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 Council.

LALESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Laleston Community Council held at Blandy Hall on Thursday 21st May 2026 at 7.00 pm(immediately following the AGM of the Council)

Present: Cllrs.V.James(Chair) S.Philpin .T. Berrow, S. Richmond,

M. Smith, I Spiller, D.Harrison,C. Webster. M.Fouracre. C.Smith,

J-P Blundell, Z.Blundell

In Attendance: Geraint Thomas, Acting Clerk(

1.13 The Council undertook a period of silent reflection

2.14 Apologies for absence:

Cllr. M. Fouracre

3.15 To receive an update from PCSO Natasha Jenkins on Police matters

The Chair welcomed PCSO Jenkins to the meeting.

PCSO Jenkins referred to the free email service that helps the Police keep in touch with the Community.
By signing up on South Wales Listens updates as to what action the Police have taken,receive information on neighbourhood policing, answer surveys and more
PCSO Jenkins requested help from the Council to promote the initiative.

RESOLVED to assist

The following Community matters were raised
Parking Issues at Merlin Crescent
Off -road Scrambler bikes
Parking issues outside Schools in the Community

In response PCSO Jenkins stated that the Police were aware of the issues and were monitoring them when resources were available

The Chair thanked PCSO Jenkins for her attendance

4.16 Representation from members of the Public

NONE

5..17 Declarations of Interest.

Cllr. I. Spiller– Item15 - Prejudicial interest as a Member of Bridgend County Borough Council Planning Committee if there were any planning matters to be raised

Cllr D.Harrison -Item15-- Prejudicial interest as a Member of Bridgend County Borough Council Planning Committee if there were any planning matters to be raised

Cllr I Spiller Item 11- Broadlands Fun Day -- Personal Interest only

6.18 To receive a report from the Chair of the Council in relation to events /meetings attended

The Chair gave her sincere thanks to outgoing Chair Cllr S.Philpin for the way Cllr Philpin carried out her duties during the municipal year 2025/2026

RESOLVED to endorse the action of the Chair

7.19 Approval of Minutes

The Draft minutes were not properly circulated beforehand

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 19th March 2026 be deferred until the June 2026 meeting.

8.20 To receive quotations

The Clerk referred to the following quotations received

1.Repairs and replacement of fittings etc at the Play Park,Bryntirion Fields
RESOLVED to accept the quotation and carry out the works as soon as Practicable

2. Removal of an overhanging tree at the Allotments
RESOLVED to refer this matter to the Biodiversity /Allotments for further consideration

3 .To reconfigure the toilets at Bryntirion Community Centre
RESOLVED to seek further quotations for this work to be carried out

9.21 To receive the Draft minutes and any recommendations and or comments from

Committees

The Acting Clerk referred to the Draft minutes that had been circulated prior to the meeting

a) Finance Committee b) HR and Personnel Committee c) Biodiversity & Allotment Committee(NONE)

The Acting Clerk requested that the Draft HR/Personnel Committee minutes be d dealt with under Item 16 on the Agenda

The request was acceded to

With reference to the Draft Finance and Facilities Minutes, a point of clarification was requested by Cllr C. Davies, which was addressed to Cllr I. Spiller.
Cllr Spiller gave an account of what was discussed at the meeting in relation to the point raised by Cllr C.Davies and was deemed to be a personal matter.
Cllr Spiller called for progress to be made

RESOLVED to note the Draft minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee accordingly

10.22 To receive an update on the provision of Creditors List (information up to 31st March 2026 already circulated)

The Acting Clerk had circulated a lot of paperwork on this subject prior to the meeting.
The Acting Clerk stated that work was being done on the April and May accounts which would be submitted to the Finance and Facilities meeting to be held in June 2026.

RESOLVED to note the hard work undertaken by the RFO with thanks

11.23 To approve Broadlands Fun Day

The Acting referred to the cost by Organised Chaos to provide facilities for the Broadlands Fun Day
The Acting Clerk indicated that he was keen to make the Council fully aware of costs being incurred, and would be bringing all quotations to the Council for approval, together with reconciling all approved costs.

Cllr C. Smith wished to note that he did not wish to take part in any vote being in relation to this item

RESOLVED to accept the quotation received from Organised Chaos and the comments made

12.24 To receive the Clerk's General Report

The Acting Clerk presented his verbal report to the Council on the following **:**

Staff Matters

The Facilities Assistant is starting work on the 8th June 2026

Office Manager was now on honeymoon following her marriage on the 15th May 2026

RESOLVED to note

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One Voice Wales(OVW) Awards/Conference

The Clerk referred to the fact that the Council will not know the outcome of the application for an award to Cllr C.Webster prior to the conference/Awards ceremony being held in Built Wells on Wednesday 1st July 2026

RESOLVED to nominate the Acting Clerk to attend the OVW Conference/Awards ceremony on the 1st July 2026 on behalf of the Council.

Training

The Acting referred to the previous decision of the Council to at training event later in the year.
The event being organised through One Voice Wales
The Acting Clerk informed the Council that he had now received dates for the training to take place in October, and was liaising with Mr Paul Egan of One Voice Wales to agree on the topic(s) for the training session.
The training would be held in Blandy Hall

RESOLVED to note

Grants

The Acting referred to the following
a) The Council had been unsuccessful with the grant application under PiPIF

b) An application is in the process of completion for the tarmacking of the Right of Way from Blandy Road to Dove Close

c) BCBC(LPIN) were funding the Attenuation Pond at Bryntirion fields.
The administrative costs of supporting the project would be met by the LCC and provision was already in the Budget for 2026/27

RESOLVED to note

Audit requirements

The Acting Clerk had circulated the relevant parts of the End of Year reports for 2026/2027
The reports were being issued for information only as it was the responsibility of the RFO to ensure that the documents were correct before submitting to the Internal Auditor
There were mandatory timescales that had to be complied with and these would be met by the RFO and the Clerk
If Councillors did have any queries regarding the financial matters of the Council they should refer them to the Clerk directlyey

RESOLVED to note

13. 25. To consider granting permission to hold the following events

Christmas Fayre

Toy Sale

Christmas Dinner Boxes

RESOLVED to grant permission to hold the events referred to above

14. 26. To receive Correspondence

No apparent correspondence had been received that required referral to the Council,

RESOLVED to note

15.27 To consider Planning Applications

NONE

16.28 If appropriate, consider passing the following resolution:

That, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

This motion was passed

Having passed the resolution (minute 16.28 refers) to exclude the press and public, the Acting Clerk referred to the following Draft minutes of the HR/Personnel Committee held on 5th May 2026

CONFIDENTIAL--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Minutes of the HR/Personnel Committee meeting held online on Tuesday 5th May 2026

In attendance: Cllrs C.Webster(Chair),I Spiller,Z.Blundell,A.Berrow,M.Fouracre

Geraint Thomas -Acting Clerk

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr S. Philpin

2. Declaration of Interest

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

None received

3. To consider a Staffing Review

The Acting Clerk referred to the attached report that had been circulated to all Committee members in advance of the meeting

The Acting Clerk went through the report in some detail, outlining the reasons for it and regularising certain staffing matters that needed to be considered.

The catalyst for the review was the return to work of the Clerk/RFO following a period of prolonged absence due to personal circumstances. Also, taking into account a request by the Clerk/RFO to only undertake the role of RFO going forward.

The report detailed what the Acting Clerk deemed to be a satisfactory solution to the issues raised, and requested the Committee to consider the contents of the report, together with the impact that the changes suggested would have on the current budget provision for staffing.

The Acting Clerk informed the Committee that if they agreed to the contents of the report and its operation of the changes therein from May 2026 there would be no budget shortfall incurred during the Financial Year.

It was also reported that the consequential impact on the current acting Clerk would need to be resolved .

A general discussion on the report ensued, covering the expected roles and updating/regularization of the staffing matters referred to and the position of the Acting Clerk

RESOLVED to accept the report from the Acting Clerk as follows, with effect from May 2026

1. The Existing Clerk /RFO be redesignated RFO/Deputy Clerk, with the Deputy Clerk's role being undertaken on a need arising basis. Hours of Work to be 20 hours per week based in Bryntirion CC. The hours worked include attendance at monthly Finance and Facilities Committee meetings.
2. The Office Manager's duties be amended to include day-to-day responsibility for the Allotments and the Council's Website and procurement of office equipment. Hours of work be regularised as 37 per week. In

recognition of the additional duties, the pay rate of the Office Manager is to be increased by 2 incremental points and fixed at this rate.

3. The Facilities Officer's hours be formally recorded as being 30 hours per week in recognition of the holidays, the Facilities Officer was not able to take during the Financial Year 2025/26, an ex gratia payment of £1000 be made to the Facilities Officer.
4. The Acting Clerk to be offered the position of Clerk of the Council, working 20 hours per week, two days in the office, and the rest working from home .The offer being a **RECOMMENDATION t**o the Full Council for determination

4. To consider any other matters at the discretion of the Chair of the Committee

None were raised

Meeting ended at 7pm

In presenting the Draft minutes to the Council the Acting clerk indicated that there was one recommendation that needed to have Council approval in relation to the position of Clerk and Responsible Officer to the Councill following the review.

RESOLVED that the Acting Clerk be offered the permanent position of Clerk and Responsible Officer to the Council

The Acting Clerk accepted the offer with thanks

There being no further business to be transacted, Council meeting ended at

7.55 pm

Next meeting will be on the 18th June 2026

Chair signature for approval V.James