

**Meeting of the Aberffraw Community Council to be held in the JOW Room, Aberffraw Village Hall,
7pm Wednesday 19th of March 2025**

RHAGLEN / AGENDA

1	<p>Welcome, and Apologies:</p> <p>Clerk:</p> <p>Apologies:</p>	<p>Bryan Owen (Chair), Glenys Stallwood, Barry Owen, Oliver Fowlie, Richard Owen, Vaughan Pritchard, Ellie Smith, Chris Topps, Douglas Fowlie, Rachel Jones, Elwyn Evans, Cllr John Ifan Jones</p> <p>Elen Jones</p> <p>Allan Rees, Cllr Arfon Wyn</p>
2	Declaration of Interests	<p>Declaration of Interests</p> <p>Bryan Owen (Chair) and Douglas Fowlie declared an interest in the letter received from Aberffraw FC.</p>
3	Agree on the minutes of 19 February 2025	<p>The minutes are correct following the amendment stating that it was 15 Stryd Llewelyn, not 25. Once the changes had been made:</p> <p>ES Proposed BO Seconded</p>
4	Matters arising from the minutes	
4.1	Play Area - update	<p>ES, RJ, and EJ have met twice to discuss ideas for the park's future and have agreed to move forward by establishing "Friends of the Park" group, which will be promoted on social media. RJ and ES will also distribute an online questionnaire to gather input from the local community on what they would like to see in the park, should we decide to apply for grants.</p> <p>RJ proposed the removal of the security fence around the park. The fence was originally installed by the county council due to concerns about dogs being allowed to run freely on the playing field and fouling the area, which posed a risk to the children playing there. However, despite the fence surrounding the park, dogs continue to be a problem as they enter the playing field through the main gate and fouling the area. Discussions were held on whether, instead of removing the fence, a gate could be installed.</p> <p>CT opposed the proposal, arguing that the fence serves to protect the playing field. He noted that some members of the public depend on it to help prevent dogs from running loose.</p> <p>DF and CT agreed that installing a gate in the fenced area could pose a safety risk to children.</p>

		<p>Discussions were held regarding the issue that, despite the existing "No Dogs" signs, dogs are still being brought into the park through the main gate. Cllr John Ifan Jones suggested installing additional "No Dogs" signs at the main gate and the church gate. He will raise this matter with the Isle of Anglesey County Council.</p> <p>DF stated that, as part of the Friends of the Park group, a consultation should be conducted to evaluate the potential impact on children's safety.</p> <p>DF received a complaint from a member of the public regarding the condition of the football pitch at the park and the goals. In response, DF invited him to attend the council meeting tonight to discuss his concerns in detail so the council could take appropriate action. However, despite the invitation, the individual did not respond or attend the meeting. As a result, the council is unable to assist, as the concerns must be fully outlined for any action to be taken.</p>
4.2	Mural - Update	<p>The Clerk shared that following last month's meeting, the artist provided four draft murals, which I then circulated via email. The council voted on the most suitable mural, and mural number 2 received the highest number of votes. The Clerk confirmed this via email and informed the council that the artist had started painting it. This decision was made urgently due to the artist's tight timeframe for completing the mural. The clerk also mentioned that Angahrad from Menter Mon had contacted the council to confirm the location for the mural at 15 Llewelyn Street, Aberffraw, and Menter Mon is still following up on this despite no response. Cllr John Ifan Jones expressed his willingness to investigate the matter and push it forward as well.</p>
4.3	Road Leading towards Bwlan Farm - update	<p>Cllr John Ifan Jones noted that there have been no recent updates from NRW. While NRW is willing to resolve the issue, progress is dependent on funding. He will provide an update if any new information becomes available.</p> <p>EE noted that he has previously approached NRW, and they have indicated no objections to relocating the river if necessary.</p> <p>Discussions were held regarding the ongoing nature of this issue, which has persisted for years. Potential solutions, such as closing the road or restricting heavy vehicles, were considered but deemed insufficient to fully resolve the problem.</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed that EE would send a letter requesting further clarification and answers.</p>
4.4	Bridge - Cadw - update	<p>Cllr John Ifan Jones provided an update, noting that there have been staffing changes within the highways department, and visiting the bridge remains on the list of planned tasks.</p> <p>It was suggested that having a representative from Cadw attend alongside engineers from the Isle of Anglesey County Council would be beneficial.</p>

		Community Councillor Allan Ress and County Councillor John Ifan Jones will also be present. They are currently awaiting confirmation of a visit date.
4.5	Village Hall	<p>The Clerk and Chair have visited the bank, where both were required to open a new account due to a safeguarding review that was not completed by the late treasurer last October due to ill health. The current balance of the village hall account remains in a holding account until the new account is opened, which is expected to be completed within the next month.</p> <p>The Clerk has contacted the Charity Commission to provide an update and seek further guidance on the next steps. Additionally, files have been received from the family of the previous treasurer, and time will be needed to review them thoroughly.</p> <p>DF suggested that the hall must obtain a fire certificate, and the Clerk will contact Mon Fire Service to request a visit.</p> <p>Clerk noted once guidance is received from the Charity Commission and the new bank account is in place, arrangements for the AGM can proceed. It was agreed that creating and printing leaflets for distribution to residents, as well as sharing information on social media, would be beneficial.</p> <p>DF proposed that the Clerk should keep track of the hours spent working on village hall matters and submit an invoice to the village hall for payment from the AVH account. This proposal was seconded by ES and unanimously in favor, agreeing to compensate the Clerk at an hourly rate for handling village hall issues.</p>
4.6	Footpath near Bragdy	There were concerns raised during the footpath near Bragdy being dangerous - Cllr John Ifan Jones to chase with Anglesey County Council.
4.7	Chapel Street Sign	EJ has been in contact with the Anglesey Council to request a bilingual sign.
4.8	Parking Problems Bro Branwen	EJ noted that she received a reply from Head of highways which was shared with all Councillors which briefly stated "Parking is a common issue on the island, as the number of vehicles increases. The Council can enforce parking in areas with double yellow lines or time restrictions. If you would like to see such measures in Aberffraw, please contact us for details and an official request. We can also consider parking spaces for people with a valid disabled badge, but you should contact the Adult Services for an assessment of individual needs. The Police are responsible for enforcing parking on footpaths or near junctions. Please contact the Police for any issues here. The Highways Service does not have funding to create new parking spaces, and national parking policies do not support this, especially in rural areas. Unfortunately, there is no funding available for your suggestions to modify the green space."

		Cllr John Ifan to follow up with the resident of Bro Branwen who has a valid disabled badge.
5.0	Correspondance IACC - Planning	Correspondance IACC - Planning
5.1	No Planning Correspondance	No Planning Correspondance
6.0	Other Correspondence	Other Correspondence
6.1	Bike Repair Station	<p>The clerk shared that Bodorgan Community Council has secured funding for a bike repair station. It was discussed whether anyone has objections to reaching out to the council to request one for Aberffraw.</p> <p>DF explained that a bike repair station is a designated area where cyclists can stop and repair their bikes. It is typically equipped with tools such as wrenches, screwdrivers, and pumps, as well as a stand to hold the bike in place while repairs are made. These stations are usually placed in accessible, convenient locations to support the local cycling community.</p> <p>DF mentioned that Cllr John Ifan Jones worked hard to get a bike repair station in Malltraeth and would like to request his support for a similar initiative.</p>
6.2	Cleaning of Play equipment - Park	DF shared that Paul the Window Cleaner has cleaned the equipment in the park for £30 in Llanfaelog. Does anyone have any objections to receiving a quote for cleaning the equipment in Aberffraw ahead of the spring/summer? The council agreed for EJ to receive a quote.
6.3	Cemetery	DF has raised concerns about uneven grounds at Aberffraw Cemetry. It was agreed that we could consult Norman, the contractor who is managing the cemetery contract, for suggestions. The council agreed for the clerk to look into this.
6.4	Fields	<p>EE reported that tenants have reached out with concerns about not receiving their rent invoices. The clerk acknowledged this issue and confirmed it would be prioritised once she gains access to the necessary documents and bank accounts to get everything up to date. The delay is due to the ill health and passing of the former RFO.</p> <p>EE raised another issue that some tenants have passed away, and their fields need to be addressed. EE also mentioned that the tenancy agreements require updating, and she has access to an updated proforma.</p>

		<p>Additionally, concerns were raised about overgrown hedges in certain fields. OF agreed to trim the hedges as soon as possible, free of charge, for the community council.</p> <p>The clerk recommended that EE, EJ, and AR meet to discuss the fields and ensure everything is up to date once the bank access has been sorted and EJ has gained access to the field agreements, contracts, and other necessary documents.</p>
6.5	Hedges	<p>ES mentioned that she requested this item to be included on the agenda, but it was raised by another councilor under the topic of the field. As agreed above OF has agreed to trim the edges as soon as possible, free of charge for the community council.</p>
6.6	Memorial Bench / Boat	<p>EJ shared that the family of the late RFO has contacted the council to enquire about the possibility of installing a memorial bench in Jane's memory at the new cemetery. The council has agreed to the request and recommended that the family purchase a composite bench to ensure durability and minimise maintenance over the years.</p> <p>Additionally, the chair noted that the family had requested to plant a tree in the new cemetery in memory of the late RFO. However, the council did not agree to this request, as it could lead to future requests for memorial trees, which would require ongoing maintenance and incur costs for the community council. It was agreed not to plant any trees within the new cemetery.</p> <p>ES shared that Pip Oliver has generously offered to donate a boat to the community. Several ideas were discussed, including placing the boat at the village entrance and plant flowers in it. It was suggested that the late RFO may have liked to plant flowers in the boat, as this had always been a vision of the late RFO/Clerk—having a boat filled with flowers at the entrance to the village.</p> <p>The council agreed to accept the donation and proceed with the idea. EJ will contact the family of the late RFO/Clerk to offer the opportunity to plant the flowers.</p>
7.0	Financial Matters	Financial Matters
7.1	Responsible Finance Officer - Aberffraw Community Council	<p>Following the passing of the late RFO and Clerk, there are several historical signatures on the bank mandate, with EE (John Elwyn Evans) being the current signatory. The bank has informed us that the clerk cannot proceed until the mandate is updated and has been approved in the council meeting.</p> <p>It was proposed to remove Martin Smithers and Keith Woods from the mandate, as they have left their positions on the council, and to add Ellen Jones</p>

		<p>(Clerk/RFO) to the bank account. Once this is done, the Community Council will be able to access accounts. All councillors approved.</p> <p>The Clerk noted that several additional hours of work are needed to update everything, including addressing the RFO matters. The clerk mentioned that the audits for 23/24 and 24/25 are outstanding, and once all relevant documents are received from the family of the late RFO, the clerk will take action as soon as possible to get everything up to date.</p> <p>BO, the Chair, noted that EJ clerk has assumed the RFO role and duties as of 1st March 2025, following the passing of the late RFO.</p> <p>BO shared that he had made enquiries with clerks from three similar community councils with comparable responsibilities and assets, and proposed increasing the Clerk / RFO hours from 6 to 8 hours per week.</p> <p>BO, the Chair, proposed that the Clerk should record any additional hours worked as an RFO to bring everything up to date. This proposal was seconded by DF and unanimously approved.</p>
7.2	Councillor's Allowance	<p>The clerk shared that following last month's meeting, where the she distributed the councillor allowance forms, some councillors were absent. However, the clerk ensured the forms were shared with those who were not present. The clerk confirmed that all councillors had filled out the forms and declined their allowance, and all relevant paperwork had been filed accordingly.</p>
7.3	Budget 2025/26	<p>Clerk EJ shared an updated draft report with the insurance quote for three years which we received as an update to keep all councils in the loop of things. Council to agree on everything within the next meeting.</p>
8.0	County Councillors Update	<p>No update.</p>
9.0	Matters for the next meeting	<p>CF brought up a concern regarding the condition of Glan y Môr Road, and Cllr John Ifan will follow up with Highways on the matter.</p> <p>ES noted that there is a Bro Aberffraw Alliance meeting held on Monday 25/03 at yr Hen Becws in Dwyran at 6pm. No Community Councillors were able to attend but Cllr John Ifan Jones noted that he would be in attendance and would feed back at the next meeting.</p> <p>EE noted that he had seen an advertisement from Bodorgan Estate offering a concession on the common. In previous years, vehicles have been parked in front of the bridge on council-owned land, rather than on the common, which belongs to the estate. The Community Council will monitor the situation. Clerk to speak to Bodorgan Estate.</p> <p>DF mentioned that he had shared a letter from Aberffraw Football Club before the meeting, in which they expressed their gratitude for the £200.00 financial</p>

		<p>donation towards the costs of organizing a Christmas Fayre for the village. The Clerk forwarded this letter to all members via email.</p> <p>BO raised the issue with Bodorgan, mentioning that the Clerk had contacted Llinos Medi MP twice but has yet to receive a response regarding any actions taken. BO asked Cllr John Ifan please follow up on this matter on behalf of the clerk.</p>
10.0	Date of next meeting	16/04/25