

LLANGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16th July 2025.

1. Present: Cllrs D Roberts (Chair), T Griffiths, H Williams, J Jones, C Atkins, J Starzewski, W James, County Cllr C Jones

2. Apologies: None

3. Minutes:

AGM – 21st May 2025

Proposed: Cllr H Williams

Seconded: Cllr C Atkins

Full Council – 21st May 2025

Proposed: Cllr C Atkins

Seconded: Cllr J Starzewski

Extraordinary meeting – 26th June 2025

Proposed: Cllr H Williams

Seconded: Cllr J Starzewski

At this point, the Chair suspended the meeting to welcome three members of the public to the meeting, asking them if they had anything specific that they wished to raise. All three confirmed that they were simply attending as observers. The Chair thanked them for coming and the meeting recommenced.

4. Attendance of PCSOs Sarah Thomas and Martin Dickenson from Dyfed Powys Police

2947 – The Chair welcomed the two officers, outlined the issues regarding speeding and road safety in the village and questioned how the Community Council could raise their concerns and request monitoring along the B4312. The officers were sympathetic to the issues and suggested using the Go Safe team at <https://www.gosafe.org/news/dyfed-powys/>. They explained that there is widespread concern about speeding throughout the county and that priority is given to areas where there have been incidents or where the number of complaints is highest. There is a process in place to determine whether to send a Go Safe van, place monitoring equipment on the road or introduce road safety measures. The Clerk will investigate reporting to Go Safe on behalf of the Council and endeavour to publicise this method to the community. A part of the Go Safe approach is a relatively new scheme called 'Op Snap' which allows dash cam footage to be uploaded. This has proven to be sufficient evidence to obtain a prosecution in some cases. Sarah agreed to email the Road Policing Unit on our behalf to see if they have any available resources to deploy in the village. She also said we can pass concerns to them via Cllr Carys Jones' informal monthly meeting with the police. Sarah and Martin were thanked for their time and they left the meeting at 7.30pm.

5. Matters Arising (not covered in separate agenda items)

2932 – Request for a bi-monthly meeting with the Memorial Hall Committee – Cllr Roberts reported that he and Cllr Starzewski had attended the meeting of the Memorial Hall Committee on 2nd July 2025. It had been a productive meeting. The redevelopment of the hall was progressing, with funding from various sources, including a substantial award from the UK SPF. They had engaged the services of a project manager and were now able to submit plans for an extension to the front of the building, in line with the UK SPF grant application. Whilst the hall committee didn't feel there was any immediate need for financial assistance from the Community Council, they were keen to engage and recognised the need for cooperation between all community groups for the benefit of the village.

2954 – The 2024/25 accounts were approved at an extraordinary meeting on 26th June 2025.

6. Correspondence

- Society of Local Council Clerks – The Clerk Magazine
- Clerks & Councils Direct magazine
- Email from Mrs Holly Barresi regarding play park equipment safety

Clerk responded with an update of the play park inspection and future of the equipment

- Email from Mary Tapp-Jones regarding lighting behind Maesyrawel, numbers 16-18.

Cllr James visited the area and reported he can understand the resident's concern. As he had only visited during daylight hours Cllrs Roberts and James will visit the site during darkness to assess. In the meantime, the Clerk will contact the highways department at Carmarthenshire County Council to try to find out what is deemed 'adequate' lighting for an area like this.

- Email from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding temporary road closure of C2079 on 21/07/25 – information displayed on both noticeboards.
- Email from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding proposed 20mph to 30mph speed limit increase on B4312

The Clerk will respond to the consultation confirming the Council's support for raising the speed limit to 30mph and emphasising their opinion that double white lines, to prevent overtaking, would be appropriate and the most effective way to improve road safety through the village.

Cllr Griffiths and Cllr T Jones both expressed their support for installing white village gateways.

Cllr Roberts will investigate the cost of a 'slow down' sign and Cllr Williams will get an up to date cost for the white village gateways. However, as both of these would be at the expense of the Community Council, consideration would need to be given to the impact on the budget.

- Other items of correspondence sent to Councillors since the last meeting, for information.

7. Planning Applications

2961 – **PL/09365** - First floor extension from a bungalow to a double story dwelling - Cefnglas, Heol Smyrna, Llangain, Carmarthen, SA33 5AB – no comments.

2962 – **PL/09545** - Variation of Conditions 2 on PL/04746 (List of approved plans) to facilitate amendments to the retaining wall and rear boundaries of Plots 25 - 27). - Land south of Dol Y Dderwen, Llangain, Carmarthen, SA33 5BE – no comments.

2963 – **PL/09575** - Extension to existing Memorial Hall to provide additional community room together with internal and external alterations to provide various community rooms and associated ancillary areas. Externally the south facing main roof will have PV panels and the lower existing pitched roofs will be replaced with flat roofs. The facades will be partly clad with timber to improve the overall appearance - Llangain Memorial Hall, Llangain, Carmarthen, SA33 5AE – the Clerk will write in support of this application.

8. Finance/Approval of Payments

2964 – The following payments were approved:-

Susan Holmes	£ 903.95	Clerk salary May/June
LHP Accountants	£ 204.00	Internal audit for 2024/25 accounts
A W Matthews	£ 37.00	Chairman collar bar
Jamie King	£ 161.00	Web hosting, Aug 25 – Jul 26
Cllr H Williams	£ 3.50	Sewing on of Chairman name bar
Cllr D Roberts	£ 11.50	Wine for 95 th birthday celebrations – Alan Ellis of Ger-y-Capel

9. Finance/Budget Monitoring

2965 – The Clerk shared the schedule for statutory activities as itemised in the budget. Cllr Roberts asked for Councillors to step forward and take responsibility for organising the spending of the discretionary activities and the following was agreed:

Donations – Finance and Planning sub-committee will bring a draft policy paper to the September meeting, after considering the policies adopted by other community councils and which options would best suit our needs. The Council to adopt their preferred option at the September meeting.

Seasonal decorations – Cllr Williams

Communications Plan – Finance and Planning sub-committee

Maintenance programme – Llangain Park sub-committee

Safety Item - Play Park self closing gate – Llangain Park sub-committee

Safety Item - Renew "dogs on Lead" sign – Llangain Park sub-committee

It was agreed that all papers relating to the full council meeting will now be sent to Councillors fourteen days prior to the meeting. The Clerk asked Councillors to send her relevant papers no later than 24 hours before this date.

10. Reports from Sub-committees

- a) **Llangain Park** – Cllr Starzewski presented draft terms of reference for the sub-committee. The were proposed for adoption by Cllr Atkins and seconded by Cllr Williams.

The process of establishing ownership of the land is ongoing; a meeting planned with UTK Solicitors on 11th August and Cllr Roberts has written to Carmarthenshire County Council to progress the lease on the remaining land.

Discussion took place about the £5k from Pobl Group Ltd. It was suggested that this could be spent on a temporary refurbishment of the existing play park equipment/area. Cllr James proposed that we contact Ysgol Llangain PTA, trying to engage parents in helping to look after the area going forwards. The Clerk also mentioned having been told about Carmarthenshire County Council investigating 'alternative' play equipment, using everyday objects to enhance imaginative play. She will investigate this further and give details to the sub-committee.

Mr Shane O'Neil, from Church House Farm Getaways, offered to donate and erect fencing and a self-closing gate to enclose the area, keeping it free from dog fouling.

- b) **Business/Finance Planning** – Cllr Starzewski presented draft terms of reference for the sub-committee. The were proposed for adoption by Cllr Atkins and seconded by Cllr Williams.

He talked about a '5 year horizon'; no longer thinking from just year to year. It is important to plan; what will we do and when will we do it?

Both sub-committees would meet again within the next week.

11. County Councillor's Report

County Cllr Jones reported that there was a fundraising event taking place at Ysgol Llansteffan on Thursday 17th July between 4pm and 7pm, to which all Councillors were invited. This event will support the entire Ffederasiwn Ysgolion Bancyfelin, Llangain a Llansteffan and highlight the special location of the latter.

12. Any Other Business

2958 – Ditches in the Lletyrneuadd Road – Cllr J Jones had been contacted by Ian Thomas from Carmarthenshire County Council and this issue was then promptly resolved. The Clerk will write to thank Ian.

2966 – Cllr Williams reported to Carmarthenshire County Council that streetlight 721/20, at the entrance to Vicarage Wold and Parsons Lea (next to School House), is obscured by a tree.

2967 – Cllr James reported to Carmarthenshire County Council (i) the missing Stop sign and (ii) the other Stop sign facing the wrong way on the square. Cllr Williams reported that the 'slippery road' sign under the Vehicle Activated Speed sign by the chapel graveyard wall was also turned.

2968 – Cllr Williams reported that, sadly, both the village noticeboards had been vandalised, with the lock covers having been forcibly removed. Previously, magnets had been removed, but this incident was much more serious. Cllr Atkins had also looked at this and felt that it was important to note that this would have required equipment and some force to accomplish and it should therefore be treated as criminal damage. County Cllr C Jones will report this incident at her monthly meeting with PCSO Sarah Thomas from Dyfed Powys Police.

2969 – Mrs Bonnie O'Brien, from Church House Farm Getaways, reported that both passing places between Neuadd Cain and Yr Hen Eglwys in Church Road had now become so overgrown and unkempt that they were no longer functional. She said that she had contacted the County Council but had been told that there was a rare orchid in the hedgerow that meant they could not be cut back. County Cllr C Jones said that she would go and look at them and take this matter forward with the County Council on Mrs O'Brien's behalf.

2970 – Cllr Roberts proposed that future meetings take place at an earlier time of the day. After some discussion about accessibility for potential new Councillors and members of the public, it was agreed to start future meeting at 6pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 17th September 2025 at **6pm**

LLANGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Thursday 26th June 2025.

Present: Cllrs D Roberts (Chair), J Starzewski, H Williams

This meeting was called specifically to approve the 2024/25 accounts in order to meet the timeline set by Audit Wales.

The Clerk had distributed the 2024/25 Annual Return to all Councillors, via email, before the meeting.

The Clerk was thanked for her work preparing the accounts and their approval was proposed by Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Starzewski and agreed by all present.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 16th July 2025