

Minutes of General Meeting held on 8th December 2022

Present: Cllrs

Allan Morgans – Chair
Jac Armstrong – Vice Chair
Paul Sheldon
Amanda Curtis
Simon Grice
Margaret Narburgh – Clerk

Apologies:

None

Members of the Public:

Hugo Watts
Lyn Gibson

517. Apologies

None.

518. Meeting Open to the Public

Nothing brought to the council's attention.

519. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Morgans declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 1 under Part II of the agenda due to him being married to the clerk. Cllr Grice declared an interest in planning application ref 21/2022/0970 as this is his neighbour.

520. Approval of Minutes of General Meeting on 11th November 2022

Cllr Sheldon proposed accepting the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Cllr Curtis seconded and all councillors voted in favour.

521. Matters Arising from the meeting on 11th November 2022

325/c	Completed
388/4	Ongoing, Cllr Morgans attended a meeting with the AONB at the Huelog when it was decided a risk assessment was needed before the dangerous trees could be taken down. They also agreed to undertake a survey of this area in Spring 2023 with a view to clearing the fly tipped waste, restoring the area and improving biodiversity. Action: Cllr Morgans to obtain map of the Huelog and arrange meeting.
391/c	On agenda
434	Complete
448/3	Parts to be fitted to Tafarn y Gelyn bench in spring 2023
449	Complete
452	Ongoing
503	Complete
505	Completed 11/11/22
509	Completed 13/11/22
510	On agenda
511	Ongoing
512	Completed 23/11/22
515	Completed 11/11/22

522. Co-option of Councillors

Lyn Gibson attended the meeting following her expression of interest in becoming a councillor. Action: Clerk to follow up before the next meeting.

Mathew Davies has expressed an interest but was unavailable to attend this meeting. Action: Clerk to follow up before next meeting.

523. Councillor Payments

Action: Councillors to notify the clerk if they do not want to claim the allowance for 2022-23.

524. External Audits

The Welsh Audit office has still not issued their report for 2020-21. An officer has asked the Clerk to provide additional information for the 2021-22 audit which has been sent.

525. Correspondence List

1. Denbighshire CC's performance survey has been circulated to councillors for them to respond individually.
2. Mr Edwards has written to the council informing it that a metal gate covering the entrance to a deep mine shaft in Big Covert woods has been stolen. The clerk responded and suggested he report it to the police, which he has since confirmed he has.
3. Welsh Government has extended the deadline for completion of the external audit until end of November. The deadline has now passed but Audit Wales have still not completed their work.
4. Denbighshire CC informed the council that there are grants available for improving open spaces. The Chair investigated and found they were the commuted sums and Llanferres did not qualify.
5. Welsh Government have circulated details of the council tax premium to be applied to second homes.
6. The 2023-24 precept request form has been received. The clerk has completed and return it.
7. Welsh Government's section 137 letter has arrived stating the sum for 2023-24 is £9.93 per elector.
8. Welsh Government's consultation on development of Welsh speaking communities has been noted.
9. The Chair reported that the Internet connectivity report circulated by Denbighshire CC is out of date as fibre connection is available in Maeshafn and other areas.
10. Denbighshire CC will be surveying and removing trees with ash die back.
11. The Chair reported Denbighshire CC's link to recycling is an interesting read. Action: Clerk to create link to this document on the councils website.

526. 2023-25 Ground Care Contract

Four quotations have been received for a three year contract from 2023 to 2026.

1. £2866 for 2023/24 plus the average rate of inflation in October for the following two years.
2. £3445 for 2023/24 plus 6% inflation for the following two years.
3. £6800 for 2023/24, £7345 for 2024/25 and £7932.60 for 2025/26
4. £3759 for 2023/24 with no costs provided for the following two years.

Cllr Curtis proposed accepting the cheapest quote at £2866, Cllr Armstrong seconded and all councillors voted in favour. Action: Clerk to notify the contractors of the decision.

527. Planning Applications

21/2022/0970 – Cllr Grice did not take part in the discussion due to his personal interest. After due discussion councillors agreed to remain neutral but submit their observations regarding a lack of information on drainage arrangements for the additional bathroom, the effect of increased traffic movements if the property is split into three and the intended use of the additional properties. Action: Clerk to notify planning.

21/2022/0980 – Cllr Sheldon reported that he had been contacted by owners of neighbouring properties who have expressed concern over the donkey trekking business being open until 9pm, parking arrangements and potential noise from visitors and donkeys. After due discussion Councillors agreed to support the application subject to the neighbours' concerns being taken into consideration. Action: Clerk to notify planning.

528. Project Updates

- Maes Ysgawen Park – Cllr Morgans is progressing potential funding for the development of the park and improved access. Action: Cllr Morgans to keep the council informed of progress.
- The hedge laying along the boundary between Maes Ysgawen park and the school is complete and the Chair thanked White Oak Properties for chipping and recycling the debris under the hedge.

- The second information panel has been installed in Llanferres noticeboard.

529. Maintenance in the Community

White Oak Properties have completed the maintenance programme around the community assets and the stream in Maes Ysgawen park has been cleared of debris to prevent flooding.

530. Banking and Accounts

Cllr Sheldon reported an error in the accounts. The bill for paint is £26.35 but has been recorded in the accounts as £26.36. Action: Clerk to correct.

531. Payment of Bills and Invoices

The following bills were presented for authorisation to pay

1. AVOW – payroll invoice for December 2022	£467.60
2. HSBC – bank charges for November 2022	£5.40
3. Sean Thomas – paint for steps in Llanferres	£26.35
4. Pen Y Castell Coppice – hedge laying Maes Ysgawen park	£446.00
5. Currys – laptop for clerk	£519.00
6. Amazon – SD card reader for clerk’s laptop	£18.58
7. SLCC – 2023 annual membership renewal	£65.00
8. White Oak Properties – shredding of hedge trimmings	£180.00
9. Graphicology – second graphics panel for Llanferres noticeboard	£275.00
Total bills for payment	£2002.93

Cllr Curtis proposed all bills be paid, Cllr Sheldon seconded, and all Councillors voted in favour. Action: Clerk to pay all bills on the schedule.

532. Dates for 2023 Council Meetings

The clerk suggested continuing to meet on the second Thursday of each month, except August and councillors agreed. Action: Clerk to publish dates and book Llanferres village hall.

533. Other Matters brought to the Council’s Attention

1. Cllr Grice reported that he had met the publishers of News & Views and suggested they could consider setting up a Community Interest company to enable them to raise funds to cover the cost of producing the magazine.
2. Cllr Grice asked if the council could install a dog fouling bin in Llanferres. The Chair said it was something that could be done. Action: Cllr Grice to establish the need, where it should be located and in the first instance, progress it with County Councillor Huw Williams.
3. Cllr Grice asked about the installation of a pelican crossing on the A494 near the bus stops. Cllr Armstrong stated it was the responsibility of Highways Dept and he thought they would only consider it if there had been a least three serious accidents in the last five years. Cllr Armstrong had tried to have one installed a few years ago without success.
4. Cllr Grice stated his Keyhole grant application had been unsuccessful.
5. Cllr Morgans read out a letter received from Welsh Minister, Lee Waters, in response to concerns over road safety on the A494, particularly that this was now the only route into Snowdonia without average speed cameras and some motor cyclists are using the road as a race track. Copy of letter attached as Appendix A. It confirms the government is committed to improving road safety and takes account of local residents’ views; that Welsh Government is in the process of review speed limits in Wales and that flashing road signs are recommended for use on trunk roads as temporary installations. Action: Cllr

CYNGOR CYMUNED – LLANFERRES - COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Morgans to notify residents via News and Views and Sean Thomas and ask them to write to the minister themselves to increase the pressure on them to take action.

Cllr Morgans proposed closing the meeting to the public and moving to Part II on the agenda, Cllr Curtis seconded, and the public were asked to leave the meeting at 20.45 pm.

534. Part II

1. After due discussion it was agreed, the council would not respond to the letter from a resident's solicitor regarding the councils review of their vexatious classification.
2. Cllr Morgans handed over the Chair of the meeting to Cllr Armstrong and left the room whilst the Clerk's salary scale was reviewed.

Cllr Morgans proposed closing the meeting, Cllr Curtis seconded and the meeting was closed at 21.00 pm.

**The next General Meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 12th January 2023 at 7.30 pm
By Teams video conference facility.**

Signed: *Allan Morgans*

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Lee Waters AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Deputy Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref LW/02296/22

Cllr Allan Morgans
morgansallan@gmail.com

06 December 2022

Dear Allan,

Thank you for your letter of 24 November following my response to Daren Millar MS regarding the speed indicator signs along the A494 in Loggerheads and Llanbedr DC.

Improving road safety is a priority for Welsh Government and we are continuously working with local authorities, the police and other partners to identify locations where there is a need for road safety engineering measures. The views of local residents assist us in making informed decisions when sections of road are reviewed.

I can confirm that we are in the process of updating the Setting Local Speed Limits in Wales guidance and the work may see a change in the criteria for lower speed limits in Wales. Further details including an opportunity to comment on the existing guidance can be found [here](#). The Welsh Government will review the speed limits across the trunk road network, following publication of the guidance.

Turning to your request to make the 'flashing sign' permanent, Section 1.4.2 of our [policy](#) sets out that these signs are recommended for use on trunk road in temporary installations.

The Welsh Government routinely undertake speed surveys on the trunk road network and work closely with its partner GoSafe where enforcement is required to provide an appropriate solution. Criteria for average speed enforcement cameras is set out in Go Safe's site criteria [document](#).

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Lee.Waters@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lee.Waters@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Signed: *Allan Morgans*

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I would encourage you to address your concerns to Go Safe, the Road Safety Partnership, at <https://gosafe.org/contact-us/community-concern/>

Yours sincerely,

Lee Waters AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Deputy Minister for Climate Change