MINUTES of the proceedings of the Meeting of Nannerch Community Council held at Nannerch Memorial Hall on Thursday 6th February 2025 at 7pm.

PRESENT:

Councillors H Morgan (Chair), J Byrne, J Costidell (Vice Chair), and J Morgan-Millington. County Councillor Andrew Parkhurst and Jeanne Penn, Clerk.

1. Public Participation

The Clerk confirmed that there had been no requests for remote access to the meeting. Residents Jonny and Jane Duddle joined the meeting at 7.30pm for item 7 on the agenda relating to Green Lane.

2. To accept apologies for absence

Councillors Gareth Williams and Kevin Weston. Note was also made of the recent resignation of Councillor Calderwood-Duncan.

3. To record declaration of interests from members on any item to be discussed.

Councillor Costidell declared an interest at item 9, financial matters-schedule of payments, as she would be receiving reimbursement for purchase of lead for the village notice board. Councillor Costidell did not therefore sign off the payment schedule; instead Councillor Byrne was the second signatory on this document.

4. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting 5th December 2024

The Minutes of this Meeting of Nannerch Community Council were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. To receive updates on progress from previous Minutes

- **SmartWater uptake.** Only 3 kits remained to be allocated, and PCSO Tiff Davies had met with the Clerk on 4th February to outline where the 5 signs should be prominently displayed in the village to act as a deterrent against theft. PCSO Davies said she would continue to seek any involvement of residents at further key properties in Village Road, including the pub. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would contact FCC to assist with erecting the signs.
- **Village Noticeboard repairs.** Thanks were expressed to Mr Timothy Costidell who had recently undertaken repairs to replace the lead. It was noted however that this would only be a temporary solution, and a replacement notice board would be required within the next 1 to 2 years. The cost of a replacement would need factoring into the budget for 2025/26.

- **Armistice commemorative structure.** This remained an ongoing project with a target date of May 2025 to coincide with VE Day-80 having been set. It was **agreed** that the Chair would follow up with the suppliers.
- **Replacement planter.** The Vice Chair advised that the replacement planter had been made and Tony Willis-Culpit would shortly arrange for it to be put into position. No invoice has yet been received for this work.
- **Donations awarded at previous meeting.** The Clerk had notified all applicants, and thanks had been received from successful beneficiaries, with the monies to be awarded at the start of the new financial year. The Clerk has sent reminders to the applicant whereby relevant information remained outstanding, and the group who had submitted a request after the closing date had been notified that they could re-submit at year end for re-consideration.

6. To receive police update and raise any matters.

Crime statistics for November 2024 noted 1 violence/sexual offence. No information was available for December

Note was made of the Police recently undertaking speed checks of motorists in the village, which was welcomed by Councillors. It was **agreed** for the Clerk to thank the Police for their efforts, to seek statistical feedback, and to request further speed checks.

7. To receive Streetscene update and raise any matters

An action plan had been received from Neil Hickie on 6th February, with the following actions outstanding: Pothole repairs on Llandyrnog Road, on Ffordd y Waen and on Trefechan Lane were ongoing; a request for signage on Lane to Piw Gwyn to deter inappropriate large vehicles continues to be monitored.

Note was made of regular dog fouling in the walkway between Erw'r Llan and Bryn Celyn, and it was **agreed** that the Clerk would contact Streetscene to request signage to address this problem.

Councillor Parkhurst wished to seek the Community Council's view regarding reports of inconsiderate off roaders using the bye way on Green Lane, resulting in safety concerns for walkers and causing damage to hedgerows. Any potential permanent Traffic Restriction Order by FCC would, in any event, require formal consultation with relevant stakeholders. One possibility would be to have a permanent restriction order apart from land owners and those requiring vehicular access. Following discussions, Councillors noted their support of FCC exploring opportunities to restrict access and it was **agreed** that Councillor Parkhurst would feedback Nannerch Community Council's observations and comments to FCC.

8. Flintshire County Council Planning Matters

No planning applications had been approved nor received by Flintshire County Council since the last meeting.

9. Financial Matters

- The cash book for 9 months to 31/12/24 along with the bank reconciliation for this period were **noted and approved**. Balance at 31/12/24 was £18,246.15 represented by £12,760.67 in the reserve account and £5,485.48 in the current account.

- The third and final precept installment of 24/25 had been received from FCC on 31/12/24, this amount being £5166.33. FCC had also confirmed receipt of the Council's precept requirements for 2025/26, as discussed at the previous meeting.

- The Chair and Councillor Byrne had checked the schedule of payments due for December 2024 and January 2025, having reviewed the supporting invoices/paperwork supplied. Payments were therefore **approved** by all Councillors as follows:

Payee	**£**	**Payment method**	**Power**
Clerk net salary 2 months plus leave entitlement	906.95	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111 & 112
HMRC Clerk's PAYE	204.20	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
HMRC Clerk's employee NI	5.49		
Clerk allowance/travel/print	73.78	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
Audit Wales (audit 23/24)	200.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.151
Cllr J Costidell (lead for noticeboard)	55.99	BACS	LGAct 1972 S.111
Memorial Hall rental (July-Dec 24)	75.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 S.111
TOTAL	**1521.41**		

10. Clerk's Update - Correspondence and other items

- The cost of internal audit for 2024/25 by JDH Business Services was **noted and agreed** by Councillors.
- The Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2025/26 under Local Government Act 1972 of £11.10 per elector was **noted** by Councillors.
- 2 vacancies for Council Members were **noted** due to recent resignations ; it was **agreed** that the Clerk would publicise the vacancies in accordance with policy, with a view to allowing any interested parties to be able attend a meeting before submission of an application.

- Councillors **noted** the Law Commission consultation (which closed in January) on burial law reform which could potentially impact on Welsh Town and Community Council responsibilities in future.
- The Clerk reported that she had now completed FILCA (Financial Introduction to Local Council Administration) qualification, which, alongside ILCA, she deemed to be an adequate level of training at this current time. This information was **noted,** with agreement that the Clerk may in future wish to undertake other relevant specific training.
- In accordance with legislative requirements for Welsh Councils, the Chair **agreed** to update the previous Biodiversity Report by the end of the financial year, with assistance from the National Landscape. This would highlight achievements within the village working alongside partner agencies.

11. Reports and Updates from other meetings.

County Councillor Parkhurst noted that FCC was still awaiting Welsh Government to confirm the funding settlement. A provisional amount had been indicated, which would not meet the Council's requirements. Departments had been asked to make efficiency savings up to 10%, which was especially difficult given those statutory obligations which the council could not accurately budget for. Inevitably, council tax increases would meet some of the shortfalls.

12. Village Items.

- **AED Checks.** The Chair confirmed that the 3 defibrillators were emergency ready in accordance with the regular checking schedule.
- It was **agreed** that the **annual litter pick** should take place on Saturday morning, 15th March 2025. The Clerk would source the equipment in advance of this date.
- **Trees in Village Road**. Some residents had expressed concern about the trees along Pen y Felin Road and Village Road belonging to a private landowner, and whether they had been inspected to ensure no danger to people, property or obstruction. The Clerk provided a summary from FCC's website regarding the reporting of such matters to the County Council, and the powers FCC had to ensure no danger or obstruction of the highway. The Chair recalled this matter previously arising some years ago in 2018, whereby it was discussed at the Community Council meeting and guidance was sought from Mr Stuart Body, the Tree Officer. Following discussions, it was **agreed** that the Clerk would seek further advice from Mr Body as to whether this matter needed attention.
- **Information Board**. A resident had enquired about progress on the information board to be located in the old telephone kiosk. It was **agreed** that the Chair would provide an update on this project at the next meeting.
- **Tree planting**. The Chair provided an update he had received on the recent tree planting undertaken at Moel Llys y Coed. Protect Earth reported that over 11,000 native tree species had been planted.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 6th March 2025 at 7pm