

LALESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Laleston Community Council held at Blandy Hall on Thursday 22nd January 2026 at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs. S. Philpin (Chair), T.Berrow, C.Davies, D. Harrison, V.James, S.Richmond, C.Smith, M.Smith, I Spiller

In Attendance : Geraint Thomas

1.19. 1790 Council undertook a period of silent reflection

**2.19. 1791 Apologies for absence: Cllrs. J.P.Blundell, Z. Blundell,
C. Webster**

3.19. 1792 Representation from members of the Public

NONE

4.19. 1793 Declarations of Interest.

Cllr. A. Berrow – Item12- Prejudicial interest as a Member of Bridgend County Bporough Council Planning Committee

Cllr.D. Harrison – Item 12 – - Prejudicial interest as a Member of Bridgend County Bporough Council Planning Committee

5.19. 1794 Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 18th December 2025 be accepted as a true record thereof, subject to the deletion of the words “ postponed from Thursday 16th October” in the heading

Matters arising from Meeting that took place on the 18th December 2025

For benefit of Cllr C. Davies due his absence at the meeting on the 18th December 2025,

Cllr. Spiller gave an update on the current situation regarding Craig Y Parcau nature

reserve which had previously been deferred.

Cllr .C.Davies duly accepted the update with some reservation

Cllr. C. Davies requested what percentage increase had necessitated the level of precept referred to in the minutes.

6.19. 1795 To receive quotations, if any:

NONE

7.19. 1796 To discuss Bins at Broadlands District Centre

Cllr I. Spiller declared a personal in this matter

Following detailed discussions and issues surrounding the use of bins at the above location ,and removal of some of the bins resulting in there being only one bin left which was owned by the Council. This bin was being heavily used and the frequent removal of its contents needed to be addressed.

RESOLVED due to the high incidence of having to frequently empty the Council owned bin, the bin be removed from this location.

8.19. 1797 To discuss a grit bin on Clos Henblas

Cllr. Spiller indicated that he had spoken to a representative of Bridgend County Borough (BCBC) about this matter.

BCBC have stated that if a bin was purchased by Laleston Community Council and placed at a suitable location on Clos Henblas ,the BCBC would supply thr grit/salt free of charge.

RESOLVED to purchase a bin and locate it on Clos Henblas as per the understanding /assurance of BCBC and subject to consultation with residents in the locality as to its actual location on Clos Henblas.

9.19. 1798 To look at adopting One Voice Wales Lone Working Policy.

Geraint Thoams gave an overview of the situation he recently faced at Bryntirion Community Centre, whereby he had to knock the door to gain entry.

It transpired that the Office Manager was in the Centre on her own and had kept the door locked for her own safety.

There was no Lone Working Policy for employees of the Council, Therefore, there was need for one to be adopted.

In relation to the document from One Voice Wales, this would be more than appropriated for adoption from a safeguarding point of view.

RESOLVED that the One Voice Wales Lone Working be adopted by the Council

10.19.1799 Broadlands Wildflower Meadow

This matter was the subject of discussion and in conjunction with an email received regarding the use of volunteers being undertaken to carry out the work contained within the management plan received for the site.

Some concerns were raised as to the use of volunteers from a Health and Safety and Insurance cover point of view. These concerns in no way detracted from the grateful thanks expressed to the volunteers. However, as the land was owned by the Council there needed to be adequate and proper procedures in place for the volunteers.

RESOLVED to undertake and seek guidance from the Council's Insurers regarding the use of volunteers on Council owned land.

Once received Geraint Thomas and the Biodiversity Committee of the Council be granted plenary powers to deal with the voluntary group directly including health and safety issues.

11.19.1800 To receive an invoice in respect of HR support

Geraint Thomas declared an interest in this matter

RESOLVED to accept the invoice as detailed

12.19.1801 To receive any recommendations and or comments from Committees

Concern was expressed that some of the Committees had not been convened for sometime, and that the situation was not sustainable any longer.

There needed to be meetings of the Biodiversity Cttee and Allotments Cttee as a matter of urgency.

RESOLVED 1. that Geraint Thomas addresses the situation of the lack of Committee being convened as soon as possible and report back to the next Council meeting

And 2. That meetings of the Biodiversity Committee and Allotments Cttee be convened as soon as practicable.

13.19.1802 To receive draft minutes of any Committee meetings held since the last meeting of the Council and any delegated decisions made.

In the context of the RESOLUTION in the preceding minute, it was RESOLVED to await the report on future meetings being received.

14.19.1803 To receive Correspondence, if any

A list of correspondence received had been circulated which were duly noted (see attached)

The Chair brought to the attention of the Council the following

1. Letter of resignation from the Assistant Clerk terminating her employment with the Council on the 3rd February 2026.

A brief in camera discussion was had in relation to the resignation received. It was pointed out that this letter and any recruitment of a replacement be referred to the HR Cttee.

2. Email received from Laleston Gardening Club to use Blandy Hall for their annual show from midday on Friday 28th August 2026 and all day on Saturday 29th August 2026.

RESOLVED to accept the correspondence received and where necessary a suitable response be issued subject to any matter being referred to the next Council meeting as deemed necessary.

15.19.1804 To consider Planning Applications

The schedule of planning applications was circulated and comments made are included on the attached document

RESOLVED to accept the comments indicated on the attached list.

And to note the appeal outcome notification of case CAS-04660-T5L2J8

There being no further business to be transacted, the meeting ended at 7.40pm

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19th February 2026 at Blandy Hall and will commence at 7.00pm