MINUTES of the proceedings of the Meeting of Nannerch Community Council held at Nannerch Memorial Hall on Thursday 5th February 2026 at 7pm.

PRESENT:

Councillors H Morgan (Chair), J Costidell (Vice Chair), J Byrne, J Morgan-Millington and K Weston. 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 G Williams. County Councillor Parkhurst would be attending the meeting later this evening due to another earlier commitment.

3. **To record declaration of interests from members on any item to be discussed.** None

4. **To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting 4th December 2025.** The minutes of this meeting of Nannerch Community Council were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

6. **To receive updates on progress from previous Minutes:**

SmartWater signage. The Clerk advised that North Wales Police had informed her that Core Highways would be installing the signage and would shortly be liaising directly with the Clerk to organise same.

Village Information Board in the Phone Kiosk. The Chair advised that this should arrive within the week and would be mounted on an aluminium board.

Armistice commemorative structure. There was no further update available; the Council is still awaiting delivery of the tank and supporting invoice.

Plough-request for renovation and re-siting. The Chair and Councillor Byrne had met with Mr Morris and Mr Thomas yesterday evening to view the plough which would require a space of 4 metres, along with a plaque containing information about its history. The Chair and Vice Chair would continue to explore possible sites.

7. To receive police update and raise any matters.

Crime statistics for October 2025: 1 violence/sexual offence and 1 public order offence; for November 2025: 1 anti-social behaviour offence; for December 2025: 3 violence/sexual offences.

8. To receive Streetscene update and raise any matters

No action plan had been received from Neil Hickie for this month's meeting. County Councillor Parkhurst had however been pursuing separately with Mr Hickie the many potholes on Llandyrnog Road. It was **agreed** that the Chair and Vice Chair would review the pothole situation around the village and report back to the Clerk for reporting to Streetscene. Reports of a tree which had fallen across the road between Pen y Felin Chapel and Tirionfa would also be reported to Streetscene.

9. Flintshire County Council Planning Matters

No planning applications had been received from FCC. It was noted that planning application FUL/00917/25 relating to erection of a stone wall at Melin Y Wern, Nannerch, CH7 5RH had been refused by FCC on 3/2/2026.

10. Financial Matters

Schedule of Payments, Clerk's Salary and HMRC

The schedule of payments and supporting invoices for December 2025 and January 2026, totalling £1547.00, had been reviewed and **approved** by all Councillors, and was signed off by the Chair and Vice Chair (apart from item relating to refund to Vice Chair whereby Councillor Byrne had counter-signed) at the meeting as follows:

Payee	**£**	**Payment method**	**Power**
Clerk net salary Dec 25 & Jan 26	616.00	SO x2 (already paid)	LGAct 1972 S111/112
HMRC Clerk's PAYE Dec 25 & Jan 26	154.00	SO x2 (already paid)	LGAct 1972 S111/112
Clerk net salary Feb 26	308.00	SO on 18/2/26	LGAct 1972 S111/112
HMRC Clerk PAYE Feb 26	77.00	SO on 18/2/26	LGAct 1972 S111/112
Clerk 2 months' home working allowance and travel	53.80	BACS	LGAct 1972 S111/112
Clerk printing Dec & Jan	12.98	BACS	LGAct 1972 S111/112
Gordon's Gardens	240.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 S111
Hall rental (June-Dec)	50.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 S111
Clerk-refund for stationary	9.98	BACS	LGAct 1972 S111
J Costidell-refund for noticeboard repair items	25.24	BACS	LGAct 1972 S111
TOTAL	**1547.00**		

The Clerk advised that HMRC had now cancelled the 'late filing penalty notice' of £200 which had been issued in November 2025. She also advised that the Clerk's salary and HMRC income tax monthly payment had successfully been set up via standing order since December 2025.

Cash Book and Bank Reconciliation to 31/12/2025

The cash book for the 9 months to 31/12/25 had been circulated to Councillors along with the bank reconciliation for this period. The closing balance was **agreed** as £23,152.31, represented by £16, 915.48 in the Business Reserve Account and £6,236.83 in the Current Account. A proportion of this money was ringfenced for projects nearing completion or anticipated in the next couple of months.

Precept Payments for 2025/26 and 2026/27

FCC had made the final installment for 2025/26 of £5,216.67into the bank account on 30/12/25, and had also confirmed receipt of NCC's precept requirements of £16,500 for the following year.

Donations to local groups.

Letters of thanks had been received from all recipients who were awarded donations at the December meeting (to be paid on or after 1/4/2026)

Gardening increase in costs.

The gardener had notified the Clerk of an increase in his hourly rate from £20 to £25 from April 2026, the first rise in 2 years. At present, the annual budget allocation for 60 hours is £1200. Councillors discussed the matter in some detail, looking at other options to manage the areas maintained by the gardener. In view of some likely additional work to make good the area by the war memorial (see item 11 later in these minutes), it was **agreed** to maintain the 60 hours for 2026/27, increase the budget by £300 for this extra cost, and review again in early 2027.

County Councillor Parkhurst arrived at the meeting at 7.30pm.

11. Clerk's Update - Correspondence and other items.

The Clerk noted that the Council was required to annually appoint internal auditors. It was therefore **agreed** to continue using JDH Business Services for this service.

Councillors **noted** the expenditure for 2026/27 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 would be £11.60 per elector.

Councillors **noted** grants available to local organisations through the Flintshire Key Community Fund.

Information regarding the afforestation proposal on land owned by Penbedw Uchaf had previously been circulated to Councillors. It was **noted** that a 'drop in' awareness session organised by the Forestry Management Company, Tilhill, had been arranged on Thursday 5th March between 6pm and 7pm at the Memorial Hall.

The Chair had finalised the Biodiversity Report & Action Plan, previously circulated and discussed with Councillors. Note was made that biodiversity needed to be routinely considered in all actions undertaken by our Council, and that we should be regularly liaising with other organisations to ensure that all biodiversity measures were captured in the report. It was **agreed** to publish the documents on our website.

Following the incident of the beech tree which had fallen from a landowner's garden in mid December, residents had expressed concern about the danger and damage caused. This had fallen across Village Road, temporarily blocking it, and causing damage to vehicles, the town hall (bus shelter) roof, the war memorial garden area and the adjoining wall. Fortunately no one had been injured, and FCC had acted quickly by removing the tree and clearing up the brash. The Chair also noted thanks to Dave Hughes, a local resident who had reinstated the chains around the memorial garden area.

Dewi Ellis, Tree Inspector for FCC had made an inspection on 18/12/25 and reported as follows:

I called to view all trees in the surrounding area (mainly in the same area/grounds of the failed Beech tree), all other trees looking from the road seem okay and don't warrant at this time a letter being sent to the owner of the tree/s from the authority requiring action to be taken , it is the duty of care of the landowner/s as with other tree landowner/s that their trees adjacent to public access areas are in a reasonable safe condition.

Any claim that a person/s wishes to make following damage to their belongings following the failure of the Beech tree would have to be directed to the owner/s of the failed Beech tree. Same applies to any tree/s from private land that fails and damages private properties, vehicles or other assets, this would be a civil matter between the 2 parties involved. The authority can only get involved if a tree/s (most of the time still standing) is causing an imminent risk to the highway, a formal notice to the landowner can then be made under the Section 154 (2) of the Highways Act 1980, although this can be challenged by the owner/s of the tree/s if they feel the tree/s doesn't pose a risk.

The Clerk had sought a quote for making good the garden area which would be in the region of £200 to £550, depending on one of the 3 options chosen. Councillors **agreed** as a gesture of goodwill to the landowner to ask the gardener to undertake the cheapest option of £200, this being to level and re-seed, making good gradually. It was noted that this could not be done until the landowner repaired the wall, so the Clerk would ask the gardener to delay this work until then. In the meantime, it was **agreed** that the Chair would seek quotes for the town hall and wall repairs before inviting the landowner to pay for these.

The Chair reminded Councillors of discussions previously regarding dangerous trees in the minutes in February 2025 and March 2025 as follows:

- ***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.*
- ***Trees in Village Road**. A reply had been received from Stuart Body, the Forestry Officer from FCC, to offer advice regarding duty of care for owners of trees and FCC's responsibilities where dangerous trees are identified. Mr Body explained that FCC is unable to commit to carrying out tree risk assessment surveys for trees not on FCC's land. The Clerk confirmed that the resident who had contacted Community Councillor Weston had been invited to submit his concerns directly so these could be forwarded to FCC. The*

*resident had also been directed to the section of FCC's website to report such matters. This position was therefore **noted** by Councillors.*

12. Reports and Updates from other meetings.

County Councillor Parkhurst advised the meeting as follows:

- He was still awaiting results from Lee Shone regarding the speed strip through the village installed in October last year, and would continue to chase.
- He continued to pursue reducing the speed limit in Erw'r Llan and the installation of a safety barrier on Sarn Hill.
- He requested that the Chair forward him the list of outstanding potholes to pursue with Streetscene.
- FCC issues of note: the Bishop of Wrexham had been summoned to the Education Scrutiny Committee regarding the proposed new super catholic school; the budget setting meeting would be held later this month when the amount in council tax rises would be announced.

13. Village Items.

AED Checks. The Chair confirmed checks had been made on the 3 defibrillators. Batteries would be required for 2 of these this summer, which the Clerk **agreed** to add to the agenda for costings approval in April 2026.

Annual Litter Pick. This was agreed to take place on Saturday 7th March 2026, meeting at the Memorial Hall at 10am. A community café would be held in the hall on the same morning. The Vice Chair **agreed** to publicise the litter pick via facebook.

Planting. A Nannerch resident had emailed the Clerk requesting consideration by the Community Council of enhancing the copse area located at the entrance to the village which contained a plaque commemorating services to the village by Captain R H Laird. After much discussion, it was **agreed** not to pursue, as this area was on privately-owned land, and would also mean additional gardening costs for the Council.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 5th March 2026 at 7pm.