

Llangollen Rural Community Council
Minutes of Meeting held at the Garth & Trevor Community Centre
Tuesday 4th February 2025

21/24

Present

Cllr. Mrs Sue Kempster
Cllr. Steve Jones
Cllr. Anthony Roberts
Cllr. Phil Jones

Cllr. Darrell Wright
Cllr. Mrs Moira Griffiths
Cllr. Elfed Morris
Cllr. Dave Metcalfe

Chairman: Cllr. Mrs Sue Kempster

Clerk: Andrea Evans

1. Apologies for absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr. Mrs S Williams and Cllr. K Sinclair.

2. Minutes of the last council meeting

The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 28th November 2024 and the Ordinary meeting held on 17th December 2024 had been distributed and were accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. D Metcalfe – agenda item 10 Correspondence – ‘Park and Ride’ email

4. Public Participation

None

5. Member’s Urgent Reports

It was reported that approximately 50 dog waste bags had been discarded near to the JC Edwards wall site. Cllr. Roberts offered to put up signs to discourage this in the future.

It was reported that the canal bank at Fron Basin was being damaged by canoe users. It was decided that the Clerk would report this to the Boating Business Team at CRT.

6. Police Report

The monthly report from the PCSO had been previously circulated to Councillors and this was discussed.

7. Update on the Community Agent’s scheme

The Council were informed in mid-January that two Community Agents were now job sharing the post covering Llangollen Rural. Members were concerned that they had not yet engaged with the Council. It was decided that the Clerk would ask AVOW why engagement had not yet happened.

8. Update from the Clerk on the work log

The Clerk provided an update on the work log and this was discussed.

Parking at Fron Basin/Trevor Basin - The TRO’s on Gate Road and George Avenue were done, but the signs for the TRO on Llangollen Road were not yet installed. The County Councillor had informed the local police sergeant of the TRO on Gate Road and enforcement patrols would be made.

Memorial in Garth - The situation would be monitored. Cllr. Roberts would arrange for the slats of the seat to be replaced.

JC Edwards Wall - The Chairman had received an email from WCBC informing the Council of problems which had been encountered with the tender process, and so the work would not begin in February. WCBC wanted to re-tender the project with changes made to the design to reduce costs and were requesting permission to do this. It was decided that the Clerk would remind WCBC that the project was Community Council led and when WCBC were submitting a grant bid to the Levelling-Up Fund, it asked the Community Council if it could include the project in the submitted funding bid as the preliminary work had already been completed. The project would then be grant funded from the Levelling-Up fund with the Community Council providing match funding up to the amount of £9,721.50. Before agreeing to any amended design, the Community Council

would like to be provided with the amended plans so that it can make an informed decision. Also, the Clerk would invite the Regeneration Project Manager to meet with Members prior to the next Council meeting on March 4th to discuss the project.

Request for gates on the Oaks play area – Information had finally been received from the Oaks Management Committee on 10th November 2024 following a number of requests from the Clerk. The Clerk had obtained quotes for the provision and installation of gates. Following consideration of the available information it was decided to install 2 yellow spring closing pedestrian gates at the playground.

Planting of wildlife areas - The Clerk had requested an update but a reply had not been received. Another request would be made.

Seats at Methodist Hill and Pontcysyllte - Following a request from the Clerk, 6 Members had indicated that the 'Roslin' seat from Broxap was the preferred option. It was decided to order 2 seats with base plates and to deliver them to A.N. Richards in Froncysyllte for initial storage prior to installation.

9. Planning Applications

P/2025/0016 - Replacement windows in Pontcysyllte Conservation Area – **Canal House, Froncysyllte, Wrexham, LL207RB**

P/2025/0032 – Installation of H pole and transformer - **Land at Pontcysyllte aqueduct car park, Acrefair, Wrexham, LL14 3NP**

P/2024/1685 – Variation of conditions 2 and 3 of planning permission P/2022/0733 to amend design of building/dwelling – **The Mount, Tower Hill, Acrefair, Wrexham LL14 3SU**

There were no objections.

10. Correspondence update from the Clerk

All correspondence was listed in the Clerk's report and had been forwarded to Councillors.

Email from J. Birch regarding Trevor pedestrian access and the Regional Transport Plan – It was decided to thank Mr. Birch for his email and inform him that there were already proposals to install a bridge further along the river at Ty Mawr Country Park by WCBC, and that the Council were supporting this.

Cllr. Metcalfe left the meeting for consideration of the following correspondence.

Email from Dave Metcalfe regarding a 'Park & Ride' Scheme – It was decided that the Council would not be supporting the proposal for a 'Park & Ride' Scheme as it did not directly benefit the residents of Llangollen Rural.

11. An update from the County Councillor

The County Councillor updated Members on current issues.

12. External Audit Report 2023/24

The Auditor General had reported an unqualified audit opinion with no further matters drawn to the Council's attention. The Clerk was thanked for the work done on the audit.

13. Appointment to Finance Committee

Cllr. Mrs M Griffiths was appointed.

14. Section 137 application process

The process was discussed and it was decided that Members would encourage more organisations to apply for grant funding.

15. Garden Competition 2025/26

Deferred to the next meeting

16. SLA for playground inspections for 2025/26

Following a discussion, it was decided to enter into the SLA with WCBC for the inspection and maintenance of play areas for 2025/26.

17. Growing foliage at the Woodlands Grove playground**23/24**

It had been reported that foliage was growing over the fence at the Woodlands Grove playground. It was decided to ask P. Green for a price to cut the foliage up to 3 times a year.

18. Financial update from the Clerk and authorisation of payments to be made

The financial statements as at the end of January 2025 had been circulated: receipts for 2024/25; bank reconciliation; and budget monitoring against the budget and receipts.

Payments to be authorised for December 2024:

P Ankers	102746	£352.50
P Green	102747	£120.00
HMRC	102748	£1460.68
J Evans	102749	NJC
J Evans	102750	£54.92
NEST	DD	£93.91
Total		£3,218.76

Payments to be authorised for January 2025:

P Green	102751	£120.00
R Hill	102752	£115.00
Audit Wales	102753	£200.00
WCBC	102754	£915.00
S Jones	102755	£95.99
J Evans	102756	NJC
J Evans	102757	£80.53
NEST	DD	£69.83
Total		£2733.10

Payments to be authorised for February 2025:

P Ankers	102758	£200.00
P Green	102759	£120.00
J Evans	102760	NJC
J Evans	102761	£558.93
Total		£2,015.68

It was agreed that the Council would deposit £60,000 for 12 months in a HSBC bank account which offered a higher interest rate.

19. Items for the next agenda

Clinker path

Garden competition

Date and Venue of the Next Meeting – 4th March 2025, 7.00pm at Froncysyllte Community Centre