

(1)  
The monthly meeting of the Aberporth Community Council was held on Tuesday 10 December 2024 at 6.30pm in Blaenannerch Chapel vestry. The Chair, Cllr Jackie Brown, presided.  
Present: Cllr Aled Thomas, Cllr Dave Addison, Cllr Zoe Storer, Cllr Gethin Davies, Cllr Sue Lewis, Cllr Robin Young, Cllr Carys Owens, County Cllr M Clive Davies and Mrs Vanessa Owens(Clerk)  
Via Zoom: Cllr Tristan Jones (poor connection)

1. Apologies/Personal matters  
Ymddiheuriadau/Materion Personol

(2)  
Apologies were received from Cllr Anne McCreary, Cllr Damon Watmough and Cllr Gary Morss.

2. To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in items of business listed below  
Datgelu diddordeb personol ac ariannol dan eitemau busnes sydd wedi eu rhestru isod
3. Confirmation and signing of previous minutes  
Cadarnhau a llofnodi cofnodion y cyfarfod diwethaf  
Minutes September meeting

(3)  
Cllr Sue Lewis proposed that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as correct; this was seconded by Cllr Zoe Storer and approved unanimously.

4. Financial business  
Busnes Ariannol

(4)  
Items approved for payment:

£80.00 One Voice Wales  
£40.00 One Voice Wales  
£144.00 SLCC – Internal audit  
£300.00 SLCC CILCA portfolio  
£450.00 SLCC CILCA  
£35.64 Cardi Builders  
£360.00 Mellingoed  
£12.00 Cllr Sue Lewis  
£350.00 E A Owens  
£317.30 Theatr Mwldan (waiting on invoice)  
£200.00 Richards Bros

Waiting on invoices from Tom Samways Butcher for food supplied to Emergency Rest Centre and Emlyn Café for the Older People lunch

£200 petty cash for emergency rest centre supplies paid to clerk – expenses claim and receipts to be provided  
Cllr Sue Lewis proposed that payments were approved; this was seconded by Cllr Dave Addison and accepted unanimously.

Bank balances as at 31.11.24

Current account	£28473.82
Treasures account	£ 7489.60
Allocated reserves account	£45483.75

5. Reports  
Addroddiadau

**Clerks Report/Addroddiad y Clerc**

(5)  
Parclyn: Clerk reported she is waiting to hear from Welsh Government on the application for permission to borrow. Cllr Zoe Storer reported that the fence is completed. The invoices for the fencing and feasibility study have been paid and the claim submitted to Cynnal y Cardi.

(6)  
Toilets: Updated operational costs have been received from Ceredigion County Council. Clerk has emailed to ask what the process will be for payment next year: can the community council simply pay a sum of money to the

county; if there is a sla to be put in place can the county please provide the details/costs that it proposes to charge; what is the situation with insurance? This was also raised at the meeting in Cardigan. Clerk noted that realistically the county council is not going to have the legal documents in place by April. Other

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councils raised similar concerns at the county meeting and are currently organising a joint online meeting to discuss partnership working going forward; the councillors agreed that it makes sense to contract together to benefit from potential savings.

(7)  
Bins: Clerk had received a reply from Ceredigion County Council in response to the request for a solution to the issues in the Summer: the county have had issues over the summer either through resource, sickness or budget pressures; on weekends and bank holidays they rely on the team to come in on overtime. Will review option to provide large wheelie bins but anticipate issues servicing them and suggested using a private contractor; also noted potential to use grant funding to employ a street cleaner. Next season the county council hope to have a more consistent approach to weekend working and hopefully will be able to employ seasonal workers. Clerk raised this at the meeting in Cardigan and officers there were keen to progress the opportunity for joint working and a local partnership agreement.

(8)  
Councillor Training:  
One Voice Wales Training Dates provided  
OVW Training for Councils Bulletin  
Ceredigion County Council online Code of Conduct Training will be held on 11/02/25- 6pm-7:30pm – change date of meeting

(9)  
Local Policy and Innovation Partnership Survey completed

(10)  
CAVO Community Transport in Ceredigion event Aberaeron Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10am. Cllr Sue Lewis had attended and reported that one of the main issues is funding for transport services; the event was basically brainstorming to come up with ideas. The biggest issue is access to transport for hospital appointments.

(11)  
One Voice Wales Cost of Living Crisis Project 'Keeping Communities Warm' – Webinar Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 1:30pm Cllr Sue Lewis noted that she has attended the One Voice Wales webinar on funding and had found it really useful and interesting, was good to hear input from other councils.

(12)  
Armed Forces Covenant has been received by MOD - everything is fine with the document and pledges; they are now carrying out some background due diligence checks.

(13)  
Completed Ceredigion County Council Play Sufficiency Assessment Questionnaire

(14)  
Ceredigion Community Safety Strategy 2024-2027 <https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/your-council/partnerships/community-safety/ceredigion-community-safety-strategy-2024-2027/>

(15)  
Ceredigion County Council Consultation: Off-street Parking places  
<https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/your-council/consultations/off-street-parking-places/>

(16)  
Road Closure: C1126 47101095  
Lleoliad:/Location: Aberporth, Aberteifi/Cardigan  
Dyddiad ac amser/Dates and times: 14/01/2025 09:30-15:30  
Duration: Daily - During Times Specified/Daily – During Working Day/ 24 hours a day/

**County Councillor Report/Adroddiad y Cynghorwr y Sir**

(17)

Written report received from Cllr Clive Davies.  
He had supported the emergency rehousing of a family of four.

(18)  
Cllr Gethin Davies reported on the issue and problems caused by Storm Darragh.

### **Chairmans Report/Adroddiad y Cadeirydd**

(19)  
Cllr Brown had attended the Blaenporth coffee morning, Dyffryn Centre Community Fridge and Playgroup Christmas Fayre. She thanked everyone who had volunteered at the Older Peoples Christmas lunch which had

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been well attended and had received positive feedback; also thanking Gwyn Morgan who had provided the entertainment. The council agreed to consider opening the lunch to people from outside the ward who could pay full price for their meal; to be passed to community enhancement and social wellbeing committee. She expressed a big thank you to Aberporth village hall and all the volunteers who had supported the emergency rest centre; it was great to see how the community had pulled together to open the hall. Cllr Sue Lewis noted how the whole event showed how we can work together to support the wider community. Cllr Zoe Storer noted it was important that the council understands its community and recognises that it does include very vulnerable people who needed assistance. It was agreed that the Emergency plan needs to be revisited and updated. Clerk suggested that requesting new volunteers be included as part of participatory budgeting meeting. Cllr Brown reported that she had attended the meeting with Ceredigion County Council officers in Cardigan and raised the issue of there being no hospice provision in Ceredigion; officers noted that this was not something that had been previously requested though HAVAV who provide support are based in Aberystwyth.

### **Committee Representative Reports/Adroddiadau Cynrychioliadol y Pwyllgor Planning/Cynllunio**

#### **Finance/Cyllido**

(20)  
Email received from Deryck Evans, Wales Audit Office which was copied to all councillors requesting that all outstanding returns and supporting evidence be provided. Clerk reported she has sent documentation via email directly to Deryck Evans and will arrange to mail a copy of invoices.

(21)  
The completed annual return for 2018-2019 has now been received from Audit Wales. Copy provided to Councillors.

#### ***Audit opinion - Qualified***

*Except for the matters reported in my Basis for Qualification below, on the basis of my review, in my opinion no matters have come to my attention giving cause for concern that in any material respect, the information reported in this Annual Return: • has not been prepared in accordance with proper practices; • that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met; • is not consistent with the Council's/Committee's governance arrangements; and • that the Council/Committee does not have proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. Basis of qualification Annual Governance Statement In my opinion, the assertions made by the Council in its Annual Governance Statement do not accurately represent the governance arrangements in place during 2018-19. • The Council did not prepare and approve its accounts in accordance with the timetable set by the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014. Other matters arising and recommendations I draw the Council's attention to my report entitled Inadequacies in Governance and Financial Management, issued on 25 November 2021. My report sets out my audit findings that have resulted in my qualified audit opinion and contains my statutory recommendations for improvement.*

(22)  
The approval of the annual returns and acceptance of the Internal Auditor Report has been queried by the Audit Office and not recorded in the minutes ; the Clerk asked that the Council approve the returns for 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024.

The accounts and copies of the returns have been sent to all councillors. The accounts have been checked by the Clerk and Cllr. Zoe Storer and the internal auditor.

Cllr Carys Owens proposed that the returns be accepted; this was seconded by Cllr Robin Young and passed unanimously. The returns were re-signed by Cllr Jackie Brown. Clerk to resend to Wales Audit Office.

(23)

Financial Planner: prepare and approve budget for 2025-2026 to support precept calculations  
Clerk presented the draft 2025-2026 budget for approval. New budgets included provision for maintaining toilets and loan repayments which had a significant impact on the predicted annual expenditure; taking into account underspends in this financial year and reducing provision to earmarked reserves the precept calculations were considered and agreed at £58,000.

Cllr Zoe Storer proposed that the annual budget be accepted; this was seconded by Cllr Carys Owens and approved unanimously.

Cllr Sue Lewis proposed that the precept for 2025-2026 be set at £58,000; this was seconded by Cllr Gary Morss and approved unanimously.

### ***Footpaths & Maintenance/Llwybrau Troed a Chynnal a Chadw***

(24)  
Minutes of committee meeting were provided.  
The proposed changes to the Grass Maintenance schedules were considered. Cllr Gethin Davies proposed that the revised maintenance schedule and the footpath trashing schedule be approved; this was seconded by Cllr Dave Addison and approved unanimously. Clerk to email Aberporth Village Hall Management to advise changes.

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(25)  
Cllr Dave Addison reported that one of the lights in Dyffryn gardens is faulty and needs to be replaced. It was agreed to contract Simon Jones to complete the required work.

(26)  
Cllr Gethin Davies noted storm damage to a section of fence along the coastal path which is the responsibility of the landowner.

(27)  
Clerk advised of trees down on the safe route to school path in Blaenporth; it was agreed that councillors would arrange to get these cleared.

(28)  
It was noted that the cherry tree in Pencartws was getting large again and required cutting back.

(29)  
The Chair thanked everyone for the work that had been undertaken by councillors and volunteers to clear all the trees and reopen closed roads after the recent storm.

Biodiversity:

### ***Procedures Review Committee/Pwyllgor Adoygu Trefn***

(30)  
One Voice Wales guidance about Cloud Storage  
One Voice Wales Top 10 Things to do for Councils  
One Voice Wales Guidelines about Email and Procurement  
One Voice Wales Guidelines about Naming Domains and Websites  
Financial Regulations new model document – need to look at it January.

### ***Community Enhancement and Social Wellbeing/ Gwella Cymunedol a Lles Cymdeithasol***

(31)  
The submitted application to Awards for All to fund the app for Blaenannerch and the poetry trail has unfortunately been turned down.

### ***Beaches/ Traethau***

(32)  
Cllr Gethin Davies reported that the recent storm had blown sand onto the roads; washed up a dead dolphin and that Dolwen beach is now vulnerable to high tides due to the sea wall being totally under sand.

### ***Tidy Towns/Trefi Taclus***

### ***Outside Bodies Representative Reports/Adroddiadau Cynrychioliadol Cyrff Allanol***

(33)  
Cllr Sue Lewis reported that the Cardigan Hospital League of friends have agreed to purchase a very expensive scanner to be housed at the hospital.

6. Notified Business

Busnes a rag-hysbyswydir

(34)

Cllr Sue Lewis advised that Aberporth Village Hall is now joining fare share to increase the amount of fresh food available at the community fridge. She proposed that Aberporth Community Council supports the payment of the £60 monthly cost to Fareshare. Hywel Dda has already logged that the top issue facing people in the Cardigan area is access to affordable fresh healthy food. Village hall have funding to pay the volunteer expenses. The Clerk suggested that the community council could also consider re-starting the food co-operative initiative. It was agreed to email the village hall and suggest a joint meeting to discuss the project.

7. Correspondence/Gohectbiaeth

(35)

Email:

Urdd Gobaith Cymru Fund for All Appeal  
Supplementary snow clearing services  
Project Engagement Opportunity  
Extended Deadline for Play Sufficiency Assessment Questionnaires  
November 2024 Cost of Living Bulletin  
SLCC Innovation Themed Summit  
IMPACT - Llais monthly newsletter  
OVW:  
INQUIRY LAUNCH: Community cohesion

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Green Heroes December Event: Help Spread the Word  
Pethau Bychain Nature Network  
Information on RAAC in Buildings  
Dementia Action Plan Survey <https://www.gov.wales/dementia-action-plan-survey>  
Publication of consultation papers - Planning resilience and preserving trees  
Ystadau Cymru Conference 2024  
Un Llais Cymru / One Voice Wales - Bwletin Newyddion / News Bulletin  
CONSULTATION: Wales COVID-19 Inquiry Special Purpose Committee -UK-Covid Inquiry Module 1 Report  
Peace Ambassadors  
National Conference 2024 Report  
Correspondence was noted.

8. Review Diary

Adolygu Dyddiadur

9. Date of next meeting

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Nesaf

(36)

Date of next meeting is Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 6:30pm.

(37)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:10pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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