

Llantrisant Fawr Community Council

Incorporating the wards of Llantrisant, Llanllowell, Gwernesney, Llangwm and Llansoy

Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held at the Greyhound Inn, Llantrisant on Tuesday 21st April 2026 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr. Gwynfor Gardiner (Chairman), Cllr. James Hawkins, (Vice Chairman), Cllr Glyn Williams, Cllr. Bob Trigg, Cllr. David Williams, Cllr. John Watkins, Cllr. Steve Jolliffe, Mrs Jayne Stoodley (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr. Malcolm Hatfield – Sickness leave
County Cllr Bromfield – Prior commitment
County Cllr Buckler – Prior commitment

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17th March 2026

Agreed as a correct record by all present and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising from the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17th March 2026

Mobile connectivity in Llangwm

Last month Councillor's discussed their ongoing concern over the continued lack of Mobile signal in the area and requested the clerk write to the office of Catherine Fookes, MP to advise they would be happy to host a meeting with the Mobile operators to discuss the possibility of Mobile Masts for the area.

A reply confirmed the possibility of a meeting with the Network providers would be explored and the Council would be kept updated.

BT Activity – Gwernesney

Cllr Gardiner last month advised that BT Openreach had been working in Gwernesney. It was reported wires had been pulled through from the ground and hopes were raised that they were working to install Broadband in the area. The BT Openreach website does not suggest this is the case, County Cllr Bromfield confirmed she would investigate further and updates are awaited.

The Bridge Inn, Llangwm

There had been a further break in at the property since last month's meeting and the back door had been broken down. Photographs were again sent to MCC Environmental Health and Guy Delamere of Planning. The owner was contacted and contractors were sent to make good the damage. Planning confirmed they were still waiting to receive any proposed plans adding that if this was not forthcoming within the next month, they would likely begin enforcement action.

Signed _____

Date _____

4. Highways issues:

Update on Matters reported:

Road Safety Improvements

Gwernesney

Speed monitoring has taken place in the village to assess the impact of the recent road changes on drivers' behaviour. Consideration was also being given to measures that might reinforce the need for drivers to give way to oncoming traffic on the main road. The clerk has requested an update but is still waiting for the results.

Llangwm

The proposed changes to the road markings and signs in the village are currently on hold pending the refresh of MCC Highways' department budget. The clerk will continue to monitor the situation.

Last month Councillors were disappointed to learn there was no opportunity for shared funding to assist with the purchase of Solar powered Speed signs for Llangwm and Gwernesney. Following further discussion, Councillor's requested the clerk write to Gareth Freeman to advise him the Council are proposing to erect a Solar powered Speed sign for themselves and that providing this was carried out in accordance with Highways rules and regulations, would there be any objections to the proposal. Clerk to action.

The purchase of convex mirrors is currently on hold and will be considered at a later date.

Replacement of Drainage Pipe - Chapel Road, Llangwm

A response is still awaited in relation to the complaint raised by Cllr Watkins, in relation to the poor workmanship shown in the replacement of a drainage pipe in Chapel Road. Llangwm. County Cllr Bromfield has written to the appropriate Heads of department to arrange a meeting; an update is awaited.

Footpath resurfacing, Llangwm

The resurfacing of the footpath is currently logged as a Service Issue with Highways, it is hoped the work will be considered for this year's Highways budget.

Erosion of the Bridge - Route 63.3 Llangwm

The work on the Bridge is still outstanding. An inspection of the bridge was due to be carried out by Mark Quarrington last month. The Clerk has recently requested an update, a reply is still awaited.

Resurfacing of Nant Y Banw Lane, Llantrisant

County Cllr Bromfield had written to Highways expressing her concern over the use of tarmac to fill what was considered subsidence and the road edge failure on the lane. No follow up has yet been received but the situation will continue to be monitored.

Bridges of Llantrisant and Llanllowell

Arch Bridge

Temporary fencing and cones were installed at the site whilst quotes were gathered for the work needed. County Cllr Bromfield wrote expressing her concerns and asked for a detailed response outlining the next steps and firm timescales.

It has since been confirmed that quotations for the work at Llanllowell (Olway Brook) and Arch Farm (Llantrisant Brook) Culverts have now been received. But due to the cost of the anticipated works, the MCC procurement process requires a minimum of 3 quotations to be provided or an exemption to be sought based on the works being an emergency. An update will be provided when a decision has been made.

Signed _____

Date _____

Llanllowell Bridge

Councillor Hawkins reported that fencing had now been erected by a neighbour on the bridge side which now gave motorists the impression of a wider road. He added this has now become a safety issue and said Chevron signs should now be erected to ensure motorists safety.

The clerk will raise a Service issue and write to Mark Quarrington to update him on the situation.

Blocked Drains on the road leading to the garages at Chepstow Road, Gwernesney

The drains are still awaiting attention and the Current highways service status – with Supervisor.

The clerk has written to Highways to request an urgent update on the situation.

Speed Bumps Llansoy

MCC Highways has recognised the concerns raised over the issue of speed in the village and confirm they will review the situation and consider what alternative; proportionate measures might be applied within the current guidance. County Cllr Buckler will update Councillors going forward.

Northend Cottage, Llangwm

Mark Quarrington of MCC has confirmed that a quote has now been received for the cost of replacing the damaged gabion baskets. However, due to the cost of the works, the MCC procurement process requires a minimum of 3 quotations or for an exemption to be sought based on the works being an emergency. Once a decision has been made on this, the Council will be informed.

Main Road issue adjacent to Bridge Inn Car Park, Llangwm

The substantial dip reported on the road alongside the Bridge Inn Car park, Llangwm, has now been investigated by the Highways Operations team. A site survey took place at the section of the road and was considered to be safe. However, an inspection of the drainage over the culvert will take place in the near future.

Drain blocked between Arch Farm and Ysguborwen Farm

The concrete catchment drain was reported as blocked due to standing rainwater causing pooling in the area. The current Service status shows - Under review

County Cllr Bromfield has also reported this and other similar work needing major upgrades to MCC Highways Management.

Potholes Dyffryn Lane, Llangwm

15 potholes and 30 Metres of carriageway had become eroded and in need of urgent repair. A confirmation has now been received from Highways, stating the potholes had been filled and the work on the gully completed.

Traffic sign request Wern Ddu Road, Llantrisant

Sign requested to advise oncoming traffic of vehicles emerging from side road.

Clerk reported issue to Highways – Confirmation received states a site visit will be made to the location to determine whether a sign is required. If so, this would be added to a list of minor signing requests which are addressed on a priority basis.

Nant Y Gelli Noticeboard

The noticeboard was reported as detached from its base and resting on the hedgerow nearby. The Clerk has approached a local contractor who will carry out the work on the Council's behalf as soon as time allows.

Signed _____

Date _____

Speed Monitoring - Llanllowell Road to Usk

A report received from Usk Town Council last month explained the residents of Blossom Lodge, Llanllowell Road, had suffered a lorry crashing into the brick bollard gate at the entrance to their property. This resulted in a request between Councils for speed monitoring strips to be installed by MCC Highways on the road from Llanllowell into Usk.

County Cllr Bromfield advised a team's meeting would be held once the results were available and the issue would be monitored.

New Highways issues raised by Councillors

Cllr Trigg reported a 3" Pothole on the road between Coed-Y-Ferm and Nant-Y-Gelli Crossroads – Clerk to report to Highways.

Cllr Watkins reported a large Pothole (the size of a manhole cover) on the left-hand side of the road just before the Turnpike Cottage, Llangwm. Clerk to report to Highways.

New issues raised by others:

None

5. Finance:

- a) Bank Statements: For the period 28th February 2026 – 27th March 2026 were received and signed by the Chairman.
- b) Financial Accounts: A Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period ending the 27th of March 2026 was received, AGREED and signed by the Chairman.
- c) Bank Reconciliation: for the period 28th February 2026 - 27th March 2026 was received and signed by the Chairman.
- d) Expenditure: The following expenses were APPROVED

Clerk's Net Salary for April (includes an additional 12 hours worked in March)

Total £667.32

Clerks Home Working Allowance – April

Total £24

Llantrisant Fawr C.C. – Annual Microsoft 365 Software Subscription

Total £84.99

97 Host.co.uk – LFCC Monthly Website Hosting (Paid by Direct Debit 1st Monthly, April)

Total £30

One Voice Wales Annual Membership Subscription 2026-27

Total £171

Beverley & Williams Accountants Ltd

Handling RTI Submissions for 2025-26, Issuing of P60, charge for year-end stationery

Total £71.39

Beverley & Williams Accountants Ltd

Charge for calculation of payroll for January – March 2026

Total £36

Signed _____

Date _____

HMRC Employer's Payslip for Clerks Tax & NIC Jan 2026 – March 2026
Total £490.60

Llangwm Parish Hall Rental hire - March
£45 plus 2 Units of Electricity at 57p per unit
Total £46.14

Jack's Appeal ABUHB Battery and replacement Pads for Llangwm defibrillator
Total £355

Total Expenditure to pay £1,976.44

e) **Review of Grant and Donations Policy**

The Policy was reviewed by members and updated to reflect the appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act). For Community and Town Councils in Wales for the financial year 2026-27 the amount is set at £11.60 per elector.

Councillors considered the maximum limit per application and were in agreement this should be raised to £250.

Proposed by Cllr Watkins, Seconded by Cllr Trigg. **ADOPTED**

f) **Notice of Annual Audit for 2025-26**

Notification has been received from Audit Wales advising the Council is to this year complete a triennial Full Audit. This requires additional documentation and reports to be provided alongside the Annual Governance statement. The Internal Audit will shortly be undertaken by John Turner following which the Accounts and Governance statement will be presented for signature at Junes Council meeting. The Annual return is required to be with Audit Wales by the start of August.

6. Training Policy Review

Councillors' reviewed the Training Policy and agreed the current provision for training continues to meet the needs of Councillors and the residents they serve. Training will be carried out in a proportionate way, taking into consideration the current activities undertaken by the Council. The Council will continue to review updates and guidance in regard to Government legislation and guidelines. The Policy wording was updated to reflect the fact the Council is no longer a newly formed Council.

Proposed by Cllr Watkins, Seconded by Cllr Hawkins. **ADOPTED.**

7. Monmouthshire County Council Report:

County Councillors informed and updated Councillors throughout the month on issues relevant to their local Communities.

8. Crime Prevention and Neighbourhood Police updates:

No report received this month

Smartwater Village Signs

Gwent Police have agreed to install Smart Water Warning signs in the village to demonstrate the neighbourhood is protected and thieves should be aware.

Signed _____

Date _____

Guidance is being sought from MCC to establish where the signs can be installed. Further information will be provided once approval has been granted.

Smartwater Packs

There are 18 packs of Smart water remaining and these are available free of charge to Community Council residents who would like to join the scheme. Please contact the clerk at: llantrisantfawr@gmail.com

9. Ward Reports: None received

10. HMPS - No updates received.

11. Correspondence

Details of Monmouthshire County Council Meetings were received throughout the month and advised to Councillors. NOTED

Notification was received from Matthew Hammond of the IT Medic, detailing his new charging rates from April 1st 2026. NOTED

The clerk advised that she had been unable to obtain support from the IT Medic in relation to her current IT issue, possibly due to the current workload being experienced by the company. Councillors' suggested a diary note be made to revisit the possibility of changing IT support prior to the start of the next year.

Correspondence was received from the School and Student Access Manager at Learning Skills and Economy MCC. The letter stated they were looking for a representative from the local community to become a member on the school admission forum and were looking to fill this through Community Council representation. NOTED

12. Planning:

Applications received:

Application number - DM/2026/00283

Installation of a small Deck on the Southwest side of the premises. Dimensions 5M x 3.6M
Mill House, Village Road, Llantrisant NP15 1LG

Councillors agreed there were no observations to raise to this application. The clerk to advise Planning.

Application number - DM/2026/00123

Amended Planning application - Proposed new steel frame storage building in support of small holding and associated works.

Ty'r Berllan Llangwm to Nant Y Gelli Farm Llangwm NP15 1HB

This amended proposal shows a reduction in length of the building to 6,000mm x 10,000mm. Councillor's further considered the amended application and due to the subsequent decrease in the size agreed there were no further comments/observations to be made.

The clerk to write to advise Planning of their decision.

Planning updates and Enforcement Issues:A new Planning issue has been reported to Cllr David Williams by a local resident. It is reported a Barn structure has been erected in the grounds of a field on the corner of Llan Y Nant Road above the Almshouses at Llangeview.

Councillors are not aware of any planning application having been received and request that Enforcement be asked to please investigate the matter. The clerk will write to Planning to advise them using what3words location: **///disputes.rejoined.defensive**

Signed _____

Date _____

Application Number: DM/2024/00519 – (02/05/2024)

Planning Permission – Extension of existing track to enable feeding of animals in winter and summer months. Coed Cwnwr Farm Alltybella Road, Coed Cwnwr Llangeview. NP15 1NE

Cllr Watkins had previously raised the issue of the impact caused by heavy lorries continually delivering stone for the ongoing farm project.

The application suggested the stone was to be used to build an access road replacing an existing track, but closer inspection showed it has been consolidated into a large plateau area behind the existing barns. A structure made in this way using several thousand tons of loose stone will overtime have implications relating to drainage and stability.

County Cllr Buckler last month confirmed she would establish why the road hadn't been installed and highlight the concerns of residents regarding the continued use of the road by lorries with a combined weight of around 17 tonnes. Updates are awaited.

13. Any Other Business:

Cllr Trigg informed the meeting that in the latest copy of the Usk and Raglan Diary he had read an article which highlighted there was a wealth of relevant material available to the public on the MCC website at: <https://maps.monmouthshire.gov.uk/localinfo.aspx>

Information of particular interest were the 'My House', 'My Community' and 'My Maps' tabs. All of this information is available to every resident in the County.

The clerk advised Councillors that a recent comment posted by a local resident on the Llangwm Facebook page highlighted how well the Grass and surrounding area around the Village Hall were looking following the recent cut, in particular the wildflowers which been left and looked so appealing.

The clerk had replied that the garden maintenance funded by the Community Council was carried out by the 'Green Grafter' who from the end of March took care of the surrounding area around the Village Hall, Bus shelter and Car Park. Always taking care to preserve the Flora and Fauna with a view to preserving the biodiversity of our local area.

14. Date of next Meeting:

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by the Ordinary Council Meeting and is to be held on Tuesday 12th May 2026, starting 7:00 p.m.at Llangwm Parish Hall

Dates for future Meetings 2026:

Tuesday 16th June at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

Tuesday 21st July at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

Tuesday 15th September at 7.30pm to be held at The Greyhound Inn, Llantrisant

Tuesday 20th October at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

Tuesday 17th November at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

No meeting will be held in August or December 2026 unless deemed necessary.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

Signed _____

Date _____