

LLANGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18th March 2026

Present: Cllrs D Roberts (Chair), Haydn Williams, Wayne James, John Starzewski

1. Apologies: Cllrs John Jones, Carl Atkins, Terry Griffiths

2. Declarations of Interest: Cllr James has a personal interest in the raised plateau (2972)

3. Minutes: Proposed as correct by Cllr Haydn Williams and seconded by Cllr Wayne James

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

2968 – Vandalised thumb locks on the two noticeboards – Cllr Atkins no present, defer to next meeting

2971 – Clerk sent another email regarding what is ‘adequate’ – no response. Issue now closed.

2972 – Traffic calming measures in Llangain – meeting took place on 23rd February; present – Cllrs Roberts, Griffiths, James, County Cllr C Jones and Martin Owen from Carmarthenshire County Council. Martin Owen took on board Councillors concerns and subsequently provided an amended plan to reflect his solution. Map distributed detailing updated proposal (Appendix 1). Consultation now closed, plateau will proceed – following on from the meeting Martin Owen agreed:

- Satellite island and hatch markings on the radius turning south into Maesyrawel
- Remove grassed area to provide extended area for the bus to pull up safely away from the junction along with a new tactile paving crossing
- 2 new driver feedback signs
- CCC will investigate feasibility of installing white gateway gates

Clerk will write to Martin Owen to confirm:

- Contractor will be contacted to repair existing speed signs
- Extension of paved area – Smyrna junction
- Alteration of driver behaviour amendments will be implemented
- Roundels with speed and dragons’ teeth on plateau
- Investigate possible widening of carriageway
- Siting of another plateau on the Carmarthen side isn’t possible, due to budget constraints
- When undertaking the plateau design CCC didn't undertake a noise impact assessment

There will be a review of the outcome of traffic calming measures some months after installation. No date for commencement given but funds available this financial year.

2975 – The HR sub-committee – Meeting needed – Cllr Roberts will email Cllr Atkins to organise. Cllr Roberts will temporarily step in for Cllr Griffiths. If unsuccessful, external support will be investigated.

2983 – Fernhill – response from Llangynog agreeing to an initial meeting, no further response from Llansteffan. County Cllr C Jones will organise a Teams meeting with Nell Hellier, Senior Heritage Officer from Carmarthenshire County Council. Cllrs Williams and Starzewski will attend.

2984 – Biodiversity Plan – Draft plan for comment (Appendix 2)

Draft Biodiversity Action Plan was presented by Cllr Strazewski. He requested input from councillors to finalise the plan. The plan would be over a 2-3 year period and not all recommendations would be implemented immediately, the timing of any implementation would be subject to resource availability.

2993 – Role of Place Plan – Cllr Roberts awaiting paperwork from Carmarthenshire County Council.

2991 – Electronic banking – Cllr Roberts now a bank signatory. Online banking applied for.

5. Correspondence

- Society of Local Council Clerks – The Clerk Magazine
- Clerks & Councils Direct magazine
- Donation requests – under FINANCE
- Email from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding replacement of Hall bus shelter
- Other items of correspondence sent to Councillors since the last meeting, for information.

6. Planning Applications

None

7. Finance

a) Approval of payments

Susan Holmes	£ 388.98	Clerk salary January
Susan Holmes	£ 388.98	Clerk salary February
Susan Holmes	£ 374.15	Clerk salary March
HMRC	£ 383.92	PAYE/NI Jan, Feb, Mar (DD)
Society of Local Council Clerks	£ 80.00	Membership
Llangynog Community Council	£ 250.00	Contribution to Defibrillator
One Voice Wales	£ 126.00	Membership
Dean Thomas (Post Office)	£ 122.50	Subsidy payment – February 2026
Dean Thomas (Post Office)	£ 140.00	Subsidy payment – March 2026
Llangain Memorial Hall	£ 220.00	Hall hire May 25 to Mar 26
Cllr Wayne James	£ 156.00	Councillors Allowance 25/26
Llangain Memorial Hall (Hwb)	£ 110.00	Donation
Llangain Memorial Hall	£ 300.00	Donation
Llangain Bowls Club	£ 250.00	Donation
Capel Smyrna	£ 300.00	Donation
Ysgol Llangain PTA	£ 300.00	Donation
Urdd Gobaith Cymru	£ 100.00	Donation
Carmarthenshire YFC	£ 75.00	Donation
Carmarthenshire County Council	£1383.26	Street lighting
Carmarthenshire County Council	£ 85.00	Play park inspection

RESOLVED to approve all payments

b) 2025/26 Finance Report & Budget Monitoring

Report presented – expenditure in line with budget. Underspend noted but with clear plan to spend in 2026/27. Extra Clerk hours to enable implementation of plans.

c) Donations

Requests for donations have been received from the following organisations:

	Requested	Awarded
Llangain Hwb	£110.00	£110.00
Llangain Memorial Hall	£300.00	£300.00

Llangain Bowls Club	£250.00	£250.00
Smyrna Chapel	£300.00	£300.00
Ysgol Llangain PTA	£130.00 - £300	£300.00
Urdd Fund for All	£230.00	£100.00
Carmarthenshire YFC	Unspecified	£ 75.00

It was **RESOLVED** to agree to all of the above.

d) Update on 2026/27 Budget

- Defibrillators – cheque sent to Llangynog Community Council for £250
- Hall Bus Shelter – update received from Carmarthenshire County Council – unlikely to receive any funding from them. Review in second half of financial year.
- Dol y Dderwen Bus Stop – Clerk to ask Martin Owen from Carmarthenshire Council if creation of hardstanding alongside no.2 Dol y Dderwen can be added to scheduled works and invoiced to Llangain Community Council.
- Hedges & Grass Cutting in the park – Work undertaken free of charge - thanks to Cllr Griffiths. **RESOLVED** to transfer £1000 budget to additional support to the PTA to fund play park equipment.
- Supporting PTA with play park equipment – Now £5k from Pobl plus £3500 from Community Council, giving a total budget of £8500 for equipment this year.
- Support for part time Post Office in Llangain – funding agreement signed by Dean Thomas and Clerk (Appendix 3) - payments started in February 2026 in line with the proposal.

e) 2024/25 Audit (Full)

Audit opinion – Qualified

Basis of Qualification – The Council did not provide payslips to support the clerk's pay during the 24/25 financial year, therefore Audit Wales are unable to conclude that the balance in Staff Costs is accurately reported.

Other recommendations:

Clerks hours unclear, recommend contracted hours are reviewed – Clerk now to be paid through PAYE. Clerks hours include holiday accrual.

Auditor identified one transaction not approved at Full Council – not enough detail given to check, recommended full schedule of payments at each Council meeting – The Clerk recommended the adoption of dedicated accounting software to enhance financial reporting and streamline processes.

Precept not reported as gross sum in minutes – minutes now corrected on website and noted for future minutes.

Insufficient evidence for one S137 payment, recommended full record of remittance advices, invoices and correspondence for each transaction – see above re. accounting software.

Councillors wished to note their disappointment that no effort was made by Audit Wales to clarify or obtain any of the information upon which the Audit Qualification or Other Recommendations were made.

RESOLVED to purchase Scribe Accounts Software

f) Councillors allowances

Of those present, Cllr James accepted £156 allowance and Cllrs Roberts, Starzewski and Williams signed opt out forms.

8. Reports from Sub-committees

a) Llangain Park

Cllrs Roberts and James had a productive meeting with Carmarthenshire County Council regarding lease; negotiations are ongoing and legal advice will be needed to complete. Main issues are fencing, however this would prevent cutting of hedges, and locking of gate outside of school hours.

Cllrs Roberts and Starzewski met with UTK Solicitors regarding land registration – new approach to transfer of land from old Sports & Recreation committee. Cllrs Roberts and Williams will work together to contact executors of previous trustees.

Meeting to be arranged with Ysgol Llangain PTA for 10am, Friday 27th March.

New pedestrian gate to be fitted at park entrance before erecting dog fouling signs. Cllr James will work with County Cllr C Jones on bi-lingual signage.

b) Business/Financial Planning

Biodiversity Plan will be incorporated into the overall business planning.

c) Human Resources

Meeting urgently required (see above)

9. County Councillor's Report

Pre-election restrictions start next week.

The Llansteffan & District Tourism Association has been revived; this could be useful in future plans for Fernhill.

A more detailed Precept document will be sent direct to all Community Councils from next year.

10. Any Other Business

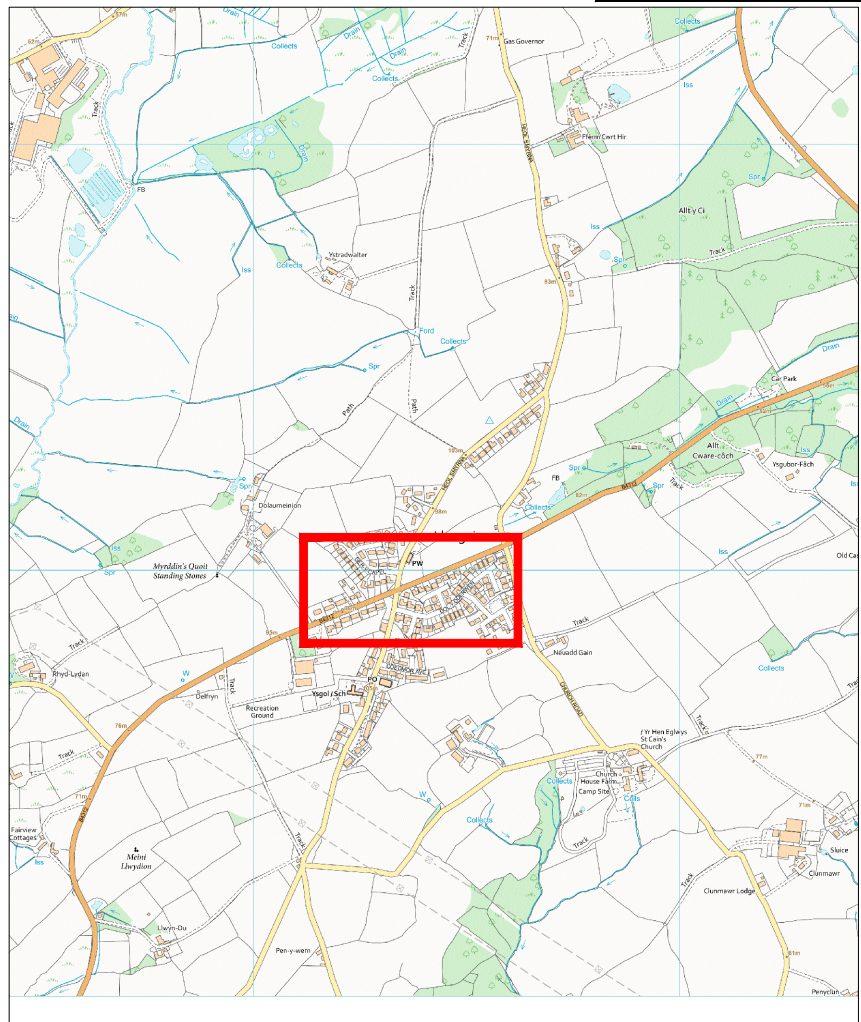
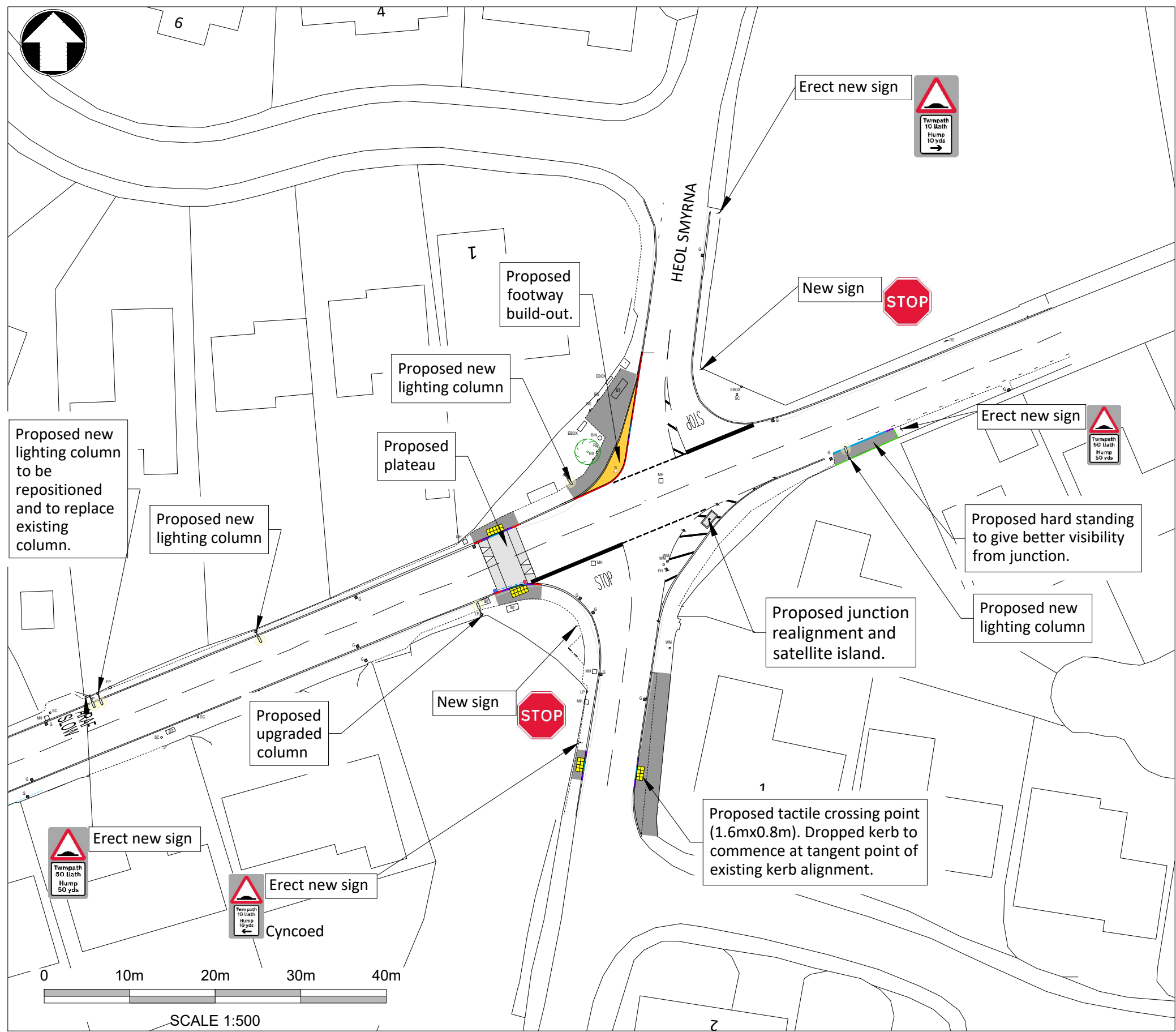
2994 – Cllr Williams suggests having just one of the two new signs, facing the crossroads and its height lowered to those for Coedmor Avenue and Maesyrwel. He also suggested the damaged sign for Heol Smyrna against the chapel wall be removed.

2995 – Cllr Williams reported that he had given the Visitor Information Panel its first wash of the year.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20th May 2026 at 6pm

Appendix 1

Map



LOCATION PLAN

GRID REF: 238322/215946
POSTCODE: SA33 5AQ

© Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata
2026 Arolwg Ordans AC0000810849
© Crown copyright and database rights 2026
Ordnance Survey AC0000810849

REV	DATE	REVISION DESCRIPTION	REV BY	CHECKED	DATE CHD
Status CONSULTATION ISSUED FOR THE PURPOSE SHOWN ONLY					
Made By	Date	Checked	Date	Authorised	Date
ME	04/03/26	SNG	09/03/26	VP	09/03/26
Scale			Project no.		
1:500			80/0041/365		
Drawing no.			Revision		
CC-01			-		

Appendix 2

Biodiversity Plan

March 2026

Biodiversity Action Plan Llangain.

As a Council we are obliged to prepare a biodiversity action plan (BAP).

Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, public authorities have a legal duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience. The Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) for Wales is the nation's primary biodiversity strategy, aimed at reversing biodiversity loss through habitat restoration, and strengthening ecosystem resilience.

We have a draft plan for discussion and council members are invited to comment.

To help in this process the key goals of the Welsh Government have been outlined below

Key Goals:

- **30 by 30 Initiative:** A commitment to protecting 30% of land, freshwater, and sea for nature by 2030.
- **Ecosystem Resilience:** Building resilience into habitats and species to cope with climate change.
- **Mainstreaming Biodiversity:** Integrating biodiversity considerations into all decision-making, including land use and development planning.
- **Implementation & Action:** The plan is driven by the Wales Biodiversity Partnership and supported by Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs). Organizations, such as Transport for Wales and Public Health Wales, have their own tailored action plans, often focusing on enhancing biodiversity on their own land.
- **Legal Duty:** Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, public authorities have a legal duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience.

Community & Town Councils

Biodiversity Action Plan

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6 The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

Name of Community & Town Council:	Llangain Community Council	
Council type (Group 1, 2 or 3 for NRAP Objectives):	2	
Introduction and Context		

Llangain is a village and community in Carmarthenshire, in the south-west of Wales. Located to the west of the River Towy and south of the town of Carmarthen The community contains three standing stones, and two chambered tombs as well as the ruins of a15th century great house, Green Castle (Castell Moel). In 2011 the community's population was recorded at 573. The precept for Llangain is £83.05 for a band D household.

The Council has an important role in encouraging the awareness of biodiversity in the area it covers and will engage in community involvement, particularly with the school PTA. It is also assessing grant funding opportunities to support community activities relating to Biodiversity.

We will establish a series of initiatives in the community that engages people of all ages in gathering information on populations of plants and animals via a citizen science movement in the community.

NRAP Objective	Biodiversity objectives	Action planned	Time scale	Monitored by:
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1	-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	Incorporate Biodiversity as a part of the Llangain Corporate Plan and ensure that biodiversity related actions are reviewed annually by the full council. Establish an annual biodiversity budget. Assign a councillor to oversee all biodiversity activities Create a sub committee drawn from community members that meets regularly (quarterly) to monitor activities and define any new initiatives needed together with their expected costs.	Presented to the Council by March 2026	
	-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	Once established the newly established community sub committee will: • Place a series of three biodiversity articles on Llangain website. • Create a programme of biodiversity activities that take place on a regular basis • Engage with PTA of Llangain school to raise funding for activities relating to biodiversity. • Deploy signage on biodiversity including links to the Community council website • In co-operation with teaching staff, have pupils at Llangain school create murals for the park area. • Run an educational session with WWBIC, open to the community, on species identification • Seek community involvement in supporting this plan	April through December 2026	
2	-safeguard principal species and habitats	Publicise the importance of the preservation of wild areas in gardens, road verges, hedges and field margins on the Llangain website and by noticeboard announcements.		



3	-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	The Council will take an active role in establishing a biodiversity programme in the local playing field (which is in the process being adopted by the Council) by : • Installing bug hotels in the playing field. • Placing nesting boxes. • Create of a wet area in the playing field margin to encourage amphibians and insects to establish sustainable populations. • Implementing a planting plan for native species of wild flowers. • Establish a mowing plan that reconciles biodiversity with park utility as a recreation area. • Encouraging litter and dog fouling removal. • Preserving wild areas of the playing field. • Planting heritage fruit trees. • Place planting boxes around the village.	2026 - 2029	
4	-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	Assess the prevalence of non- native invasive species by a survey of the area. Work with WWBIC on methodology		
5	-use, improve, and share evidence	Establish a citizen science programme with the help of WWBIC to create a reporting mechanism for sightings of plants and animals which is placed on the Llangain website		
6	-support capacity and/or other organisations	Liaise with WWBIC and OVW on expansion of the above initiatives Investigate sources of grant funding for biodiversity projects		

Annual review of the Biodiversity Action Plan		Date reviewed:	
What has worked well?			
What have the barriers been?			
What will you change?			

Next review due:	January 2027
Approved by Council on:	

Cynghorau Cymuned a Thref Cynllun Gweithredu Bioamrywiaeth

Deddf yr Amgylchedd (Cymru) 2016 Rhan 1 – Adran 6 Y Ddyletswydd Bioamrywiaeth a Chydnerthedd Ecosystemau

Enw'r Cyngor Tref neu Gymuned:	
Math o gyngor (Grŵp 1,2, neu 3 ar gyfer amcan NRAP)	
Cyflwyniad a'r Cyd-destun	
<i>Disgrifiad byr o'r Cyngor, ei swyddogaethau a'r cyd-destun o ran:</i> - <i>sut y gallai helpu bioamrywiaeth (trwy ei swyddogaethau rheoli tir, cyllid grant, gweithgareddau addysgol e.e.).</i> - <i>graddfa ofodol a lle (e.e. faint o dir mae'n ei gynnwys, poblogaeth, praesept?).</i> - <i>cyflawni gwasanaethau i'r cyhoedd (e.e. a yw gofynion Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol yn berthnasol iddo?).</i>	

Amcan NRAP	Amcan Bioamrywiaeth	Camau arfaethedig	Graddfa amser	Wedi eu monitro gan:
1	-cynnwys bioamrywiaeth o fewn llunio penderfyniadau a chaffael			
	-codi ymwybyddiaeth o fioamrywiaeth a'i bwysigrwydd			



2	-diogelu prif rywogaethau a chynefinoedd			
3	-adfer & chreu cynefinoedd a rhwydweithiau ecolegol cydnerth			
4	-mynd i'r afael ag elfennau negyddol: lleihau llygredd e.e. defnyddio atebion yn seiliedig ar natur, mynd i'r afael â rhywogaethau goresgynnol			
5	-defnyddio gwella a rhannu tystiolaeth			
6	-cefnogi capasiti a/neu sefydliadau eraill			

Adolygiad blynyddol o'r Cynllun Gweithredu Bioamrywiaeth		Dyddiad yr adolygiad:	
Beth sydd wedi gweithio'n dda?			
Beth fu'r rhwystrau?			

Beth fyddwch yn ei newid?	
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Dyddiad yr adolygiad nesaf:	
Cymeradwywyd gan y Cyngor ar:	



Group	Description of organisation relative to biodiversity. Organisations:	Minimum Actions	Examples	NRAP objectives for Action Reporting (see template Annex 1)
1	- that own or occupy an office building only and - whose functions are not directly connected to biodiversity and/or land management.	Actions related to buildings management, procurement, sustainability, awareness raising, training, or in partnership with other organisations	Commissions, DVLA	NRAP objectives 1, 4, 6
2	- that own, occupy or manage land their own buildings and grounds, - whose functions are connected with biodiversity and/or land management, or - that can influence those who own or manage land.	As per Group 1 above PLUS grounds management, cascading funding criteria, providing education and training	Public Health Wales, Universities, Sport Wales	NRAP objectives 1,4,6 as above NRAP objectives 2, 3, 5 relating to own grounds
3	that own or manage land beyond their own grounds, whether their functions are connected with biodiversity and/or land management or not.	As per Groups 1 and 2 above PLUS land management to maintain and enhance biodiversity, and promote the resilience of ecosystems.	Dŵr Cymru, Local Authorities, NRW, Welsh Government	All NRAP objectives

The **Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales (NRAP)** sets out six objectives for reversing the decline of biodiversity which should be used to help develop and guide actions to comply with the section 6 duty:

The **6 objectives** to maintain and enhance biodiversity are:

- Objective 1:** Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels
- Objective 2:** Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management
- Objective 3:** Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation
- Objective 4:** Tackle key pressures on species and habitats
- Objective 5:** Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring
- Objective 6:** Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery



Grŵp	Disgrifiad o sefydliad mewn perthynas â bioamrywiaeth Sefydliadau:	Camau Gweithredu Sylfaenol	Enghreifftiau	Amcanion NRAP ar gyfer Adrodd ar gamau Gweithredu (Gweler Templedi)
1	- sy'n berchen neu'n meddiannu adeilad swyddfa yn unig - ac nad yw eu swyddogaethau'n gysylltiedig yn uniongyrchol â bioamrywiaeth a/neu reoli tir.	Camau sy'n gysylltiedig a rheoli adeiladau, caffael, cynaliadwyedd, codi ymwybyddiaeth, hyfforddiant, neu mewn partneriaeth â sefydliadau eraill.	Comisynau, DVLA	Amcanion NRAP: 1, 4, a 6
2	- sy'n berchen yn meddiannu neu'n rheoli eu adeiladau a'u tir eu hunain, - y mae eu swyddogaethau'n gysylltiedig a bioamrywiaeth a/neu reoli tir, neu - sy'n gallu dylanwadu ar y rhai sy'n berchen ar dir neu'n rheoli tir.	Fel Grŵp 1 uchod A rheoli tir, rhaeadru meini prawf cyllido, darparu addysg a hyfforddiant	Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru, Prifysgolion, Chwaraeon Cymru	Amcanion NRAP: 1,4, a 6 <i>fel uchod +</i> Amcanion NRAP: 2, 3, a 5 <i>yn ymwneud â thir y sefydliad</i>
3	sy'n berchen ar dir neu'n rheoli tir y tu hwnt i'w tir eu hunain, waeth a yw eu swyddogaethau'n gysylltiedig â bioamrywiaeth a/neu reoli tir ai peidio.	Fel Grwpiau 1 a 2 uchod A rheoli tir er mwyn cynnal a gwella bioamrywiaeth, a hyrwyddo cydnheredd ecosystemau.	Dŵr Cymru, Awdurdodau Lleol, CNC, Llywodraeth Cymru	Holl amcanion NRAP: 1,2,3,4,5 a 6

Mae **Cyllun Gweithredu Adfer Natur Cymru (NRAP)** yn gosod chwe amcan ar gyfer gwrthdroi dirywiad bioamrywiaeth a dylid eu defnyddio i helpu i ddatblygu ac arwain gweithredoedd i gydymffurfio â dyletswydd adran 6:

Y **6 amcan** i gynnal a gwella bioamrywiaeth yw:

- Amcan 1:

Ymgysylltu a chynorthwyo cyfranogi a dealltwriaeth er mwyn gwreiddio bioamrywiaeth ledled y penderfyniadau a wneir ar bob lefel
- Amcan 2:

Diogelu'r rhywogaethau a'r cynefinoedd pwysicaf, a gwella'r modd y'u rheolir
- Amcan 3:

Cynyddu cydnheredd ein hamgylchedd naturiol trwy adfer cynefinoedd a ddiraddiwyd, a chreu cynefinoedd
- Amcan 4:

Mynd i'r afael â'r pwysau allweddol sydd ar rywogaethau a chynefinoedd
- Amcan 5:

Gwella ein tystiolaeth, ein dealltwriaeth a'n systemau monitro
- Amcan 6:

Sefydlu fframwaith llywodraethu a chymorth ar gyfer cyflenwi