

CYNGOR TREF **LLANIDLOES** TOWN COUNCIL

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DRAFT

MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, LLANIDLOES, ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 7PM. MEETING NO: 528

Present: Mayor Dr J G Hughes, Deputy Mayor Mr W D Craig, Cllr A Bennett, Cllr G Davies, Cllr A M Jones, Cllr E Leguay, Cllr A Morel, Cllr G Preston, Cllr K Hawkins-Selly, Cllr J Jones.

Town Clerk

Zoom – None

Members of the public in attendance – One

RFO on holiday

528.1 PRELIMINARIES - MAYOR

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence. **RESPONSE:** Apologies were received from **Cllr G Macarthur, Cllr Trudy Davies, Cllr A Morgan, Cllr G Morgan.**
2. To receive and accept personal and pecuniary interests in items of business.
RESPONSE: Cllr G Preston in any matters relating to Powys County Council as a County Councillor.
3. Reminder that Llanidloes Town Council voted to commit Civility and Respect Pledge and that all councillors remain part of that pledge until the new administration is voted in in May 2027. If anyone is unsure what the pledge entails, they can ask the clerk for a copy. **RESPONSE:** Noted by all present.
4. Presentation by Bute Energy regarding updated DNS applications for Banc Du and Rhiwlas Energy Parks. **RESPONSE:** Consultation is still ongoing. The new government have not yet decided on direction of DNS developments. The criteria for community compensation grants of up to £900,000 per annum if the project goes ahead, is not yet announced.

528.2 ADMINISTRATION – MAYOR/TOWN CLERK

1. To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 20th July 2026. **RESPONSE:** Approved as a true record.
1. Adoption of New Model Standing Orders. **RESPONSE:** Adopted.

2. Planning Applications

Application Reference: P/26/0914/FUL

Proposal: New pitch lighting

Location: LLANIDLOES RFC, CAE HAFREN, DOLWEN, LLANIDLOES, SY18 6LQ

Allocated Officer: Aled Williams

RESPONSE: No comments or objection.

Application Reference: P/26/0450/HH

Proposal: Replacement of window to front of property

Location: 3 CAMBRIAN PLACE, LLANIDLOES, SY18 6BX

Allocated Officer: Aled Williams

RESPONSE: No comments or objection.

3. To agree local organisations/individuals to receive letter of thanks for services to the Community. **RESPONSE:** No suggestions
4. To receive Councillors Questions of which a minimum 3 days' prior notification has been given. **RESPONSE:** None received.
5. Agree date of next Council meeting. **RESPONSE:** 19th October 2026. 7pm.

528.3 ESTABLISHMENT – MAYOR/TOWN CLERK – **APPENDICES 3a & b**

2. To receive information and updates from County Councillors (Cllr G Preston)
RESPONSE: Some of the Pride in Place money to be used to secure loose tiles on China Street. Part of Shortbridge Street to be resurfaced. Trees to be trimmed in Autumn to avoid harming nesting birds. Victoria Avenue should be cut three times a year but was not this year. Assurances for next year being sought. A proposal for an expanded car park to be built at Hafren Forest was rejected by Powys County Council. New cattle crossing signs on the road to Hafren are to be erected.
3. Update regarding membership of Llais – Deputy Mayor
RESPONSE: Membership of Llais no longer active. The intention had been to help represent health issues in Llanidloes and wider area, but, although well intentioned, Llais is in practise creates distance from government rather than being the best place to raise locally relevant issues.
4. Town Council website improvement proposal – Clerk
RESPONSE: Council agreed a programme of various improvements to the website, including a Welsh language landing page, which is already in place, a news section and search function.
5. Youth Representative – Deputy Mayor
RESPONSE: Cllr A Morel and Cllr J Jones to meet and discuss how to bring young people into the civic and political process.
6. Report on work at the Youth Centre. **RESPONSE:** New windows are in place, and the newly replaced roof now has solar panels. A large tree blocking light from the panels is to be removed and five new trees to be planted nearby.
7. Response to vandalism to the Town Hall public toilets. **RESPONSE:** The police have identified the individuals responsible for the damage and will be updating the council. Council would be happy to see those involved working on civic projects.
8. Proposed change of Clerk working hours to accommodate Welsh classes.
RESPONSE: Council agreed to Clerk's Office opening hours of clerk in all day

Mondays, Tuesdays clerk in afternoons only, Wednesdays clerk in for half day and Responsible Financial Officer in all day, Thursdays will be clerk in all day. No one will be in the office on Fridays, as is currently the arrangement.

9. Update on Oak Street caf  s street furniture. **RESPONSE:** Council pleased to see street furniture being used outside, within the planters.
10. Food resilience consultation. **RESPONSE:** Conscious that residents are increasingly concerned about potential problems in vital food systems in the future, council agreed to explore development of a food resilience policy and or action plan, in consultation with relevant experts and the community. Unused land in public ownership to be explored for further residents' allotments and growing spaces.
11. Trees edging Dolhafren cemetery. **RESPONSE:** Weak tall trees have become a danger at the bottom of the cemetery and a programme of reduction to make them safe was agreed.

528.4 FINANCE

1. Receive and approve Bank Reconciliations as at 31.07.26 and 31.08.2026 with CCLA PSDF valuation. **RESPONSE:** Approved.
2. To approve accounts for payment awaiting authorisation. **RESPONSE:** Payments totalling £50,825.78 were approved for July and August.
3. To receive a list of outstanding debtors at 31.8.26 and agree action if required. **RESPONSE:** Noted debtors of £19,840.54 including approximately £5,000 of VAT due back in October and approximately £10,000 to come from Transforming Towns fund, with no further action proposed.
4. To receive and note a list of payments made through an ongoing arrangement and inter account bank transfers in July and August 2026. **RESPONSE:** Payments totalling £9,970.93 and internal bank transfers of £15,000 in July and payments totalling £8,624.83 and internal bank transfers of £30,000, £5,000 and £40,000 in August were noted.
5. To receive and note actual vs budget figures to 31.8.26 with commentary. **RESPONSE:** Budget vs Actuals for July and August 2026 were submitted and noted. Financial position remains acceptable.
6. To receive insurance review paper. **RESPONSE:** Insurance renewals were due on 1 August 2026. A review was carried out by the Responsible Finance Officer with renewals accepted and put in place to ensure continuous cover. A breakdown was presented to Town Council. RFO was praised for negotiating lower than expected premium.

528.5 COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following items:

Save Our Hospital Beds Action Group next steps. **RESPONSE:** Agreed that Cllr J Jones would chair a meeting called for 6pm on 6th October.

Christmas Lights Committee were considering a three-year arrangement with current light instalment company. **RESPONSE:** As the total of this would take an agreement over £30k,

this needs to go out to tender. Agreed to stay with installer for this year and tender in the new year.

Receive paper with details on national staff pay award for 2026/27 and, if desired, agree increases for Llanidloes Town Council staff, including back dated pay to 1 April 2026.

RESPONSE: Approved.