

**Canolfan Dewi Sant and via Zoom**

- 1. Present:** Susan Jones (Chair), Darren Pollard (Vice), Kevin Ford, Steven Latham, Cllr. Terry Mendies, Norma Wright, Clerk: **Public:** Dr Hugo Watts.
- 2. Apologies:** Hannah Munro, Richard Rogers, Trevor Brand
- 3. Meeting open to the Public & Press for 10 minutes:** No comments.
- 4. Declaration of Interest & Gifts:** Sue Jones is involved with the management of the new Community Sun Inn Pub
- 5. Read and Confirmation of Minutes: Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Resolve:** Confirmed and accepted the minutes as a true and correct record by the Council. Prop: D Pollard Sec: S Latham. No votes against or abstentions, motion carried.
- 6. Matters arising from those minutes not on the agenda:** None.
- 7. Cllr Terry Mendies Reported on:** 1) The Engine Room Planning Application will be discussed on 16<sup>th</sup> April. Burley Hill Garage Application is on the DCC agenda. A planning breaches update meeting has been requested, a date has not yet been set, which may be due to the forthcoming election. 2) Many reports of Potholes, which have been submitted. DCC can catch up on repairs; £2 million has been received from Welsh Government for road repairs; this will be discussed at the May Council meeting.
- 8. Planning:**  
**15/2025/0493/PF:** Burley Hill Garage, Llanarmon, use of site as coach depot to include maintenance facilities. Concerns to be addressed; complaints from local residents, unsuitable/ lack of drainage for dirty water/grease from cleaning vehicles for MOT's; already not adhering to trading hours; narrow lanes not suitable as already too many coaches being brought to the site. **Resolve:** Not supported.  
**15/2017/0172 & 0173** Engine House at former Nant Lead Mine, Eryrys. Restoration and conversion of engine house to form one dwelling with new access track, (Listed Building Application). **Resolve:** Supported.
- 9. Finance Matters and Schedule of payments:**
  - 1.** D Pollard checked and signed all bank statements against all transactions made, on all accounts; they were accepted. Following the Clerk visiting the Mold Branch and complaining on line HSBC has refunded the £35 as a banking error.
  - 2.** S Jones confirmed, signed authorisation for internet banking / card payments; balances and transactions.
  - 3.** The remaining £250 ring fenced from the National Lottery grant for Welsh/English Biodiversity; will go towards the six beautiful, large, outdoor information panels; three for Llanarmon and three for Graianrhyd field. LCC wished to thank Llanferres Community Council for allowing them to share their lectern graphics artwork and designs, reducing costs considerably. LCC accepted the quote from Sandrine Autissier. Instead of Oak posts/lecterns, the Clerk will cost recyclable ones (made from plastic bottles etc that look like wood), which last longer and requiring no maintenance.
  - 4.** Council were pleased that in this financial year the long-term ring fenced reserves had been spent on Llanarmon Playing Field; as this was the main project the money had been held for. LCC agreed with the variance of expenditure being higher than precept and initial budgeting, as they were satisfied the extra monies spent on various local projects had enhanced the community's facilities.
  - 5.** The Annual Return, Annual Governance Statements and full set of end of year accounts were presented to Council for approval and signing, they will now be sent to the internal auditor. Remaining VAT has been requested. **Resolve:** S Jones proposed it be accepted, D Pollard seconded. There were no abstentions or votes against.
  - 6.** Bank Mandate will remain the same signatories S Jones, D Pollard, K Ford, H Munro, and N Wright- to have day-to-day management of the accounts.
  - 7.** The Clerk had updated the Assets Register.
  - 8.** The Financial Risk Assessment (also covering Procurement Fraud) and internal control procedures had been carried out. Invoices issued for rents - receipts issued only for cemeteries work and unexpected amounts.
  - 9.** Clerk reported problems and complaints with gaining a workable internet connection; will look in to the costs of a Starlink connection.
  - 10.** Clerk attended a meeting 10am 3rd March with Chloe L Roberts Llewellyn-Jones Solicitors; Concerning Tyn Llan land for sale in Llanarmon; following a long discussion concerning possible legal problems and costs. **Resolve:** Council voted not to sell the land in Tyn Llan, but to continue to rent.
  - 11.** Jones and Graham new payroll fees for 2026/2027 received.

## 12. Payment Schedule

£633.99	Clerk April (BP1)
£227.82	HMRC April (BP2)
£47.00	ICO (£5 reduction for Direct Debit)
£125.67	White Oak Property Services; repair Graianrhyd notice board(BP3)

**Resolve: Council authorised 9 (1-12):** All Finance Matters & End of Year Accounts, Annual Return, Governance Statements and Payments Schedule, Confirmed & Approved. Prop: D Pollard Sec: S Latham. No votes against or abstentions motion carried.

## 10. A) Maintenance:

**i. DOG MESS** - LCC purchased signs to remind dog owners to clear up after their dogs. There is no excuse, for owners not clearing-up after their dogs. Due to increased complaints about dog mess being left in Graianrhyd Community Field, LCC agreed if it continues it could mean banning dogs from the field; as play equipment for children and community vegetable growing could be affected.

Enquiries will be made about the costs of the new Rural Community Council First Scheme using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in its clampdown on Dog Fouling on the streets and parks. Working in partnership with MCS Mobile CCTV Services, community councils are trialling mobile 'Pooh Patrol' solar powered CCTV units that use dog recognition software to identify dogs in the cameras vicinity and store the images ready to report an incident, or when dog mess is evident.

LCC believes deterring and educating perpetrators is the way forward, "Most dog owners are responsible and community minded and pick up, but there is a minority that is making our streets and parks unsightly and it's not good for public health. Our message is very clear, fail to pick up after your dog and we'll ensure you get picked up by the County Council Environmental Health Enforcement Officers who will prosecute you, as not picking up your dog's mess is a crime".

**ii. H&S Assets Risk & Maintenance Ledgers:** were issued to councillors for the annual written reviews; to be returned no later than May AGM meeting.

**iii. Kiosks:** The Graianrhyd kiosk door needs repairing and repainting and the Eryrys door needs attention. Lots of the books are wet and not really usable; which will be removed.

**iv. Defibs:** Reported all four defib had gone wrong and new batteries fitted, with NHS Tomos Hughes guidance. No further fault reports had occurred; D Pollard and Clerk have continually checked all defibs.

**v. Volunteer Yards-Man:** to be paid an honorarium and expenses for picking-up litter in the community, looking after the planted produce, cleaning the bus shelters, casual DIY. LCC haven't had any one interested yet.

**vi.** Llanarmon playing field nose cone from the wind-powered generator, that came off has been refitted by K Ford.

**vii.** Council thanked White Oak Services for the excellent refurbishment work on the Graianrhyd notice board.

## 10.B) Biodiversity

**a.** LCC Biodiversity Future Action Plan for 2026- 2029, continues to be updated; Residents and local organisations are asked to volunteer and contribute both ideas and time, being involved with changes and events supporting our community. Posters will be made to inviting the community to come to the public meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

**b.** Kevin Ford and volunteers have started to fill the 'help-yourself vegetable boxes' with soil for the Graianrhyd Community Garden. Volunteers are asked to spare an hour and contact Kevin to come along and help to start to install the new wild-life/nature-pond.

**c.** The Graianrhyd field, Wildflower seed mixes, have been received, from One Voice Wales 2026/2027 grant. LCC agreed that some of the flower tubs in the community need more plants and bulbs adding.

**d.** The annual Conservation Society litter picking event, held on 28<sup>th</sup> March thanks to John Hanahoe, collected a lot of rubbish; but disappointedly the event wasn't very well attended.

**11. DATES: (a) Meetings & Events: i.** 7<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm One Voice Wales Area Committee Meeting **ii.** 27th April 4pm City, Town & Community Council 'Meet & Greet' Session, DCC Leader, Chief Executive, Head of Housing & Communities Services.

**(b) Training:** 24.3.26 Clerk attended Martyn's Law on Terrorism & Risks in Public Events. Not being complacent or negligent. 24.3.76 Clerk met with Samantha Mullen DCC Community Development Officer on Commuted Sums.

## 12. Correspondence: Emails forwarded.

**1. DCC Connectivity Survey:** 5,681 premises do not have Full Fibre internet. It is not Openreach's sole responsibility to connect every premise. There are dozens of telephony/internet providers in the UK, such as Virgin and CityFibre. All of whom, have the same opportunity to connect Denbighshire's premises. They choose not to do so, because of the expense. The copper telephone exchanges will be turned off by January 2027.

For the majority of premises, phones will plug into the internet router and calls will be converted to internet traffic, Voice over IP (VOIP). Some companies like BT and Vodafone are calling it 'Digital Voice'.

If a premise does not have an internet connection, or the internet is too slow to provide voice calls, a resident can ask for a dedicated phone line from their provider. This retains the copper cables to the property and it should remain powered during a power-cut.

**Smart Meters in Rural Areas:** Poor internet connection in rural areas often coincides with poor 4g. The lack of both means electric smart meters cannot report usage statistics to the electricity companies and therefore hampers the use of smart tariffs, therefore running a higher risk of households experiencing fuel poverty. Without a smart meter it is impossible to use tariffs designed for EV charging, heat pumps and cheap night rates. Solar systems on the property will not be allowed to export.

2. Following a complaint from a resident about a support dog being in the children’s play area; after consideration, it was agreed that for an exception from the ‘No Dogs’ rule. **Resolve:** LCC agreed that when required trained Support Dogs/ Blind Dogs are allowed to accompany their owners into the play area of Llanarmon playing field.

3. Michelle Bunce DCC Rights of Way Officer update on footpaths/ gates in Llanarmon area.

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

1. S Jones continues to personally report potholes and road problems to DCC.

2. The Sun Inn, Eryrys has now opened its doors as a community pub.

3. Report of two suspicious people around the back of gardens late at night in Llanarmon; reported to the police. Residents advised to lock all sheds, garages, and keeping your homes secure.

**14. Annual General Meeting: 7pm Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026** at Canolfan Dewi Sant, Eryrys and Zoom.  
Public Meeting - posters will be displayed inviting the public.

All minutes are ‘draft’ until signed off by the Chair. Meeting ended 8.40pm.

Signed ..... Dated.....