MINUTES of the proceedings of the Meeting of Nannerch Community Council held at Nannerch Memorial Hall on Thursday 3rd April 2025 at 7pm.

PRESENT:

Councillors H Morgan (Chair), J Byrne, G Williams 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.

2. **To accept apologies for absence.** Councillor Janet Costidell (Vice Chair).

3. **To record declaration of interests from members on any item to be discussed.** There were no declarations of interest from Members.

4. **To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting 6th March 2025.** 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 signage. Sgt Carrington from North Wales Police is still pursuing this matter with those responsible for signage on public highways, on behalf of the Community Council.

Village Information Board in the Phone Kiosk. Councillor Williams **agreed** to pursue this outstanding matter.

Armistice commemorative structure. The Chair confirmed that the contractor is working on this commission.

Replacement planter. This is now in situ and will shortly be planted out. Groundworks had not replied to the Clerk's correspondence querying if they required a financial contribution towards materials. Matter therefore **noted**.

Litter pick. A successful 90 minutes on the morning of 15th March, attended by Councillors and villagers, had resulted in 18 bags of rubbish being collected, weighing 145kgs. The Clerk had applied to Keep Wales Tidy to obtain some free litter picking equipment for future use.

2 Co-option Vacancies. The closing date of 21/3/25 had now passed, with no expressions of interest received. It was **agreed** for the advert to remain on the website and village notice board for a few more weeks to see if anyone comes forward.

Biodiversity Report. This report must be published by Community Councils before the end of 2025, which the Chair **agreed** to being able to deliver with the support of The National Landscape.

6. **To receive police update and raise any matters.** Crime statistics for January 2025 were noted as nil, and for February, were 2 thefts in the village.

7. **To receive Streetscene update and raise any matters**

An action plan had been received from Neil Hickie on 28th March, with the following actions outstanding: Pothole repairs on Little Wheeler Hill, on Llandyrnog Road, on Ffordd y Waen and on Trefechan Lane; a request for signage on Lane to Piw Gwyn to deter inappropriate large vehicles; removal of the compacted soil on Pen y Felin Road; repairs to the damaged 'school' sign halfway down Erw'r Llan and the damaged lamp post near the phone kiosk. A request had also been added from a landowner adjoining the A541 for a crash barrier by the Lodge following a recent serious accident in this vicinity

The Clerk had received dog fouling signage to display in the walkway between Erw'r Llan and Bryn Celyn; these were passed to Councillor Morgan-Millington for putting in the relevant places.

Councillors expressed their dissatisfaction about many of these items remaining unactioned for some considerable time. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should write to Neil Hickie to pursue these actions with Streetscene.

8. **Flintshire County Council Planning Matters**

Planning application FUL/000234/25 had been received by FCC regarding a proposed single storey extension and alteration to dwelling at Maes Yr Esgob Farm, Afonwen CH7 5UP. It was **agreed** that any comments to this application from Councillors should be forwarded to the Clerk before 14th April 2025.

No planning decisions had been received from FCC.

9. **Financial Matters**

The schedule of payments and supporting invoices for March 2025, totalling £1037.98, had been reviewed and **approved** by all Councillors, and was signed off by the Chair and Councillor Byrne at the meeting as follows:

Payee	**£**	**Payment method**	**Power**
Clerk net salary Mar 25	547.58	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111/112
HMRC Clerk's PAYE Mar 25	137.20	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111/112
HMRC Clerk's employee NIC Mar	1.42	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111/112
Clerk allowance and travel	25.80	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111/112

Clerk printing	10.98	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111/112
DoodleIt website hosting	175.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.142
Gordon's Gardens	140.00	BACS	LGAct 1072 s.111
TOTAL	**1037.98**		

Councillor Byrne gave a verbal report on selecting a random sample of payments made during the 6 months October 2024-March 2025, where she had independently reviewed and check all supporting information, and found everything to be in order. This was **noted** by Councillors.

The Clerk submitted the VAT claim for 24/25 immediately after the previous meeting; this had resulted in a prompt payment from HMRC into the bank account of £337.76 before year end.

The Clerk advised Councillors that in accordance with December's meeting, the grants awarded to the 3 village groups for 2025/26 would be distributed this week as follows: £420 to Rainbows, £1000 to Churchyard and £1109 to the Sports Club.

The Clerk had circulated the quarter 4 and year-end bank reconciliation alongside the year end cash book plus the draft Annual Return in advance of the meeting. The closing balance as at 31 March 2025 stands at £16,493.52, which is represented by the current account balance of £3,692.63 plus the business reserve account balance of £12,800.89. This documentation was **agreed and approved** by Councillors.

The Clerk explained the timetable going forward for the Internal and External Audit schedules for 24/25. The internal audit information along with the Council's annual return needed to be submitted by 9th May 2025 at the latest-or earlier if possible-so that this could be completed and the ensuing report ratified at the Council's meeting before the end of June 2025. The external audit information needed to be submitted by 9th July 2025.

The updated budget monitor for 24/25 up to year end (ie month 12) was circulated and discussed by Councillors. Councillors **approved** this budget monitor, noting the following:

'Ringfenced' expenditure for capital items: footpath improvements (£3500); armistice memorial (£3000); orchard and trees replacement (£200); notice board £1500, all of which will be carried forward into 25/26. Other expenditure to be factored into 2025/26 budget is the outstanding invoice not yet received from external audit, a notional amount of £600; VE-80 celebrations, an amount of £250 to be included in the donation/grants budget heading.

10. Clerk's Update - Correspondence and other items

Gwella (formerly Aura) had sent the Clerk a letter in mid March identifying that the MUGA in Nannerch was one of the schemes in Flintshire which could attract match funding for upgrade works during the year 2025/26, and expression of interest would be required by mid May. It was therefore **agreed** that the Clerk would organise a site meeting between the Chair of NCC, the Chair and/or officials from Nannerch Sports Club, plus Richard Roberts from Gwella this month to establish what may be required, and the likely costs to the Community Council. Note was made by Councillors that the

budget for 2025/26 had already been provisionally set before the Gwella letter was received, and no provision had been made in the budget for such upgrade works. It was **agreed** to add this matter to the agenda for consideration at the meeting in May.

FCC had issued a Notice of Road closure in Pen y Felin Road on 13th May 2025, for one day, up to a maximum of five days, for Openreach work. This notice will be displayed on the village notice board.

The Clerk presented the 'Financial Assistance Guidelines', designed to assist those making applications on behalf of local community groups. This document was **approved** by Councillors and would be included on NCC's website.

11. Reports and Updates from other meetings.

County Councillor Parkhurst reported on key developments at FCC as follows: two meetings of the full County Council had been held on 18th March and 3rd April, the earlier one of which had been fractious and widely reported in the press. The latter meeting had received an interesting and educational presentation on the legal use of medicinal cannabis

Councillor Parkhurst also reported on FCC's aim to improve recycling rates, with 3 weekly non recycling collections starting this month, plus a 'visible waste' policy in operation at Council recycling centres.

Regarding the poor state of roads and potholes in his ward, as noted earlier at this meeting, Councillor Parkhurst **agreed** to ask FCC when they were likely to be repaired.

12. Village Items.

AED Checks. The Chair confirmed that the 3 defibrillators had been checked and remained emergency ready in accordance with the regular checking schedule.

VE-80 celebrations. The Vice Chair had contacted other village organisations to celebrate this event on Thursday, 8th May 2025, and plans were well underway. The Community Council had **agreed** at the previous meeting to make a donation of £250 to support the event. Lighting of the beacon would take place at 9.15pm.

NEXT MEETING AND AGM: Thursday 8th May 2025 at 7pm. **Note change of date to the second Monday of the month, which is also VE Day-80.**