Chair), Darren Pollard (Vice), Kevin Ford, Hannah Munro, Richard Rogers, Norma Wright (Clerk) **Apologies:** Trevor Brand (Holiday).

**2a. Meeting Open to the Public & Press for 10 minutes:** (Code to attend via zoom was available via the Clerk).

Chair stated there is a real need for local residents to join the community council, there are four vacancies.

**Public:** Brain Jones attended, and reported once again that the Back Road, Llanarmon has sides of the road collapsing near Rhiw Chapel. This has been reported many times over the years; he considered it an extremely dangerous situation. He asked Cllr T Mendies to take action on the matter and report back any progress made. Brian requested the covered speed warning sign at Graianrhyd which only operates over 30mph to be replaced by DCC; as it is of no use now the speed limit is reduced to 20 mph.

**2b.** Chair thanked **Darren Millar MS, Welsh Conservative Shadow Minister for the Constitution**, for attending in September. Mr Millar had invited members of the Council and the public to visit the Senedd.

**3. Declaration of Interest & Gifts:** None

**4. Read and Confirmation of Minutes:** of the Meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> July. **Resolve:** Confirmed and accepted as a true and correct record by the Council. Prop: D Pollard Sec: K Ford. And 4th September Public Meeting: Confirmed as a true and correct record: D Pollard.

**5. Matters arising from those minutes not on the agenda:** Council thanked Cllr T Mendies for gaining 3 dog waste bins from DCC. They have been installed in the "Triangle" in Llanarmon.

**6. Cllr Terry Mendies Report: REFUSE COLLECTIONS:** To reduce problems, DCC will purchase 8 new/extra wagons and employ 11 more staff. This will be at a cost of 2 ½ million pounds. Residents can apply to [www.denbighshire.gov.uk/aborsorbent-hygiene-products](http://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/aborsorbent-hygiene-products) for a subscription service. **PLANNING:** 15/2023/0911 Parc Farm Caravan Park. M Holland has organized a public meeting, at the Old School Room, Llanarmon for later this month. **PLANNING:** Container opposite Llanarmon School: DCC Planning is aware of this 40ft container parked on agricultural land a site meeting gave an audit on what's on the land. **HEN ARDD CAR PARK:** A site meeting with Clerk and Mike Jones DCC Traffic, 23rd Sept. was held hopefully, the final meeting for this project. Also, attended a site meeting in a Llanarmon cave property; which has a serious flooding problem from the river.

**7. Planning:** Members should view applications prior to the meeting on Denbighshire County Council's website: <https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/resident/planning-and-building-regulations/search-and-comment-on-applications> Chair reminded the Community Council to be fully aware of the boundary of the Conservation Area for Llanarmon when making planning decisions.

**15/2024/125PF** Delfryd, Llanarmon. Change of use of land; 3 holiday pods and decking area with treatment plant and internal tracks. Council feel this needed further consultation by DCC as only metres from SSSI site and the road is unsuitable for access. Welsh Water report considering phosphates is required. Council request the planning committee consider this application. Not Supported.

**15/2024/1150/PF** Ffynnon Y Berth, Llanferres. Erection of and extension to agricultural storage building, formation of hard-standing and associated work: Supported.

**15/2024/1283** Tyn yr Union, Llanarmon. Refurbishment of garage: Supported.

**15/2024 1107** Bryn Garmon Court Road, Llanarmon. Extension to rear: No Objection.

**15/2024/1262** Salem Rhiw Chapel, Llanarmon. The issue of parking should be taken into consideration. No objection.

**15/2024/1225** Erw Goed, Llanarmon new vehicle access: Supported.

**15/2024/0164** Tyddyn Isa, Llanarmon. Erection of building for lambing/storage of fodder. Due to design and property owners having no animals: Council request the DCC Planning committee consider this application. Not Supported.

**15/2023/0911 Parc Farm Caravan Park, Graianrhyd Road, Llanarmon-Yn-Ial:** Residents will hold a public meeting to discuss this application; their details will be sent directly to DCC planning. **Resolve:** Council has already made comments at previous meetings; they have no further points to raise.

**15/2024/1217/TP** Tyn y Mynydd Road, Llanarmon. Trimming/pruning trees: Supported.

**8. Finance Matters, Accounts, and Schedule of payments:**

**a) Accounts and Financial Risk Assessment presented to Council, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> financial quarter, with Bank**

**reconciliation:** 30<sup>th</sup> September Main £14,870.95; Fireworks £1593.95; Projects £22,347.46

The Clerk will circulated the draft precept prior to the November's meeting. Council discussed spending/ budgeting/ predictions. Council fully aware of the large amount being carried forward; This is due to waiting for the lottery grant

for Llanarmon play equipment. If no award is granted then LCC will consider purchasing the equipment piece by piece; which is possible now there is a master plan of what is wanted and where the equipment will be placed.

**RESOLVE:** Adopted Prop: K Ford Sec: D Pollard. There were no votes against or abstentions, motion was carried. Councillors and locals who fully support the Llanarmon Playing Field plans are hopeful of the application to People and Places Lottery Community Fund, being successful. If awarded the next step would be the Tendering process which the Clerk has already been in touch with DCC who (for a charge) will assist in the process required to tender.

**b)** D Pollard checked, signed and dated all the bank statements (in front of the full council now present) against all transactions, on all accounts; they were correct. S Jones confirmed, signed and dated (in front of the full council present) authorisation for internet banking / card payments; balances and all transactions were correct.

**c)** Council agreed and voted to authorise the following Payments Schedule. To prevent being over-due, and when required invoices had been paid; as no council meeting had taken place in August and September. Council agreed with the procedure, as all payments transactions on all accounts are minuted. **RESOLVE:** Adopted Prop: K Ford Sec: D Pollard. There were no votes against or abstentions and the motion was carried.

£ 5.80	HSBC charges chg5 (taken 21st August)
£ 5.00	HSBC charges chg6 (taken 21st Sept)
£609.13	Clerk Pay August
£141.40	HMRC August
£609.33	Clerk Pay Sept
£141.20	HMRC Sept
£300.00	Radex-Davies Skate-board lessons Llanarmon
£5.40	Mold Library photocopy audit accounts
£114.37	Clerk expenses office, mileage, stamps, soil
£9.90	Home Bargains doggy bags
£54.00	Dewi Sant Rent July/Sept/Oct
£300.00	Yewbarrow Annual Fee
£609.13	Clerk Pay Oct
£141.40	HMRC Oct
£ 5.80	HSBC charges chg7 (taken 21st Oct)
£50.00	Urdd Gobaith donation
£50.00	Ruthin & District Poppy Wreath Appeal 2024
£52.20	J&G Accountants payroll services

**d)** Council agreed a donation of £50 to the Regional Committee of Urdd Gobaith Cymru in Denbighshire.

**e)** Yewbarrow has been asked to redesign the Agenda & Minutes pages of the webpage, as the lists are far too long.

**f)** Zoom informed council prices will increase by £10.

**g)** Council agreed for White Oak to replace the missing slate on the roof of the bus shelter in Llanarmon.

**h)** The defibrillator replacement batteries and pads costing approx £200 for Llanarmon School have not yet arrived.

**i)** Clerk stated that several local community councils had been issued with very large invoices following 'An in-depth audit' by Audit Wales; they refused to pay until an hourly explanation was given (fee rates have been received). LCC accounts have not been returned yet, they can take up to 3 years. The legally required notice is on our website.

**j)** Council asked the Clerk to make enquiries with Swayne & Johnson Solicitors concerning selling the land at Tyn Llan. Following legal advice and sufficient notice to the farmer - the land will be valued and placed on the public market as legally required; if the valuation vs. the cost is thought to benefit the community.

## 9. Maintenance

**1. Biodiversity Ongoing Plans:** Council pleased that DCC Tree Officer Tom Hiles will provide a number of trees FOC (beach, oak, and rowan). These will be planted by White Oak around the community; with two saplings donated by Ceris Jones, Graianrhyd. LCC agreed to purchase daffodil bulbs for the community; and the bluebell bulbs donated by Rod Elms, will be planted by White Oak. **RESOLVE:** Prop: S Jones Sec: R Rogers. Council voted in favour. No votes against or abstentions and the motion was carried

**2. Kiosks:** Graianrhyd will have a new bike pump; and Eryrys a new first-aid kit. **RESOLVE:** Prop: D Pollard Sec: K Ford. Council voted in favour. No votes against or abstentions and the motion was carried.

**3. Llanarmon Playing Field:** Two picnic tables are old and no longer worth repairing. They will be looked at closely again in November and if thought unfit for use they will be put on the bonfire. White Oak will repair and give the two old wooden benches a coat of weather proofing; It has been too wet just yet for this work to be done yet. The old swings will be cut down as now considered unsafe; they will not be burnt, but used for flower/ herb growing areas in the playing field. K Ford will repair the plug in the shelter.

**4. Defibs:** D Pollard checked Eryrys; Clerk checked Graianrhyd; noted both defibs alarms are not working in the cabinets. Sue Hanahoe checked Old School Room; Martin the Llanarmon Shop.

- 5. Hen Ardd, Eryrys parking area:** Meeting 23rd Sept with Clerk, Cllr T Mendies and Mike Jones DCC Highways who agreed to help LCC with plans for the wanted new parking area.
- 6. Maes y Droell.** Council sincerely thanked Mike Smith for his excellent workmanship and skill in repairing the wall free of charge, following being damaged by a vehicle.
- 7. Graianrhyd:** Reported the Community field and shelter are increasingly being used. Locals picnic in the shelter and many children have started to play in the field.

#### **10. Dates of Meetings, Events and Training (future or attended)**

- a) Denbighshire CC Budget:** The Clerk reported that she had zoom-attended DCC's budget meeting on 17th July. The County is in financial crisis and looking to reduce costs by £8 million equivalent to 3% through transferring responsibility for some of the services it provides to town and community councils. Denbighshire CC is planning to close 50% of public toilets. Council Tax Increases - there is a cap of what Councils can charge in England but no such limit exists in Wales. Darren Millar supports a 5% cap being applied. However, this is unlikely to happen and there is potential for even higher increases than the proposed 9% for 2025-26; when the planned re-banding of property is completed, and the 25% discount for single occupancy is scrapped. The trunk road network may introduce tolls on roads. There is already a North/South divide with council tax being lower in South Wales and higher in North Wales due to the concentration of residents and wealth of the respective populations.
- b) Council Confirmed on Tuesday 5th November 6.30pm there will be a Bonfire & Fireworks event.** Organised by K Ford, he will ask Adam Mackridge to take the entrance fees at the gate with D Pollard. Volunteers should contact Kevin directly to help collect wood, assist with parking. Residents are asked to only put wood on the field on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November (to reduce the chance of wildlife getting into the bonfire).
- c) 7<sup>th</sup> October 6pm-7.30pm on line Consultation event on Wales's New National Park Proposal;** project and evidence gathered to date, ask questions and share feedback on the draft boundary map referred to as the Candidate Area Map. Designated Landscapes Programme Natural Resources Wales Mobile: 07977813919
- d) Essential Digital Skills Course Free 2pm-4pm 17<sup>th</sup> Oct, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 7<sup>th</sup> Nov for tablet, phone or computer.** Canolfan Dewi Sant – book 0300 111 5050

#### **11. Correspondence: Councillors agreed appropriate correspondence had previously been forwarded by the Clerk during the course of the month.**

1. DCC road works on website and notice boards, for Llanarmon and areas- Surface Dressing and Road Closures.
2. DCC is running a campaign to encourage pensioners to claim Pension Credit. CAB will help with claims, Phone 01745 346775 or on line [www.gov.uk/pension-credit](http://www.gov.uk/pension-credit) or call Freephone Pension Credit claim line on 0800 991234
3. Speed Watch volunteers in Graianrhyd were thanked for their time; they reported 28 drivers for breaking the speed limit ranging from 25-50mph. Results are forwarded to GoSafe and recorded.
4. Invitation to Participate in the Rural Housing Action Guide for Wales Project; Online Survey.
5. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Draft Annual Report 2025-2026.
6. One Voice Wales asked for input into their response to the LG & Housing Committee WAG to consider the role, governance and accountability of Town and Community Councils. Their terms of reference are to examine:
  1. The role and value of community and town councils in Wales;
  2. Whether the sector is fit for purpose in an evolving local government landscape;
  3. Governance and scrutiny arrangements and its impact on accountability and transparency;
  4. Scope of digital and new technology to improve decision-making, service provision and participation in local democratic processes;
  5. How new powers and responsibilities for this tier of government are utilised to support communities. Over 60 councils all over Wales agreed that town and community councils were vital to maintaining local amenities and reporting the needs and views of residents for decision making by higher authorities. They agreed there was a need for change particularly to improve communications with County authorities, update legislation that no longer reflected how society has changed and the use of technology.

#### **12. Unrhyw fater arall / other Matters Brought to Councillor/Representatives Attention:**

1. D Pollard and S Jones had reported, to DCC concerns over local roads flooding and the poor condition of the roads. Rose & Crown, Graianrhyd is getting worse and near Burly Quarry, Eryrys. (D Pollard will send T Mendies photos).
2. Reported another accident near property Y Beudy, School Lane requested signs to slow traffic down.
3. Requested footpaths are cleared leading to Ysgol Bro Famau; Cllr Mendies will continue to press DCC.
4. Reported that lack of parking places in Eryrys, in the housing estate continues to cause problems and friction. Private costing was £14,000 to cover the grassed area. Cllr Mendies will continue to press DCC.

**13. Meetings:** General Meeting of the Council will start at 7pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at Canolfan Dewi Sant. **All minutes are 'draft' until signed off by the Chair.**  
Meeting ended 8.25pm

Signed ..... Dated