Castle Caereinion Community Council
Clerk: Mrs Lucy Mason, 4 Swallows Meadow, Castle Caereinion, SY21 9DZ.
Phone: 07729435588, Email: castleclerk1@gmail.com

Draft Minutes	**Date: 25th February 2026 - 7.00pm** **Venue: Castle Caereinion Community Centre** **To join this meeting via Teams:** Community Council | Microsoft Teams | Meet-up-Join Meeting ID: 931 798 291 206 4 Passcode: vD2zV2	
Participants		**Apologies**
Chairman: Cllr Nigel Bowen (NB) **Clerk**: Lucy Mason (LM)	Cllr Clive Jones (CJ); Cllr Gary Human (GH); Cllr Darren Oakley (DO); Cllr Robert Nash (RN); Cllr Tim Robinson (TR)	Cllr Paul Roberts (PR)
Also, in Attendance		

Agenda 126: Ten minutes for members of the public: None present
Agenda 127: Declarations of interest: Cllr RN declared an interest in Agenda item 129.3
Agenda 128: Minutes of previous meeting: Agreed as a true record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr GH, seconded Cllr CJ with all in favour.

Agenda 129: Matters arising

1. Defibrillator: The site checks are up to date.
2. Phone Box refurbishment: The old glass in the box is proving to be very difficult to replace, an option would be to purchase a glazing kit which would contain all of the pins and clips and inserts for the whole box, costing around £400, Cllr NB has agreed to contribute £500 towards the cost of the refurbishment so this could go towards the cost of this. Proposed Cllr GH, seconded Cllr DO, with all in favour.
3. Water Trough: Cllr RN left the room whilst the Council discussed the matter. There is uncertainty as to whether there is any water still flowing through the trough. There is a well-documented folder 'Flooding in Castle Caereinion – Investigation' put together by the Recreation Association during that time. The Council would like to review the folder and pictures and then investigate the position regarding the trough further. If it cannot be resurrected as a water trough, thought to be given whether it could be made into a planter, or something along those lines, as it looks very neglected in its current state.
4. Replacement Bins within the village: James Thompson from PCC informed the Clerk that Welshpool depot is not installing any bins presently, it is hoped they will by June/July time. The Clerk is requested to ask if The Council can move one of the bins from Swallows Meadow, potentially opposite the green, and whether any dog fouling notices from PCC are available, as there is a lack of them around the village.
5. Code of Conduct recording: The recording has been received, The Clerk will investigate whether the screen in the hall could be used for all councillors to watch the recording together.
6. Section 6 Biodiversity action plan and packages available from OVW: The Clerk distributed the action plan to the Councillors, and it was agreed to adopt the plan. Clerk to upload onto the website. The area earmarked for a biodiversity project, behind the garages at Maesgarmon, has a very large tree that needs attention, it has been left to grow with no care and is covered in Ivy. Ben Mullen and a member from the housing section at PCC will meet with the Clerk to discuss the ideas for the area and the issue of the overgrown tree, which could be dangerous if left to grow so close to the garages.

Agenda 130: Playground

25/0938/FUL Land Adjacent Maes Castell Castle Caereinion Welshpool Powys Community Council Play Area Contribution; Correspondence from OM architects have suggested that a potential S106 contribution for play, to go to Castle Caereinion Community Council, and the applicant is happy to agree that the proposed play area (as part of the planning application) be changed to green open space alongside a £10,000 contribution to the Community Council to upgrade the existing play area in Castle Caereinion.
The Council discussed this and Cllr NB suggested that an annual contribution would be more beneficial for the play area. Cllr GH pointed out that as the play area is currently leased it may help to prove that the Council can maintain the area long term. The Council would like to suggest the sum of £2500 per year over 10 years, proposed Cllr GH, seconded Cllr CJ with all in favour. The Clerk will reply to OM architects.

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Agenda 131: Finance

1. Balance Treasurers Account £11307.89
   Balance of Playground £1106.85
2. Expenditure for Approval from Treasurers Account:
   Clerk wages Feb 2026 £320.00
   HMRC PAYE Feb 2026 £80.00
   Clerk's expenses – Microsoft 365 annual subscription £84.99 (Spreadsheets and documents) and reimbursements for booking onto OVW/Planning aid Wales £53.00 Total £137.99
   For Info:
   Bank Charges £4.25
   Balance after expenditure £10765.65
   All requests for payment approved, proposed Cllr DO, seconded Cllr TR, with all in favour.

Agenda 132: Highway Matters

The response from PCC is as follows:

1. Highway Drains/Flooding at Chapel House; Sylfaen Brook Clearance isn't happening, the residents have all submitted letters stating they are riparian owners and that the brook is their responsibility. If the flooding of Chapel House happens again, it will be a civil matter between residents. The main road through the village has been jetted by contractors and I am confident that the Highway system is working adequately.
2. Gelli Lane Sign; Gelli Lane sign has been ordered, unfortunately it did not make it onto the Tidy Towns grant meaning it will be fitted once the higher priority works have been completed and resource is available.
3. Drainage on Cwm Lane; Cwm Lane jetting is still outstanding. A jetter and crew were secured via Sell2Wales and they are working through the maps in numerical order. The ditching crew are currently on the "Castle" map for the re-clearing of gully tops, grips, ditches, siding and centre carriageway.
4. Pothole/damage to surface road on the left toward the Castle Caereinion Station; Surface dressing has remained a priority. We have recently had contractors in who have been invaluable at pushing on these preparation works and freeing up Highways staff that have been completing income based Trunk works, the Trunk work continues but once its completed we should have the staff available for the planned B4385 works.
5. Condition of the entire road to the Welshpool Junction: There have been numerous reports from the public about the dangerous state of this road. The Clerk will continue to chase for any update, but the public can report using this link https://en.powys.gov.uk/problems-with-roads-pavements

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Agenda 133: PCC planning notices

1. Application Reference: 26/0040/LBC Grid Reference: E:316292 N: 305501 Proposal: Installation of roof mounted solar panels, air source heat pump, dormer & velux window Site Address: Orchard House, Castle Caereinion, Welshpool, SY21 9AL
The Council discussed this and resolved to raise no objection to this application

2. Urgent Business
The Clerk had circulated details of a planning application received after notification of the meeting and publication of the agenda. The Council was required to respond to the application within 21 days which would expire before the date of the next meeting:
Application Reference: 26/0223/FUL Grid Reference: E:314674 N: 304281 Proposal: Demolition of an existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling with all associated works Site Address: Lower Cefn, Castle Caereinion, Welshpool, Powys SY21 9BA
The plans had been viewed by all members and were considered to represent an acceptable development with the footprint of the replacement dwelling being no larger than that existing.
Therefore, Council resolved to raise no objection to this application.

Agenda 134: Correspondence

1. Powys Planning Decision Notices; 5th – 16th January 19th – 30th January
2. One Voice Wales - News Bulletins, training sessions, and updates, Access to OVW members area for Councillors
3. Play Wales - e-bulletins
4. PAVO – Local Growth Fund, Health & Wellbeing
5. Powys teaching health board; Better Together
6. Russell George Newsletter
7. Welshpool, Llanfair & Montgomery Locality Network – 9 April at 10.30am - 12pm, venue to be confirmed, plus, minutes from last meeting
8. Code of Conduct training - Link to the training will be sent in January 2026 with an invoice for £60 to follow.
9. One Voice Wales/Planning Aid Wales – Joint event March 19th 10:30 – 1:30pm £53 per person via Teams
10. PCC - acknowledgement of precept of £14,857
11. GGEN Vyrnwy Frankton Connection
12. Lucy Bates – HDCymru 'Based on the current programme, we expect construction at Castle Caereinion to commence in 2028. Construction and commissioning of the new works is expected to be completed in late 2029, although completion may extend into 2030'

Agenda 135: Attendance at Meetings

None attended.

Agenda 136: Update from County Councillor

The County Councillor was not present.

Agenda 137: Any other business

The Clerk is requested to report the condition of the road, to the first cattle grid, towards Welshpool Golf Club. The road is in a terrible condition including many potholes.

Agenda 138: Date of next meeting

Next meeting Wednesday 25th March 2026 at 7pm. Meeting closed: 19.38