

# Cyngor Cymuned Carreghafa Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
at Llanymynech Village Hall

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL RATIFIED BY THE  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING ON 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025**

Present:

Cllr R Dover (Chair)  
Cllr J Fynes  
Cllr. F James  
Cllr C Jones  
Cllr C Savage  
Cllr. I Done

In attendance:

Mr M. Donkin Clerk.  
1 member of the general public.

## **1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Hall and County Cllr Arwel Jones

## **2. To record Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda**

None

## **3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February were amended to include the Clerk's name on the list of those present and then agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Fynes, seconded by Cllr James and approved unanimously.

## **4. Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

## **5 Finance**

### 5.1. Current position

The clerk had circulated papers which confirmed that the Council's accounts as at Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025 were as follows:-

Deposit account:     £ 10759.48.  
Current account:     £ 608.47  
Pension account     £ 75.65

### 5.2 Appointment of Internal Auditor

The Clerk said that the Council has for many years used JDH Business Services as its internal auditor. In view of the satisfactory service that the Council has always received, he recommended that JDH be invited to act of internal auditor for 2025/ 26. This was agreed.

### 5.3. Approval of Payments

Approval was sought for the following payment as listed in the papers for the meeting: -

- Llanymynech Village Hall - Rent of room for February 2025 meeting - £24.00
- To Cllr Savage – purchase of Graffiti Remover - £13.00
- M. I & T. e. M. Pritchard - Additional works in grounds maintenance contract - £900.00 (£750 + VAT £150)
- M. I & T. e. M. Pritchard - Grounds Maintenance Contract 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter - £966.00 (£805 + VAT £161)

These were approved unanimously.

### **6. Planning**

There were no planning applications for consideration this month.

### **7. Other Matters**

#### 7.1. Montgomery Canal Development Project

The Chairman gave an update on progress. He said that there had been a lot of activity, including grounds clearance, but he was uncertain when the actual construction work would commence. The Canal & Rivers Trust (CRT) had been granted an extension for the project and the funding is secured. He queried the possibility of disruption when power lines had to be moved but Cllr Fynes said, from his own experience, that the work should be done in half a day.

#### 7.2. Green Gen Cymru Vyrnwy Frankton Project - Official consultation.

The Clerk had circulated as part of the papers for the meeting the response by Llanymynech & Pant Parish Council to an earlier informal consultation.

Cllr Fynes said that it was a very detailed document. However, Council generally considered that since that time the company had listened to representations and had made changes to their plans. The route had been altered and the pylons themselves were not as large as had been stated.

Cllr Fynes said that there was a case for additional electricity and this has to be transferred from the source (wind farms etc.) to the national grid. He also said that people living in close proximity to the pylons would receive a £250 discount on their electricity for a period of 10 years.

The Council's preference would be for the cables to be underground but recognised that the costs would be very much larger if this happened. It was agreed that the Council should take a pragmatic approach; while it supports the concerns raised by the Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council response it recognises the necessity to provide extra electricity to the grid.

It was agreed that the Chairman would draft a response in this way and send it to the Clerk for submission to Green Gen Cymru.

**ACTION: Chairman then Clerk**

#### **Post meeting note;**

**The Chairman forwarded the response as set out below which the Clerk sent to Green Gen Cymru on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

**Re: Green Gen Vyrnwy Frankton Connection Application  
Scoping Opinion Consultation Response from Carreghofa Community Council**

Carreghofa Community Council wishes to provide the following formal response to the consultation regarding the Green Gen Vyrnwy Frankton Connection. This response has been developed following involvement in local consultative events, consideration of plans as they have developed since the original proposal, taking into account all feedback received from residents of the Carreghofa community in recent months.

- In general we recognise the necessity for this connection to be established, and that it is needed to support sustainable upgrading of the national electricity supply network.
- We continue to have concerns about the impact of the proposed line on the environment in the Carreghofa area. It is an area which is rich in historic and natural resources, and the proposed line will continue to have a negative impact on this attractive rural community.
- Our preference would have been that the proposed line should be installed underground, thus minimising visual impact on the rural environment, but we recognise that there would have been prohibitive cost implications to this.
- The scale and visual impact of the proposed line has been reduced since the original proposals were put forward, the size of pylons has been reduced, and the location of the proposed pylons has been reviewed in response to resident feedback. We appreciate, therefore, that the proposals have been refined to take into account local feedback and sensitivities over an extended period.
- We will continue to monitor and review the development of these proposals as they move to subsequent stages, and remain concerned that any immediate and longer term impact on our community is kept to a minimum

Carreghofa Community Council  
March 2025

### 7.3 Open Spaces Assessment

Powys County Council is undertaking a review of the Open Space Assessment (OSA), last updated in 2018. Council noted the spaces listed in the table in the papers for the meeting.

The Clerk said that as the existing assessment had listed places on the English side of the village he had written to the Clerk of Llanymynech & Pant Parish Council asking for any comments. The LL&PC clerk had suggested including the Llanymynech Heritage Limeworks site where there is the large woodland area and also a pond (Gill Poole's pool).

He also suggested the inclusion of the Rockwell Wildflower Meadow which is at the end of Rockwell Lane.

Council agreed to include the Heritage Limeworks site but felt that as the Rockwell Wildflower meadow was in Pant this should not be included.

The listing of the 'Orchard Green Playground' was amended to Walls Bridge Playground and the green spaces in Tan-y-Foel and Cae Haidd were added.

The Clerk was asked to forward the Council's additions and amendments to Powys County Council

**ACTION: Clerk**

**Post meeting note: Sent 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

#### 7.4. Defibrillator

The Clerk reported that no further information has been received from Calon Hearts.

#### 7.5 Membership of Outside Bodies

##### 7.5.1. One Voice Wales

Council agreed to remain a member of One Voice Wales for the year 2025 / 26.

**ACTION: Clerk**

##### 7.5.2. PAVO

Council noted the offer from the Powys Association of Voluntary Organisation for Carreghofa Community Council to become a member. The Clerk pointed out that membership for the Council is free of charge and Cllr Savage felt that this may well be a useful source of information.

Council agreed that it would become a member.

**ACTION: Clerk**

#### 7.6. Donation Requests

##### 7.6.1. Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal

Cllr Fynes recognised that Marie Curie does much good work but that it also receives grants from central government. He felt that the Council should concentrate its efforts on local charities.

Council decided that it would not donate to this appeal.

##### 7.6.2. SSAFA

For similar reasons as those above for Marie Curie the Council decided against donating to SSAFA.

#### Social media activity for the Council (standing item)

In the absence of Cllr Parry this item was deferred to the next meeting. Some concern was expressed that the website was not up to date and the Chairman said that he would speak to Cllr Parry about this.

**ACTION: Chairman**

### **8. Amenities**

#### 8.1.1 Walls Bridge Playground

The Clerk said that he had written to Hugo Van-Rees, Farm Estates manager, Powys County Council about the lease but had yet to receive a reply.

The Chairman wondered if, in view of the imminent disruption due to the work on the new bridge, the adult gym equipment should be moved. Both Cllrs Fynes and James felt that we should await developments.

#### 8.2. Football Field

It was noted that the football club had patched up some of the damaged fencing, but other parts still require attention. The Clerk reminded Council that there had been no interest in tendering for a contract to repair all the fencing. The Chairman and Cllr Done agreed that they would have a look at the fencing to see what could be done and report back.

**ACTION: Chairman and Cllr Done**

## **9 Highways and Byways**

### **9.1 Road Repairs and Potholes**

It was reported that the car park at the bottom of Pen-y-Foel is still being used by commercial vehicles to advertise their services. Cllr Done offered to put up signs informing people that this is a Council car park and that vehicles used for commercial ends were not allowed. The offer was gratefully accepted. Cllr Fynes said that he would telephone the company responsible and ask them to remove their vehicle.

**ACTION: Cllr Done and Cllr Fynes**

Cllr Fynes said that at the last meeting County Cllr Arwel Jones thought that work on potholes would be done by the end of March but, to date, nothing had been done. The discharge of waste water onto the road by the car wash remained an issue.

The bus shelter would now be erected after April as it will be financed from the next year's budget.

Cllr James reported that the salt bins had been filled but one of them had been pushed over. It was not known whether this was done by a vehicle or was an act of vandalism. Cllr Done said that he would inspect the bin; he would be able to discover what had caused the damage.

**ACTION: Cllr Done**

## **10 To receive reports on Meetings from Outside Bodies**

### **10.1 Burial Board**

It was reported that Mr Ingram, Secretary of the Burial Board would be attending Llanymynech & Pant Parish Council's meeting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the issues that he raised with Carreghofa at its last meeting.

The Clerk felt that a joint meeting of the two councils should be held to discuss this and he agreed to contact their clerk after the meeting had been held.

**ACTION: Clerk**

### **10.2. Powys C. C. and Town and Community Councils meeting**

Nothing to report.

### **10.3. Village Hall**

Cllr Jones reported that the work on the changing rooms leak had been done. This will be paid from insurance.

The Hall's AGM will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> April and the committee is in need of new members.

Cllr Fynes said that temporary membership of the Hall and its facilities is being offered to tourists on the caravan park.

## **Item 11 Correspondence**

### **11.1. Matters of decision**

There are no matters for decision.

### **11.2. Correspondence to note.**

Council noted the correspondence sent out by the Clerk since the last meeting and itemised in the papers for the meeting.

From	Date	Subject
Powys County Council	26 <sup>th</sup> February	Planning Decisions 20 <sup>th</sup> January - 21 <sup>st</sup> February
Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service	28 <sup>th</sup> February	Calon Tan February 25
One Voice Wales	4 <sup>th</sup> March	Postponement of the AGM
One Voice Wales	6 <sup>th</sup> March	Understanding the Planning System – Zoom seminar
Russell George MS	6 <sup>th</sup> March	March newsletter
Welsh Government via OVW	11 <sup>th</sup> March	Role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector Summary of roundtable discussions
Welsh Government	11 <sup>th</sup> March	Senedd review. Final Determinations
One Voice Wales	11 <sup>th</sup> March	Training dates – March to June
Powys County Council	12 <sup>th</sup> March	Household Recycling Centre changes: the facts
Tesco	18 <sup>th</sup> March	Stronger Starts funding
Play Wales	18 <sup>th</sup> March	March e bulletin

## **Item 12. Any other business from councillors**

### **12.1. HSBC Safeguarding Review**

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had participated in a safeguarding review. In the course of this it became clear that the bank still has a number of retired councillors listed as signatories.

It was decided that there should be three signatories vis; The Chairman, the Clerk and one other councillor. Cllr James accepted the role of third signatory. The Chairman and Cllr James were asked to provide proof of ID (a photocopy of a driving licence or passport) to the Clerk.

**ACTION Chairman and Cllr James**

### **12.2 Planters**

Cllr Done informed the Council that the planters would be treated in the next week and a half. He showed councillors an example of the new signs with QR codes. The QR code would take people to the Community Council's website and it is important this is quickly brought up to date.

Some of the planters may be sponsored by local businesses and others and the price for advertising the company on the information board was discussed. Cllr Savage suggested £50 per annum and this was agreed. Cllr Fynes thought that, if the sponsorship rate was reasonable that sponsors might be asked to pay for the cost of the sign.

**ACTION: Cllr Done**

12.3 Defibrillator

Cllr Jones reported that Fix Auto Ltd are to provide another defibrillator. It will be sited so that it is readily available to the public.

12.4. Swans nesting on the towpath.

Cllr Done updated councillors on this. He said that there were now three eggs in the nest and the adult swans are very aggressive. Cllr Done had been attacked by the male swan. He offered to put up laminated signs warning the public of the danger and advising that dogs should be kept on a lead anywhere near the nest.

13. Date of the next meeting:

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm at Llanymynech Village Hall.

**ACTION: All to note**

Approved by Council as a correct record: -

Proposed: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_