



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, 26 May 2026 at 6.30pm, are published here

Present:

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

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

A. Apologies / Introductions

Apologies were received in advance of the meeting for Cllr Amanda McConnell.

B. Police Update

Police were unable to be in attendance. The police report was received in advance of the meeting outlining a decrease in recorded crime and anti-social behaviour compared with the same period last year.

There have been reports of off-road bikes / quad bikes. These incidents are currently being investigated to establish land ownership and determine appropriate enforcement.

Patrols in marked and unmarked vehicles remain ongoing. PCSO Ellie Morgan has also been carrying out speed monitoring using the speed gun to identify problems with speeding.

C. Declarations of Interest

None.

D. Minutes and matters arising

The Council has agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 28 April 2026 were correct, and they were duly signed by the Chair of that meeting.

Cllr Lee Cecil advised of a recent fly tipping incident which CCTV was able to be provided.

Cllr Zoe Hewer advised that the flower tiers cannot be completed by the usual contractor this year. Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones and Cllr Zoe Hewer agreed to undertake the planting themselves and will provide receipts for reimbursement of the flowers and compost. Cllr Kevin Stanworth confirmed he will supply compost for the planters at cost price. Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones has agreed to water the plants in Waterloo and Cllr Zoe Hewer has agreed the same for Rudry.

Cllr Kev Ingram advised that the Caerphilly Play Team would like to attend the next meeting. They will contact the clerk to confirm arrangements.

E. Chair and County Members' Update

None.

F. Clerk's Report

- a. Finance / Accounts
 - i. Statement of transactions has been presented and agreed by all Councillors.
 - ii. The clerk confirmed that the internal audit was now complete. The Annual Report and Governance Statement were approved and signed by the chair.
 - iii. First precept payment has been received.
- b. Members Details / Interests
 - i. Register of Interest has been updated.
 - ii. Confirmation has been received for Councillor Allowances.

G. Current Projects

- a. ASB / Off road biking deterrent / Traffic calming / Safe Routes in Communities / Speed Watch

Cllr Zoe Hewer provided an update on the recent use of speed guns by PCSO Ellie Morgan. Police attended during the hours previously advised, and several vehicles exceeding the speed limit were recorded.

Cllr Zoe Hewer and Cllr Lee Cecil met with police officers early one morning to observe the volume of traffic passing through Rudry. Cllr Zoe Hewer noted that due to the officers arriving in a marked police vehicle, vehicle speeds were noticeably lower than on a typical day. Cllr Lee Cecil advised that the police maintain a database of previous incidents linked to vehicle registrations, which is accessible from all police vehicles. He will continue liaising with Inspector Richard Tovey on this matter.

Cllr Zoe Hewer has arranged a petition to raise awareness with CCBC about the speed and volume of traffic passing through Rudry daily. She reported that every household approached were keen to sign the petition with many residents sharing how they are affected by the speeding. It was noted that the previous contact with CCBC resulted in a response stating that no incidents had been recorded. Cllr Zoe Hewer will collate all the information gathered from the petition. Cllr Lee Cecil advised that the next step is to present the findings to CCBC, if no action is taken, the matter will be escalated to local Members of the Senedd, along with an invitation to visit the location.

Cllr Kevin Stanworth reported concerns raised with him regarding individuals sitting in vehicles outside of the park for extended periods of time. He has advised that any such incidents should be reported directly to 101 or photographs taken where appropriate so that reports can be submitted.

Councillors discussed potential traffic calming measures that would have the greatest impact without creating difficulties for local residents. Cllr Lee Cecil thanked Cllr Zoe Hewer for her work in organising the petition.

b. Defibrillator Supplies & Contracts

Cllr Zoe Hewer reported that the defibrillator at Rudry Parish Hall remains out of service, despite replacing the pads and battery. Cllr Lee Cecil advised the clerk to bring this to the attention of Cllr Amanda McConnell.

The recent defibrillator training session went well with positive feedback received. All Councillors agreed that repeating this next year will be beneficial to the community.

c. Renewals

Cllr Lee Cecil advised that grants had previously been available to support improvements to the energy performance of properties within the villages. This will be discussed further at the next meeting with Cllr Amanda McConnell.

d. DWR Leaflets

Information leaflets have begun being printed for distribution to residents. These will be delivered initially to Rudry and Draethen, with Waterloo to follow.

H. Items for Discussion

a. Go Safe / Speed Awareness

Ongoing as outlined above. Cllr Lee Cecil suggested exploring additional technology on the CCTV system to monitor vehicle speeds.

b. Beach / Draethen Land ASB

Ongoing, Cllr Lee Cecil continue liaising with Inspector Richard Tovey on this matter.

c. Barrier in Rudry – Removal

Cllr Zoe Hewer advised that the barrier has been ordered to be removed by CCBC. Discussions were raised regarding whether there was a possibility for adjustments to be made to the barrier. Cllr Lee Cecil suggested the clerk establish if DWRCC paid for the installation and if needed, contact SLCC and OVW for advice.

d. Budget Planning – Q1

The budget plan for 2026/27 has been amended to reflect the spending of 2025/26.

e. Draethen Litter Bin & Bench

Cllr Lee Cecil confirmed that he is currently dealing with this.

- f. Holly Bush Pub, Draethen
Cllr Lee Cecil provided an update noting that the sale of the pub has now progressed. He advised that a proposal has been submitted to the new owner to ensure the site remains of benefit to the community.
- g. Festive Lighting & Energy Supplier
Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones reported that CCBC have confirmed DWRCC cannot continue to have festive lighting in Waterloo unless the lighting columns are replaced at the cost of DWRCC, which is not feasible. Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones is in discussions regarding the possibility of a Christmas Tree for the village and will arrange a site visit with CCBC to identify a suitable location.

National Grid have advised that an energy supplier should be secured now for the festive season. Cllr Lee Cecil suggested waiting until the position regarding festive lighting in Waterloo is confirmed.

- h. Clerk Overtime Hours
Cllr Lee Cecil advised that the clerk has undertaken additional hours to complete the audit, totalling 26 hours across April and May. All agreed.

I. Planning Applications

26/0304/TCA- Ruperra Castle Estate Rudry Road To Craig Llan – Noted
26/0319/HH- Springfield Penrhiw Lane – Not our area
26/0338/RET- Parc Maes Ty Gawla Isaf To Rhymney River – Noted

J. Biodiversity

Cllr Rob Heaton-Jones is due to attend training for Biodiversity on Wednesday, 27 May.

K. Exclusion of Press and Public

None.

L. Exempt Items

None.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm

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