In line with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 these minutes are duly published as draft and will be formally agreed at the next meeting of the Committee.

Laleston Community Council

Minutes **of the: Allotments Biodiversity meeting held on the**

29th October 2026

In Attendance; Cllrs A. Berrow, M.Fouracre, M.Smith, C.Webster, D. Harrison

Representing the Allotments : Gary Williams, Amber Thomas, Paula King

Also Present Geraint Thomas , Clerk

Sarah Bowen -Office Manager

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr. V. James

2. To receive Declarations of Interest (if any) of Members in respect of the business to be transacted.

NONE

3. To welcome Mrs D.Williams and Partner- Volunteers at the Wildflower Meadow

The Chair of the Committee welcomed Mrs D., Williams and her Partner John to the meeting.

RESOLVED to note and appreciated their attendance

4. Approval of Minutes

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To receive the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 23rd July 2026 and to consider any points of clarification not included on the Agenda.

RESOLVED to accept the minutes as a true record

5. **To consider any issues at the Allotments(30 mins Maximum)**

As per the agenda the Office Manager was asked to deliver her report which included the following:

Allotment security
Complaints received over public using the carpark and abusing plot holders.
Vandalism on Veterans plot and thefts on plots. OM arranged for both gates to be closed during the day and locked at end of day.
Security camera signs placed at entrance – To act as a deterrent. Security cameras in discussion.

Behaviours
Hostility towards others, OM and Clerk and complaints continue– ideas on how to resolve. Plot holders need to be reminded of their T&C's and maintaining plots shouldn't be any issues when inspections take place. The plot holders interfering in matters that do not concern them needs to stop. They need to remember they are plot holders and we have reps in place.

Possible miscommunication with two allotmenteers needs to be resolved without the involvement of OM or Clerk

Positives that have taken place at the allotments. (Over shadowed by some extent due to complaints received)
New shed roof
Burner bins agreed
Defib and fitted onto the shed
Tyre collection

3 new committee reps – who are supporting OM and Clerk and doing a great job! The support from the three reps has been exceptional and appreciate all that's being done. Thanks for being in the firing line and taken the brunt of it all.
Gary has split plots to make more and reduce the size on some of the larger plots. This has supported plot holders who have struggled with the size of their plots and reduced our waiting list.

Allotment helpers - Introduced allotment helpers for anyone who needs support**.** Great system of working together. Continue and support others who haven't been able to maintain plots due to personal reasons – OM & reps to reassess individuals' situations after the winter/agreed time.

Redesigned the inspections to make it more efficient for OM and councillors. Easier process.

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Food pantry – Donations from allotments well received, give thanks. Keep this rolling during growing season if plot holders want to donate. Positive impact on supporting the community.

Coffee morning over at the allotments – great to meet and speak to a few people. OM and Cllr Clair Webster attended.

Paula arranged a coffee morning at Blandy, successful morning.

Bio Diversity – No time to discuss but some items had been mentioned by Dot Williams
Broadlands wildflower meadow - grass cutting has been completed, new bulbs ready to plant.
Jamie helped Dot with a video to promote the meadow. Video is on our website.

Path edging needs to be replaced – Volunteers needed.
OM has a compost bin at the community centre and spring bulbs ready to plant. (bee, butterfly friendly)
Broadlands wildflower meadow – how can we link the allotments in with the Broadlands wildflower meadow?

RESOLVED to accept the report and suggestions from the OM with thanks

Review of Fees

The Clerk referred to his suggestion to carry out a review on the level of fees for allotments in neighbouring Councils. A report thereon to submitted to the next meeting of this Committee in January 2027.

RESOLVED to accept the suggestion of the Clerk

Provision of CCTV

The provision of CCTV at the allotments has been the topic of discussion on numerous occasions.

It was duly noted and agreed CCTV signs were being put up at the Allotments in the first instance as a perceived deterrent.

RESOLVED to further consider the provision of a global CCTV operation as and when it is deemed appropriate and necessary, taking into account any concerns from the Allotmenteers and received via the Council's representatives at the Allotments.

The Following matter s were raised by the allotment representatives with the resolution attached

Mr M Scales issue

This matter was not discussed in any detail as the Clerk and Committee deemed it inappropriate as it was the subject of legal challenge by NAS

Opening and closing of gates at the Allotments

For a trial period of one month the internal gate at the allotments will remain open whilst allotmenteers are on site ,but the external gate leading to the car park from the road has to always remain closed and locked at the end of the day. The external gate to be repaired as necessary to ease access

Information received from Allotmenteer J. Cook

RESOLVED that the information supplied by J. Cook was noted and acknowledged

Terms and Conditions of Tenancy at the allotments

RESOLVED that as is normal practice all Terms and Conditions applied /enforced by the Council will be the subject of referral to the Council's AGM in May 2027, at this time a review thereof will be considered if deemed appropriate

6. To consider any Biodiversity matters reference Bryntirion Master Plan.

The Clerk referred to the Bryntirion Masterplan(the plan) and the Bio-diversity aspects therein.
Following detailed discussion on the work undertaken by Mrs Williams and her partner at the Wildflower Meadow(the Meadow) and their expected expertise being involved in the delivery of the Plan going forward
the following was **RESOLVED**

1. **the appreciation of the outstanding work by Mrs Williams and her partner as volunteers, be duly noted by the Committee.**
2. **As a Committee we welcome both Mrs Williams and Her partner being involved in the Council's endeavour and promote the use of Volunteers by using the video already prepared and on the Council's website**
3. **Mrs Wiliiams and her partner be invited to submit to the Clerk a list of deemed issues that require attention over the next few years**
4. **A sub-group of the Clerk and Office manager along with Mrs Williams and her partner to look at prioritising issues at the Meadow in line with the Council's strategic plan being developed.**
5. **If not already in place a financial /budget provision be made in future for the Meadow and referred to the Finance and Facilities Cttee as necessary.**
6. **The Council to seek more volunteers to assist in the future delivery of the Bryntirion Master Plan and at the Meadow. Based on the suggestions given during the meeting.**

7. To receive any recommendations from other Committees or Council.

NONE

8. At the discretion of the Chair .to consider any other items

. The following matters was raised.

Concern about the grassed areas with the Broadlands estate that are subject to maintenance etc.

RESOLVED that the Chair and Cllr M. Fouracre report on this matter to the next meeting of this Committee

Saplings at Blandy hall seemed to have died.

RESOLVED to investigate and replace as neccessary

Meeting ended @ 7.30pm

Next scheduled meeting 28th January 2026 @6.30pm at Blandy Hall

Signed Chair of the Committee as a true record……..

DRAFT