

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGENNECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on Monday, 3rd February 2025, at the Llangennech Community Centre.

PRESENT: **Councillors:** N Lloyd,
G R Jones, L M Morgan, G Thomas,
M I Slader, E Evans, L D J Armishaw,
I M Williams

APOLOGIES: **Councillors:** J A Seward, H J Davies, A J Parry,
I Griffiths

1. The Vice Chair, Councillor N Lloyd, took over the duties of Chair for the evening because of the unavailability of Councillor I Griffiths.

2. **Declaration of Interests**

There were none.

Councillor G R Jones stated that he had to declare an interest recently at the County Council because he had accepted an invitation to the sponsors box at the local Rugby Club from a friend who has a business.

He stated that perhaps an interests register should be started with the Community Council and after due discussion it was agreed to commence such a register later in the year, perhaps May.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th January 2025**

It was proposed by Councillor I M Williams and seconded by Councillor G R Jones that the Minutes be accepted other than to add to Minute 2 v) that Councillor N Lloyd hoped that Llanedi Community Council would be supporting the residents of that Council in respect of their views expressed at the Llangennech Community Council meeting.

- i) **Aber Llchwyr**

There is no further information on the matter. Councillor I M Williams stated that the County's Enforcement team are still involved on the site.

- ii) **Maes y dderwen Cameras**

Councillor G R Jones reported that no date has been given for the installation. He also reported on a recent accident on the roadway which caused traffic delays.

iii) **Centre Access Road – control of unauthorised parking**

The Clerk reported that an “E” Mail has been sent to the Police asking for observations on the proposal and their view on the signage proposed. There has been no response to date.

Councillor G R Jones is to follow up with the PCSO’s.

Councillor G R Jones also reported that a further request has been made for enforcement officers to attend parking on double yellow lines, in particular, Bridge Street.

4. **Surveyor’s Report**

The Surveyor had prepared a written report which dealt with Bryn Park tree removal, recreation ground play area and contractor remaining responsibilities and access road to the Community Centre with regard to road signage and the police view on the signage.

The report was noted.

The Surveyor also reported on his dealings with a Mr Allan Capp, Pontarddulais, with regard to proposed developments of 771 houses in Pontarddulais and the likely detrimental effect on traffic flow at the Hendy junction with the M4.

Mr Capp has requested information on findings of an assessment undertaken regarding the degree of success or otherwise of the recent upgrade of the M4 junction at Hendy. Mr Capp is also concerned that the road system in Pontarddulais cannot cope with the present traffic let alone from additional development.

Councillor G R Jones will write to Ken Skates, Transport Secretary at the Senedd regarding the matter.

Councillor I M Williams commented that Mr Capp is looking for support from Llangennech Community Council.

Councillor G Thomas proposed that the Council support Mr Capp and also to request from Swansea City Council what is the justification for the size of the development proposed.

Councillor G Thomas also asked what is the position of Pontarddulais Town Council on the proposed development.

After due discussion it was agreed that the Council support Mr Alan Capp.

5. County Councillor Report

Councillor G R Jones reported as follows:

- i) There was a meeting last week at the County to adopt the latest version of the LDP. This was a formality but new legislation has come out and included in this legislation is that development must take account of green and blue factors.

There is no movement on the proposed development near Tafarn Morlais.

- ii) Refuse bin provision on streets etc in the County is to be reduced by 20%. No advance notice was given regarding the proposal.

It is unclear on how an appeal process will work.

Councillor I M Williams referred to frequent instances of household waste being deposited in these bins.

- iii) Budget setting. This will take place next month. The budget will be affected by possible further monies being made available by the Welsh Government.
- iv) Councillor Jones has had discussion with Huw Thomas, Centre Committee and has been informed that he will stay on the Committee. He needs more help. There are proposals to be put forward on ways to recruit volunteers. There is also a similar problem at the Rugby Club.
- v) Councillor G Thomas asks for a report from County Councillor J Seward on County/other matters if she cannot attend a Community Council Meeting.

Councillor G R Jones commented that she was supposed to be present tonight but does not know why she has not been able to attend.

6. Precept for 2025/26 Financial Year

The Clerk had prepared a financial statement previously circulated to members setting out the likely outcome for 2024/25 and estimates for the 2025/26 year based on increasing the precept by 7.5% per property.

The Probable for 2024/25 year and estimates for 2025/26 year are as follows:-

Probable 2024/25

There is likely to be an overspend of expenditure over income of £67,989 leaving a total cash balance of £110,231 at the 31st March 2025. This is analysed as follows:

	£
General Fund	57,801
Community Centre Capital Fund	45,000
Youth Club	6,817
Repair/Renewal Fund	503
DVTR Davies	<u>110</u>
	<u>110,231</u>

Estimates 2025/26

These have been based on the following:

- i) Cost increases in wages have been included at 4.5% and salaries at 2.5%. Other cost increases have ranged between 3% and 5%.
- ii) Cost of the By Election in 2024 will be £6,571, loss of Rate Relief on the Bryn Hall and Community Centre of £5,500 and National Insurance for Employers following the Autumn Budget Statement by the Chancellor of Exchequer of £5,500.
- iii) The precept per property will be £156.14 for 2025/26.
- iv) Council Hire Charges and Burial Rates to be increased by a general 20%.
- v) No significant expenditure on projects is planned for the year.
- vi) Estimates do not include for income for the sale of land to the Bridge Inn.

After due discussion it was proposed by Councillor G R Jones and seconded by Councillor I M Williams to increase the precept per property for 2025/26 by 7.5%. This will result in a charge of £156.14 per property and a total precept sum of £313,738.

It was unanimously agreed to increase the precept per property to £156.14 for 2025/26 which is an increase of 7.5% on the current year..

It is estimated that the Balances of the Council at 31st March 2026 be £110636 and analysed as follows:-

	£
General Fund	58,206
Community Centre Capital Fund	45,000
Youth Club	6,817
Repair/Renewal Fund	503
Dr T R Davies	110

7. Retirement of the Surveyor

The Surveyor has informed the Clerk that he will be retiring from the Post of Council Surveyor on the 31st March 2025.

He also put forward possible options for the Council to consider with regard to his replacement. This included a consultancy basis on a fixed or variable fee basis.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED that the matter be considered by the Personnel Sub Committee and a meeting of this Sub Committee will take place on the 17th February 2025.

It was also agreed that the Personnel Sub Committee be composed of the Chair, Vice Chair, two County Members and Councillor I M Williams and the Clerk.

8. Planning Applications

It was RESOLVED not to object to the following application.

PL/08753 - Construction of a slurry lagoon and associated works at
Cornhwrdd, Yr Allt, Llangennech

9. Parked Vehicle at Community Centre Car Park

Councillor I M Williams reported that a vehicle owned by Alan Bowen has been parked at the Centre Car Park for several months. The vehicle has no MOT or Vehicle Tax.

The Clerk reported that a part is awaited for the vehicle but there has been no movement on the matter to date.

It was agreed that he be asked to remove the vehicle as soon as possible.

10. **Pop up Shop**

Councillor M I Slader asked for suggestions for the location of a pop up shop in the village. This will be for a short duration of a couple of months.

Salem vestry was suggested as a possible location. The Senior Citizen Hall was deemed unsuitable.