**LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDEILIO BERTHOLAU**

**Council website address:** [**www.llantiliopertholeycc.org.uk**](http://www.llantiliopertholeycc.org.uk)

**Clerk: Clare Preece** [**llantiliopertholeycc@yahoo.co.uk**](mailto:llantiliopertholeycc@yahoo.co.uk)

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY 21ST MAY 2025**

**Present:**

Cllr Michael Hayward – Chairman

Cllr Clive Harry – Vice Chairman

Cllr Malcom Skinner

Cllr Saul Salway

Cllr Katharine Vaughan

Cllr Roger Fury

Cllr Tess Hawken

**Apologies:**

C Cllr Su McConnel – Monmouthshire County Council

**In Attendance:**

Ms Clare Preece – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Mrs Marjorie Bennett (Llandewi Skirrid)

Residents from Willow Court

Aled Thompson Gwent Police

Zoe Cameron – Mardy Roots

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| **REF** | | **MINUTE** | **ACTION** |
| 21052025/01 | | 1. **Apologies for absence:** C Cllr Su McConnel |  |
| 21052025/02 | | 1. **To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in items of business listed below: NONE** |  |
| 21052025/03 | | 1. **To receive the police report/public session:** Residents from Willow Court discussed the drug prostitution and anti-social behaviour at Penry Close. Disturbing reports were put forth by residents who have been affected personally by the urban disorder yet have not received any support from either the police or the housing association; “Hedyn” (who house the culprits), have said in writing that there is no police evidence to back up their claims and that they have limited capability to act because of lack of evidence. The Chairman said that there is very little the Community Council can do. The Community Council can, however, write to the County Councillor, police and housing association to represent the Community’s views in the hope of getting wider publicity and support for their cause. The Clerk shared the Community Safety survey forwarded by C Cllr Su McConnel with the residents who said they will share the QR code on their community facebook page. The Chairman also suggested the community form their own committee to lobby the County Councillor who can in turn lobby the MP. Other crimes include an increase in shop lifting at Morrisons Daily, drug dealing at the benches, and speeding on Hereford Road. The police will be strengthening police-community relations by visiting fetes this summer. The Community Council are looking to get the trees around the perimeter of the field cut back in September to open up the areas where youths are building dens and causing a nuisance to local residents for the purpose of deterring this type of behaviour. | **Clerk** |
| 21052025/04 | | 1. **To approve as correct the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2025 –** the minutes were **APPROVED**. | **Clerk** |
| 21052025/05 | | 1. **To consider matters arising from the previous month’s minutes including:** 2. An update on the investigations into installing a CCTV system to monitor vandalism and anti-social behaviour on the playing field – Cllr M Hayward: This will be revisited next month. 3. An update on the Grounds maintenance agreement for Mardy Park with MCC -Cllr Harry: Cllr Harry met with MCC – currently they perform 14 cuts annually, the ditch was flailed twice to remove nettles. 3 applications of hard surface weed control have been applied. Hedge cutting on the perimeter. The Chairman wants to meet with the operative to confirm what is required going forward. 4. An update on the obtaining of quotes from tree surgeons – Cllr Hayward: Three quotes have been requested but only one has been received back. The Chairman has another contact and will pursue this. A price to tidy up the overgrown garden which is part of the area which will be turned into a carpark will be sought. 5. An update on the insurance claim for the vandalised boiler – Clerk: the claim has been agreed less the excess. Payment has not been received into the bank account yet, the Clerk will pursue. 6. An update on the purchase of the new lock for the playing field gates – Cllr Hayward: A chain was found in the changing rooms which can be used to secure the gate. 7. An update on the overgrown hedges reported to MCC and C Cllr Malcom Lane – Clerk: the Clerk reported this to the C Cllr and to Highways at MCC. Cllrs reported that nothing has been done about the overgrown hedges. Zoe Cameron believes a local farmer is responsible for the hedge upkeep in this area and will email the Clerk with his contact details. 8. To note the posting of the Vacancy for Councillor following the resignation of Cllr Edwards: The Clerk has chased Elections at MCC as the notice expired on the 19th. Two voicemails have been left but there has been no response. The Clerk will chase this up. | **MH**  **MH**  **MH**  **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **Clerk** |
| 19052025/06 | 1. **Public session (see item 3)** | |  |
| 19052025/07 | 1. **To receive monthly reports from County Councillors:** C Cllr Su McConnel sent a report in her absence as follows: Had I been with you, I would have wanted to highlight this questionnaire/consultation from our Community Safety Officers.  Given the often-voiced concerns about antisocial behaviour, drug taking and the like in our community, and the recent incident in Croesonen Parc, residents may well be motivated to engage with this exercise.   Also   * I have requested notices re fly-tipping near the bridge in Glan Gavenny * I have reports of speeding on the Old Ross Road going by the railway cottages and above.  I have made enquiries about getting a speed monitor there, it would be helpful if residents let me know of instances when they have been bothered by speeding cars. * The New King Henry School is now open.  Very impressive it is too.  Mike has asked me to raise concerns about possible vandalism at the Welsh School site, when it vacates.  I have enquired about any plans for this site, nothing yet , but will keep you informed. * I get several requests to cut back trees adjacent to houses in the ward.  MCC monitor trees on our land, the policy is to NOT cut back or down, any trees which are safe and healthy.  I have organised the trimming back of some tree growth that was blocking a resident from maintaining a perimeter fence.   I hope you have a successful meeting.  The Clerk shared the Community Safety survey with residents from the public session. | |  |
| **21052025/08** | 1. **Finance:** 2. **To confirm the bank balances: Current A/C £38,632.42, Reserve A/C 329 £26,058.42, Reserve A/C 646 £78,968.58** 3. **To consider the following payments: (See Appendix 1)** All payments were **APPROVED**. The Chairman said that a number of invoices will be coming through in the coming weeks for hall maintenance, lights and blinds. 4. **To note the registration of the Community Council with HMRC: NOTED** 5. **To sign the direct debit for the compulsory Nest pension scheme: SIGNED** 6. **To consider a donation to the Citizens Advice Bureau:** It was **AGREED** to donate £500. Proposed by Cllr Fury and seconded by Cllr Skinner. It was unanimously **AGREED** to write to the CAB and ask them to write to us directly. 7. **To consider the BT Broadband renewal:** This was not discussed. The Clerk will bring this forward to the next meeting. | | **Clerk**  **Clerk** |
| **21052025/09** | 1. **To consider correspondence received:** 2. **To consider a request from Wendy Hughes, Chair of the Gardening club for the installation of signage to direct people to the Community Hall:** The Chairman said he would look at the signage to see what he can do. | | **MH** |
| **21052025/10** | 1. **To consider matters relating to planning:** 2. To grant designated authority under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 to the Clerk to comment on planning applications **on** behalf of the Community Council between meetings: **AGREED.** The Standing Orders will be amended accordingly. 3. To comment on the following planning applications: 4. DM/2025/0056 – 11 Glan Gavenny**: NO OBJECTIONS** 5. To note the Chairmans attendance at the Planning application and enforcement training on 29th April - **NOTED** | | **Clerk** |
| 21052025/11 | 1. **To consider matters relating to the Playing fields and Green spaces:** The Chairman remarked that the area was looking good, the wildflowers planted recently are in bloom. Zoe Cameron said that the benches have been ordered and will be delivered soon. She used MCC approved suppliers when sourcing the benches which are of a simple traditional rustic style which are easy to replace. The benches are made of treated soft wood and are easy to maintain, functional and fixed.   The wildflower turf was installed during a drought period but has been watered every day by local residents and it has recently rained so it should be alright. Local people have been very positive about the changes. Zoe would like to see the raised beds planted with more flowers, herbs and edible plants and show the community how to use them. She would like to improve the visual appearance of the entrance by installing a planter and some seating as people sit on the wall outside. Shade is also needed and somewhere to lock up buggies and prams and bicycles too. The Chairman said we must be wary of installing something that may give local youths access to the roof. A retractable canopy like shops have was suggested. She would like a noticeboard for public use which would mean it would have to be of the sort that does not have a cover or the need for a key. The Chairman said that it would risk vandalization if it were not secure. Zoe was worried about the chemicals in the weed control used on the field damaging the wildflowers She has asked for a budget from the council going forward and whilst this was not agreed at the meeting a budget needs to be set which is ratified by the whole council as should be the case for all expenditure projects. The Clerk will ensure that this is implemented in her role as Responsible Financial Officer. It was suggested that the plot of grass to your left as you enter the carpark could be utilised for bike and pram storage, but this idea was not considered permittable as access is needed for ambulances etc. The bike lockup from the school which will be closing permanently at the end of the summer term will need to be relocated and it was suggested that this could be erected near the dugout.  Cllr Harry told the meeting that the football club has been cutting and laying new topsoil and preparing the football pitch. The reputation of the ground has improved, and it is now known as the “Mardy carpet”. | | **CLERK**  **MH**  **CH**  **RF** |
| 21052025/12 | 1. **To consider matters relating to the Community Hall:** The projector has been installed – it is a great addition to the facilities at the hall, and it is hoped the Community Council can stage film nights in the future. The Fire Risk Assessment and Safety regulations for hirers is currently being implemented. | | **Clerk** |
| 21052025/13 | 1. **To receive information from One Voice Wales:** 2. **To note the latest training webinar schedule for Councillors from One Voice Wales; NOTED** | |  |
| 21052025/14 | 1. **To receive any reports on activities from outside bodies: None** | |  |
| 21052025/15 | 1. **To consider matters that the Chair considers urgent:** The school will be closing permanently at the end of the summer term which means that the hall will lose the carpark it has used for overflow. The carpark at the hall will be extended and the land around the planters will be developed to increase the parking capacity. A quote has been provided by Tom to erect a fence around the existing garden area to protect it from cars at a cost of £576 plus VAT. A quote to cut the overgrown garden back has been received from Yfenni Gardens for £1K. Another quote will be obtained from Matt. The trees on the bank and field perimeter will be cut back to combat anti-social behaviour at a cost of £1K. The Clerk advised that any work of this kind must be legal, and the relevant licences/permissions be obtained. The Chairman said there would be no problem with it as the contractor is a tree surgeon. The opinion of Mr Butler the bird expert will also be sought to make sure no nesting birds are disturbed. | | **MH** |
| 21052025/16 | 1. **Meeting closed 8.35pm Date of next meeting 18th June.** | |  |