

**Draft Minutes of Llangors Community Council Annual General Meeting
Held on Tuesday 10th May 2022 7.00pm at Llangors Youth & Community Centre**

Members Present: Cllr Mr S Bailey (Chair), Cllr Mrs L Griffin, Cllr Mrs C Owen, Cllr Mr M Scruby, Cllr Mr D Jones, Cllr Mr C Preece

In attendance: Judith Phillips (Clerk), County Cllr Sian Cox

In attendance by video link: Mr Alan Williams (Internal Auditor)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first in person meeting of the Council for two years, due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. It was also the first multi-location meeting of the Council with one person attending the meeting remotely via Zoom. County Councillor Sian Cox was welcomed as the duly elected Powys County Councillor for the new ward of Llangors with Bwlch.

1. Declarations of Acceptance of Office for all elected councillors following 2022 election process

Following the election process three Councillors had retired and seven existing Councillors had been elected uncontested. All Councillors present completed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office forms which were duly signed by the Clerk as Proper Officer. Cllr Jevons was unable to attend the meeting so had completed his form prior to the meeting as agreed.

2. Code of Conduct, General Dispensations, Powers & Duties, Bring Your Own Device & Cyber Security guidance

The clerk had re-issued the documents to all members and reminded them of their duties and responsibilities under the Code of Conduct and in particular declarations of interest.

3. Apologies for absence: Cllr Ven. A Jevons

4. Appointment of Chairperson for the ensuing year & declaration of acceptance of office.

Cllr Bailey had previously notified all present that he would not be accepting any nominations for the position as Chair. Cllr Jones, on behalf of members, thanked Cllr Bailey for carrying out the role for the last two years. Nominations for chairperson for the forthcoming year were requested. Cllr Scruby proposed Cllr Jones as Chairperson for the forthcoming year, seconded by Cllr Preece. There being no other nominations Cllr Jones agreed to take the role for one year only and was duly elected. A declaration of acceptance of office was completed.

It was unanimously agreed for Cllr Bailey to continue as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

5. Appointment of Vice Chairperson for the ensuing year

Cllr Griffin had previously notified all present that she was not accepting nominations for the position and explained that was due to work commitments. Cllr Preece proposed Cllr Owen as Vice Chair for the forthcoming year, seconded by Cllr Jones. There being no other nominations Cllr Owen agreed to take the role of Vice Chair and was duly elected.

6. Minutes of last AGM on 11th May 2021 as approved on 13/7/21, for information only

The minutes of the last AGM had already been approved and were noted.

7. Annual report for the Council from the Chair for 2021/22 – Cllr Bailey

Cllr Bailey presented his report as attached at the end of these minutes. The clerk was thanked for the work done on the report which is now in line with new Welsh Government legislation. The report was unanimously agreed.

8. Annual Financial Report and approval of Annual Accounts - Clerk

The annual accounts for the Council had been prepared and distributed prior to the meeting. The Clerk reported that the accounts showed receipts had exceeded payments as planned in order to build up reserves to a level adequate to meet contract commitments as a minimum. An analysis of expenditure year on year and against budget was discussed, with outcomes as planned. The number of clerk hours had been within the contracted hours set. Budgets set in January for the 2022/23 financial year appeared adequate.

The accounts had been internally audited and met with the approval of the internal auditor who had submitted a written letter to Cllr Bailey which had been circulated to all Councillors. Alan Williams was thanked for his work. It was resolved unanimously that the accounts be approved. The official copy of the accounts was duly signed by the Chair having been previously signed by the Clerk and Internal Auditor.

9. Appointment of Internal Auditor for the ensuing year

Alan Williams was thanked for his work in the past year which had been done on a voluntary basis. He confirmed his willingness to continue and it was resolved unanimously that he be appointed to the role for the current year. A letter of engagement was agreed and signed by the Clerk who was to send to Alan confirming arrangements for the new financial year.

10. Appointment of representatives to serve on the following committees & external bodies:

a) Llangors CIW Primary School Governing Body

The position had been vacant for the past year. It was resolved that an appointment to the role would be made at the July bi-meeting of the Council following the co-option process, so that all members of the Council would have the opportunity to be nominated.

b) Llangors Lake Advisory Group Committee

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Scruby continues to represent the Community Council on this committee. Proposed Cllr Preece, seconded Cllr Owen.

c) Discover Llangors & Bwlch Group

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Griffin continues to represent the Community Council on this group. Proposed Cllr Owen and seconded Cllr Scruby.

d) Siop Llangors Shop Committee

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Owen continues to represent the Community Council on this committee. Proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Griffin.

e) Llanfihangel Talylyn & Llanywern Village Hall Committee as Custodial Trustees

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Jones continues to represent the Community Council on this Committee. Proposed by Cllr Preece and seconded Cllr Griffin.

f) Brecon to Hay Greenway Steering committee

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Bailey continues to represent the Community Council on this committee. Proposed Cllr Preece, seconded Cllr Owen.

g) One Voice Wales

Cllr Preece offered to take on the role. It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Preece represents the Community Council on the area Committee. Proposed Cllr Griffin, seconded Cllr Owen.

h) Llangors Community Fibre Broadband Team

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Bailey and Cllr Preece continue to represent the Community Council on the group. Proposed Cllr Owen, seconded Cllr Scruby.

i) St. Paulinus Churchyard Burial Board

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Preece continues to carry out the Churchyard Burial Board responsibilities assisted by Tony Evans as an appointed volunteer acting on behalf of the Council. Proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr Scruby.

j) LCC Planning Committee

It was resolved unanimously that all Llangors Community Councillors continue to represent the Community Council on its planning committee.

k) LCC Glebe Community Field Working Party

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Scruby, Cllr Bailey, Cllr Owen and Cllr Jones represent the Community Council on the Glebe Community Field working party.

l) LCC Llangors Playing Field Working Party

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Jevons, Cllr Preece and Cllr Griffin represent the Community Council on the Llangors Playing Field working party.

11. Confirmation of Councillors with designated responsibilities within LCC**a) To sign Bank Reconciliations quarterly**

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Owen continues to carry out this task for the Community Council. Proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr Scruby.

b) Asset Inspections: Llangors Ward & Llanfihangel Talylyln Ward

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Griffin is to take over this task in the Llangors Ward and Cllr Owen to continue to carry out this task in the Llanfihangel Talylyln Ward until new members are appointed to the Council. At that time the roles will be reviewed.

c) Health & Safety Inspections Glebe Community Field

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Scruby continues to carry out this task for the Community Council. Proposed Cllr Griffin, seconded Cllr Owen.

12. Process for co-option for vacant seats – 1 in Llanfihangel Talylyln Ward, 2 in Llangors Ward

The procedure for co-option had been previously circulated to members and was confirmed by the Clerk. Co-option notices had been issued from 10/5/22 with a closing date of 31/5/22. Notices were issued in English and Welsh. Cllr Griffin was thanked for translating the posters. Appointment of new members are expected by mid June followed by induction training in advance of the July bi monthly meeting.

13. Agree meeting schedule – continue bi-monthly or change to monthly.

Bi-monthly dates: 12/7/22, 13/9/22, 8/11/22, 10/1/23, 14/3/23, 9/5/23.

It was agreed to continue bi monthly, but hold an extra meeting in between planned dates should the need arise.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7:41pm.

Llangors Community Council - Annual Report 2021 – 2022

During the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, the Community Council has continued to regularly meet on a remote basis using Zoom. Preparations are now being put in place to comply with The Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 which is just coming into force, with many implications for the council, one of which is for multi-location or 'hybrid' meetings. This means that equipment needs to be purchased and some upgraded. Following a request by the Council, Welsh Government are not providing grant funding for this purpose. Thankfully the village halls, where meetings are usually held are slowly having broadband installed which will assist the Council with these hybrid meetings. Public participation is encouraged.

The council held 6 Bi-monthly meetings, 1 Annual General Meeting and 7 Planning meetings during the last year.

The council has one employee, who acts as Clerk to the Council, Proper Officer, Responsible Financial Officer, advisor, Data Protection Officer and is the main contact for the Council: -
Judith Phillips, Berllan Fach, Pennorth, Brecon, Powys. LD3 7EX.
Tel 01874 658869 Email: clerk@llangors.org.uk

Llangors Community Council has 10 members serving across two wards, with 5 seats in each ward. The area covered includes Llangors, Trefeinon, part of Cathedine, Llanfihangel Talyllyn, Talyllyn, Llanywern, Pennorth and Llangasty Talyllyn. The election term of a Community Councillor is 5 years. Members are listed below, their contact information is displayed on Council noticeboards around the community and on the website.

Llangors Ward

Colin Preece
Robert East
Venerable Alan Jevons
Tony Evans
Lynne Griffin

Llanfihangel Talyllyn Ward

Mike Scruby
David James
Simon Bailey
Clare Owen
Dave Jones

Members are appointed annually to serve as Council representatives on the following external organisations: -
Llangors CIW Primary School Governing Body
Llangors Lake Advisory Group Committee
Discover Llangors & Bwlch Group
Siop Llangors Shop Committee
Llanfihangel Talyllyn & Llanywern Village Hall Committee as Custodial Trustees
Brecon to Hay Greenway Steering Committee
One Voice Wales

All council members are appointed to the planning committee of the Council and there are two working parties: Glebe Community Field Working Party, Llangors Playing Field Working Party.

The Council owns St. Paulinus Churchyard in Llangors and two appointed members oversee burials and related matters and maintenance of the site. Space for burials at the churchyard is now very limited with no opportunity to expand the site. Fees are reviewed annually and run in line with the Church in Wales charges. The Council has a Memorandum of Understanding and does not charge for burials of those under the age of 18.

Appointed Councillors carry out regular health and safety inspections of all assets and one Councillor is appointed to oversee accounting procedures. 2021 has seen the Council move to online banking.

An annual audit of accounts and procedures is carried out. A person independent of the Council is appointed as internal auditor annually. They carry out an internal audit in April. Wales Audit office then follow on with an external audit of the council.

The audit for 2020/21 was completed satisfactorily, with an unqualified audit and no issues raised.

The Council is grateful to the current internal auditor for his work which is currently carried out free of charge.

Following the electoral process in May 2022, the Council will see the retirement of three Councillors who have loyally served the community for many decades. On behalf of the whole community, the Council would like to express deep gratitude to Tony Evans (Councillor for 39 years), David James (Councillor for 13 years) and Robert East (Councillor for 33 years) for their dedicated service and wish them many healthy and happy years of enjoyment in our wonderful community.

Retirement of members as of 9th May 2022, will see the Council commence the co-option process for one vacancy in the Llanfihangel Talyllyn Ward and two vacancies in the Llangors Ward.

The Council would like to thank County Councillor Emily Durrant for her work representing the Powys County Council Ward of Llangors during her five year term in office and we send our best wishes for her future in her new home in Brecon.

Community Council members look forward to working with our new County Councillor as elected on 5th May 2022.

Finance Matters

The Council sets a budget annually which is funded by residents of the community via the Council Tax collected by Powys County Council and paid to the Community Council, known as the precept. Councillors set the precept value when the budget is considered and do everything possible to keep the value to the minimum possible.

The Annual Governance Statement of the council for the year ending 31st March 2022 is published on the Council website www.llangors.org.uk Summary of accounts is:

Opening Cash at Bank	£ 7123
Total Income received (including precept)	£ 22874
Total Expenditure (Inc. wages, running costs etc.)	£ 17162
Closing Cash at Bank	£ 12835

The independent Remuneration Panel for Wales have a policy, adopted by the Council, which allows for payments to be made to members of the Council as a contribution towards costs incurred. All Councillors have, once again, opted out of receiving payment for the extensive work they do in their roles at the Council.

Assets & Policies

Llangors Community Council's assets consists of the following;

St Paulinus Churchyard - Freehold

Llangors Triangle - Village Green– Freehold

Land Adjacent to River Cwy, opposite the Red Lion pub -Village Green – Freehold

Llangors Bus Shelter

Llanfihangel Talyllyn Bus Shelter and Freehold land that it's built on

Various Lamps, Gates, Notice Boards, Seats/benches, Glebe Community Field play equipment
Clerk laptop

Following a tender process every three years, a grass cutting contractor is appointed to maintain St. Paulinus Churchyard, Llangors Triangle, land adjacent to the River Cwy and the Glebe Community Field.

The Council has commitments under the Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Bird feeders, perennial plants and wildflowers were planted on Llangors Triangle in conjunction with Keep Wales Tidy Local Places for Nature Scheme in 2020. Therefore, the grass cutting contractors do not cut the grass on Llangors Triangle until the flowers have seeded which is usually about mid July. The Council does monitor the splay vision from the junction to ensure the long grass does not interfere with highway egress.

The Council has limited legal powers to operate as a corporate body and has several policies to comply with, which are reviewed annually. These include Standing Orders, Financial Regulations General Data Protection Regulations, Complaints, Equality & Diversity, Freedom of Information, Social Media, Payments to Councillors, Welsh Language, Financial and Management Risk assessments, Insurance and Councillor Code of Conduct.

The Council website, www.llangors.org.uk is a regularly updated with the work of the Council and is also subject to several legislative requirements, such as accessibility. All agenda, minutes, notices and policies can be viewed on the website.

The Council does not currently engage on any Social Media platforms of its own. Information about public events and important notices are posted on the Villages Around the Lake Facebook page at the discretion of its administrators. The council is grateful for their assistance with this.

Many issues and concerns have been discussed in the last year including;

Glebe Community Field lease renewal. Following the successful development from agricultural land to a community recreation area over a 10 year lease period, a new 15 year lease was agreed between the Council and The Representative Board of the Church In Wales in June 2021. This very important asset to the community will continue to be managed by the council for that term, unless any local voluntary group wishes to step forward and take the responsibility. A revised fence line was agreed within the lease negotiations and erected in August 2021 which has improved access to the site, as well as having a much lower impact on the adjoining agricultural land and its tenant. A very successful Sakura Cherry Tree event was held in December and made front page news in the Brecon and Radnor Express Newspaper. Three cherry trees funded by Japanese industries were planted to celebrate the Japan-UK season of culture. Japanese born residents now living in the community unveiled a plaque at the event and received gifts of traditional Welsh Love spoons from the Council as a symbol of friendship from our community. In 2021 the Council was pleased to grant permission to Llanfihangel & Llanywern Community Hall to hold their popular annual fete on the site.

In compliance with Welsh Government legislation the Glebe Community Field is a designated Smoke Free area. The site is inspected annually by an approved ROSPA inspector and weekly by an appointed Councillor. Any general maintenance is carried out by Council members and volunteers where possible.

Not only did Covid-19 pose a problem again locally over the past year, but there was a significant increase in Blue Algae in Llangors Lake during the warmer months, having a detrimental effect on local residents, tourists and wildlife. Whilst not falling directly under the remit of the Council our representative on the Llangors Lake advisory group kept us reliably informed. Reduced access to the lake impacted on local businesses and water sports clubs and it is hoped that the problem will not re-occur this year.

The volunteers at Llangors Together Covid- 19 response group remain on standby as Covid-19 is still present in the Community. The Council are grateful for their support to those who have needed it since March 2020.

Dog fouling in public areas. The Council embarked on a campaign of chalk spray painting stenciled notices on pavements and roadsides around the villages and rural areas of the community. This proved very effective last year. The situation is currently being monitored and such action will recommence if the problem reappears.

Highway issues. These are reported to Powys County Council (PCC) and progress monitored. The Council liaises closely with PCC Highways department to try to get these items dealt with as swiftly as possible. Due to PCC budget constraints, there are limitations on the result of this work. A request for a traffic calming scheme on the B4560 Talgarth end of Llangors has been refused, with PCC sighting enforcement action required by the Police as a solution to concerns. Concerns regarding the increasing quantity of road closures has been discussed with PCC.

Following requests, village signs for Cathedine and Siop Llangors Shop have been erected.

Significant verge clearance and ditch cleaning has been carried out by PCC highways during recent months, for which the Council are very grateful. This should have a positive effect on flood relief for some residents if we encounter heavy storms again as we have done in recent years. It is appreciated that such highway maintenance needs to be carried out regularly and we continue to raise this matter with PCC.

A new Street lighting scheme in Llanfihangel Talyllyn has finally been completed with all new underground wiring and some new lighting columns completed. The completion of the installation of a new light in the bus shelter is imminent.

Parking in Llanfihangel Talyllyn. A public meeting was hosted by County Councillor Durrant in November 2021. The resolution to the matter is for residents to park on their own driveways and use of common sense. Installation of double yellow lines is the alternative. A plan showing the potential position of double yellow lines for public consultation by the Council is still awaited.

Parking in all villages is regularly an issue and a complex one to solve. Any Road Traffic Order (RTO) needed to legally introduce matters, such as double yellow lines, are no longer funded by PCC and would come at a cost to the Community Council of £3303.

The Council works closely with Dyfed Powys Police (DPP) Community Support Officers on any issues that arise in the community. Their details are on display in the Council noticeboards and residents are encouraged to engage directly with them if the need arises. They are engaged in training and assisting members of the Community Speed Watch (CSW) team in a constant bid to deal with prevention of speeding vehicles in the community. DPP resources and budgets mean that they are limited in how much time they can spend enforcing speed limits, so we encourage residents to come forward and join the CSW team. Sadly, the drivers of many vehicles driving too fast appear to be local to the area.

Litter is regularly appearing in the community. The matter was taken up with Powys County Council Waste officer as it appeared that the refuse and recycling lorries were responsible for some of it. There are many residents unassumingly picking litter and disposing of it with their household waste throughout the community. The Council remain very grateful to them for their commitment to keeping the area tidy for the benefit of fellow residents and providing a welcoming vibe to visitors.

The Council is a statutory consultee to planning applications in the community, when placed with both Powys County Council (PCC) and Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA). 2021 has seen another year of considering these applications remotely, however the Council hopes to resume site meetings as Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. The Council has to be consulted, however whilst identified as being the level of

government closest to the people, it is often disappointed when concerns are raised about planning matters and, in some cases, appear to be insufficiently considered. The process for PCC Local Development Plan appears to no longer include individual Town & Community Councils as statutory consultees, which is of current concern to the Council. A growing number of Certificate of Lawfulness applications is of concern and particularly the lack of public awareness of such applications. PCC are refusing to consult the Council on them and the BBNPA are consulting on a discretionary basis and in some cases only confidentially with the Council.

Local residents and members of the Council came together to form a Llangors Community Fibre Broadband team and alongside the commitment from many residents, enabled two Welsh Government funded community fibre broadband schemes to get off the ground. This was in conjunction with both BT in Llanfihangel Talyllyn and Beacons Telecom throughout the community area. This has finally seen many local residents and businesses being connected with Superfast Fibre. The scheme is being delivered ahead of schedule however there have been teething problems for some, which it is hoped will be ironed out as the network expands throughout our area. Thanks are extended to the team for their dedication to this complex issue, highlighted by the needs of so many residents needing to work from home due to the pandemic.

Although Councillors have been in regular contact with residents throughout the pandemic, and Council updates have been provided through the local Grapevine Newsletter, there were very limited opportunities during the year to engage collectively with our community face to face. However, the Council in conjunction with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and Brecon Beacons National Park Authority organised an "Invasive Species" information event at the end of March 2022 to help set up a local working party with a particular interest of eradicating the growing local problem of Himalayan Balsam. This was well attended and the future of a local group is being developed by NRW.

The Council are also very pleased to have supported Siop Llangors shop which has finally opened following years of hard work by dozens of volunteers in our community. The Council representative on the shop committee has regularly kept us informed as the plans finally came to fruition in November 2021. It is fantastic to see how the whole Community has supported this project to date, we hope that continues and we wish every success in the years to come for this extremely valuable addition to the village of Llangors and the wider area.

A new playpark at Llangors Youth & Community Centre to replace the old smaller play area is a project welcomed by the Council. The undoubted need for recreation space for residents in Llangors and loss of the use of the playing field at Llangors school remains of concern to the Council.

On behalf of the Council, as Chair, informal meetings with the new Headteacher at Llangors Church in Wales School have been held. It is hoped that in the coming months that a stronger relationship between the school and local community can be formed. The Council plan to appoint a new Councillor representative to the School Governing Body position, currently vacant, by September 2022.

In supporting volunteers and the many local groups, charities and voluntary organisations the Council have organised the Annual Public Meeting of the Council on 17th May 2022 (the first since 2019!) as an opportunity for nearly 20 of these groups to participate in the meeting and make a brief presentation to all in attendance. These groups play a vital role in the health, well-being and integration of our community and it is hoped that this meeting will give them a platform to explain what they do, how the recent pandemic has affected their work as well as encouraging more members of the community to get involved.

2022 being the year of the Queens' Platinum Jubilee, the Council thank all those involved in organising community events to celebrate this historic occasion.

The Council aims to continue to represent the diverse views of residents on many different topics, where

possible deliver services to meet local needs and support and develop initiatives to enhance community life and the well-being of residents for future generations. Compliance with new legislation will be actioned and development of training plans achieved. Encouragement of public engagement and participation will continue. This will be achieved by Councillors being immersed in community life, informally engaging with residents on a daily basis and more formally as and when needed. This to identify their needs and aspirations forming a base for decision making, monitoring and taking appropriate action in liaising with external bodies, which is often unique and sensitive, specific to the immediate area.

The Council are keen to encourage and further develop collaborative working with Powys County Council, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and all external bodies. The Council anticipate that it will be ably supported by the new Powys County Councillor for the Ward in representing the Community.

Councillor Simon Bailey
Chair to Llangors Community Council
April 2022

DRAFT