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 11th November 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 Carwyn James (Chairperson), Betsan Jones, Jayne Grazette, Louise Waring, James Derrick and Paul Griffiths.

County Councillor: Betsan Jones

Clerk: Miss Angela Brown

PCSO: Not present.

The meeting started at 19:08

Cllr James welcomed everyone to the monthly meeting.

1. **Public Questions/Representations** - None

2. **a) Welcome New Councillor and Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

   b) Apologies (to be given to the clerk prior to the meeting)

   Mike Jones, Dave Stacey, Karen McMinn-Davies

   Peter Comley – no apologies received.

   c) Vacancies

   2 Vacancies remain with Local Council elections being in May 2027.

3. **Declaration by Members of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**

   None

4. **County Councillor Report**

   1. Members informed that she is still chasing up the Maesquarre Road and Pentwyn Road speed monitoring equipment so far there is nothing in place, she has checked today and is waiting for a response, she had her last response on 15 October.
   2. A larger bin has been placed outside the Plough and Harrow.
   3. She has spoken with Paul Kennedy at Cefnogi who has sent an official gratitude to the Community Council for their donation of £500 they are extremely grateful especially as Betws Community Council is a small council.
   4. She had met with Dyfed Powys Police regarding the old-style Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings no longer taking place there is a new style meeting called CWSWLLT.

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5. Family Centre update regarding their financial situation – they are dependant on grants much like Cefnogi and their Lottery grant application has been refused. The centre manager has been applying for more including from Children in Need. One of the mothers, centre manager and the County Councillor are meeting Adam Price to see if the Welsh government can support.

The chair asked if anyone had questions for the County Councillor and there were none.

5. To confirm and Sign the Minutes Monthly Meeting held on 14th October 2026

Councillor Griffiths proposed and Councillor B Jones seconded and resolved that the minutes of the Council's monthly meeting held on 14th October 2026 be accepted as a true record and approved by all present.

6. Dyfed Powys Police Monthly Crime Figures for Betws

Crimes for September 2026 = 14

Violence and Sexual Offences = 8, Drugs = 2, Public Order = 2, Shoplifing = 2

The link for Betws ward below.

Betws | Police.uk (www.police.uk)

The above figures were noted by members.

7. Payments/Donation Requests –

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

Payments Made in November 2026			
MEETING/BACS REFERENCE	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
11/11/2026 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)
11/11/2026 point 7a	HMRC	Payroll payments. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)
11/11/2026 point 7a	Pension	Payroll Pension payments. Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Clerk Salary and Payroll schedule)

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It was proposed by Councillor Waring and seconded by Councillor Griffiths and agreed by all present that the above payments are authorised, and it was **RESOLVED** that the above be paid.

b) Donation Requests –
i) Carmarthenshire County Council Toy Appeal 2026
Cllr Griffiths proposed £100 be donated this was seconded by Cllr Derrick and agreed by all present. Clerk to inform requestor.

c) External Audit 1/4/2025 – 31/3/2026 result – Cllr Grazette congratulated the clerk/rfo for achieving an unqualified audit result.

d) Grant Applications – Betsan Jones – the DWR Cymru water connection was discussed as the fees to connect £8,297.28 for a connection from the road to Betws Park boundary and there will be further costs to install pipes etc to the Nature Garden area. Cllr Waring, Derrick, B Jones and M Jones will meet with DWR Cymru to discuss other options.

e) Debit Card – it was proposed by Cllr Waring and seconded by Cllr Derrick and agreed by all present that the clerk/rfo obtain a debit card for purchases which will be held in her name. The Financial Regulations and Standing Orders will need amending in due course to reflect these changes.

8. Planning Applications

The following applications were received: None

The following applications were granted/refused/withdrawn:

PL/11124 - Tattoo and skin blemish removal conducted in a small purpose-built building within the garden - 2 Ffordd Y Glowyr, Betws SA18 2FG – Full permission granted
16/10/2026
23/9/2026

The above applications were **NOTED** by Council.

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

a) New funding opportunity for community-owned clean energy projects in Wales (OVW) (email sent 23/10/2026)
b) Grant Cyfalaf Bach Newydd/New Small Capital Grant (CCC) (email sent 23/10/2026)
c) Public Bodies interviews by Ipsos for HMRC (OVW) (email sent 23/10/2026)
d) Practice Development Notes 30 and 31 (OVW) (email sent 23/10/2026)
e) Carmarthenshire Area Committee 5.10.26 (OVW) (email sent 23/10/2026)
f) Politically Restricted Posts (OVW) (email sent 23/10/2026)
g) One Voice Wales E Bulletin (OVW) (email sent 23/10/2026)
h) Issue 5 of 'The Voice' e-magazine (OVW) (email sent 23/10/2026)
i) RECORDING: GBE Community Fund – support in Wales webinar (OVW) (email sent 23/10/2026)
j) Consultation on Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (CCC) (email sent 23/10/2026)
k) Invitation / Gwahoddiad: Behind the Headlines – 30/11/2026 at Ammanford Library (email sent 23/10/2026)
l) Publication of the Inspectors' Report: Carmarthenshire Revised Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033 (CCC) (email sent 23/10/2026)
m) Application for road closure U4346 Argoed Road (One.Network: 153120403) (CCC) (email sent 23/10/2026)

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n) **FS-Case-874142935-Temporary Obstruction (One net ID:153200638) CCC) (email sent 23/10/2026)**
o) **Shaping Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Together (email sent 23/10/2026)**
p) Town and Community Councils update (CCC) (email sent 23/10/2026)
q) **Invitation from Ysgol Betws – Remembering Betws (email sent 27/10/2026)**
r) **Application for road closure Maesquarre Road, Ammanford (One.Network: 153172260) (CCC)(27/10/2026)**
s) **West Wales Health and Social Care Awards 2027 (OVW) (email sent 27/10/2026)**
t) **Code of Conduct: Members and officers (OVW) (email sent 4/11/2026)**
u) **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment - Parent Survey (CCC) (email sent 4/11/2026)**
v) **Gwynt Glas Offshore Wind Farm (CCC) (email sent 4/11/2026)**
w) **Walking paths of Betws Noticeboards (Betws Walking Group) (email sent 9/11/2026)** – Cllr Grazette will liaise with the sender to ascertain the details and feedback to the Council in their next meeting in January 2027.

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)** –
i) update ref boundary – Clerk – Wrenvale have not installed the boundary fence to date – message received giving apologies waiting for a date for installation.

Betws RFC – (if any correspondence received) –

b) **Annual Lease check for 2024/2025 to be completed** –
i)To Do - Dave - Report required to be sent to the Clerk and Insurance to check **(email sent 24/7/2026).**
ii) Issue lift certificate required for the 6 monthly checks – Cllr Griffiths made a note of this and will contact the chair to see where they are with this requirement – update its an Italian lift waiting for details of the contractor from Cllr Comley
iii)Annual lease check for 2025/2026 to be completed – Cllr Stacey – (email sent 24/7/2026)
Cllr Stacey was not present at the meeting to update.
Clerk to send Cllr Griffiths and Waring the checklist.
Clerk informed members that the 2026 – 2027 lease check also needed completing.

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 –**
b) **Betws Park –**
i) Update - Betws Park railings – Cllr Comley if any changes – was not present at the meeting to update

ii) Review suggestion of a Memorial Stone for BP by Major Ken Burton discussed in June/July meetings - update Cllr Comley – was not present at the meeting to update. The new memorial has been installed however the original plaques that were removed are yet to be replaced.
iii) Water for Betws Park, Park St, Betws – Update - Cllr Waring – see point 7. d) above for update.
iv) Betws Park Volunteer Group – (if any correspondence received) – Mike Millward – none received
v) New Bin for park update Glasdon have a 34 week lead time. It was proposed by Cllr Griffiths and seconded by Cllr Grazette and agreed by all present that a £580 limit including VAT excluding delivery costs to be agreed Cllr Derrick was given the details by clerk of 3 other options and costs and he will inform clerk of the best option to order after finding out which has the shortest lead time.

Correspondence received

i) Request from Betws Park Volunteer Group to purchase 3 big bag of daffodils at £18.99 each for the school and college to plant (email received from Cllr McMinn-Davies 22/10/2026)

It was proposed by Cllr B Jones and seconded by Cllr Derrick and agreed by all present that a donation of 3 x £18.99 = £56.97 would be given to the Betws Park Volunteer Group.

ii) Life preserver top of park (email received from Betws Park Volunteer Group 28/10/2026)

The volunteer group had cleared some of the bramble's overgrowth that was encroaching on the life preserver. The clerk contacted the contractor and instructed that a larger area in the vicinity be removed and maintained to ensure the life preserver remains accessible. This task has been actioned.

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

c) Maesquarre and Heol Y Felin Playground – update –

i) Playground Inspection Reports – Cllrs Comely and Derrick – Cllr Derrick in informed the clerk that he had emailed her his reports earlier in the evening. Cllr Comley was not present for the clerk to receive his reports.
ii) Update on Inclusive Roundabout – issues with original installation – Cllr Comley/Cllr M Jones update regarding progress – neither Cllr were in attendance for an update to be received.
iii) Chain link fencing along Colonel Road requires fixing as sagging – Cllr M Jones – update – new stronger metal fencing to be installed - Cllr Comley – Cllr Derrick updated Council to inform that he had assisted in installing the new fence 10 November 2026. There are a couple of areas that require snagging, but these will be addressed in due course.
iv) Electricity cable installation costs at Heol Y Felin Green for Christmas lights to be agreed – It was proposed by Cllr Griffiths and seconded by Cllr Derrick and agreed by all present that:

i) It was suggested by Cllr Grazette that the costs for this will be earmarked by the Clerk for installation during 2027. Cllr Derrick to email the clerk with the costs for the cable, outside socket installation. Cllr Griffiths informed members that Betws RFC were happy with this installation and had no issue with the costs of the electricity that would be generated for any future Christmas Tree lights.

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ii) Lighting for the main entrance to Betws RFC and car park be installed as it is currently a very dark area. Cllr Griffiths informed members that Betws RFC were happy with this installation and had no issue with the costs of the electricity that would be generated by these lights.

iii) Cllr Waring had been unable to secure the 4 sets of Christmas lights for this year as out of stock on the day she went to purchase. A maximum of £40/pack was agreed for these warm white lights to be purchased.

Correspondence received

i) Heol Y Felin playground (email from resident) (email sent 4/11/2026)

Cllrs James and Comley attended at Heol Y Felin after receiving the email from the resident regarding mud being on the play equipment to clean it. The photograph that had been sent with the email showing muddy footprints on the equipment were no longer visible.

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

d) Finance and Staffing Committee – Cllr James – see above in point 7c.

e) Community Engagement and Events Committee – Cllr McMinn-Davies – had sent her apologies however Cllr Waring gave a brief update. The clerk informed members that the contractor was on annual leave and she was waiting for an update on the Fir Tree that's to be planted in Heol Y Felin this year.

i) Remembrance Services Sunday 8/11/2026 Ammanford Town and Wednesday 11/11/2026 at Betws Park – update – Cllr James

The service went well earlier today including the part the children from Betws Primary school did with their project. It was suggested that a battery mic be used next year and gazebo if the weather is inclement. Cllr Grazette informed members that this Council could borrow the items from Ammanford Town Council when needed.

The Chair informed members that he would personally send a thank you to Major Burton and Betws Primary School for the part that they have taken in this years' service.

It was proposed by Cllr Derrick and seconded by Cllr Griffiths and agreed by all present that donations be made as follows:

i) 21 x £30 = £630 for the wreaths that were placed around the village to commemorate each of the fallen from the two world wars.
ii) £100 for the 2 wreaths that were placed at the Ammanford Town Council service on Sunday 8th November and earlier today in Betws Park.
iii) £100 for the Bugler who attended today's service in Betws Park.

Cllr B Jones asked members about the meeting commencing earlier after a short discussion it was agreed that the time would remain at 19:00 but should there be public representations that go over the 10 minutes allowed in the Standing Orders see point 3 e and f then the meeting would need to commence earlier to reflect this. Timings to be discussed with a requestor on each occasion.

Next meeting **Wednesday 13th January 2027 at 19:00**.

The meeting Closed at 20:21

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