

Canolfan Dewi Sant and via Zoom

1.A. Present: Susan Jones (Chair), Darren Pollard (Vice), Kevin Ford, Steven Latham, and Trevor Brand. Norma Wright, Clerk: Public: Brian Jones and Eryrys resident.

1.B. Apologies: Richard Rogers (Work), Hannah Munro (Work) Cllr. Terry Mendies (Holiday).

2. Meeting open to the Public & Press for 10 minutes:

Eryrys resident reported on the poor condition of the Eryrys Road near 4 black & white posts at (what-three-words lawfully-headed-cruised). The lack of highway maintenance over the years is adding to the danger of the road subsiding and causing an accident. The stone-wall and drains are falling into the field. S Jones will send the photos to DCC on their portal.

B Jones complained there isn't any preventative highway maintenance being carried out, by DCC. The drains, grids and grips are no longer cleared of leaves and debris; resulting in the roads flooding and resulting in accidents.

3. Declaration of Interest & Gifts: S Jones and D Pollard are on the Canolfan Dewi Sant Committee.

4. Read and Confirmation of Minutes: Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting 1st October 2025.

Resolve: Confirmed and accepted the minutes as a true and correct record by the Council. Prop: K Ford Sec: S Latham. There were no votes against or abstentions, motion carried.

5. Matters arising from those minutes not on the agenda: Noted that most councillors are enthusiastically involved with many tasks of the community council and help at every occasion. This is in comparison to the poor attendance of other councillors and total lack of involvement, which is once again very noticeable.

6. Cllr Terry Mendies Report:

AVAILABLE GRANTS: Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council has been allocated £1.2 million from the Welsh Government to be allocated to Community groups for worthwhile causes. Amounts available are up to £5,000 per community group. Priority will be given to promoting the Welsh language. (Clerk applied for a grant).

PARC FARM PLANNING APPLICATION: This application was heard (and passed 5-11- with conditions on building materials) by DCC Planning Committee on 5th Nov. A number of local speakers against this proposal attended.

BURLEY HILL PLANNING APPLICATION: This Garage / Bus depot is breaching their planning requirements; they were invited over 1 month ago to submit a fresh Planning Application. This has now been submitted.

NORTH HILLS FARM: DCC will carry-out a site audit visit on Friday 7th Nov to ascertain the development.

SCHOOL LANE UPGRADE: Update requested as to when this road will be resurfaced, not had a response to date.

NATIONAL PARK PROPOSAL: At a full Council meeting on Tuesday 4th November, the proposal for the National Park was rejected. Their decision was based on the Council not having sufficient money to fund its' existing commitments and having to close toilets, libraries and other facilities as a result, the infrastructure being incapable to accommodating an influx of up to 100,000 additional visitors and the loss of control over planning decisions which would result in having to re-write to LDP. The report / proposal was scheduled to be ratified by Cabinet on the 18th November. This has now been deferred until after the Senedd Elections in May 2026.

HEN ARDD ERYRYS, PARKING BAY: Very frustrated that no progress has been made in making this lay-by with Edward Parry (DCC Traffic, Parking & Road Safety Engineer).

7. Planning:

15/2025/0142/SCO Maes y Droell, Graianrhyd Quarry: Scoping Application was noted at October's meeting and as yet no further details have been sent to the council.

15/2024/1013/PF Holmsdale, Llanarmon: Erection of replacement dwelling and works. **Resolve:** No objection, LCC agrees with NRW conditions and comments.

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

a) Precept: Councillors considered all the accounts, draft budget figures, Internal Financial Risk Assessment and Virement of Funds documents, line-by-line, which had been distributed by the Clerk. It was agreed to raise the Precept by **5% to £24,740.00 (Twenty four thousand, seven hundred and forty pounds).**

After considering the budget makes provision to meet the mandatory and optional council obligations, with consideration of the rising costs of insurance, maintenance, continuation of a training plan, and encouraging biodiversity enhancements. Along with projects that would benefit the local community; such as supporting the purchase of adult exercise equipment for Graianrhyd Field, and small play area.

Council will try once again to develop a small play area on DCC land in Eryrys behind the council houses; as no other land can be found to do this. In addition, encouraging all departments responsible for Hen Ardd, to provide better maintenance and develop that area for the benefit of the community.

Precept to include – Donations: Ysgol Bro Famau £150; Wales Air Ambulance £300, due to being a much used and needed service in this rural community. Supporting the Llanarmon Show, junior prizes £100; Community Pensioners Xmas Event £50; Chair’s fund £50; to encourage more use of the skate park and a variety of Youth Activities £150, and the H&S Warden £150.

Clerk: to receive the annual 2026-27 NALAC pay award for Clerks and approved the increase salary scales in accordance with the Clerks contract of employment, plus relevant expenses.

Contracts: Jones & Graham will continue as payroll provider: JDH Business Services will remain as the Independent Internal Auditor; as they provide a professional Internal Audit Plan, and report- letter of confirmation of engagement will be sent. Council pleased with the standard of work from the Grass-cutting and general maintenance services contract held by White Oak Services from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2027; and agreed their increased charges due partly to the extra work required in Llanarmon playing field.

Insurance: Council to remain with Clear Insurance Company. Council discussed the burden and difficulty in raising funds to pay for the increased cost of insurance for **Canolfan Dewi Sant**. In order to keep the hall open it was agreed the insurance contribution for financial 26/27 year to be £1800 which was appreciated doesn’t cover the whole cost.

Cemetery Charges: Council agreed to continue supporting the WAG of not charging for local children’s burials, up to the age of 18; and not to increase the LCC Burial Charges, as they were increased last year.

Rent: The Raven Hearse House will remain the same. The two grazing charges will remain at £20 for 2026/2027.

Ear Marked Reserves: Listed on sheets include Election costs £2,500 Projects, Fireworks and defibrillator funds are ring fenced, as part of the planned expenditure scheme.

Updated Fixed Assets Register and Valuations were agreed and adopted: Council has been open and prepared for consultations with the local community, making sure they are informed of the possibility of selling the land at the rear of Tyn Llan. This land was originally intended to be used for St Garmon’s cemetery overflow, but it no longer meets current planning regulations.

WAG Mandatory Members Allowances has been confirmed these allowances are no longer subject to income tax or national insurance under the provisions for Home Working in section 316A of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003, providing there is a formal written arrangement between the Council and those claiming the allowance declaring that they regularly carry out Council work from home. All councillors personally and individually decided to opt- out and restated as they had for 2025-2026 they will again not be taking any allowances. This will be confirmed in writing for the new financial year 2026-2027. Agreed allowances will be reviewed annually for each Precept.

Resolve: To accept and adopt all Precept- budgeting figures. Prop: T Brand Sec: S Latham. There were no votes against or abstentions, motion carried. No abstentions or votes against, the motion carried.

b) Council agreed to purchase a much needed traditional cast iron Victorian Street lamp for Dewi Sant Grave Yard, approx £600 (plus installation). After considering the quotes (and difficulty in gaining three), the contract of repainting and refurbishing the graveyard railings and gates at Dewi Sant was awarded to Michael Jones Welding & Fabrication.

Resolve: Prop: T Brand Sec: S Latham. There were no votes against or abstentions, motion carried.

c) Payments: D Pollard checked and signed all bank statements against all transactions made, on all accounts; they were accepted. S Jones confirmed, signed authorisation for internet banking / card payments; balances and the transactions were accepted. 31/10/25 Lottery 7818 Account: £250.00 Project 8680; Acc: £9,699.10; Main: £24,621.19

d) Fireworks money transferred to the Project Account, for the Lottery Grant Money to be shown separately for clarity.

e) Council authorised (a-e): Resolve: All Finance Matters & Payments Schedule, Confirmed & Adopted

Prop: T Brand Sec: S Latham. No votes against or abstentions motion carried.

£19.99	B+M water-butt Llanarmon
£63.00	One Voice Wales (training 9442, 9384, 9362, 10070)
£643.79	Clerk Nov
£218.02	HMRC Nov
£22.54	Amazon parts ZC1QQ2BG5 (motion camera Llan field)
£41.96	Amazon parts T116B3GY5 (motion camera Llan field)
£35.98	Name2net (website name)
£16.14	Bookers/makro (Kids drinks etc Fun Day Llan)
£75.00	Boogieland (deposit entertainment Fun Day Llan)
£128.84	Clear Insurance (added play equipment + updated assets)
£350.00	Francis Kearns (entertainer + face painter Fun Day Llan)
£00.80	HSBC activity charge end of Nov
£9.50	B+Q rubbish sacks for Maes y Droell graveyard
£9.50	Tesco hotdog rolls
£155.88	Zoom (annual membership)

£300.00	Wales Air Ambulance donation
£50.00	Remembrance Wreath British Legion
£1600.00	Canolfan Dewi Sant - don insurance
£150.00	Ysgol Bro Famau - donation
£150.00	H&S warden weekly reports Hon
£22.64	K Ford (Llan Motion camera parts)
£82.00	One Voice Wales training £42 10119/ part 9362 £40
£160.77	Clerk's Expenses phone, mileage, (Llan Fun Day hot dogs etc),
£55,176.00	Ray Parry (Lottery net of VAT)
£55,580.40	Ray Parry (Lottery net of VAT)
£9,564.00	Ray Parry Council agreed for the final payment to be released.

£9196.00, £10,006.00 (Transfers Account3981)
 £250, £45,980.00 and £45,575.00 Lottery grants
 £19,802.37 VAT reclaimed.. £577.50 Funeral £146.00 headstone payment.
 (£420 Fireworks display taken on the gate)

In line with our Financial Regulations / Standing Orders Council approved the increased 'overall daily/ bill payments limit at HSBC' to was raised to £58,000 to allow these payments to be made through HSBC. This will be reduced to £8,000 when all large payments have been cleared. Fund transfers within the councils banking arrangements are authorised to show the large Lottery Grant separately for clarity. **Resolve:** Prop: S Jones Sec: D Pollard. No votes against or abstentions motion carried

9. Llanarmon yn Ial Playing Field Equipment and National Lottery Grant

Council authorised last and remaining payments for the new play equipment after snagging and ROSPA inspections reported all was satisfactory. Councillors are most pleased with the installation work carried out, and the quality of equipment and wished to thank Ray Parry and his team of workers for their excellent work.
 In addition, the council and the community send thanks to the Lottery - to their staff for their helpfulness and for the amazing grant that has been used to purchase the much needed play equipment; benefiting the whole of our community young and old for many years to come. The community council could never have afforded such an outstanding facility.

Thanks to the Clerk Norma Wright, Darren Millar and Terry Mendies for opening the new play equipment on the 'Fun Grand Opening Day' held at Saturday 25th October. The event was very well attended with free hot-dogs, ice-cream / juice for all children. The circus entertainment and face painting company was excellent, and enjoyed by many attending.

LCC thanked T Brand, K Ford and David Wright for their help on the day, along with the team of volunteers. Also, thanks to S Latham and Gareth Bryan for their overseeing, and monitoring reports during the installation.

10.All Maintenance Matters:

- LCC thanked Brian Jones for cutting the hedges at Llanarmon Field. Also, Mr Edwards for cutting the hedges at Maes y Droell grave yard. It is very kind and community minded of them.
- Two benches will be fixed in place along the fence, halfway down the football pitch in Llanarmon.
- The ridge tiles on the Hearse building will be attended to.
- Gwyndaff Jones will install the vegetable boxes for the Community Garden in Graianrhyd.
- Reported now only two drinks bottles dumped in graves in St Garmon's, Llanarmon.

11. Dates of (a) Meetings, Events and (b) Training (future or attended) - none

a. Meetings & Events:

- 5th November Village Fireworks on Llanarmon Field;** Kevin Ford and all volunteers were thanked for the excellent fireworks display raising £420. There wasn't a bonfire this year as so many complaints about debris and no volunteers from the village to clear the grounds afterwards. Perhaps next year there may be a return of the bonfire. Silent fireworks had been considered; but they are reported not to give as good a display.
- 'Over 60's Christmas lunch' on 11th December at 1pm-3pm held in the Sun, Eryrys.**

12. Correspondence: Emails forwarded.

1. Shaping the Future of Public Services in Wales: Conwy 3rd Dec 2025 11am Llandudno LL31 9XX. Open to everyone individuals, and community groups. Consultation on the changes to local government elections rules in Wales.

13. Unrhyw fater arall / other Matters Brought to Councillor/Representatives Attention:

- 1. D Pollard and S Jones will lay wreaths at 4pm at the Remembrance Sunday Service, in St Garmon.
- 2. K Ford stated even without being able to yet be awarded a grant, there will be Welsh Classes in Canolfan Dewi Sant, on Sunday afternoons. Details will be sent out.
- 3. Problems of lack of highway maintenance, lack of strimming of verges on our narrow lanes etc reported.
- 4. Enquires to determine how best to change the clerks email from Llanarmon.com to a .gov.uk address was found to be very complex. The Clerk stated that DCC do not provide IT support to community councils to facilitate changes and expressed concern about loss of data by not being able to automatically redirect mails coming in via the existing address to the new one. Agreed to continue using the Llanarmon.com address until it became mandatory to change, both emails and website.
- 5. Council will send flowers to local resident and get well wishes.

14. General Meeting: 6.30pm Wednesday 3rd December 2025 at Canolfan Dewi Sant, Eryrys and Zoom.

All minutes are 'draft' until signed off by the Chair. Meeting ended 8.05pm.

Signed Dated.....