

CYNGOR CYMUNED CORRIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Institute, Corris, Machynlleth, Powys, SY20 9SH
corriscommunitycouncil@gmail.com Clerk: Jane Jenkins

Cofnodion Cyfarfod Gynhaliwyd Cyffredin Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting 04/09/2025

PRESENNOL/PRESENT Cllrs.

Cllr. J. Davies
Cllr. M. Olsson
Cllr. E. Jones

Cllr. T. Edwards
Cllr. S. Wells
Cllr. D. Atherton

Cllr. S. Francis
Cllr. J. Taylor

PRESENNOL HEFYD/ ALSO PRESENT

Clerk J. Jenkins
C. Cllr. J Pughe Roberts

25/26

77 Ymddiheuriadau/Apologies. Cllr. J Mumford

78 Cofrestrriad o ddiddordeb/Registration of interest. None

79 Derbyn Cofnodion y Cyfarfod/Accept Minutes of AGM and previous Ordinary meeting
The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council dated 03/07/25 were agreed as accurate.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr. J Davies Seconded by Cllr. J. Taylor

80 Matters arising /Announcements.

81 Cynllunio/Planning.

Review planning applications since last meeting. No new applications.

a. Further response from Gareth Jones re SLA

Letter contents noted and discussed. C. Cllr J P Roberts noted the consultation period of 16.02.2015 – 31.03.2105 and expressed concern over whether that is an adequate consultation period, which in turn raised the question of whether the SLA was legal. He will look into the matter further and update the Council in due course. It was agreed unanimously that the issue is still not clear and that a further response should be sent to Gareth Jones once again requesting his attendance at a meeting to discuss the matter further.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Gareth Jones GCC.

82 Materion mynwentydd/Cemetery matters.

a) Annual Cemetery Inspection

Remains outstanding.

ACTION: Clerk to chase Cllr J. Mumford for this.

b) Email – Cemetery complaints

The Cllrs discussed complaints received that the cemetery had been left with oil and mud over the paths following a recent burial and there was damage to the fence also. It was believed that a mini digger had been used. The cemetery has been cleared but Councillors felt that an email should be sent stating that the condition the cemetery was left in was unacceptable and that any future issues would result in a charge being imposed.

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ACTION: Clerk to send email to the funeral director.

The comment pertaining to the corrugated iron was noted and Cllr. T. Edwards advised that this had been in the cemetery for 30-40 years and simply needed removing.

Cllr. M. Olsson advised she had received an enquiry regarding the period of time to be left following a burial before erecting a headstone. Cllr. M. Olsson had dealt with the query but asked the Cllrs whether the cemetery rules should be updated to include “Gravestones cannot be erected until 12 months after burial”.

RESOLVED: Unanimous agreement to amend the rules.

ACTION: Clerk to make the amendments to the document.

c) Gravediggers/Undertakers

Due to the above complaint it had been suggested only one gravedigger was used but the Cllrs did not consider this acceptable.

Discussions then took place regarding the levelling/filling of graves and it was agreed that Arfon should be asked to come and do this.

ACTION: Clerk to make contact to arrange this.

83 Playing areas/fields and communal areas.

a) Feedback on Pump Track

No response still.

ACTION: Clerk to send chasing email with a further invite to attend a Council meeting.

b) Corris Playground

Nothing to report.

84 Ysgol Corris School update.

Term had begun with 34 pupils. Cllr. S. Wells raised the subject of inconsiderate parking outside of the school/in the Railway carpark and that this week the bin lorry had been unable to get through and therefore the school bins had not been emptied. This further highlighted the fact that due to the way vehicles are being parked, emergency vehicles would not be able to access the school either. It was suggested that a letter be sent to GCC requesting No Parking signs by the school gates and a yellow box junction to prevent parking where access at all times is required.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Gwynedd Council.

85 Corris Institute update.

Cllr. T. Edwards advised that the café was well supported over the summer holidays.

Point 91b (Request to address institute opening and closing system for bookings)

was moved up the agenda and discussed. The Council have been made aware that the previous Clerk has been contacted on numerous occasions by members of the community who have booked the Institute but have been unable to gain access or lock the premises up afterwards. Cllr. M Olsson asked that Cllr. T Edwards and Cllr. E Jones take this back to the Institute and ask that it be addressed as it is neither the previous Clerks or the Councils responsibility.

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86 Prifyrdd ac coedwigaeth /Highways and forestry.

a) Flooding at the Cob, Aberllefenni.

Nothing to report.

b) Tilhill extraction routes update

C. Cllr, J P Roberts advised that it is looking favourable for an alternative route which will prevent the logging lorries having to travel through Corris or Aberllefenni. There is another meeting this month and C. Cllr. J P Roberts has advised that he wants all contracts signed by December. He has suggested a “drop in” meeting sometime in November to provide updates and will keep the Cllrs updated.

c) Pavements & Footpaths

1. Email regarding footpaths Corris no. 8 and 42

Noted.

d) Parking & Car Park

1. Email from (AW) GCC re Corris Railway Car Park

2. Email from (RWE) GCC re Corris Railway Car Park

Contents of both emails noted. Cllr. S. Wells suggested that the Transportation Service were welcome to contact her directly (Monday to Friday) if they wished to discuss the location of the disabled bay.

ACTION: Clerk to respond to Adrian Williams, GCC with this suggestion.

e) Highways

1. Copy of complaint made to GCC re highway surfacing

2. Response from Steffan Jones GCC re highway surfacing

Both emails duly noted by the Cllrs. Cllr. T. Edwards advised that he had also received complaints generally about the road surface between Corris and Aberllefenni and requested that Clerk acknowledge sight of the response from Steffan Jones and ask that when the Meirionnydd Area Engineer arranged to assess that he look at the general condition of the road surface between Corris and Aberllefenni.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Steffan Jones, GCC

87 Meddiantiau/Assets.

a) Monument.

Nothing to report.

b) Defibrillators

All defibrillators in working order but the Corris defib pads require replacing.

RESOLVED: Unanimous agreement to purchase new pads.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain a proforma from the Defib Store.

c) Grit salt bins.

Nothing to report.

d) Corris Uchaf Toilets.

Nothing to report.

88 Materion ariannol/financial matters.

a) Monthly financial report, HMRC, VAT.

Councillors reviewed the report and accepted it.

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b) Matters relating to audit.
Nothing to report.

c) Clerks report inc. payments made using delegated authority.
Nothing to report.

d) Authorisation of any payments not authorised elsewhere
Invoices received from Major & Evans for payroll services (£240), Gwynedd Council for internal audit (£360) and JD and OLL Williams for monument bench (£10).

RESOLVED: Unanimous agreement to accept the invoices and make the payments.

ACTION: Clerk to set up the payments.

e) Welsh Water change to direct debit
Noted.

f) Cronfa Gwynedd Ni Fund application outcome

f1) Email from Ysgol Dyffryn Dulas Corris

Cllr. M Olsson confirmed that our application for the Cronfa “Gwynedd NI” fund had been successful and we have been awarded £7,500. Benches for the school, handrail by the Corris Uchaf bus stop, fencing round the Corris Uchaf toilets and items for the Corris Uchaf kitchen could now be purchased. The school have been advised of the outcome. *It was noted that the last day to claim the payment is December 31st, 2025 so all work and expenditure must have been completed and all invoices received before this.*

RESOLVED: Unanimous agreement that the Council should now purchase the items and arrange for the fencing to be undertaken. In order to reclaim VAT the Council would need to purchase the benches for the school. Clerk to notify the school of this.

ACTION: Clerk to contact school regarding order for benches. Cllr. M Olsson to place orders for kitchen items and make contact with the fencing contractor. Clerk to order the benches.

g) Remittance advice for p2 Precept payment
Noted. The precept payment has now been received in the bank account.

Cllr. M Olsson referred to financial matters mentioned in previous minutes and following update provided:

a) Barclays Fixed Bond. Clerk advising that these are for personal accounts only so we cannot move this forward.

b) Cllr M Olssons training – this has been moved to 14th September.

c) Filca training for Clerk – this has been postponed to January 2026 as SLCC are updating their systems at the end of the year and although the course is accessible, it would need to be completed within five months instead of the usual 12. Clerk cannot guarantee completion before December 25 and therefore registration for the course will not occur until January 2026 at the earliest.

Cllr. M Olsson also referred to the final loan payment from the Corris Uchaf account and that it had not been made yet and asked whether the Cllrs were in agreement to this now being made.

RESOLVED: Unanimous agreement to make the payment

ACTION: Clerk to set the payment up

89 Review of policies and Regulations.

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a) Review Code of Conduct

All Cllrs confirmed they had read through the document and did not wish anything to be amended.

RESOLVED: Unanimous agreement to accept and adopt the Code of Conduct as drafted.

b) Discuss and adopt Policy on Unacceptable Behaviour

Cllr. M Olsson advised the Councillors on the policy contents and why this was more suitable than the existing policy. All Cllrs confirmed that they had read the document and did not wish anything to be amended/changed.

RESOLVED: Unanimous agreement to accept and adopt the Policy as drafted.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange for both documents to be placed on the website.

90 Consultations and Surveys.

a) Welsh Government Consultation on extending duty on local authorities to broadcast meetings (ind)
Noted.

Cllr. T Edward mentioned that he and Cllr. J Taylor had attended the open day event for Hywel Dda on 7th July. The consultation period ended on 31st August 2025. No final decision has been made yet. Cllr. M Olsson advised she believes there is an action group in Machyllneth and will look further into it.

91 Community queries.

a) Email received re Tanycoed Picnic Area

Cllr. M Olsson advised of the concern raised regarding vegetation blocking the view of the road when leaving the site. Highways, Trunk Roads and NRW were sent letters. Responses have been received from Highways and Trunk Roads who confirmed they had also contacted NRW. Clerk has not received any response from NRW to date. It is believed that they may have been out and looked at the issue but as yet the vegetation remains, making pulling out of the entrance dangerous. C. Cllr. J P Roberts suggested a further letter be sent, this time to Grace Sanderson and asked to be copied in.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Grace Sanderson, Area Manager NRW

b) Request to address institute opening and closing system for bookings

Dealt with at point 85 above.

c) Email request to address traffic management and safety (*attendance at meeting 7pm*)

The Cllrs were addressed by Andrea Barwick before the main meeting commenced over road safety namely:

- Vehicles exceeding the 20mph limit in Upper Corris
- Traffic entering from Aberllefenni at unsafe speeds
- Extremely narrow pavements in Bridge Street
- A concealed crossroads (just beyond the Slater's Arms) with cyclists descending too quickly.

Mrs Barwick has been liaising with June Jones of GCC who has confirmed that data provided from the traffic department confirms that the average speed is above the 20mph restriction in Corris Uchaf.

The narrow pavements in Bridge Street were discussed in detail with it being acknowledged that the pavements are owned by the properties which limits the options available. It was highlighted that on this section of road, there is a school, after school club, shop, pub and concealed crossroads as well as residents' houses directly opening on to the street. With the increase of visitors to Corris annually, speeding vehicles were making the Bridge Street area very dangerous to both pedestrians and other road users.

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The Cllrs discussed several options including speed bumps which were recognised as not suitable due to the additional road noise they can generate. Pedestrianisation was not suitable and installing chicanes would create difficulty for public transport and other larger vehicles. A 10mph speed restriction from the Institute to the Slater's Arms was mentioned but the general feeling was that if vehicles are speeding now reducing the limit is unlikely to stop it.

Cllr. M Olsson said she understood that you could register for a voluntary group to do speed checks. These groups are often referred to as Community Speed Watch (CSW), and she will make further enquiries into this. Volunteers use handheld speed detection devices to record vehicles exceeding the speed limit and the recorded details are submitted to the local police who may issue warning letters to vehicle owners. This was considered the best option to start with.

The matter to be discussed again at the October meeting.

92 Gohebiaeth/correspondence.

a) Response from David Charles Williams GCC re work request for Tacluso Team
Noted.

b) Email re Biosffer Dyfi EGM
Noted.

c) Email re Eryri free community days
Noted.

d) Email from OVW re new Biodiversity team
Noted.

e) Email from Tenovus Cancer Care
Noted.

f) Email from Machyllneth Town Council
Noted but unanimous agreement that due to Corris' own expenditure we are unable to help.

g) Email from Frances Cattnach, NW Wildlife Trust
Noted.

h) Email regarding extended flying start provision in Gwynedd
Noted.

i) Email OVW National Conference and AGM
Noted.

93 Toiledau cyhoeddus/public conveniences.

Nothing to report.

94 AOB.

a) Mobile phone for Clerk

Cllr. M Olsson advising that calls were still being made to the previous Clerk who felt this was because there was no telephone number available. Clerk advising that she does not have phones for the other Councils and the system works well with emails which are checked daily. Unanimous agreement that there was no need for a phone, and that the previous Clerk must now point people to the website and email address for contact.

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b) Cllr. T Edwards asked if a letter could be sent to NRW regarding the condition of the road in Aberllefenni – the old railway track from Maes Yr Orsaf to Pensarn – What 3 Words = hometown.operation.finer. Cllr T Edwards confirmed that his mobile number could be provided to NRW in the event they require further clarification. Clerk to send letter.

c) Cllr. E Jones advised that there was a further meeting on 6th September regarding the future of the Cylch.

95 Employment Matters.

(This is a confidential matter, the public and press will be excluded from the meeting for this item)

a) Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2025/26

Noted.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.25 pm.

The next Corris Community Council Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for 7pm Thursday 02/10/2025 at Corris Institute.

Date Minutes agreed 02/10/25.

E Jones

Chairperson's Signature.