

Cyngor Cymuned Ceulanamaesmawr Community Council

Minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 30 June 2025 at 7pm in Tal-y-bont Memorial Hall

1. Chair's Welcome

Present: Cllrs Ellen ap Gwynn (Chair), Nest Jenkins, Siôn Pennant Jones, Elgan Evans, Rhian Evans, Catrin Davies (County Cllr) and Nia Richards

Also in attendance: Eluned Lewis, Community Investment Manager; Kirsty Leese, Head of Land; Sophie Jones, Project Manager – Bute Energy

Taking Minutes: Lynwen Rees Jones

The Chair welcomed all and thanked the Bute Energy officers for their attendance to give a presentation on the proposed new wind turbine development in Mid Wales.

Eluned Lewis thanked the Chair for the welcome and introduces the officers. A PowerPoint presentation was given, which would be forwarded to the Clerk in due course. Kirsty Leese gave a brief introduction to the company, noting that it was running a number of projects across Wales. Sophie Jones presented a map of the proposed Waun Hsegog development, showing that the new park would affect properties in Ceulanamaesmawr. The project would produce £1.8m a year. The consultation would be held between July and September, and an environmental impact assessment would be performed for PEDW, as well as an archaeological survey of the land in question. The planning application would be submitted in the autumn of 2026.

The officers were eager to meet with the wider community, and intended to have a presence in the Tal-y-bont Show. The Community Benefit Fund of £7,500 per MW of power would be run separately from the project, and a scheme had been set up whereby Bute Energy staff volunteer in the community to get to know the locals.

Following the presentation, the floor was opened to questions, as follows:

C: Would it be possible to offer direct benefits, e.g. lower electricity bills for local residents?

A: This would not happen; however, a panel would be set up to decide on how to allocate the financial benefits.

C: Would there be compensation for those living within sight of the turbines?

A: 25% would be earmarked for this situation. Money from the community scheme could also be invested in local energy projects to offer cheaper electricity.

C: Grid connections are poor in the area, so how would the project connect to the National Grid?

A: An agreement has been set up with the National Grid and the power would be sent to a sub-station in Powys. Information is available on the Greenglen Cymru website.

C: How much concrete would this involve?

A: No accurate figures were available, but the turbines would require a vast amount, being between 180m and 220m tall.

C: Will there be a track/road connecting the turbines?

A: A 5m wide stone track would be laid connecting all the turbines.

C: What about the peat in the area?

A: A peat survey would be carried out and work done to mitigate any effect on habitats, etc.

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C: What will be the project lifetime?

A: The initial lifetime would be 40 years, with a possibility of applying for further projects in the future.

C: Where would the access point be?

A: The intention is to locate the entrance at Ponterwyd off the A44.

C: How can we find out more about the environmental impacts?

A: All survey data would be available to the public, along with PEDW's response.

C: Basic benefits would have to be secured for the area from the start. The effects will be huge, so why is there no direct investment in the lives of the local residents? Why are Ceredigion and Mid Wales always targeted for such projects?

A: A panel of trustees overseen by the Charities Commission would be responsible for allocating the money.

C: Would jobs and apprenticeships be provided locally?

A: Larger contractors would be considered in the first instance, but the above matter would be addressed.

The Chair thanked everyone for their contribution, and the Bute Energy officers left at 8 p.m.

2. Apologies

Cllrs. Mererid Watson, Bleddyn Huws, Eryl Bray, Enoc Jenkins

The Chair offered the Council's condolences to Cllr Bleddyn Huws following the recent death of his father.

3. Declaration of Interest

No declaration of interest was made.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the AGM, held on 19 May 2025, were confirmed as correct.

Proposed: Catrin Davies; Seconded: Elgan Evans

The minutes of the previous ordinary meeting, held on 19 May 2025, were confirmed as correct.

Proposed: Nia Richards; Seconded: Elgan Evans

5. Matters arising:

i) Matters reported to the County Council via Clic

a) Road at Glanyrafon Farm: officials had been at the site taking photographs but there were no current plans to carry out any work. The condition of the road was getting worse.

ii) Meeting with Rhodri Llwyd re. the flood plan: there had been no reply. It was resolved to make contact once again.

iii) Opening the footpath: the Chair thanked everyone for their assistance, in particular Cllr Rhian Nelves for arranging the logo competition. Congratulations were given to the winner, Morven Hiscocks. It had been a good day with the path being named *Llwybr Mai*. Thanks were given to Eifion Jones for all his work. It was also resolved to send a note of thanks to Linda Hicks a Meinir Fleming for preparing the cakes.

iv) Online meeting regarding Bronglais Hospital: Cllr Eryl Bray had attended the meeting and

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had been praised for her knowledgeable contribution when discussing relocating the stroke service. The consultation had sparked a very strong response

6. New Matters

Motion from the Chair:

Ceulanamaesmawr Community Council believes that the services of the Stroke Unit at Bronglais Hospital should be strengthened through investment so that it includes all recovery treatments.

Cllr Catrin Davies proposed the following amendment:

Ceulanamaesmawr Community Council disagrees with Hywel Dda University Health Board's plans for the Stroke Unit at Bronglais Hospital and believes that it should be strengthened through investment to includes all the required recovery treatments.

The amended motion was passed unanimously.

7. Section 6 – Biodiversity

- i) Cllr Nia Richards would be attending a workshop with Coed Cymru on how to record ancient trees and add to the relevant database.
- ii) Someone had been trying to remove the Japanese knotweed growing in Cae Bach. Nia had asked Rachel Mills for her opinion on how to eradicate of it. Rachel was qualified re. the correct method of getting rid of the plant and had offered to do so at the appropriate time, in the autumn, free of charge. Resolved: to send a note of thanks to Rachel and invite her to contact the Council to make the appropriate arrangements. It was also decided to post on Clonc, FB, etc. asking people not to touch the knotweed

8. Correspondence

The Clerk had circulated all relevant electronic correspondence to the Councillors during the month. The following was noted in particular:

- i) Tree Preservation Order on five oak trees at Y Felin, Penpompren, Tal-y-bont. No objections. Cllr Nia Richards queried how to go about arranging a TPO for the oak tree at Maesyderi.

9. Financial matters:

- i) Financial report: the Clerk had circulated details of the financial situation to Council prior to the meeting; the situation as at 30/06/2025 was as follows:

Current account	£5,826.10
Deposit account	£46.47
Tabernacle account	£4,603.72
Cae Bach account	£19,278.06
Total	£29,754.35

Cash in the Cae Bach fund:

- Float for next event – £80.92
(including £4 contribution received since May meeting)

- ii) Income:

a) Contribution to the Cae Bach fund	£10.00
b) Interest on the Cae Bach account	£28.07
c) Interest on the Tabernacle account	£19.54
d) Purchase of cemetery plot	£20.00

- iii) Invoices payable:

a) Audit Wales, 2023-24 audit	£505
b) Nia Richards, Cwtsh Cynnes costs	£17.76

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| c) Ellen ap Gwynn, Cwtsh Cynnes costs | £16.29 |
| d) Clerk's costs and wages Apr-June | £1,404.93 |
| e) Hiring of Memorial Hall, Apr-June | £325 |

Resolved: to approve the above payments except for the Memorial Hall invoice. One meeting had been listed which was not connected to the Council; it was therefore resolved to pay the amended sum of £310 and request a new invoice for the records.

Cllr Nest Jenkins left the meeting at 9 p.m.

10. Playgrounds

- i) Cae Bach campaign: a treasure hunt had been planned for 26 July, with chilli offered at the end. The 200 Club would be held for another year – the Clerk to renew the license. It was hoped to hold a football fun day on 21 September and a bingo night on 24 October.
- ii) The bench in Cae Bach had been repaired, thanks to Iolo ap Gwynn.
- iii) Monthly reports:
 - Bont-goch: report by Cllr Elgan Evans noting the hedge needed cutting as it had grown very high between the gate and the river. Resolved: to contact Robert Griffiths.
 - Cae Bach: no report was received
- iv) July inspections: Cae Bach – Catrin Davies; Bont-goch – Siôn Pennant.

11. The Cemetery

- i) A resident had praised the condition of the cemetery.
- ii) Nazareth chapel: a memorandum of sale was in place. Proposed: to ask Robert Griffiths whether he would be willing to fence the site.

12. Planning

There were no planning applications to consider.

13. Any Other Business

- i) The area in front of the public toilets in Tal-y-bont needed tidying.
- ii) The grass in front of Brynhyfryd had been cut completely rather than just a path to the bench.
- iii) It was queried whether the Council would be contributing £20 to Tal-y-bont show for the competition prize again this year. Resolved: to approve this payment to the Show Committee.
- iv) The defibrillator had been relocated, and it was noted that the battery was low. Cllr Elgan Evans was thanked for arranging this. Cllr Catrin Davies had attended a defibrillator course earlier in the month.

14. 200 Club winners

A random number generator app was used to choose the June winners, as follows:

1st – 153, Gwenda Mseley-Jones (£50); 2nd – 173, Gill Belton (£20); 3rd – 58, Elen Ebenezer (£10)

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7.30 p.m. on 28 July 2025 in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.