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

Draft Minutes	**Date: Wednesday 21 October 2026, 7.00 pm** **Venue: Castle Caereinion Community Centre** **Remote attendance:** Members of the public may join the meeting via Microsoft Teams using the details below. 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 Paul Roberts (PR); Cllr Robert Nash (RN); Cllr Darren Oakley (DO); Cllr Tim Robinson (TR)	
Also, in Attendance	County Councillor A. Jones (AJ)	

Agenda 78: To provide a ten-minute public participation session: No members of the public were present.
Agenda 79: To receive declarations of interest: None declared
Agenda 80: To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2026: It was resolved that the minutes be agreed as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr CJ and seconded by Cllr GH, with all in favour.

Agenda 81: Matters Arising

1. The defibrillator site inspection has been completed, with the next check due on 20 November.
2. The telephone box refurbishment remains in progress.
3. The water-trough proposal will be reconsidered when an update is received from Bill Brown. In the meantime, Cllr TR offered to tidy the area.
4. The One Voice Wales Cost of Living small grant for £500 has been received towards hosting a Community Engagement Event.
5. The Clerk has chased for any information regarding a Go Safe programme for the village. Due to current high demand, a delay in response is expected.
6. Cllr TR will report the vehicles parked at Maesgarmon Close to the appropriate authority.
7. Jake Evans at PCC advised that Castle Caereinion is next on the list for updating the village salt-bin locations on the Powys County Council website. Members also considered whether additional bins were needed and resolved that the Clerk should request salt bins at the top and bottom of Nantfforch Bank, Cwm Golau; in the hollow before the Chapel; on Cwm Lane; on Coppice Lane; at The Berwydd; ensuring sufficient coverage for the bus route towards The Ffridd.
8. The deadline to request an election is 28 October, after which the Council can go ahead and advertise the notice of co-option for a new councillor.

Agenda 82: Playground

Nothing to report

Agenda 83: Finance

Account Balances

- Treasurer's Account: £12142.49
- Playground Account: £1110.54

Payments from the Treasurer's Account for Approval

- Clerk wages, October 2026: £340.00
- HMRC PAYE, October 2026: £85.00

For Information

- Bank charges: £4.25

Projected Balance after Approved Expenditure

- Treasurer's Account: £11713.24

Agenda 83: Finance

- It was resolved to approve payments totalling £429.25 from the Treasurer's Account. Proposed by Cllr PR and seconded by Cllr GH, with all in favour.

Agenda 84: Highway Matters

To receive updates on:

1. No further update regarding the highway drains and flooding at Chapel House.
2. No further reports were received about drainage on Cwm Lane. It was therefore resolved to remove this item from the agenda.
3. The condition of the B4385, including the section leading to the Welshpool junction, awaiting a reply from Lyn Parry.
4. The condition of the road towards Welshpool Golf Club, as far as the first cattle grid, was discussed; some potholes were reported to be severe.
   The Clerk has chased Jake Evans and Lyn Parry for any further updates.

Agenda 85: PCC Planning Notices

1. To note that no applications have been received.
2. Members expressed frustration with the new planning portal on the PCC website, particularly the difficulty of finding historical applications and navigating what had previously been a simple search process. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Planning Department to express the Council's concerns and ask the following questions:
   What was the rationale for change?
   When will it be completed and fully functioning including historical data being migrated?
   Where has the map gone showing planning applications?
   The Council used to find the planning decisions most helpful and even those have stopped, will it be easier to retrieve this information?
   The Council would also point out that these frustrations aren't limited to members, but from feedback from residents also.

Agenda 86: Correspondence

1. Powys Planning Decision Notices — To note that decision notices will no longer be issued directly and can be viewed on the Powys Planning website.
2. One Voice Wales — To note news bulletins, training sessions, and information on politically restricted posts.
3. Play Wales — To note e-bulletins.
4. PAVO — To note the monthly newsletter and e-bulletins.
5. Welshpool, Llanfair & Montgomery Locality Network — To note the 2027 Area Committee meeting dates at 6.30 pm:
   Wednesday 20th January (online only)
   Thursday 29th April (physical)
   Monday 12th July (physical)
   Tuesday 28th September (online only)
   Cllr CJ will try to attend these meetings.
6. Powys Teaching Health Board — To consider the Better Together consultation, open from 5 October 2026 to 10 January 2027.
7. PCC Transforming Education — To consider the consultation on the proposal to increase Ysgol Gymraeg Y Trallwng capacity from 150 to 210 places, open from 6 October to 17 November 2026.
8. Welshpool Town Council — To note the invitation to the Welshpool Community Meeting on Local Health Services on 22 October 2026.

Agenda 87: Attendance at Meetings

There were no meetings attended.

Agenda 88: Update from County Councillor
County Councillor A. Jones reported the following: 1. A decision on planning application P/26/0493/FUL, Land off Maes Castell, Castle Caereinion, Welshpool, SY21 9BJ, has been delayed pending ecological reports concerning the presence of great crested newts. 2. The additional salt-bin locations discussed earlier should be reported to PCC through the helpdesk. The Clerk will submit the request there to begin the process. 3. Powys County Council is facing an estimated £10 million budget gap in 2027/28. 4. A motion requiring decisions on any future school closures to be considered by full Council, rather than solely by Cabinet, was passed.

Agenda 89: Items for Future Agenda
To discuss any update following the old school building auction scheduled for 23 October 2026.

Agenda 90: Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25 November 2026 at 7.00 pm. Meeting closed: 19.39