

Pendine Community Council Meeting Monday 16th October 2024 6.30pm (Open meeting for residents) 7.30 Official Council Meeting Llanmiloe Resource Centre

1	Welcome, Apologies and Introductions :	
	Present: Andrew Shaw (Chair); Sara Bruce-Goodwin; Steve Rundle; Hayley Thomas; Emily Bevan-Jones(Clerk); Jane Tremlett.	
	Apologies: None.	
	7 members of the public present.	
2	Open meeting to residents:	
	Residents were invited at an earlier time of 6.30pm to share their views on what they would like the Council prioritise for the upcoming financial year:	
	 The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees. The Chair explained that the purpose of inviting residents was to gather their views and input, helping the Council understand their priorities for the 2025/26 financial year. The Chair outlined that residents should raise their hands if they wished to speak and would be invited to share their views. Resident 1: Raised concerns about the damaged flagpoles on the Main Slipway. Council Response: The Council acknowledged the issue and confirmed it is aware of its duty under LOLER (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations) to inspect the poles. The Council has been in contact with a contractor to arrange repairs. Mentioned that some of the promenade lighting along the beach wall is not functioning. Council Response: The Council recently investigated ownership of the lights and is planning to replace the bulbs as part of its winter maintenance schedule. Expressed concerns about the handrail and ramp by the Pitstop. Council Response: The Chair explained that this area is not managed by the Community Council, and the resident would need to raise concerns with the proprietor of the Beach Hotel. Raised concerns about the condition of the bus stops and fencing at the entrance to the Attractor Project. Council Response: The Council clarified that responsibility for this area lies with Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC). However, Pendine Community Council is exploring ways to improve the area with the help of volunteers, as similar concerns have been noted. The Council emphasized the need to seek permission from CCC before committing to any work. 	
	 adverts, and local information. Council Response: The Council agreed it is a great idea but expressed concerns about the impact of weather and salt exposure on the longevity of 	



such an investment.

The next resident was invited to speak. They expressed their thanks to the Council for the events held this year, noting that they were well-received and a success.

Another resident suggested continuing the produce market next year and requested additional events, noting that this year's events have demonstrated they can be effectively managed and successfully delivered.

Another resident was invited to speak and suggested adding planters around the village to improve its visual appeal. They also proposed planting the beds by the Attractor Project, noting that the area currently lacks aesthetic appeal. The resident inquired about the possibility of obtaining a grant to support this initiative.

Council Response:

Councillor SBG explained that she is attending an upcoming seminar with One Voice Wales focused on grant opportunities and will explore available options. The Council also noted that funding may be available through a successful application to the "Parc Cynog" fund.

The next resident was invited to speak and mentioned they had read the Council's Facebook post inviting residents, noting that the focus on the "Village Hall" in the post was particularly prominent.

Council Response:

The Council acknowledged that while a village hall is an important necessity, the costs and budget constraints need careful consideration. Realistically, such a project could only be achieved through grant funding. The resident suggested that a village hall could provide an additional source of income for the Council, comparing it to the revenue generated by Laugharne's hall. The Council agreed that this would need a detailed cost-benefit analysis to determine feasibility, particularly considering the availability of land, which could present a challenge.

The resident also raised concerns about the aesthetic condition of some buildings in the community and asked whether the Council could contribute to improving privately owned properties. The Council explained that such an initiative would likely require grant funding, as current budget limitations do not allow for additional expenditure. They also noted the sensitivity of approaching property owners, as some may not be in a financial position to undertake improvements, and addressing the condition of their properties could cause tension.

Additional Concerns Raised by Residents:

• Community Venue Accessibility:

Several residents expressed concern about the lack of an affordable community venue. They noted that while the museum and Caban have suitable facilities, the high costs make them inaccessible to the community.

• Dangerous Lane Condition:

Concerns were raised about the hazardous condition of the lane between the crossroads by Threelords and Pendine. The Council agreed and confirmed they have already brought this issue to the attention of Jane Tremlett.

• Bus Stop Maintenance:

Another attendee highlighted the poor condition of the bus stop at the top of the hill, suggesting it needed cleaning. The Council agreed to consider this for the



winter maintenance schedule and explore seeking help from volunteers.

	 Overgrown Road from Llanmiloe to Pendine: Residents raised concerns about the neglected condition of the road from Llanmiloe to Pendine, noting that it is overgrown and pools of water have formed, creating a safety hazard. Mobile Reception in Pendine: An attendee mentioned the poor mobile reception in Pendine and asked if there were any solutions to improve it. The Council responded that they will raise the issue with Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) to explore potential collaboration with mobile providers. The Clerk noted that previous investigations into obtaining a mast or booster revealed it is financially unfeasible for the Community Council. Ownership of Tremoilet School: A resident inquired about the ownership of Tremoilet School and whether it could be a potential site for a community hall. The Council explained that the property belongs to the diocese, and due to the difficulty in communicating with them, it would not be a viable option. Donations to the Primary School: Another resident asked about the possibility of making donations to the primary school. The Clerk explained that the Council has already made a donation this financial year. However, under Section 137, the Council's expenditure powers are limited, and the Council must ensure donations are distributed fairly among all community groups. Vehicle Speed on Small Hill: A resident raised concerns about speeding vehicles on the small hill. The Clerk requested a written complaint to raise the issue with GoSafe. Christmas event was discussed, with a resident asking whether the market could be held in the old garage. The Council explained that they believe the garage 	
	they plan to obtain two marquees to accommodate the market. Conclusion of Residents' Open Session: The open session concluded at 19:34.	
2	Declarations of Personal Interest:	All
	Emily Bevan-Jones: Emily Bevan Jones declared a personal interest regarding the proposed discussions on the clerk's contracted hours	
3	To sign as correct minutes of previous meeting:	All
	The minutes fromc the previous meeting 18^{th} September 2024 were approved and signed as correct .	
	Due to time constraints and a full agenda, the Chair prioritized items that needed to be addressed in the current meeting and postponed those that could be deferred to a later date.	



4	Council Finance:	Clerk
	The Clerk presented the monthly financial summary, noting that there were no payments requiring authorization.	CIEFK
	The Clerk requested the Council's decision on whether to approve the review of the financial risk assessment document; the Council agreed to postpone this review to a later meeting.	
	The Clerk also presented the current year-to-date position against the budget for 2024/25, discussing and explaining any overspends.	
	The bank reconciliations prepared by the Clerk were signed as a true record by the Chair and Vice Chair.	
	Assisted by Councillor SBG, the Clerk reviewed the proposed budget for the 2025/26 financial year and requested feedback from the Council to refine the draft for approval at a future meeting.	
	Additionally, the Council requested the Clerk to consult with Nextmedia, as the Council has recently been invoiced for a website upgrade. The Clerk has been exploring financially feasible options, as costs associated with the website have been increasing annually. The Council acknowledged the need to understand the projected hours required to set up a new website before making a decision. In the meantime, the Council agreed to pay for the web hosting portion of the invoice but not for the upgrade.	
	The Council approved maintaining the precept for 2025/26 at its current level based on the financial information shared in the proposed budget	
5	Planning Matters:	
	Postponed	
6	Finance Committee Feedback/discussion:	
	Postponed.	
7	Ice Cream Tender & Review of Grass Cutting Tender:	
	It was agreed to postpone the discussion regarding the grass tender until a later meeting.	All
	The Ice Cream tender was discussed. Councillor SBG compiled an initial draft for the Ice Cream tender, which was reviewed and adapted into an Invitation to Tender (ITT) to ensure compliance with procurement policies. The tender will operate on a scoring basis, with the Council agreeing on the percentages for cost versus quality, set at 70:30. The Chair will amend the document and forward it to the Clerk for sharing with interested parties and advertisment publically on Friday, 19th October 2024.	



8	Motorhome Park: Winter pricing & Net Income Analysis:	
	Postponed.	
9	Draft Budget 25/26:	
	This matter was discussed as part of Agenda item 4.	
10	Suggested Agenda for meeting with CCC:	
	It was agreed by Council this matter would be dealt with on email prior to the date of the meeting with CCC.	
11	Winter Maintenance, to include decisions on flagpole inspections:	
12	Postponed. Upcoming events:	
	It was agreed that the Clerk and Councillor SR would meet with the organiser of the Dredgers to deal with matters relating to the event. Therefore not necessary to discuss in this meeting.	
13	Christmas Preperations:	
	The Council confirmed that the date for the Christmas community event will be Saturday, 30th November 2024. HT informed the Council that "Santa" is available to attend the event, with plans to have a grotto again this year to provide gifts for local children. The Clerk requested confirmation on whether two marquees would be needed this year, which was agreed upon. The Council expressed its intention to proceed with a craft market in addition to the main event, emphasizing the need to reach out to vendors to generate interest. The event will run from 4 PM to 8 PM. It was delegated to Councillor SBG to gather raffle prizes, while the Clerk will check the booking system to ensure there are no conflicts with the setup and event dates. The Council agreed to have a food vendor in attendance, with a suggestion for a hog roast. A meeting was arranged for Monday, 21st October 2024, at 6 PM in the Caban to discuss particulars and operational matters related to the event. Additionally, AS and SR were tasked with investigating fittings to secure the motif lights to the lamp posts, as they were not adequately secured last year.	All
14	Recognition and Thanks:	
	Thanks were expressed to all the residents who took the time to attend the evening's resident engagement session	All
15	AOB:	
	Feedback from Jane Tremlett:	



Jane Tremlett provided the Council with feedback from the Stakeholders meeting that took place earlier in the day regarding Morfa Bychan and updates on the evidence gathered to support a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). Many stakeholders felt that this year had been less contentious compared to previous years. She noted that the Clerk attended on behalf of Pendine Community Council (PCC) to share feedback indicating that some prominent issues are still being experienced.

Evidence gathering will continue to proceed in support of the PSPO, and residents are encouraged to share their experiences to strengthen the application. The Clerk will communicate this request to residents via social media and also include it in the community newsletter.

In light of the earlier resident engagement session, the Council shared with Jane Tremlett the concerns raised regarding the road between Threelords crossroads and Pendine, highlighting the dangers posed by muddy conditions and the lack of passing places. Jane Tremlett will discuss this matter with the highways department.

Meeting concluded at 21.26pm.