

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting Wednesday 23rd September 2026 at **Caersws Village Hall** at 7pm

Present: Chair Cllr D Lowe, Cllr C Houghton, Cllr Manivannan, Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr A Vaughan, Cllr M Carroll, Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr Les George

No MOP

1. **Apologies** – Cllr P Skitt, Cllr M Cheshire
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.*
Cllr M Carroll – wind farm
3. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)
By email MOP raised concerns regarding Wind2, requesting information from TRA that Caersws Bridge can cope with wind turbines. The route will be assessed at a later date when types of vehicles and equipment have been confirmed. CH to create response to MOP
4. **Confirmation of Minutes** of 19th August 2026 proposed MC, Seconded CH
5. **Community Engagement**
 - a) **Website/Facebook** – Facebook posts Shiloh Cemetery, good response, Windfarm 364 views, speedwatch 1588 views, Severn Together 625, Resurfacing over 3000 views
 - b) **Joint Working project with school** – Sarah Corbett joined the meeting remotely, DL led the conversation with Sarah and proposed a Christmas Tree Event, school will publicise event to parents. Sarah to choose a pupil to switch on lights, children will sing carols. Friday 4th December at 6pm. Cllrs suggested liaising with local businesses regarding this. RESOLVED to serve hot chocolate (with Baileys for adults), possibly mince pies or biscuits.

Children to participate in a Biodiversity project, regarding plant species and feedback information.
6. **Priority Projects:**
 - a. **Caersws Footbridge** : Meeting with PCC regarding Caersws Footbridge and Festival Bridge planned 8th October at 4pm at Aberhafesp VH. MCC Elwyn Vaughan will be taking on Newtown issues. Not our place to invite anyone to this meeting. Cllrs to confirm attendance. Sluice way channelled out towards river.
 - b. **Travel Hub** : Email sent to PCC regarding possible purchase of land, awaiting response. Cllrs discussed pushing back for a CAT or compensation to PCC for lost rent. Cllrs considered publicising the proposed plan as an aspiration – RESOLVED to proceed with this. CH to prepare information with assistance from Clerk/Cllrs.
7. **New Matters**
 - a) **Noticeboard Pontdolgoch** – No update, contractor engaged to site this.
 - b) **Bus Shelter Llanwnog** – Covered noticeboard to be installed providing some shelter for travellers, approximate cost £800. Clerk to respond to MOP, also to request old noticeboard back. RESOLVED budget £1,200.
 - c) **Proposal for Firework Display** – not going to take place due to insurance reasons
 - d) **Benches** – old benches reclaimed and made into one bench. To thank Glyn Brown and Vivien Bradley. To add Facebook post. New coloured bench is at Cllrs home. RESOLVED to request suggestions on Facebook, considered grass near Manthrig Brook.
 - e) **Grant Funding Applications** – Applied to Cambrian Community Fund – rejected. Application to Windfall Wales – includes Bus shelter, Cycle Shelter, Water Watch and Hill Fort. MCC to provide cost for Cycle Shelter, DL to provide cost for informational board, Clerk to provide cost for First Aid. To add First Aid course.
 - f) **Clean Energy Company Wales** – MCC provided information, very contentious. Survey on Welsh Government website, over 40 questions, difficult to complete.
 - g) **Powys Better Together/Have your Say** – survey sent to all Cllrs. Poster included by PCC to share on Facebook.
 - h) **Flood Action Group/Severn Together** – To raise awareness. Disappointing reaction in both Llanidloes and Newtown. Need to find other avenues to store water naturally. Windfarms built on peat land, restrict the amount of water storage. Introducing organic matter can help. Big challenges ahead, meeting scheduled with Severn Valley Water Management Team. Cumulative effect of all wind farms needs to be assessed. If Powys took a wider view this would help, rather than looking at isolated incidences.

- i) **Defibrillators** – Recent emergency prompted Cllrs to review access details. Should only be accessed when instructed by 999 operator. CH created Facebook/website post to publicise how to access. All defibrillators do not have external lighting, Cllrs discussed whether to add solar, motion activated lights and if a further defibrillator should be sited at top of village. RESOLVED Clerk to add signs saying “to obtain code dial 999” and Clerk to write to landlord to ask if they will site one. Await further advice from Cllr P Skitt.
- j) **New Laptop** – RESOLVED Clerk to purchase up to a budget of £500. CH to assist with selection.
- k) **Llanidloes Hospital** – Clerk to write letter objecting to closure, to be reviewed by Cllrs
- l) **Change of date next meeting** – Move to 14th October, to meet at 6.30 and finish by 7.30/8pm
- m) **OVW Conference** – Clerk to attend, cost to be shared amongst Community Councils

8. Matters Arising:

- a) **Ownership of War Memorial** – Lease is with solicitors, legal fees £700, need to ascertain legal entity of ownership. Clerk to supply information to solicitor. CH investigating histories and stories of those mentioned
- b) **Co-option** – No update
- c) **Pontdolgoch Bridge Safety Concerns** - Clerk to forward email to cabinet email address. Cllrs discussed if a pedestrian tunnel could be added, thought unlikely.
- d) **Road Safety through village** - One volunteer – forward details to MC. Could introduce VAS (tells drivers speed they are travelling – installed by TRA, PCC), CH to provide letter requesting this. SIDS can be bought by Community Councils and placed on private land.
- e) **Christmas Tree Event** – Proposed 4th December at 6pm. To provide hot chocolate (with Baileys for adults), mince pies, possible Father Christmas. As above 5b
- f) **Joint working with Llandinam CC** – Joint challenges flooding and PCC. MCC will attend a Llandinam meeting to talk to Cllrs regarding flooding. Cllrs considered contacting six Senedd Members. Clerk to email inviting to meet Caersws Community Councillors.
- g) **Tree debris left by BT** – CW has contact who works for BT should this occur again

9. S137 Grant Requests *any funding applications received will be sent to Cllrs to consider at the October meeting.*

None. Request for noticeboards to be considered in October

10. Planning:

WindFarm update Esgwin windfarm re running consultation
Pen Y Borfa – No update

11. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Refurbishment and Maintenance** – Awaiting quotes for painting, door and frame and new disabled pull cord
- b) **Drains**- Hafren Dyfry emailed to say job cancelled as not their drains, email reply sent with full information and request to reinstate job
- c) **Lights** - staying on. Clerk to report to EOM

12. Cemeteries:

- a. **Risk Assessments:** AV – completed on 15th September, wooden cross laid on floor, Joanne Hughes. Clerk to provide plastic storage box for cloths etc.

1. Finances:

- a) Account balances
 - Unity Current £28,536.08
 - Unity Reserve £75,000.00
 - Natwest current £165.51 (transferred to Unity)
 - Natwest Reserve 1p (transferred to Unity)
 - To close Natwest account
- b) **Bills to be paid**
 - Rhys £375.91
 - Lowri £315.00
 - EOM £60.00
 - Clerk £1,016.39
 - Clerk £16.48 back pay
 - WfH £26.00
 - Phone £29.60
 - Border £154.80
 - Andrew Evans £1,322.40 (Plus £50 owing August)

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

JBJ £500.00 amended from August
PCQ £32.50
Scribe £42.00
Scribe £28.80
Unity £7.00
HMRC £522.31
Cllrs allowances £208 x PS, CH, DL, AW, CW, TV, MCC

- c) Income received £19,577.00 Precept, £3,702.75 Burials

13. HR

- a) Pension – NEST has been set up

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

AW – Visitor levy
CW - to pay grant to Football club following successful funding application
DL – Requirement for grass cutting 2027

Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th October 2026 at 6.30pm at Clatter Village Hall.

Meeting Closed at 21.00