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 Finance and Facilities Committee held on Thursday 12th November 2026, at 7pm in Blandy Hall

In Attendance: Cllrs S. Philpin (Chair), I Spiller, V.James, M.Smith

Geraint Thomas - Clerk
Gail Jewell- RFO

1. Apologies

Cllr D.Harrison. S. Richmond,

2. Declaration of Interest

To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest from Members /Officers in accordance with the relevant Codes of Conduct

Cllr. I Spiller declared a prejudicial interest should any relevant information be discussed regarding Broadlands Fun Day in relation to Budget 27/28
Cllr I spiller declared a personal interest in relation to any matters being discussed allied to Bridgend Town Council

Cllr. S. Philpin declared a personal interest should any matter related to "content management "be raised during the Budget discussion for 27/28

3. Approval of Minutes

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2026 and the Special meeting held on 13th October 2026 and deal with any points of clarification.

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting

RESOLVED to accept the minutes as a true record without any points of clarification being raised

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4. To consider any requests for Financial Assistance/ Facilities

The Clerk referred to the outstanding matter of renewing/refurbishing the Fitness Trail at Maes yr Haf School

RESOLVED to note and deal with this matter under Item 10 on the Agenda

5. To receive feedback on the Broadlands Fun Day

Cllr. I. Spiller gave an update on the success of the Broadlands Fun Day

The Clerk stated that a reconciliation of the costs relating to the Fun Day were yet to finalized due to outstanding monies not being received

RESOLVED to note the position

6. To receive feedback from the Fireworks Display and any costs associated therewith needing approval

The Clerk indicated that the Fireworks display was once again a great success this year**.**
The Chair indicated that She had received a total of £1000 by way of donations to her chosen charity Marie Curie.
With regard to the Chair's charity the income from the stallholders would also be donated to the Chair's charity

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RESOLVED 1. To note the success of the event
2, To formally resolve/endorse that the receipts from the Stallholders at the event be donated to the Chair's charity.

7. To receive feedback from the Remembrance Day Service and any costs associated therewith needing approval

The Clerk referred to the Service held on Wednesday 11th November 2026
The feedback received was that it was a success with the children from Maes yr Haul and Laleston Primary Schools being in attendance and singing as part of the Service
Like all events there are lessons to be learned and will be the subject of a meeting of all involved in the event scheduled for the 28th January 2027 in readiness for the Remembrance Service 2027

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RESOLVED to note with thanks to All those involved

8. To consider the contents of the External Audit Report for the Council's Accounts 2025/26

The Clerk referred to the External Audit report for the Council's Accounts 2025/26 indicating that it was an unqualified audit requiring no matters to be considered going forward.

RESOLVED to accept the report and express sincere thanks to the RFO for the work undertaken in preparing the Accounts referred to for audit.

9. To receive a report from RFO on Financial matters

The information relating to this matter ahd been circulated prior to the meeting

RESOLVED to accept the documents and verbal report of the RFO with thanks

10. To consider the Budget/Precept for 27/28

The Clerk indicated that the Draft initial budget 27/28 had been the subject of detailed discussions prior to the meeting, and was presented to the meeting for detailed consideration.

The Committee went through every head of account detailed in the draft document, heavily scrutinizing what was being proposed.

During the discussion, the changes suggested were updated immediately.

In considering the details the Committee were mindful of the current cost of living and what had already been agreed by Council to be put in the Budget for 27/28 and the effect thereon on the Precept for 27/28

It has to be noted that a lot of time was spent on this important matter consequently lengthening the duration of the meeting

From a starting point of suggesting an increase in Precept by 25.2 % the Committee, with careful consideration, was able to reduce this to 17.2 %.

The Committee also indicated that any further reductions in the Budget would need to be from lowering the Council's reserves and whether the request from Maes yr Haul School for financial assistance to replace/repair the fitness trail at the School was possible in the current

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climate. Albeit the well-being of all who use the facility was duly noted

As expenditure allocated to the fitness trail at Maes yr Haul School was deemed to be of a capital nature then the Council would need assurance from the school that their budget would include on-going maintenance costs for the facility.

RESOLVED 1. The Chair of the Committee present a statement to the Full Council on the 19th of November 2026 on this important outcome from the Finance and Facilities Cttee relating to Budget and Precept preparation 27/28

2. The Clerk writes to the school on the subject of on-going maintenance costs associated with the fitness trail would be met by the school

11. to Consider any other matters at the discretion of the Chair of the Committee.

NONE

There being no further matters received, the Meeting closed at 9.02pm with reference from the Chair that if the meeting continued there would be a need to suspend standing orders accordingly

Signed by Chair as correct record……

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