Cyngor Cymuned Llanarmon yn Iâl Community Council

7th October 2026 7pm Ordinary Meeting of Llanarmon yn Ial Community Council
Canolfan Dewi Sant and via Zoom

1. Present: Wol **(**Darren) Pollard (Chair), Kevin Ford (Vice), Trevor Brand, Alaw Smith, Steven Latham, Richard Rogers, Norma Wright (Clerk) **Public:** two residents attended

2. Apologies: Susan Jones (working), Cllr. Terry Mendies (Holiday)

3. Meeting open to the Public & Press: B Jones complained about the overhanging hedges in various places; along the B5430 and opp. Valley Lodge Care home; they force large vehicles into the centre of the road. LCC confirmed both the land owners and DCC have a duty to maintain hedges at a maximum height of 6 feet on their land. Cllr T Mendies will be asked to remind DCC Highways of their responsibilities.

4. Declaration of Interest & Gifts: none

5. Read and Confirmation of Minutes Ordinary Meeting 2nd September 2026: Resolve: Confirmed and accepted the minutes as a true and correct record by the Council. Prop: R Rogers 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:
A) Old School Lane, trying to ascertain who owns the "Private Road" running off there, after reports of a local resident refusing access to walkers. Pictures have also sent to DCC Enforcement, to see if the materials left are considered fly tipping. B) Containers on land opposite the School Llanarmon, will be discussed at a DCC Planning Enforcement meeting on 28th October along with other breaches. C) DCC works for four car-parking spaces at Caer Odyn, Eryrys estate starts on 2nd November and will take two weeks.

8. Planning:
1**.** Scoping Opinion 15/2025/0142/SCO 'Recommencement and extension of Maes y Droell Quarry, Graianrhyd'. This was further discussed on 11th Sept, 7pm Canolfan Dewi Sant, by local residents in a 'Public Meeting'. Have your say notices have been posted to local residents by Silca Sand Mold Ltd; by 13th November/28 days to reply or email to comments@haveyoursay.wales
2. DCC's new Planning Charter which states that any enforcement notices become void if not addressed after 4 years and that priority will be given to complete outstanding enforcement notices within the AONB. LCC stated there is a complete lack of action by DCC Enforcement Office in many cases, however thanked Cllr Mendies for trying very hard for our community to get planning application breaches settled.
3. Councillors discussed the pre-planning application notification for a new egg production factory near Ruthin sent by a neighbouring council, in particular plans to spread the manure on fields around Llanferres and Llanarmon. They concluded no action could be taken until the formal planning application is submitted and circulated for comment.

9. Finance Matters and Schedule of payments:
1. **AUDIT WALES:** The completed external audit and annual return is available for inspection by any local government elector for the area of Llanarmon yn Ial Community Council; notices have been placed on the villages' notice-boards and Llan.com website. Audit Wales gave an 'Unqualified Audit'. *'The Council explained part of its increased staff costs this year as being due to an increase in National Insurance costs. The increase quoted amounted to approximately 7% of the total staff costs. We recommend that the Council reviews its explanations to ensure that the explanations provided for audit are robust. There are no further matters I wish to draw to the Council's attention'*

- **Line 4 Staff Costs** **2024/25** **2025/26** **Variance** **%**

Staff Costs Line 4	£9,006	£10,401	£1,395+	15.49%

Council's Robust Explanation: 'The law increased employer National Insurance contributions in 2025 National Insurance Contributions (Secondary Class 1 Contributions) Act 2025. [1] **Key Changes Under the Act were**

- **Employer Rate:** Increased the secondary Class 1 NICs contributions rate from 13.8% to 15%. [1, 2] Making payments total £704 due.
- **Secondary Threshold:** Lowered the per-employee earnings threshold at which employers start paying NICs from £9,100 to £5,000 per year (effective from 6th April 2025 until 5th April 2028). [1, 2]

- **The Council increased the Clerks wage:** In-line with SLCC and NALC 3.2% increased Scales Local Government Service Pay Agreement 1st April 2025-31st March 2026 SCP23 LC2 (Below substantive range); (6th Nov 2025 item 8 Minuted page 464), correct amounts stated in quarterly accounts. Owed back pay from 1st April to 1st Oct 2025, plus payment for home office use (£338 taxable pay) totalled £691 due. Both figures amounted to 15.49% increasing the total by £1395.

2. **2nd Quarter Review of Accounts and budget**; the Clerk reported and circulated the end of September Council's accounts and dicussed LCC budget and financial position.
2027-28 Precept: The Chair asked Councillors to consider what project work they would consider including in next year's precept in preparation for the November meeting; it was appreciated that this may be the last year for some councillors. As a future project it was agreed to establish both a council and community committee, to look into designs for Graianrhyd Community Field. K Ford agreed to attend. The idea of partly supporting locals with Welsh lessons, to be held in Dewi Sant if funding from elsewhere couldn't be found, was thought a positive project.
3. K Ford checked and signed all bank statements against all transactions made, on all accounts; accepted as correct. On 1.10.26 Bank Accounts: Main £6739.47: £11298.14 and £6102.00
4. D Pollard confirmed, signed authorisation of the internet banking / card payments; balances and transactions. In line with Financial Regulations, Banking online payments will have a secondary authorisation, by K Ford or S Jones. The Council were informed of the £2000 overpayment to HMRC (by a typing error by the Clerk) that had been refunded.
Resolve: Prop: K Ford Sec: T Brand. No votes against or abstentions motion carried.
5. As part of Remembrance Sunday a £50 donation (Precepted) will be sent to the British Legion poppy appeal and Cllr S Jones and D Pollard will lay the wreath at the epitaph in St Garmons's 8th November 4pm.
6. Councillors agreed to purchase some form of safety gate locks for both playing fields. Dr H Watts will be asked about suitable fitments, and to install them.
7. Defib pads will be out of date in November; Clerk will purchase replacments.
8. The first aid kits will be updated and supplies purchased.
9. **Payment Schedul**e

£ 4.70	Village sign returned to correct place VIS
£35.98	NameNet (graianrhyd.com/eryrys.com) VIS
£633.79	Clerk
£228.09	HMRC
£50.00	Poppy Appeal
£255.00	White Oak instllation of 3 wildlife
£45.00	Jones & Graham (payroll)
£234.00	DefibrilatorStore- pads x2 VIS

Received £2000.00 HMRC refund
Resolve: Council authorised 9 (1-9) All Finance Matters, Accounts, Statements and Payments Schedule, Confirmed & Approved. Prop: K Ford Sec: S Latham. No votes against or abstentions motion carried.

10.A) Maintenance:
i. White Oak's quote for painting the Graianrhyd telephone kiosk was accepted- waiting for better weather. Three sides will remain red, with the roadside panel-side to be green; the same as the defibrillator logo. If required new defib signs will be purchased.
ii. Blackwell's quote was accepted for the H&S Headstones survey in all three graveyards.
iii. The damaged door to the circuit breakers, no longer latches, signs of impact damage to the panel below the circuit breaker, crack to light cover reported. K Ford is attending to this and will report back.
iv. Dog Mess signs have been purchased and distributed around the community. Council agreed to purchase more for all 3 villages, as it is still a problem
v. Council supported the idea of a trail period for a Voluntary Grounds/ Lines-Man. This would help with smaller maintenance work, which could be carried out quickly. The details will be further discussed with the Volunteer.
vi. Rats reported in Eryrys village and graveyard. DCC attend to council houses, private house owners are required to attend to the problem themselves. LCC will attend to the graveyard.
vii. K Ford/ W Pollard will contact a local who is able to engrave the name of Canolfan Dew Sant, Eryrys onto the notice board.

10. B) Biodiversity
a. Kevin Ford will plant the bulbs OVW Biodiversity Package for Graianrhyd around the Wildlife pond/tubs and field. Volunteers are asked to spare an hour and contact Kevin to come along and help. Contact kevin.ford@llanarmon.com
b. K Ford will look for best price and best design polytunnels and gain costings for a new wooden border area (along the front wire-fence; to enable wild flowers to be established for the Graianrhyd Community Garden.

c. White Oak was asked to quote for purchasing and planting/creating a flower bed in Llanarmon Playing Field in the dog walking area. This will be in relationship to the nature panels, for similar species or the same as those listed

11. Policies and Standing Orders
An AI Policy had been prepared by the Clerk. 2. LCC 2026 Standing Orders with changes on Financial Controls & Procurement had been circulated. **Resolve:** Adopted by Council Confirmed & Approved. Prop: K Ford Sec: T Brand. No votes against or abstentions motion carried.

12. DATES: (a) Meetings & Events (b) Training:
1. Bonfire Night Event 5th November 2026: No event will be held this year.

(b) Training- dates circulated to councillors.
Clerk attended: 1) 20th Sept 9.30am-3.30pm ScribeFest 2026; looking at new digital AGAR & SAPP update: Dealing with VAT review and mistakes: Cyber Security and Insurance: How to reading planning applications. 2) Clerk attended 16th October 9.30am -3.30pm Denbigh Community Centre, Foundation AI tools for third Sector Organisations in DCC (DVSC no charge). 3) 16th October; Zoom HM Revenue Expenses and benefits for your employees – phones, internet and home-working. 4) 20th October Forecasting, Budgeting & Setting the Precept Scribe (no charge)

13. Correspondence: Emails forwarded.
1. Go Safe North Wale Police, speed camera van - requested to attend Ysgol Bro Famau, School Lane area and Graianrhyd old primary school area.
2. The Boundary Commission for Wales is reviewing the Senedd constituencies.
3. DCC has invited residents to comment on its' 5 year recycling plan. It focuses more on preventing waste rather than its disposal. If you see fly-tipping or have information that could help identify those responsible, please report it via the Denbighshire County Council website or by contacting the Council's Customer Services team on **01824 706000**. It may prevent further fly-tipping in our communities.

14. Unrhyw fater arall / other Matters Brought to Councillor/Representatives Attention:
Potholes are a problem S Latham will take photos and report some directly to DCC.

15. Ordinary General Meeting: 7pm Wednesday 4th November 26
Please note in advance the change of time and date: 6.30pm 9th December 26
Held at Canolfan Dewi Sant, Eryrys and Zoom.
All minutes are 'draft' until signed off by the Chair.

Meeting ended 7.45pm.

Signed ..... Dated 4th November 2026