



## Llangybi Fawr Community Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Llanhenock Village Hall at 7pm

**COED Y PAEN** Cllr Graham Rogers 07775 644527  
**LLANDEGVETH** Chair Lorna Savidge 07809292564  
**LLANHENNOCK** Cllr Neil Statham 07792371624  
**TREDUNNOCK** TBC  
**CLERK** Kate Burdge 07450229019

**LLANGYBI** Cllr Peter Marshall 07415892161  
Cllr Andy Hunt 07976 721650  
Cllr Caroline Watts 07779503052  
**LLANGATTOCK N.C.** Vice Ieuan Williams 07790285572

**Present:** Chair Williams, Cllr Rogers, Cllr Watts, Cllr Statham, Cllr Hunt, Clerk Burdge  
**Apologies:** Cllr Savidge, Cllr Marshall, C.Cllr Bromfield,  
**Declarations of interest:** None  
**Members of the public present:** Neil Gosling,  
**Minutes of the last meeting:** Proposed by Cllr Rogers; Seconded by Cllr Statham

Vice Chair Williams chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr Savidge.

### Planning:

**243/270: DM/2024/00588 Llandegfedd Visitor Centre Re-Consultation:** The Community Council has considered this application following the submission of additional documents. We noted the greater detail regarding the additional planting around the structure providing screening now on all sides. Our main concerns relate to the impact on wildlife considering that the reservoir and its surroundings are a designated SSSI. Thus, we would expect there to be tight conditions imposed regarding times of use and see no reason for any lighting to be provided in the structure or its approaches ensuring that use is confined to daytime use. Therefore, Llangybi Fawr Community Council have requested a condition relating to the restriction of activities during the winter months in consideration to the wintering birds on site, including limiting access to the roundhouse; and a condition expressly stating that the development proposal will have no supplementary artificial lighting.

### Correspondence:

**244/270: Playground Equipment Daniel Halliwell:** The CC had received an email prior to the meeting offering new bespoke playground equipment, new safety surfacing and repairs for already existing playground apparatus. The CC were grateful for the discount offered but recognised the playground equipment was based in the MCC area of the park so would not be able to use this company's services at this time.

**245/270: Art Account Software:** LFCC had received an email prior to the meeting offering an accounting software solely based on community councils. It was promoted to be free of charge until 1 April 25 when the monthly cost will be £9.99 per month. The Community council felt this was an extremely commercialised accounting software. Cllrs discussed a similar situation whereby Llanhenock Village Hall invested in an online accounting software but actually found it was not appropriate to the needs of the Village Hall and thus reverted back to their old accounting methods. Therefore, Cllrs unanimously decided this was unnecessary for the accounts of the Community Council.

### Policy updates and Reports:

**246/270: Police Report:** The police report for October had not yet been received, Clerk to circulate to all Cllrs once received.

### Updates & Any Other Information:

**247/270: R106 Speed Reduction from Usk to Llangybi:** Clerk reported the informal consultation to remove the 60mph and the 30mph road speeds along the R106 from Llanbadoc to Llangybi had been issued within Llangybi Matters. These leaflets had been delivered to every doorstep within Llangybi Village. The informal consultation had been displayed in local noticeboards, the website and social media pages to help promote community engagement. Clerk to forward any feedback received to C.Cllr Bromfield.

**248/270: Llangybi Playground Project:** Clerk highlighted only one football goal had been installed at Llangybi Park as opposed to the two football goals that had been purchased by the local blacksmiths. Clerk to speak to C.Cllr Bromfield to find out when the second goal would be installed.

**249/270: Biodiversity Design Plans for Llangybi Park:** During the previous meeting some concerns were raised in consideration to the Biodiversity plans for Llangybi Park (Point 228, of October 2024). MCC Biodiversity have responded to these individually including:

- The additional fruit trees were to be planted in the LFCC area of the park so would not impact on the allotments.
- Presently, the holly hedge at the park had not been cut in the last 2 years (this issue needed to be addressed to MCC Ground Maintenance).
- The bramble undergrowth roots along the boundary (MCC Biodiversity reply bramble is a good habitat for wildlife)
- The proposed boggy area to address drainage: concerns raised for unsupervised children if an accident was to occur (health and safety is always important, and we would want the community backing for a wetland/scrape).
- The biodiversity funding must be spent by March 2025.

In addition, at the previous meeting community engagement was questioned by local residents. MCC have emphasised a leaflet door drop will be organised; advertising the survey to the immediate neighbours of the park. Clerk has offered to be a collection point for local residents to collect paper questionnaires and to advertise on noticeboards, website and social media pages and hopefully be included in a Llangybi Matters edition to provide a comprehensive coverage for promoting the consultation so all residents are able to access in their preferred format. MCC are working on the final biodiversity webpage which hopes to be released shortly.

**250/270: Llanhenock Cheshire Homes:** Cllr Statham had previously requested an update on the status of Llanhenock Cheshire Homes to C.Cllr Bromfield, reported in June 2024 (point 141/156). Cllrs believe the advertisement for the 34 rooms available to rent for singles or couples has been withdrawn. Cllr Statham had exchanged email with the Information officer at the start of the process who detailed that some residents were occupying the vacant building under the guardianship scheme. Clerk to chase C.Cllr Bromfield for an update and further confirmation on the number of residents residing at the site.

**251/270: Biodiversity in Churchyards Site Visit:** On the 31<sup>st</sup> October a site visit with OVW Local Places for Nature Officer Rachel Carter to the local churchyards of Llanhenock, Tredunock, Llandegfedd and Coed Y Paen took place. Each individual site was evaluated to see if the wildflower garden starter packages currently being offered by Keeping Wales Tidy would be a suitable candidate site. Rachel confirmed Llanhenock and Tredunock had suitable host locations for the raised beds. Clerk displayed the sites proposed by OVW officer. Clerk addressed the requirements needed for the application, these included:

- Names and contact details of two different people who will be involved in delivering the project (Cllr Statham and Cllr Hunt offered to provide contact details)
- Proof of a minimum five-year lease for the proposed site, or proof of landowner consent for the new garden for a five year period, as well as name and contact details of the landowner. (Clerk confirmed the diocese of the Church had provided permission but was awaiting letter of confirmation).

Next, Cllrs agreed the church wardens for both sites would need to agree before the application was submitted. Clerk to contact church wardens for Llanhenock and Tredunock.

**252/270: Creating A Community Place Plan Feedback:** Cllr Savidge had attended the OVW Training module during October and felt the course was aimed at much larger councils so not particularly useful to Llangybi Fawr Community Council. Therefore, Clerk had requested to change to an alternative OVW Training Module called Community Engagement Part Two to hopefully provide further assistance and advice on how to start the process of a Community Place Plan. Cllrs all unanimously agreed Clerk to attend the alternative training module.

**253/270: 2025 Meeting Dates:** Prior to the meeting Clerk had distributed a list of potential council meeting dates in the different village hall venues for 2025. These dates were the first Monday of every month excluding bank holidays. All Cllrs unanimously approved the proposed meeting dates for 2025.

**254/270: Smart Water Signage Permission:** Cllr Hunt had received the Smart Water Signs from Gwent Police and displayed them at the meeting. The signs required a large jubilee clip and Cllr Hunt highlighted these were likely to only fit around lampposts or road poles rather than telegraph poles. Clerk explained permission to display these signs was yet to be obtained due to difficulty locating the appropriate MCC officer. Furthermore, Cllrs proposed suggested sites for the Smart Water signs as Cllr Hunt had acquired 8 signs in total. Cllrs deliberated multiple sites but proposed these sites to host the Smart Water signs:

- Llanhenock Village Hall or on the entrance to Llanhenock on Llanhenock Hill.
- Turning off Treherbert Road into Llandegfedd village
- On entrance road or on St Andrew's Walk in Tredunock
- Parc Road, possibly opposite Parc Close

- Along Ton Road, possibly past the Chase
- Yns Lane, Llangybi
- Coed Y Paen, connecting road from Llandegfedd Reservoir

Cllrs recommended sending the list of proposed locations for the Smart Water Signs to MCC to hopefully identify that these signs were to deter theft within the ward. Clerk to email MCC Planning and C.Cllr Bromfield.

### **Local Matters Arising:**

**254/270: Christmas Tree celebration:** Following on from the previous meeting, the Christmas Tree idea was (point 231, October 2024) put forward to all Cllrs. Clerk announced Morris of Usk had generously offered to provide 5 6ft Christmas trees to the ward free of charge. Cllrs were extremely grateful for this generous offer and unanimously approved to accept the offer. Cllrs deliberated on potential locations for the 5 Christmas trees. The proposed sites included:

- Outside Llanhennock Church (pending approval of the Church Warden)
- Outside Coed y Paen Church (pending approval of the Church Warden)
- Outside Llangybi Village Hall (pending approval)
- In Llandegfedd village (placement to be confirmed by Cllr Savidge)
- In Tredunnoch Village (potentially outside the Church, pending approval of the Church Warden).

Clerk to contact relevant personnel and confirm with Morris' of Usk.

Chair Williams invited Cllrs to report any concerns within the ward that were yet to have arisen in the meeting.

**255/270: Flytipping waste on Treherbert Road:** Cllr Rogers stated that there was more flytipping on the layby just before the golf course on Treherbert Road. The domestic waste appeared to be MDF furniture including a desk cabinet. Clerk to report to MCC.

**256/270: Llandowlais Farm:** Concerns were raised with the additional development of 2 more agricultural buildings, one suggested as an animal shelter and the other a much larger building construction. Clerk to ask for follow up with C.Cllr Bromfield.

**257/270: Potholes on Llanhennock Hill:** Cllr Statham highlighted the pothole on Llanhennock Hill had reopened and was becoming significantly larger. Clerk to report to MCC.

**258/270: Potholes outside The Wheatsheaf pub, Llanhennock:** Cllr Statham also mentioned a shallow pothole forming just north of the pub. Clerk to report to MCC.

**259/270: Cwrt Bleddyn Hotel Lights:** Cllrs reported the overwhelming hotel lights back in March 2024 (point 68). Cllrs agree the individual lights reflected onto the hotel entrance sign require a hood or a deflector to stop the lights dazzling oncoming drivers on the main road. Clerk to email Cwrt Bleddyn and MCC.

**260/270: Usk Road Bollards:** Cllr Hunt had previously reported the barrier had dropped as a result of the collapsing bank catchment beneath (Point 126, May 2024). Cllrs agreed this was a hazardous area on the highways. Clerk to chase MCC highways for update.

**261/270: Overgrown hedge on St Cybi Avenue:** Cllr Hunt had received concerns in consideration to an overgrown hedge that was encroaching the pavement and causing residents to have to step onto the roadside in order to walk into St Cybi Avenue. Clerk to report to MCC highways.

**262/270: Overgrown Hot Poker Plant on Ton Road:** Similarly, Cllr Hunt reported the overgrown shrub had covered the pavement adjacent to the main road running through Llangybi on the corner of Ton Road. The overhanging shrub was affecting visually impaired residents' and their road safety as the rumble strips were no longer accessible due to the overgrown vegetation. Clerk to report to MCC highways.

**263/270: Overgrown Vegetation in Llangybi:** Likewise, Cllr Watts highlighted the overgrown vegetation on the pavement opposite The Oaks cul de sac (leaving Llangybi driving to Usk). Clerk to report to MCC Highways.

**264/270: Proposed pavement on Parc Road, Llangybi:** Cllr Hunt reiterated the dangerous corner on Parc Road adjacent to Barnfield Close where there is no pavement for residents to use. Residents had reported 2 cats had been knocked down in recent weeks. Therefore, Cllr Hunt proposed the 10m grassed verge strip to become pedestrianised so there is a continual pavement for residents on Parc Road. A local resident believes to be the owner of this strip of land and would be happy to sell in order to create a pavement. Clerk to report to C.Cllr Bromfield and MCC Highways.

**265/270: Misfunctioning Defibrillator in Llangybi:** Prior to the meeting Cllr Marshall reported the defibrillator in Llangybi was not operating correctly. Cllr Hunt offered to check the defibrillator to see if a new battery was required. Clerk to chase Jack's Appeal for outstanding defibrillator pads in Llanhennock and investigate replacement batteries for Llangybi Defibrillator.

## **Finances:**

**266/270: Smart Water Payment:** Clerk informed the CC that the cash raised from Smart Water sales had been deposited totalling £740.00. When the new Smart Water signs are displayed in the ward it is hoped the remaining pens will be sold to local residents.

**267/270: Cancellation of OVW Cheque July 2024:** Clerk stated the cheque sent to One Voice Wales (Point 177f, July 2024) had not been received. Clerk requested to cancel the uncashed cheque and CC to write a replacement cheque. Cllr Rogers emphasised there would be fees applied to carry out this request. Cllrs all agreed this was necessary. Clerk suggested to pay for signed/tracked delivery for the outstanding OVW invoice to be issued in November Meeting (Point 268e). Cllrs unanimously agreed. Clerk to pay for tracked delivery.

## **268/270: Raise cheques: the following cheques were raised:**

- a) Clerk Burdge Salary and Stamps for October £404.32 (proposed by Cllr Rogers; Seconded by Cllr Statham)
- b) Website Manager Salary for October £48.00 (proposed by Cllr Rogers; Seconded by Cllr Statham)
- c) Merlin Environmental Services for Dog waste collection for November £172.80 (proposed by Cllr Rogers; Seconded by Cllr Statham)
- d) Monmouthshire County Council Ground Maintenance contract £743.81 (proposed by Cllr Rogers; seconded by Cllr Statham)
- e) One Voice Wales- Cllr Savidge Training Module £40.00 (proposed by Cllr Rogers ; seconded by Cllr Statham)
- f) Caroline Watts for the Poppy Wreath in Llanybi £20.00 (proposed by Cllr Rogers; seconded by Cllr Statham).

**269/270: Bank Reconciliation:** Cllr Rogers agreed with the accounts prepared in advance of meeting, the bank reconciliation from October meeting was also signed at the meeting.

**270/270: Poppy Wreath on Remembrance Day:** Cllr Watts presented the CC with the invoice for the poppy wreath to be placed in Llanybi on Remembrance Day. Cllr Watts mentioned traditionally a Community Cllr and vicar place the wreath together at the Cenotaph at 11am on the 11<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Watts volunteered to represent the CC and place wreath for Remembrance Day.

**Meeting closed at 8.40pm**

**Date of Next Meeting :** Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 in Llanybi Village Hall at 7pm.

*All members of the public are welcome to attend meetings. If remote access is required, notify clerk in advance to arrange this. If any members of the public require to see these minutes in Welsh please contact the clerk: [k.burdge@llanybi.org](mailto:k.burdge@llanybi.org)*