

Cofnodion Cyngor Bro Trelech a'r Betws Community Council Minutes

The meeting was held at Alma Community Centre on Monday evening the 6th of January 2025 at 8.00pm.

Councillors present: Andrew Jones(Chair), Eirian Howells, Dyfed Davies, Alyson Harries, Derrick Harries, Ambrose Lewis, Arwyn Jones & County Councillor Jean Lewis

Recording minutes: Liza Jones (Clerk)

1. Apologies : Apologies were received from Linda Davies, Ann Sillars & John Phillips

2. Chairman's Comments:

Andrew Jones wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked all for attending on such a cold night.

3. Declaration of Interests:

The Clerk would leave the meeting when Clerks wages were discussed.

4. To confirm minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th of November 2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting. They were agreed and signed as a true record.

5. To discuss matters arising from the minutes

- The clerk had contacted the Solicitor regarding the track at Lleine, but had been informed that they would be unable to deal with the matter, The clerk had requested recommendations from the Councillors and had approached both suggestions. It was resolved in the meeting to obtain a quotation and advice from Red Kite Solicitors regarding this matter.
- The trees from The Woodland Trust had been delivered and the clerk had planted them on the boundary hedgerow at Rhoscrugebolion.

6. Correspondence

- a. The clerk and County Councillor Jean Lewis had received an email regarding concerns that articulated lorries were having great difficulty maneuvering over the bridge in Penybont, especially when travelling from Talog to Groesffordd. The matter was discussed and was decided to ask Carmarthen County Council if there was any signage available to be placed near Bethania Chapel to note the narrow bridge and unsuitability for articulated vehicles.
- b. Emails noting road closures received from Carmarthenshire County Council had been forwarded to all.
- c. The appropriate sum under Section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 was set at £11.10 per elector.
- d. Trelech WI had sent a calendar of events which the clerk had inserted into the online calendar.
- e. One Voice Wales had sent the 'Community and Town Councils Digital Guidance' on Procurement and another on Use of Email. The clerk had read through both and found no issues that needed to be addressed.
- f. Alma Community Centre had left the clerk a list of events for the coming year which the clerk would insert into the Councils' website.
- g. Carmarthen County Council had sent an invoice for the payment of the new lanterns which had been agreed to pay over 7 years, It was agreed to pay the £333.60.
- h. No Planning Applications

7.Financial Report

Business Current Account £483.79

A Budget v Spending spreadsheet was circulated by the clerk up to 31/12/24. The data was discussed and accepted.

One Voice Wales had circulated a new Model Financial Regulation. The clerk had amended the regulation to be appropriate for Trelech Community Council. The new Financial Regulations were accepted.

8.Budget 2025-26 including Precept, Clerks wages and new employment contract

The clerk circulated a draft budget for 2025-26 which was discussed.

The clerk left the meeting while the clerks wages for 2025-26 were discussed.

The Councillors resolved to increase the clerks' wages to £7000 per annum.

The draft budget was amended accordingly, and the new draft budget agreed.

The precept was resolved to remain at zero.

A new Employment Contract was required for the Clerk following the Audit Wales report recommendation. The new contract was approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk.

9. Any Other Business

- Concerns were reported to County Councillor Jean Lewis regarding the flooding of the lane by Preparcau, the land erosion on the roadside on the hill from Glaspant to Dinas and a request for a grit bin by Eithindudon Isaf due to the amount of surface water freezing by the double bends.
- Andrew Jones noted that the road from Groesffordd, through Penybont and Talog to Bwlchnewydd had finally been re-approved for gritting until April, following public demand.
- County Councillor Jean Lewis asked all to complete the On-line Budget Consultation for 2025-26 for Carmarthenshire County Council.

There being no other business the Chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 9.05pm. The next meeting will be held on the 3rd of March 2025.