

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 14th January 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 Dave Stacey (Chairperson), Carwyn James, Peter Comley, Betsan Jones, Mike Jones and Louise Waring virtually.

County Councillor: Betsan Jones

Clerk: Miss Angela Brown

PCSO: not present

The meeting started at 19:08

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and was going to change the order of the meeting starting with point 11. b) Betws RFC as Jeff Thomas who is the secretary of Betws RFC wanted to speak with the Council and gave a letter which he explained in person regarding an issue with their boiler and that they were seeking funding to replace. He also discussed their plans to bring more youth teams to the RFC, they have already applied for a grant of £500 for the youth teams. Discussion and suggestions regarding various avenues for grant funding were shared. He asked County Councillor B Jones if there would be a possibility of having a gritter box for the car park, it was discussed that as it is a private car park it may not be something that would be done. Suggestion by Cllr Comley who had been the previous secretary of the club who informed members that the last time they needed salt was in 2010 and he suggested that the club buy a few bags of salt and keep on site to use when required.

The chair thanked Mr Thomas and informed him that his request would be discussed later in the meeting and that Council would send an email to him, he gave the clerk the email address as there were no contact details on the letter submitted.

Mr Jeff Thomas left the meeting at 19:20

1. Public Questions/Representations

None

2. a) Apologies and Vacancies

James Derrick and Karen McMinn-Davies – running late may arrive later

2 Vacancies were confirmed by resignations from Cllr M Williams and Cllr L Phillips.
Clerk to inform CCC.

3. Declaration by Members of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None

4. County Councillor Report – moved to later in the meeting.

1. Update regarding the issues with a bin that had been missing/removed from the Maesquarre Road end of the footpath 6/6 which leads to Colonel Road. It has not been replaced to date – ongoing no response has been received to the emails sent to date.
2. Regarding the proposed double yellow lines to be placed on the left-hand side of the junction as you exit Colonel Road onto Betws Road. She informed members that the notices have been placed near the area which is for no waiting at all in the area. The consultation period ended 7 January 2026. No correspondence received from the highways department regarding whether or not any objections have been received.
3. Update given about the information board in Betws Park that has the local footpaths on – still ongoing County Councillor has received a first draft which she will send to the clerk to share.
4. There has been some flooding in the gardens of 3 properties in Treforis and further down on Betws Road where a garden wall has been damaged from the water pressure from the flooding – update there has been a site meeting with a contractor and the repairs will be done in a dry spell, no specific date given yet.
5. Footpath order – email sent to all members for comments and the walking group have also had this too. Proposal is to close one footpath and divert another to make a good walking loop – the proposal looks like a good compromise for all parties involved which has been an ongoing issue for a few years.
6. County Councillor informed members of a recent dog attack around the Betws Park area of 3 large dogs attacking another person's small dog. The incident has been reported to the police, and they are investigating the incident as it was captured on the garage CCTV
7. Cllr Comley brought up the issue which has been reported previously regarding no dropped kerb being on the junction between Maesquarre Road and Pentwyn Road on one side of the road. It makes it difficult for less abled people to cross the road. County Councillor informed members that an email had been sent in June 2025 and that it is a CCC issue and they are aware.

5. To confirm and Sign the Minutes of the Annual and Monthly Meetings held on 12^h November 2025

Councillor James proposed, and Councillor B Jones seconded and resolved that the minutes of the Council's monthly meeting held on 12th November 2025 be accepted as a true record and approved by all present.

Discussion ensued regarding the December meeting not being quorate. It was proposed by Councillor James that no meeting be held in December this was seconded by Councillor B Jones and agreed by those present.

Clerk to update website, and check standing orders that Betws Community Council do not have a meeting in August and December.

6. Dyfed Powys Police Monthly Crime Figures for Betws – moved to later in the meeting

Crimes for October 2025 = 13

Violence and Sexual Offences = 6, Public Order = 2, Burglary = 1, Drugs = 1, All Other Crimes = 3

Crimes for November 2025 = 12

Violence and Sexual Offences = 6, Public Order = 3, Anti-Social Behaviour = 1, Other theft = 1, All Other Crimes = 1

The link for Betws ward below.

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

The above figures were noted by members, December's figures not available to date.

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 December 2025			
MEETING/BACS REFERENCE	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
12/11/2025 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)
12/11/2025 point 7a	HMRC	Payroll payments. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)
12/11/2025 point 7a	Pension	Payroll Pension payments. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)

Payments Made in January 2026			
MEETING/BACS REFERENCE	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT

14/1/2026 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)
14/1/2026 point 7a	HMRC	Payroll payments. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)
14/1/2026 point 7a	Pension	Payroll Pension payments. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)
14/1/2026 point 7a	Carmarthenshire County Council	Replacement of Community Council lanterns to LED for the year 2026 10 @ £139 each To be invoiced annually from 2021/22 to 2028/29 Parish Councils Act 1957 s.3 Highways Act 1980 s.301	£173.75 VAT £ 34.75 Total £208.50
14/1/2026 point 7a	Wrenvale	Maesquarre Park maintenance of park as per tender - Qtr 3 Public Health Act 1875, s.164 – Power to provide and manage recreation grounds.	£490 VAT £ 98 Total £588
14/1/2026 point 7a	Wrenvale	Heol Y Felin maintenance of park as per tender – Qtr 3 Public Health Act 1875, s.164 – Power to provide and manage recreation grounds.	£370 VAT £ 74 Total £444

14/1/2026 point 7a	Wrenvale	Betws Park maintenance of park as per tender – Qtr 3 Public Health Act 1875, s.164 – Power to provide and manage recreation grounds.	£3,471.50 VAT £ 694.30 Total £4,165.80
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It was proposed by Councillor M Jones and seconded by Councillor James and agreed by all present that the above payments are authorised, and it was **RESOLVED** that the above be paid.

b) Donation Requests –

- i) Ammanford Foodbank Donation Request (email sent 24/11/2025) – No to donation as the chair had made a donation of £300 with his chair allowance in June 2025 - Proposed by Cllr Comley Seconded by Cllr James
- ii) Urdd Gobaith Cymru Fund for All appeal 2026 (email sent 24/11/2025) – Yes to donation - £100 – Proposed by Cllr James Seconded by Cllr M Jones
- iii) Eisteddfod yr Urdd Ynys Môn 2026 (email sent 24/11/2025) – No to donation – Proposed by Cllr James Seconded by Cllr Comley
- iv) Glo man publication (email sent 7/11/2025) – Yes to donation - £50 Proposed by Cllr James Seconded by Cllr M Jones
- v) HOWLTA - £30 – Proposed by Cllr James Seconded by Cllr B Jones
- vi) Betws RFC – after discussion Council want the club to succeed - Yes to supporting in the future when specific amounts are requested once grants for the work required is ascertained – Proposed by Cllr Comley and seconded by Cllr James

It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk inform the requestors of the decisions made and that the donations are paid.

- c) Precept form to sign and return to CCC – signed by the Chair and Clerk
- d) Review and Approve Risk Assessments for 2026 – 2027 – after discussion it was proposed by Cllr Comley and seconded by Cllr James that the Chair would check with the volunteer group regarding the Betws Park risk assessment but Council is happy with it and the main Council risk assessment.

8. Planning Applications – moved to later in the meeting

The following applications were received:

PL/10144 - The change of use of the properties from 2 family dwellings (Class C3) to an assisted living accommodation with 2 support staff operating on a 24/7 shift pattern (Resubmission of CLEUD PL/08506) - Land adjacent to 44/46 Treforis Road, Ammanford, SA18 2RA – In review awaiting decision

PL/10138 - Alterations and extension - Pant Meredith, 71 Betws Road, Ammanford, SA18 2HG -consultation date 28/11/2025 -19/12/2025

PL/09640 - Proposed outline planning application for the erection of a single dwelling (re-submission of a previously rejected outline planning application for a lapsed application CCC

planning reference E/21113 – Bryn Yr Eithin, Woodlands Park, Betws, SA18 2HS – Consultation date 19/12/2025 – 9/1/2026

PL/10332 - Outline planning permission for one residential dwelling - Land adjacent to Pant Y Meibion, Heol Waungron, Betws, Ammanford - Consultation date 23/12/2025 – 13/1/2026

PL/10361 – Change of use from dwelling C3 to residential care home for up to 4 children – Serenisima, Heol Y Felin SA18 2HL – Consultation date 9/1/2026 – 30/1/2026

After a short discussion Council had no objections to all the above planning applications. It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk inform CCC.

The following applications were granted/refused/withdrawn:

PL/09722 - Removal of Conditions 5, 6, 7 and Variation of Condition 8 on E/28461 (New Dormer Bungalow & Detached Garage) - Land at Dolau Ffin, Maesquarre Road, Betws, Ammanford -Delegated Decision Removal / Variation of Condition Granted 6/11/2025

PL/09897 – construction and operation of a micro energy storage project – verge at Betws Park Workshops, Park Street, Betws – Full Granted 5/1/2026

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

**9. Correspondence/Matters for Information/Action (emails sent out to members)
- moved to later in the meeting**

- a) **Find Your Volunteer Role Webinar (OPCC) (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- b) **Net Zero Training – Upcoming Dates & Invitation to Participate (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- c) **FREE COUNCILLOR TRAINING (OVW) (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- d) **Notification of Application for a Licence: Park Street Garage, Ammanford (CCC) (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- e) **Newsletter Issue 2 2025 (Llais) (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- f) **Bureau Funding Opportunities - Places of Worship Protective Security Scheme (CCC) (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- g) **IMPACT - Llais monthly newsletter (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- h) **One Voice Wales Annual General Meeting - 21/01/26 (OVW) (email sent 19/11/2025) – Cllr Stacey will be attending**
- i) **Wales Regional Energy Strategic Plans (RESP) (OVW) (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- j) **Breathing New Life into Britain's High Streets | Digital Conference | 29th January 2026 (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- k) **Practice Development Note 22 - Members' Induction (OVW) (email sent 19/11/2025)**
- l) **Funding opportunities for community groups (AA TC) (email sent 24/11/2025)**
- m) **End the two-child limit (Ammanford Foodbank) (email sent 24/11/2025)**
- n) **Clinical Services Plan: conscientious consideration of feedback - Town and Community Council Session - Tuesday 2 December 2025 at 6pm (Hywel Dda) (email sent 24/11/2025)**
- o) **Notification of Application for a Licence: 8 Cross Inn Buildings, College Street, Ammanford (CCC) (email sent 24/11/2025)**
- p) **E Bulletin Issue 13 (OVW) (email sent 24/11/2025)**
- q) **Social Impact Survey link and information (OVW) (email sent 27/11/2025)**
- r) **Have your say on policing in Dyfed-Powys (OPCC) (email sent 27/11/2025)**
- s) **Clinical Services Plan: conscientious consideration (HywelDda) (email sent 3/12/2025)**
- t) **Town & Community Council update (CCC) (email sent 3/12/2025)**
- u) **Community Grant (Mentrus) (email sent 3/12/2025)**

- v) Please Help Us Share the 2026/2027 Police Precept Consultation (OPCC) (email sent 22/12/2025)
- w) PCC Bulletin (OPCC) (email sent 22/12/2025)
- x) Young People & Hate in Wales 2026 (CCC) (email sent 22/12/2025)
- y) Bureau Newsletter (CCC) (email sent 22/12/2025)
- z) HTRR/1993 - GORCHYMYN / ORDER - SIR GAERFYRDDIN GWLEDIG (CYFYNGU AR AROS A MANNAU PARCIO AR Y STRYD (AMRYWIAD RHIF 42) / RURAL CARMARTHENSHIRE (WAITING RESTRICTION AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (VARIATION NO. 42) (CCC) (email sent 22/12/2025) = 3 emails
- aa) Joint event One Voice Wales and Planning Aid Wales
- bb) Informal Specific consultee consultation – Timetable for Draft Delivery Agreement (CCC) (email sent 22/12/2025)
- cc) E Bulletin issue 15 (OVW) (email sent 22/12/2025)
- dd) Winter Newsletter - Ammanford Town Council (email sent 7/1/2026)
- ee) Webinar - Biodiversity Team (OVW) (email sent 7/1/2026)
- ff) Open Call: Bring Your Community Together Through Food (Aberystwyth University) (email sent 7/1/2026)
- gg) A New Year Message from the Chief Executive (OVW) (email sent 7/1/2026)
- hh) Copyright and Participating in Webinars (OVW) (email sent 7/1/2026)
- ii) Supporting Our Research on Digital Exclusion – Interviews, Focus Groups & Survey (OVW) (email sent 7/1/2026)
- jj) Pre-order consultation – Wernolau Road, Ammanford – Extinguish and divert footpaths (CCC) (email sent 13/1/2026)
- kk) Copyright Practice Development Note – Amended (OVW) (email sent 13/1/2026)
- ll) Carmarthen Area Committee Meeting 27/1/2026 (email sent 13/1/2026)
- mm) HOWLTA Newsletter No 2 (Heart of Wales Train Line) (email sent 13/1/2026)
- nn) HOWLTA Newsletter No 3 (Heart of Wales Train Line) (email sent 13/1/2026)
- oo) Defibrillators – Peter Comley – the RFC defibrillator which was funded by the Griffiths Bros, TRJ and other local businesses with the defibrillator being supplied by the Welsh Government. Its life is 5 – 7. The battery needs replacing its cost is £280 when checking online. The pads will also need to be replaced and cost £150. Cllr Comley will contact Save a Life – Welsh Government as they already have the cabinet so only need the new type of defibrillator where the batteries don't cost as much as the old one. Once he gets the information and the cost is £1,230 approx he will approach local businesses to help fund, look at getting a grant and will approach the Community Council should there be a difference between the money raised and its cost.
- pp) OVW AGM Wednesday 21 January 2026 6-8pm (email sent 13/1/2026)

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)** – correspondence received from the Land Registry confirming that the boundaries had been corrected finally and this matter would now be closed. Some of the boundary will need fencing in due course. It was proposed by Councillor James and seconded by Councillor

Comley that the clerk to inform the Community Council solicitor and request final bill be sent regarding this long-standing matter from 2012.

- b) **Betws RFC – (if any correspondence received)** – update given at point 1 earlier by Jeff Thomas the secretary of Betws RFC.
- c) **Annual Lease check for 2024/2025 to be completed** – Dave and Emyr completed on Saturday 15 February 2025. To Do - Dave - Report required to be sent to the Clerk and Insurance to check. Issues still outstanding = lift certificate required for the 6 monthly checks and emergency exit stairs need repair 2/3rds of the way up – see point b) above. Cllr Stacey has received the Insurance Certificate and will forward to the clerk.

Cllr Comley informed members that it was the water boiler that provides water for the showers had malfunctioned and Rhydian Murray had asked him to have a look at the boiler, which he did, and it has now been repaired. He informed members that the heating boiler is in working order and that it hadn't had any issues.

Cllr Comley informed members that the lift still hasn't been serviced, and he is working with the RFC to find someone who can do the job.

Cllr Comley has also removed the step that require repairs from the emergency exit stairs which will be welded by him by the next meeting.

Cllr Comley also informed members that the drain from Brynffin has historically been silting up and that it needs to be cleaned a couple of times a year as it silts up there is a big pipe which leads into a ditch which has wire at its entrance behind the containers/sheds at the rear of the RFC. The land where this occurs is owned by a local family and Betws RFC need to negotiate with them regarding this issue. Under the terms of the lease maintaining the car park and drains are their responsibility not Betws Community Council.

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 – Cllr M Jones to send the agenda to the clerk in due course.

- i) **Section 6 Biodiversity Report – update – Cllr Stacey** – his laptop required repairs, so this was not shared with members – moved to February meeting.

- b) **Betws Park –**

- i) **Update - Betws Park railings – Cllr Comley if any changes** – he's going to contact the office and previous supervisor as this is all at a standstill although the weather is also not great for painting at this time of year.

- 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 being built Cllr Stacey to get an update from the volunteer group.

- 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)** – see County Councillor report at point 4 for the update. First draft has been sent to

Betsan, and she will send to the clerk and chair to share. The wooden frame needs to be varnished annually as it does not need renewing only maintenance.

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 – It was proposed by Cllr M Jones and seconded by Cllr B Jones that Cllr Comley arranges a meeting with Ken Burton and the person who can make the commemorative plaque to move this forward. He will feed back at the next meeting.

v) 3 Public Parks maintenance tender review – Cllr M Jones explained the options, it was proposed by Cllr M Jones that the contract be extended to 3 years, and the contractor can base his costs on CPI this was seconded by Cllr James and agreed by all present. Cllr M Jones informed members that the contractor will be contacted regarding this.

Correspondence received

- 1. Tree fallen in Betws Park (email sent 1/12/2025)**
- 2. Front of Flower Park (tyre marks) (email sent 20/12/2025)**
- 3. Wood in park (email sent 26/12/2025)**

Cllr Stacey will be contacting the volunteer group regarding the various issues.

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 – Clerk is waiting for the fortnightly reports, 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 proposed that the reports are sent monthly by him as Cllr Derrick is busy with his business, Cllr Derrick will report any issues at Maesquarre playground to Cllr Derrick and Cllr Comley will send the report to the clerk however, both councillors will conduct minor repairs and larger repairs will be discussed at each meeting. Where issues are identified they will be marked as Low, Medium or High risk on the report. Cllr Comley informed members that he checks Heol Y Felin playground regularly probably more than once per fortnight as does Cllr Derrick at Maesquarre.

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 Stacey updated members on the Roundabout he'd had an email from Sutcliffe informing him that the new board had been ordered. He has not had an update regarding the status of the malfunctioning bearing but will chase Sutcliffe for a firm date as to when both items will be replaced. It has been installed 1 year this month. Failure for Sutcliffe to fix the faults then it has been suggested by Cllr M Jones that it be removed and compensation sought from the Company as it has not been fit for purpose since installation, it has not been repaired even though the company have had a few site visits over the past year and correspondence. The item remains under warranty.

iii) Heol Y Felin wet pour issues – quotes for repair and renewal as per site meeting on 9/7/2025. – Emroch quotes for repair and renewal – Council reviewed the quotations and after careful consideration it was proposed by Cllr B

Jones that Council would go with the cheapest option at £5,350 this was seconded by Cllr James and agreed by all present. It was **RESOLVED** the clerk to inform all who quoted of the decision.

iv) 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 – he will be doing the repairs with help that he has found by the next meeting.

Cllr Waring left the meeting at 20:05

Correspondence received

i) Chain link fencing at Heol Y Felin sagging (email sent 28/11/2025) – see point 12. iv) above

d) Finance and Staffing Committee – Cllr James – Precept forms signed see point 7.c) above.

e) Community Engagement and Events Committee – Cllr Stacey – feedback on the Christmas Lighting Event given, the Christmas tree and lights have been taken down, and the lights are with Cllr M Jones. Cllr Comley also has some of the old lights which he has got working again so there are spares if needed.

The next meeting will be February 3rd at Betws RFC – Cllr Stacey to send Agenda to the clerk.

e) Toolkit working group - work in progress - Cllr Stacey

The Chair informed members that they would now revert to Points 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. See above for the information.

Next meeting **Wednesday 11th February 2026 at 19:00.**

The meeting Closed at 21:15