



In line with the Welsh Government's 'Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021' requirement for all 730 Town and Community Councils in Wales to electronically publish the key information and the outcome of their Council meetings within 7 days of the meeting, early, truncated and unsigned Minutes of the reformed Full Council Meeting of Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry (DWR) Community Council held on Tuesday, 24 February 2026 at 6.00pm, are published here

Present:

Cllr Lee Cecil, Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones, Cllr Zoe Hewer, Cllr Phil Rosser, Cllr Kevin Stanworth and Jessica Thomas (Clerk).

PCSO Lisa Gibbs and PCSO Damon Soo were also in attendance.

Chair, Cllr Lee Cecil, led the meeting that commenced at 6.00pm.

A. Apologies / Introductions

Apologies were received for Cllr Kev Ingram and Cllr Amanda McConnell.

B. Police Update

PCSO Damon Soo provided an update for the local area. A reduction in recorded crime was noted for February. Several calls had been received regarding the vehicle left in Waterloo following the flooding – this vehicle has now been removed. Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones thanked the policing team for working quickly to move this vehicle. Anti-social behaviour reports remain at zero. PCSO Damon Soo confirmed that patrols are ongoing around hotspot areas. Draethen is still heavily patrolled following past anti-social behaviour reports. The recent police surgery provided an opportunity to discuss ongoing issues with local residents.

PCSO Lisa Gibbs advised that the speed gun is arriving this week and has been booked for use in early March. Councillors were asked to provide 3 suitable locations and forward on to PCSO Ellie Morgan.

Cllr Zoe Hewer highlighted the volume and speed of vehicles during peak times, noting that 910 vehicles passing through the village so far today. Cllr Kevin Stanworth added that when there is an issue on the main roads, the village is used as a bypass. Cllr Zoe Hewer will provide a suitable location for speed gun use in Rudry.

Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones will suggest a location in Waterloo and raised concerns about vehicles entering the wrong side of the carriageway due to excessive speed on a bend. PCSO Lisa Gibbs requested that Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones provide the What3Words location for this issue.

Cllr Lee Cecil will provide suitable locations for the speed gun to be used in Draethen. He also referred to the use of CCTV in the area, which Inspector Richard Tovey is already aware of. Cllr Lee Cecil noted that an information leaflet is being developed to provide residents with useful contact details for reporting issues.

An issue was raised regarding 15 wild ponies which were placed in a field near Gwern-Y-Domen Farm. As the field is not secure, the ponies have been entering the lanes, neighbouring land at Gwern-Y-Domen Farm, Van Mansion and Van Terrace. The clerk will reach out to Van Community Council to alert them to this. PCSO Lisa Gibbs advised that police cannot act while they are on private land, but they can intervene if the animals enter the carriageway. PCSO Damon Soo suggested the Rural Crimes team are approached. PCSO Lisa Gibbs asked that the clerk contact PCSO Ellie Morgan to check reports from the last 6 months relating to the ponies and to contact Rural Crime.

C. Declarations of Interest

None.

D. Minutes and matters arising

The Council has agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 27 January 2026 were correct, and they were duly signed by the Chair.

Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones provided an update on the recent flooding incident in Waterloo. CCBC have approached Total Energy, they are now arranging tree lopping, putting a flood management plan in place, and looking to organise community engagement events with the local authority and the community. It was also noted that Welsh Water can address sewerage overflow issues.

Cllr Kevin Stanworth reported that the fly-tipping incident has not yet been cleared but was advised that it will be dealt with in due course. The clerk will follow this up.

Cllr Zoe Hewer advised that a bench previously installed by DWRCC has deteriorated and is now falling apart. Due to the safety concerns, all councillors agreed to proceed with replacement immediately. Prices have been sourced previously for alternative locations, and councillors were satisfied with these figures. CIL funding will cover the cost. The clerk will contact Cllr Kev Ingram, who arranged the earlier quotes, to liaise with Cllr Zoe Hewer regarding the location of the bench.

E. Chair and County Members' Update

None.

F. Clerk's Report

- a. Statement of transactions has been presented and agreed by all Councillors.

G. Current Projects

- a. ASB / Off road biking deterrent / Traffic calming / Safe Routes in Communities / Speed Watch
Cllr Lee Cecil is due to meet again with Inspector Richard Tovey, but noted there is still no update on the black box being fitted by Go Safe at the opposite end of Draethen. Cllr Zoe Hewer asked that Inspector Richard Tovey provide guidance on any evidence that can be compiled to support addressing this issue. She also expressed concerns regarding the high volume of traffic in the area, noting that increased volume naturally increases risk.
- b. Defibrillator Supplies & Contracts
The defibrillator at Branch Cottages is now operational, however, a new battery will be required shortly. All councillors agreed to proceed with this purchase. Arrangements are

underway to organise defibrillator training for the community. Cllr Lee Cecil asked all councillors to engage with their local community to gather an indication of how many residents would be interested in taking part.

c. Wildflowers, Daffodils & Tête-à-tête

The clerk has submitted the application to One Voice Wales for the wildflowers and bulbs grant and will upload the supporting documents before the deadline. All councillors agreed to maintain and support the packages for 5 years.

Cllr Kevin Stanworth advised that it is difficult to identify suitable areas for wildflowers until soil testing has been completed. Cllr Lee Cecil requested the clerk organise for One Voice Wales to meet on site with Cllr Kevin Stanworth and any other councillors who wish to join them.

H. Items for Discussion

a. Go Safe / Speed Awareness

As noted earlier, Cllr Lee Cecil noted there is still no update on the black box being fitted by Go Safe at the opposite end of Draethen

b. Beach / Draethen Land

Cllr Lee Cecil advised that there is a lot of support in tackling this issue and plans are already being put in place in advance of the summer to try to limit anti-social behaviour.

c. CCTV Quotation

Cllr Zoe Hewer advised that the quotation received related to support for the CCTV system in Rudry. The service will ensure the system continues to operate effectively and that any issues can be resolved promptly. She noted that the app allows for efficient searches, including partial number plate, make, model and vehicle colour. Currently this is done manually. All councillors agreed to proceed with this. It was also agreed that Cllr Kevin Stanworth will be added to the app to enable additional monitoring.

I. Planning Applications

25/0661/FULL – Update to original application - Noted

J. Biodiversity

Application for soil testing, wildflowers and bulbs package submitted to One Voice Wales.

K. Exclusion of Press and Public

None.

L. Exempt Items

None.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

Full Minutes when agreed and signed will be on the Council's website as soon as possible.