

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes for Meeting Wednesday 18th March 2026 at **Caersws Village Hall** at 7pm

Present: Vice Chair Cllr M Carroll, Chair Cllr D Lowe, Cllr A Vaughan, Cty Cllr Les George, Cllr C Houghton, Cllr M Cheshire.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr P Skitt,, Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr C Knapp
2. **Declaration of interests of any items on the agenda** *Declarations of interest, whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion of any items for discussion.* MCC WindFarm development
3. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)
4. **Minutes** of meeting held on 18th February 2026 were proposed as an accurate record. Proposed MC, seconded AV
5. **Priority Projects:**
 - a. **Caersws Footbridge:** MOP has received a request from PCC to take part in the consultation for footbridge and roundabout, Flooding has not taken into account by engineers. This is now being considered. PCC are looking into the feasibility of this. Will respond to Cabinet Minister in June to follow up on the letter received by LG. CC had asked to be included on the consultation.
 - b. **Active Travel Plan** : No update. Remove from agenda.
 - c. **Travel Hub** : SAB meeting 23rd February 2026. Clerk and LG chased response. Continuing to chase.
6. **Long Term Agenda Items and Projects:**
 - a) **Manthrig Brook Flooding Issues:** Thank you to MCC for driving remedial action forward. CH to add to website as news. Permissions from PCC valid for three years.
7. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Website news officer** – More hits following news items, Facebook set up and news being added, more followers. News items to be published regarding toilet refurbishment update, resurfacing of pavements and cemeteries. More community engagement – Suggested to create a standard response to confirm receipt and say the matter raised has been brought to Councillors attention. Change quick link on website to Latest News.
 - b) **Ownership of War Memorial** – queries from Estate Management and Transactions Manager at Church in Wales. Awaiting answers from Rev Gwalchmai and Leyland to respond. MC to chase. Benches to be replaced at approximately £295 each x 2. Deliver to CH. Agreed multicoloured. Add to Rhys job role to clean benches every spring. Need to be bolted to floor. CH to arrange siting and re-mounting of plaques.
 - c) **Defibrillator Fault** –resolved
 - d) **Co-Option** – No applicants at present
 - e) **Training Plan, Policy and Opportunities, CILCA** –Cllrs will let Clerk know of training courses they would like to attend. Cllrs agreed to contribute 1/8th towards cost of CILCA £111.87
 - f) **Noticeboard by Church** – DL arranged painting in spring
 - g) **Football Field Access** – Concern regarding children crossing railway line as underpass floods. Football Club previously pumped out and this did help for twelve months. Network Rail do not own drain, therefore Football Club can pump it out to prevent flooding. MCC to contact Football Club
 - h) **IT Policy** – CH shared information pertinent to Caersws CC regarding this policy. CH suggested to use Sharepoint and will find out further information. RESOLVED to adopt IT Policy.
8. **S137 Grant Requests** *any funding applications received will be sent to Cllrs to consider at the October meeting.*
None
9. **Planning:**

Wind 2 – MOP concern. MOP requested Visual Impact Assessment is available to view from North, South, East and West rather than just one direction. This information has not been provided so far. RESOLVED to ask for this information. Statutory consultation not received – ask when this will happen. Major concern noted regarding road transport.

Any updates regarding Pen Y Borfa – To send letter on behalf of CC requesting view of SAB, let CRG know it has been sent. Copy in Graham Astley.

Application Reference: 26/0292/FUL Grid Reference: E:299740 N: 293101 Proposal: Change of use from agricultural land to equestrian land use, new access, construction of stables and haybarn and all associated works Site Address: Waen Fach, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5QP
Approved

10. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Refurbishment and Maintenance** – RESOLVED to provide H&S training for Rhys and agree to painting. Paint (magnolia and white) to be supplied by Huws Gray on account. Request quote from EOM, Red Kite and local contractor for new door and frame LG to provide contact details.
- b) **Drains-** Agreement and Drains plan received from PCC. Manholes are on PCC land, Clerk to send response to Cllr Charlton. And request to Hafren Dwydry regarding sewers. Roof quotes – CH obtaining quotes, received one so far. TV to provide contact details for local trades person.

11. Cemeteries:

- a. **Risk Assessments:** March DL. Mary Brenda Marchant headstone unstable and dangerous – sign added. No response – DL will attend on Friday to lay headstone flat. Vehicle has hit wall at Shiloh, Clerk to report to PCC.
- b. **Llanwnnog Cemetery :** Mapping underway. Clerk trying to arrange meeting with Andrew Evans to clarify work for 2026. DL will contact AE to arrange meeting. To arrange Litter Pick – w/c 23rd March.
- c.

12. Finances:

- a) Account balances and reconciliation
Unity Current £55,798.28, Unity Reserve £28,936.94. Awaiting statement from Natwest
- b) Bills to be paid
Clerk £813.67
Phone £28.00
WfH £26.00
Rhys £365.03
HMRC £390.72
EOM £60.00
Border £64.15
Huws Gray £6.59
OVW £345
Scribe £28.80
Benches – to be refunded to Clerk asap following purchase
R Evans £1,520.00
CILCA £111.87

DD
Scribe £42
Unity £6
SSE £202.85
PCQ £29.31
- c) Income received £156.83 and £236.25
- d) Update on Natwest – JT added as signatory, Funds transferred to Unity £38,500. Felicia still tracking issues. To gain online access and change address. New DD forms for SSE, ICO and PCQ signed

Propose to move £50,000.00 to reserve account

13. HR – Annual Staff Reviews – Planned April 2026 to arrange date. Clerk has advised Rhys

14. Current issues raised

- a) Annual Parish Meeting – MC to ask if any events in May that Councillors could join. Possible Saturday morning May 10-12. MC to check availability for Village Hall and Presbyterian Church. Add to agenda for April - format needs deciding upon. Could ask other organisations Walking Group, Football Club, Village Hall to join.
- b) Battery collection point – CH to check local shops are providing this
- c) Let's Talk – MCC attended. Lead person Diane Reynolds – interesting. Main focus Grow Powys. Powys Centre of Excellence for modern technology and are open to a Technology Park.

£1.5m impact fund available to eighteen Town Councils – Clerk to write to SW and copy to MS regarding future funding. MCC to provide information. PCC advised CC to have plans ready for whenever funds become available. Dates for diary that will bring in revenue Tour de France starts at Powis Castle and National Eisteddfod Aug 2027

- d) Recycling and Gritting – no update
- e) Roman Historical Site Signage – confirmed owned by CC. CH to look at adding QR codes and cleaning.
- f) Pontdolgoch Bridge Safety Concerns – Signage needs adding “Low Bridge” LG suggests raising track height. LG will write again to Network Rail.
- g) Donation Gift Request – LG. RESOLVED to purchase a gift given by Caersws Community Council on behalf of the work she has done for the Community. DI to source Glass decanter and glasses with Penderyn whisky up to £150. Village Hall arranged presentation 29th March – Cllr to attend.

15. Councillors Comments and Items for next agenda (not for discussion at this time)

- MC – Project Planning for Future
- DL – apologies for next meeting
- DL – Resilience – Clerk to provide list of CC data
- MC – Thank you to CH for emails and letters on behalf of CC

Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd April 2026 at 7pm at Clatter Village Hall.

Meeting Closed at 21.11

Reserves breakdown

RESERVES HELD	
PURPOSE	AMOUNT
Public Convenience	£14,559.39
Unforeseen Maintenance costs for Cemetery (awaiting VAT refund)	-£160.00
Precepted amount for new website	£2,500.00
Training costs	£512.00
Precepted amount for village halls	£6,231.00
Reserves for any extra costs unplanned at the time of precept/Donations (Awaiting VAT Refund)	-£1,841.83
Cllr Remuneration	£1,592.00
Care Costs in case required/requested from Cllrs	£4,500.00
TOTAL RESERVES HELD (update to include precept 2025-26)	£27,892.56