

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

MINUTES

of a
meeting of the Full Council held on
Monday 25th November 2024
in the Youth Room of the Institute Llanfair Caereinion

Present were

Cllr Rob Astley Chair	Cllr Melvin Jones Vice Chair
Cllr Hazel Davies	Cllr Ian Davies
Cllr Gareth Jones	Cllr Mark Owen
Cllr Geraint Peate	Cllr Stephen Purser
Cllr Sam Webster	Cllr Paul Wixey

In attendance Robert Robinson Town Clerk

Apologies were received from

Cllr Cadvan Evans

91. Welcome by the Chair

The meeting received a welcome from the Chair with a particular welcome to Cllr Paul Wixey who was attending his first meeting as a councillor.

92. Declarations of interest There were declarations of interest recorded as follows:

Cllr Gareth Jones (he left the meeting for this item)

Planning application Rhiwhiriaeth Isaf Llanfair Caereinion (minute 98.2)

Cllr Gareth Jones (he left the meeting for this item)

Planning application Rhiwhiriaeth Isaf Llanfair Caereinion (minute 98.3)

93. Minutes of the last meeting The meeting considered and approved the minutes of the last meeting. Proposed by Cllr Stephen Purser and seconded by Cllr Mark Owen The vote was unanimous.

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

94. Finance and governance

The members noted the bank balances presented at the meeting.

94.1 Management accounts

The meeting considered and received the monthly management accounts as set out in appendix A of the appendix pack.

94.2 Orders for payment

The meeting considered and approved the orders for payment as set out in appendix B of the appendix pack.

Proposed by Cllr Gareth Jones and seconded by Cllr Melvin Jones.

The vote was unanimous

95 Budget 2025-2026

The members considered the draft budget for the year ending 31st March 2026. See separate report. After a discussion the following the members **RESOLVED** to adopt the budget as presented subject to:

- a) The precept to be increased by 10%.
- b) An allowance for a review of salaries (SLCC scales to be used) – such sum required to be included with funding taken from reserves.

The precept was **AGREED and SET** at a 10% increase. (£53,700)

Due to the size of the council (804 band D homes) this is an increase of £6pa per home (0.03% of the overall tax bill) which is 12p a week.

Proposed by Cllr Mark Owen and seconded by Cllr Melvin Jones.

The vote was unanimous.

The budget to be published on the website.

96 Review of actions taken since last meeting

The meeting reviewed the actions taken since the last meeting.

97 Elections update

The Town Clerk confirmed Cllr Paul Wixey had completed the declaration of acceptance of office.

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

98 Planning and Development

98.1 Planning decisions

The members noted the latest planning decisions issued by Powys County Council.

98.2 Planning application

Ref 24/1627/HH Rhiwhiriaeth Isaf Llanfair Caereinion SY21 0DU 0SF Erection of a two storey side extension and associated works.

Cllr Gareth Jones declared an interest and left the meeting for this item.

The council **SUPPORTS** this application.

Proposed by Cllr Mark Owen and seconded by Cllr Hazel Davies.

The vote was unanimous

98.3 Planning application

24/1628/FUL Rhiwhiriaeth Isaf Llanfair Caereinion SY21 0DU

Erection of an agricultural building for manure storage

Cllr Gareth Jones declared an interest and left the meeting for this item.

The council **SUPPORTS** this application.

Proposed by Cllr Mark Owen and seconded by Cllr Sam Webster.

The vote was unanimous

98.4 Lyn Lort Energy Park – access

To meeting considered an update on the proposed access route to the above. The development company has requested to attend the next Council meeting to update members direct. This is to be arranged for the meeting to be held on Monday 16th December 2024.

98.5 Place Making Plan

The meeting received a report on progress with the place Making plan. A short meeting with Adam Greenwood had been held with Cllr Stephen Purser and the Town Clerk in attendance to try and get some progress.

The consultants are to be invited to the meeting to be held on Monday 27th January 2024.

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

99. Defibrillators

The members considered the map showing the local registered defibrillators. The meeting noted that if there should be any new defibrillators they cost approx £1,000 each. There is also a small ongoing running cost.

The members **AGREED** to consider a location at the top of the Gibbet. The Town Clerk to report back to the next meeting with a proposal.

After a discussion the council decided to bring forward a sustainable policy on locating defibs throughout the council area taking in to account population, travel time, power supplies and ongoing maintenance costs etc.

100. Mount Field

The meeting considered parking signs at the Mount Field car park. After consideration it was **AGREED** to defer any actions until the status of the Watergate Street car park is confirmed by Powys County Council (i.e. charging scheme).

101. Christmas Lights update

The meeting received update on the Christmas Lights. The Town Clerk will send out a final plan seeking help where needed.

Cllr Rob Astley updated the meeting on the actual lights and progress.

102. Air Ambulance

The meeting considered a letter from the Air Ambulance group seeking some funding. The meeting **AGREED** not to contribute at this stage.

103. County Councillor's report To meeting received a report from Cllr Gareth Jones covering the following areas:

- i) High Street road surfacing (delayed). It is possible that the church path maybe included with a small cost the council.
- ii) Repairs to the Banwy Bridge. iii) National Grid power lines – statutory consultation due March 2025.
- iv) Sustainable Powys meeting on 3rd December in Welshpool. (Cllr Stephen Purser and the Town Clerk to attend).
- v) Leisure centre review.

104. Reports from outside bodies

The meeting received the following reports from outside bodies:

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

a) Carnival

It was confirmed that a Carnival will return on 21st June 2025.

The council funding included in the budget was considered. This is to be paid on the receipt of invoices from the Carnival Committee.

The members considered if they can commit to £2,000pa for the next 5 years. This was generally agreed subject to a review of finances each year.

b) Institute

A short report was given regarding the Institute.

105. Town Clerk's report

The Town Clerk raised the following items:

a) Deri Woods benches.

The benches for Deri Woods were considered.

There is the one with Cllr Gareth Jones and two others required.

There is one single bench (no back) and one with a back to be ordered. It was suggested that the new bench on the main street could be moved but this was not considered appropriate.

b) Chapel

The CCTV camera funding request was considered again. (the decision at the last meeting was to offer 50% funding). The members **AGREED** to stand by that decision.

106. Correspondence

The meeting received a letter from Wyn Williams regarding the proposed new National Park.

The members did respond previously objecting to the proposal (Nov 2023) and **AGREED** to confirm that the council stance has not changed. For clarity the objection minute is:

Minute no 97 – November 2023

97. New national park for north Wales

The meeting considered the consultation papers on a proposed new National Park which will include land within the Llanfair Caereinion ward boundary.

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

During the debate the following were of note:

- i) Consultation process did not allow people to join by video link when it was requested.
- ii) The boundaries for the new national park are still not settled.
- iii) The scheme was in the Labour manifesto for Welsh Government.
- iv) Funding issues around extra cost for planning applications and also a levy on the local council tax for those in (and possibly around) the national park.
- v) Planning applications will involve an extra level of approval by the National Park Authority created affecting property both in and immediately around the park.
- vi) Any renewable energy/power lines are covered by the Wales Strategic Plan and will override the National Park Authority.
- vii) Concern that the decisions are being made by stealth.
- viii) It has been shown that house prices in and immediately around a national park (increase approx. 25%). This could lead to the issue of affordability to local people and could encourage more second homes. (evidenced by other national park areas such as the Lake District)
- ix) 22% of Wales is already a national park, the addition of the proposed national park would increase this to approx. 40%.
- x) In theory the national park could bring more tourism to the area.
- xi) If there is substantially more tourism there are issues with road structure and traffic.

107. Publicity and information

The meeting discussed publicity and release of information.

- a) A review to be prepared by Cllr Stephen Purser for consideration.
- b) The statement on 'recording of meetings' to be placed on the council website to avoid repeating each time on the agenda.
- c) The draft minutes are prepared within 48 hours of the meeting for comment by members before publication on the website on the Tuesday the following week (ie 7 days). Social media is informed that the draft minutes have been posted.
- d) The Town Clerk is to copy the members the rules on taking subjects in private session of council.

108. Date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be Monday 16th December 2024 at 7pm.

Councillor Christmas Dinner is to be Thursday 19th December 2024 at 7pm.

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

109. Actions to be taken forward from the meeting The following actions are to be taken forward:

Ref	Action	By
	Draft minutes to be prepared for comment and then published.	The Town Clerk
Min 95	Inform Powys County Council of precept level.	The Town Clerk
Min 95	Adjust budget to include for decisions noted. (agree figures with members)	The Town Clerk
Min 98	Report planning decisions to Powys County Council.	The Town Clerk
Min 98	Invite Bute Energy to the next council meeting.	The Town Clerk
Min 98	Invite consultants on place making plan to the January council meeting.	The Town Clerk
Min 99	Defibrillator report to be ready for next council meeting.	The Town Clerk
Min 105	Inform Chapel of CCTV decision.	The Town Clerk
Min 106	Inform Wyn Williams of the decision regarding the National Park proposals.	The Town Clerk
Min 107	Report on publicity to be prepared .	Cllr Stephen Purser