

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held as a Hybrid Meeting at **Betws RFC** and virtually on **Microsoft Teams** on Wednesday 8th April 2026 at 7.00pm.

The meeting was held on a remote basis in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020 and Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

Any member of the public who wishes to attend the meeting as a spectator or who has questions to put to the Councillors should contact the Clerk for this to be able to take place and the correct procedure to be followed.

PRESENT: Cllr James Derrick (Chairperson), Carwyn James, Louise Waring and Dave Stacey arrived at 19:20 and Karen McMinn-Davies joined on Teams at 19:28.

County Councillor: Not present apologies sent

Clerk: Miss Angela Brown

PCSO: not present

Councillor James proposed that Cllr Derrick chair the meeting as both the chair and vice chair were not present, this was seconded by Cllr Waring.

The meeting started at 19:10

Cllr Derrick welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Public Questions/Representations

None

2. a) Apologies

Mike Jones, Peter Comley, Betsan Jones.

b) Vacancies – Co-option

After a short discussion Councillor James proposed that Paul Griffiths be co-opted onto the Council, this was seconded by Cllr Waring and agreed by all present.

3 vacancies remain within this Community Council.

3. Declaration by Members of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Cllr Derrick at points 11. a)

Cllr Derrick at points 12. b) point 2 and 3

4. County Councillor Report - no report this month as apologies sent.

5. To confirm and Sign the Minutes of the Annual and Monthly Meetings held on 11th March 2026

Councillor Waring proposed, and Councillor James seconded and resolved that the minutes of the Council's monthly meeting held on 11th March 2026 be accepted as a true record and approved by all present.

6. Dyfed Powys Police Monthly Crime Figures for Betws

Crimes for February 2026 = 12

Violence and Sexual Offences = 6, Drugs = 2, Other Theft = 2, Shoplifting = 2.

The link for Betws ward below.

[Betws | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](http://www.police.uk)

The above figures were noted by members.

7. Payments/Donation Requests – moved to later in the meeting

a. Clerk Salary and Allowances and Invoices to be paid (see document below)

Payments Made in April 2026			
MEETING/BACS REFERENCE	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
8/4/2026 point 7a	Angela Brown	Clerks Salary/Allowances and office expenses. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) LG(FP)A 1963 s5	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)
8/4/2026 point 7a	HMRC	Payroll payments. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)
8/4/2026 point 7a	Pension	Payroll Pension payments. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)
8/4/2026 point 7a	Carmarthenshire County Council	DLO Recharges Highways – Public Lighting – Footway lighting, maintenance and energy for 1/4/2025 – 31/3/2026 Energy Charges – Public Utilities – Electricity - Footway lighting charges, maintenance and energy for 1/4/2025 – 31/3/2026	£503.88 VAT £100.78 £494.76 VAT £ 98.95

		Parish Councils Act 1957, s3 & Highways Act 1980, s301	Total £998.64 VAT £199.73 Total = £1, 198.37
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It was proposed by Councillor James and seconded by Councillor Waring and agreed by all present that the above payments are authorised, and it was **RESOLVED** that the above be paid.

- b) Donation Requests –
 - i) Llangollen Eisteddfod (email sent 31/3/2026)
 - ii) Kids Cancer Charity

After a short discussion it was **RESOLVED** that no donation be made, the clerk to contact the requestors.

c) Review and Approve Standing Orders for 2026 – 2027 – no change however the website has been updated with the meeting schedule as it is not referred to in the Standing Orders – it was proposed by Cllr Stacey that the Standing Orders be approved with no changes made this was seconded by Cllr James and agreed by all present.

d) Review and approve Financial Regulations for 2026 – 2027 – Cllr Stacey to contact OVW regarding the audit result and wording of the financial regs at sections 5 and 6 – Cllr Stacey informed members that there are limits within the current regulations that allow the clerk to pay up to an agreed amount under delegated authority of up to £500 and £2,000 in serious incidents/emergencies - it was proposed by Cllr Stacey that the Financial Regulations be approved with no changes made this was seconded by Cllr James and agreed by all present.

- e) Audit 1/4/2025 – 31/3/2026
 - i) This year's requirements – the clerk informed members of this year's requirements for the audit and that next year the main AGAR form will be moving to a digital system for 2027.
 - ii) Terms of reference for the internal auditor – it was proposed by Cllr James and seconded by Cllr Stacey that they be adopted and agreed by all present.
 - iii) To appoint an internal auditor – the clerk informed members that she had contacted Mr Lyn Llewellyn, and he was again available and prepared to carry out the Internal Audit for 2025/2026. The fees would be the same as last year.
Following a short discussion, Cllr James proposed that Mr Lyn Llewellyn is asked to conduct the internal audit this was seconded by Cllr Waring and agreed by all present. It was **RESOLVED** the clerk asks Mr Llewellyn to carry out the audit.

8. Planning Applications

The following applications were received: None

PL/10426 - Erection of a new storage unit to house. plant, machinery and/or vehicle - 31A Betws Park Workshops, Park Street, Ammanford, SA18 2ET – Consultation date 18/2/2026 – 11/3/2026 (email sent 20/2/2026)

PL/10513 - Construction and operation of a micro energy storage project - Verge at Betws Park, Park Street, Ammanford – Consultation date 24/2/2026 – 17/3/2026 (email sent 3/3/2026)

The following applications were granted/refused/withdrawn:

PL/10187 - Discharge of Condition 10 on E/32650 (Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording) - 35 Betws Road, Ammanford, SA18 2HE - Discharge of Planning Condition Granted 9/2/2026

PL/10694 – To create additional living space and enhance existing dwelling within the parameters of permitted development - Valley Farm, Cwm Felin Road, Ammanford, SA18 2SG - CLOPUD approval 26/3/2026

PL/10426 - Erection of a new storage unit to house. plant, machinery and/or vehicle - 31A Betws Park Workshops, Park Street, Ammanford, SA18 2ET - Full Granted 25/3/2026

The above applications were **NOTED** by members unless otherwise stated.

9. Correspondence/Matters for Information/Action (emails sent out to members)

- a) Notification of Application to Vary a Licence: Cottage Inn, Rhydaman/Ammanford. (CCC)(email sent 20/3/2026)
- b) Churches and Chapels Funding Fair - the afternoon of the 25/03/2026 (OVW) (email sent 20/3/2026)
- c) **Betws Charity Tractor Run event 23 May 2026 (County Councillor B Jones) (email sent 20/3/2026)**
- d) National Churches Trust - Large Grants Programme (CCC) (email sent 20/3/2026)
- e) HOWLTA News sheet4 (email sent 20/3/2026)
- f) **Quick yes/no – valley transport pilot proposal (Transport for Wales-TfW) (email sent 20/3/2026)**
- g) Town & Community Councils update (CCC) (email sent 20/2/2026)
- h) One Voice Wales E Bulletin issue 20 (OVW) (email sent 20/3/2026)
- i) **SNN/02200 - Development of 4 new dwellings with new street naming (CCC) (email sent 20/3/2026)**
- j) One Voice Wales National Awards 2026 (email sent 31/3/2026)
- k) Appeal for assistance from Local Authorities & Community Councils (Llangollen Eisteddfod)(email sent 31/3/2026)
- l) Latest news from Planning Aid Wales (email sent 31/3/2026)
- m) **Defib session free (Ammanford Town Council) email sent 31/3/2026)**
- n) **Ysgol Betws School Representative (CCC)(email sent 31/3/2026)** – after a short discussion it was suggested that the clerk ask Maureen Williams if she wishes to remain as school governor for Betws Primary School.
- o) SWWCJC - DA for the SDP (South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee, [Delivery Agreement - Corporate Joint Committee for South West Wales](#)) (.gov) (email sent 31/3/2026)
- p) **Carmarthenshire Area Committee 15.4.26 (OVW) (email sent 2/4/2026)**
- q) **Yellow Legged Asian Hornet (Conwy Beekeepers Association) (email sent 2/4/2026)** – to be placed on the notice board in Betws Park for information on how to report any sightings.
- r) **One Voice Wales E Bulletin issue 20 (OVW) (email sent 7/4/2026)**

s) OVW E-Bulletin Issue 21 (OVW) (email sent 7/4/2026)

The points above are all **NOTED** by members unless otherwise stated.

10. To consider a motion to exclude the public and members of the press with regards to matters in point 12 due to the confidential nature under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) 1960, s.1 (2) and Local Government Act 1972, s. 100 (2)

11. Exempt Matters –

a) Betws RFC and Land issue at Heol Y Felin (if any correspondence received) (22/9/2025 and 26/9/2025) –

Cllr Derrick left the room at 19:45

1 quote received for fencing the boundary the clerk is obtaining a further 2 quotes and they will be brought to the meeting in May for a decision to be made so that the boundary is delineated to avoid any future misunderstanding.

b) Betws RFC – (if any correspondence received) – None

b) c) Annual Lease check for 2024/2025 to be completed – Dave and Emyr completed on Saturday 15 February 2025.

i) To Do - Dave - Report required to be sent to the Clerk and Insurance to check.

ii) Issues lift certificate required for the 6 monthly checks and emergency exit stairs need repair 2/3rds of the way up. Waiting for an update regarding the issues from Betws RFC Committee email sent (3/9/2025) - steps welded need replacing and contact given regarding lift checks - Update on progress – Cllr Comley – Cllr Comley sent his apologies therefore no update available.

iii) Annual lease check for 2025/2026 to be completed – Cllr Stacey – a meeting has been arranged for 4pm on Friday 10th April 2026 with Richard Rees.

12. Feedback from Committees/Working Group/Outside Bodies (all minutes of the Committee Meetings can be viewed on the Community Council Website where the Full Council Meeting minutes are also available):

a) Recreation Ground Committee – Cllr M Jones – the next Recreation Ground Committee meeting will be held in March – No meeting required at present.

i) Section 6 Biodiversity Report – update – Cllr Stacey – Councillor Stacey ran through a few of the items in the report and he will forward the report once completed to the clerk.

b) Betws Park –

i) Update - Betws Park railings – Cllr Comley if any changes – Councillor Comley sent his apologies and no update given.

ii) Update – Simple Metal structure in Nature area (email sent 19/2/2025) reply regarding its construction (email sent 19/3/2025, 21/3/2025)(4/4/2025) (12/4/2025) (see point iv) below – still waiting to be built.

iii) Update regarding site meeting 16/6/2025 regarding the Betws Park Information board (seen previously under correspondence Fw: 250514 -

Sign enquiry | Betws Park Information board (email sent 23/5/2025) - Battens have been fixed to the back of information board by Wrenvale.

iv) Review suggestion of a Memorial Stone for BP by Major Ken Burton discussed in June/July meetings - Memorial Garden quotes received from Cllr McMinn-Davies regarding cost of a proposed new commemorative plaque as per point 1 in the meeting held on Wednesday 11th June 2025 and 13. b. point 7. In the meeting held on Wednesday 9th July 2025. List of names received and sent to Cllrs – Cllr Comley sent his apologies no update given.

v) 3 Public Parks maintenance tender review – Cllr M Jones sent his apologies so no update regarding the CPI figures, Cllr M Jones and the clerk will liaise regarding this, and update Council once completed.

Correspondence received

1. Holes in footbridge top of park (Betws Park Volunteer Group) (email sent 2/4/2026) – under the terms of the lease the landlord (Carmarthenshire County Council) have a Duty to maintain the Bridge. It is therefore Carmarthenshire County Councils responsibility to maintain and repair it. The clerk sent an email to CCC regarding the issue. The County Councillor also received the original email so that she may chase the issue too.

2. Tree down in park (Betws Park Volunteer Group) (email sent 5/4/2026)

3. Branch down on path opposite nature area (Betws Park Volunteer Group) (email sent 5/4/2026) -

Cllr Derrick left the meeting at 20:10

3 Quotations received regarding points 2 and 3 above, after a short discussion and request from Cllr McMinn-Davies regarding the assistance given by one of the quoters within Betws Park. It was proposed by Cllr James that the person giving the it was **RESOLVED** that the Council would go with the cheapest quote.

4. Wildlife cameras and dog fouling in Betws Park (email 11/3/2026)

i) Cllr Stacey updated the Council on his discussions with regards to the issues brought up in the last meeting. He has been discussing the concerns brought up by the residents and Councillors with the Volunteer Group. Cllr McMinn-Davies has also been discussing the issues raised regarding the recording of images and videos of people without their knowledge or consent, and this is a breach of GDPR and Data Protection Act. and the requirements regarding the CCTV and GDPR with a member of the Volunteer Group. They will also need to contact all the schools and colleges regarding this. Currently there is a breach of the GDPR and Data Protection Act.

We've done some exploring into what is, and what isn't allowed, and we're keen to support where we can, the liability would sit with Friends of Betws Park, and not with the Community Council.

If the volunteer group want to keep the cameras up, we're happy for you to do so, providing that all the relevant laws are followed.

ii) Regarding the dog fouling and dogs off leads in the park, signage is displayed, it is not enforceable however it would be hoped that those with dogs understand the reasons why it is important due to the potential pathogens, diseases and parasites that could infect any children who encounter it.

Dogs on leads especially within the nature area should be adhered to as schools and colleges attend the area regularly and some edible plants are grown within. Not all people are happy with being approached by loose dogs therefore owners should be mindful of this too when in Betws Park.

Cllr Waring will prepare a social media campaign regarding the issues with the dogs in Betws Park.

Cllr Stacey will contact the Volunteer Group regarding all the above as discussed in this meeting.

c) Maesquarre and Heol Y Felin Playground – update

- i) Fortnightly Playground Inspection Reports – Cllrs Comely and Derrick to commence from 1st April 2025 as contractor has retired –**
The checks have been done but the paperwork is required to be sent to the clerk on email as agreed in previous meetings – Cllr Comley will send the clerk the reports, there have been technical issues with them.

Cllr Waring to set up a new form on google docs for Cllr Derrick to use and send.

- ii) Update on Inclusive Roundabout – issues with installation (emails sent 2/6/2025, 3/6/2025, 17/6/2025 + 10/7/2025, 18/7/2025) – update from Cllr Stacey – ref site meeting 17/11/2025 – Cllr Comley sent his apologies, no update given.**

- iii) Chain link fencing along Colonel Road requires fixing as sagging – Cllr M Jones – to be actioned as per point 13. c) correspondence received point iii) at meeting of 9th July 2025 – update from Cllr Comley/Cllr Derrick**

Update from Cllr Comley – the repairs were not actioned at the same time as point iii) above but will be done hopefully prior to the next meeting. Cllr Comley needs to give the clerk the invoice for the chain-link fencing so that he may be reimbursed. The repair has not been actioned to date Cllr Derrick informed members he could not do the repair as agreed when sorting out the wet pour issues as Cllr Comley had not given him the materials. Cllr Comley sent his apologies to this meeting.

Correspondence received – none

e) Finance and Staffing Committee – Cllr James – see point 7. e) above under Audit.

f) Community Engagement and Events Committee – Cllr Stacey – Councillor McMinn-Davies proposed the collaboration event with Ammanford Town Council and South Wales Fun Days take place on May 16 – 17. She gave an update that the relevant indemnity insurances and certificates are in place and will be forwarded to the clerk once she receives them. She will confirm with the events company once received. She explained how they will protect the green area by placing wood down first. This could become a twice-yearly collaboration event which would be great for the residents. This was seconded by Cllr Stacey and agreed by all present.

g) Toolkit working group - work in progress - Cllr Stacey due to other commitments this has been set aside.

Next meeting **Wednesday 13th May 2026 at 19:00.**

The meeting Closed at 21:05