AMMANFORD TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF RHYDAMAN

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 28th September 2026

at 13 Wind Street and remotely via Microsoft Teams

The Chair Cllr C Higgins presided over the meeting.

Meeting Started at 18:01

Members Present

Cllr C Higgins (online)
Cllr A Jones
Cllr E John
Cllr J Owen
Cllr Ll Davies
Cllr N Morgan
Cllr S Evans
Cllr P Allchurch
Cllr C Evans (online)
Cllr H Howells
Cllr D Harries

Also Present

Chief Officer- Jayne Grazette
Deputy Clerk- Roisin Finch
Admin and Estates Officer- Geena Ware

A discussion took place regarding Cllr C Higgins attending the meeting remotely. It was noted that Cllr C Higgins would chair the meeting remotely, with Cllr H Howells attending in person to assist with the practical management of the meeting and proceedings.

CM

1.28092026 Ymddiheuriadau a rhesymau am absenoldeb/ Apologies and reason for absence

Cllr K McMinn-Davies – An apology was received by text message at the commencement of the meeting. The message was not seen until after the meeting had concluded and, therefore, the apology was not reported to members during the meeting.

Absent-

Cllr W Erasmus

2.28092026 Datganiadau diddordeb/ Declaration of Interest

No new declarations of interest were made. Members were reminded that declarations of interest could be made at any point during the meeting should an interest arise in relation to an agenda item.

3.28092026 Cyfranogiad cyhoeddus/ Public participation

None present.

4.28092026 Ystyried Materion plismona/ To Consider Policing Matters

There was no Police/PCSO presence at the meeting. A verbal update had been provided to officers prior to the meeting and was reported to Council.

The following matters were noted:

- Police had attended one call at Riverway MUGA, where a group of young people aged approximately 17–18 were asked to leave the area.
- An incident involving young people accessing the roof of Specsavers had been reported.
- One local drugs operation had been undertaken.
- Dyfed-Powys Police are encouraging local residents to sign up to **Connect**, their community messaging/newsletter service.
- Officers had attended the Freshers' Fair at Ammanford College.
- A **Cuppa with a Coppa** engagement session was scheduled to take place on Thursday at 11.00am.

Council **NOTED** the Police/PCSO update.

CPM

5.28092026 I dderbyn adroddiad y maer/ To receive the Mayor's report

The information had been previously circulated to members. Members noted the information, and no further comments were raised.

6.28092026 I dderbyn adroddiadau'r Cynhorydd Sir/ To receive County Councillor's reports

Cllr D Harries had submitted a written report, which had been previously circulated to members. He provided the following additional verbal updates:

- The Tir-y-Dail rail crossing would be closed from 9.00am on Thursday, 1 October for approximately eight hours to enable works to be undertaken.
- Carmarthenshire County Council was seeking volunteers for the **County Cars Scheme**, which provides community transport. Anyone interested in volunteering was asked to contact Cllr D Harries.

18:06 – Cllr A Jones entered the meeting.

Cllr A Jones raised a question regarding the **Ammanford Masterplan**. Cllr D Harries advised that information relating to the Masterplan was included within his previously circulated report and confirmed that the works on Quay Street formed part of the Masterplan.

Members **NOTED** the written report and additional verbal update.

7.28092026 I dderbyn addroddiadau'r or swyddogion/ To Receive Officers Verbal update report

i) Adroddiad y Prif Swyddogion/ The Chief Officers Report

The Chief Officer & RFO provided members with an update on work undertaken since the previous report, covering key areas of Council activity including governance, finance, community engagement, parks and facilities, events, staffing and strategic planning.

Members were updated on ongoing governance and financial management work, including preparations for the 2027/28 budget-setting process and work arising from the Finance and Governance Toolkit.

An update was provided on the Riverway Consultation. Cllr H Howells asked about the level of response received, and the Chief Officer confirmed that approximately 60 responses had been received to date.

Members were also updated on staff and councillor training, wider community consultation proposals, strategic planning, Council facilities and assets, and forthcoming community events.

The Chief Officer advised that work would continue through the relevant committees, with further reports and recommendations being brought before Council as appropriate.

Members **NOTED** the Chief Officer & RFO's update.

ii).Adroddiad Diprwy Glerc/ Deputy Clerk Report

The Deputy Clerk provided members with an overview of her recent work and professional development, including completion of the **ILCA and FILCA qualifications**, meetings attended and a brief update on a **biodiversity project** currently being developed.

Members congratulated the Deputy Clerk on the successful completion of her training and qualifications.

Members **NOTED** the Deputy Clerk's update.

iii).Adroddiad Swyddog Gweinyddiaeth ac Ystadau/ Estates and Admin Officers report.

The Estates & Administration Officer provided members with an update on her recent work, professional development and Council assets.

The Officer advised that she had successfully completed the **ILCA qualification**. Members congratulated her on successfully completing the qualification.

An update was then provided on Council assets and maintenance works:

- **Maes y Coed** – A deep clean had been completed.
- **Pantyffynnon** – Timber structures affected by rot had been replaced and new benches installed.
- **Riverway** – Issues relating to screws being tampered with on benches had been identified and actioned.
- **Ammanford Park** – Delivery of a replacement trampoline was awaited following damage to the existing equipment. Gaps within the hedging had been repaired to encourage regrowth, and weeding of the flowerbeds had continued throughout the summer.

Public Toilets

- **Ammanford Park** – The disabled toilet lock had been repaired. Extensive works had also been undertaken to the pipework, which had significantly reduced previous issues.
- **Margaret Street** – The toilets continued to experience recurring issues. The Officer had liaised with the caretaker at Bro Banw School, who reported similar issues. Dŵr Cymru had assisted with clearing blockages further along the sewerage system which had contributed to the problems experienced at the toilets. New signage had also been ordered.

Cllr H Howells commented positively on the improvements at Maes y Coed and congratulated officers on the work undertaken. These comments were echoed by other members.

18:15 – Cllr C Higgins temporarily left the meeting due to loss of the remote connection.

8.28092026 Cadarnhau cofnodion y cyfarfodydd canlynol /Confirmation of the minutes of the following meetings:

i) Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor 27 Gorffennaf 2026 / Full Council Meeting 27th July 2026

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 27 July 2026.

Unanimously resolved that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 27 July 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record.

18:15 – Cllr C Evans temporarily left the meeting due to loss of the remote connection.

18:17 - Cllr C Evans rejoined

ii) Cyfarfod y pwyllgor cyllid 14 Medi 2026 / Finance committee meeting 14th Sept 2026.

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 14th September 2026.

Unanimously resolved that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 14 September 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record.

9.29092026 I derbyn argymhellion a wnaed gan y pwyllgor cyllid ariannol /To receive recommendations made by Finance committee:

i) I dderbyn cymodi banc Gorffennaf ac Awst / To accept July and August bank reconciliation

Members considered the Bank Reconciliations for July and August 2026.

Unanimously resolved to accept and approve the Bank Reconciliations as presented.

ii) I dderbyn llyfrau arian parod Gorffennaf ac Awst / To accept July and August cashbooks

Members considered the Cashbooks for July and August 2026.

Unanimously resolved to accept and approve the July and August 2026 Cashbooks as presented.

iii) I dderbyn cynnig i drosglwyddo arian i'r cyfrif wrth gefn./ To accept proposal to transfer of monies to reserve account.

Members had received a **previously circulated report** outlining the proposed transfer of funds to the Council's Reserve Account.

A member sought clarification regarding the **Section 106 monies**. The Chief Officer & RFO explained that the funding is received retrospectively following eligible expenditure and that the monies received would therefore be transferred into an **Earmarked Reserve** for potential future projects within the relevant area.

Members noted the explanation and considered the proposed transfers detailed within the report.

Unanimously resolved to approve the transfer of the identified monies to the Council's Reserve Account, to be allocated to the appropriate Earmarked Reserves as detailed within the previously circulated report.

iv) I dderbyn taliadau a wneir drwy Ch1 / To accept payments made through Q1

Members considered the payments made during **Quarter 1**.

Unanimously resolved to accept and approve the payments made during Quarter 1 as presented.

v) I dderbyn Taliadau a wnaed trwy fis Gorffennaf ac Awst / To accept Payments made through July and August

Members considered the payments made during July and August 2026.

Unanimously resolved to accept and approve the payments made during July and August 2026 as presented.

CM

vi) I dderbyn Taliadau Trefnedig gan gynnwys taliadau hyd at 30 Medi. / To accept Scheduled of payments including payments up to 30th September.

Members considered the Schedule of Payments presented, including payments made and scheduled up to **30 September 2026**.

Unanimously resolved to accept and approve the Schedule of Payments up to 30 September 2026 as presented.

vii) **Derbyn diweddariad ar ddyfarniadau Cymorth Ariannol a gymeradwywyd gan y Pwyllgor Cyllid o dan ei awdurdod dirprwyedig/** To receive an update on Financial Assistance awards approved by the Finance Committee under its delegated authority.

Chief Officer gave a verbal update on the S137 funding that was awarded. Cllr E John asked if there was any supporting documentation for this agenda point.

Chief Officer had circulated the report to members of the finance committee. The report was sent to members during the meeting.

Cllr C Higgins (chair) noted that there is no decision to be made, it is just to report. However, the council voted to agree with the Finance Committee recommendations.

Resolved to agree the recommendation made by Finance Committee.

viii) NJC / NALC / LGA Dyfarniad Tâl Cenedlaethol 2026/27 – Cyflogau staff (gwybodaeth yn unig) / NJC/NALC/LGA National Pay Award 2026/27 – Staff Salaries (information only)

Cllr H Howells provided an update and advised members that the pay increase arose from a nationally agreed pay award.

Cllr A Jones expressed the view that the matter should nevertheless be formally considered and voted upon by Council.

Following discussion, a proposal was put to members.

Unanimously resolved to note the nationally agreed pay award and approve its implementation.

10.280926 Adolygu argymhelliad gan y Pwyllgor Cyllid ynghylch rheiliau newydd ar Faes Hamdden Rhydaman. / To review recommendation from Finance Committee regarding replacement railings at Ammanford Recreation Ground.

Members discussed the proposed replacement railings and raised questions regarding the ownership and responsibility for the adjoining car park area.
Cllr E John queried whether the car park fell within the Town Council's responsibility. The Chief Officer & RFO advised that the lease documentation would be reviewed further to clarify the extent of the Council's responsibility.

Unamimously resolved to authorise the replacement railing works, **subject to the Chief Officer & RFO first confirming the Town Council's responsibility for the relevant land and railings under the lease.**

11.280926 Ystyried gosod ffensys stop pêl ym Mharc Rhydaman / To consider the installation of ball stop fencing at Ammanford Park.

The Chief Officer & RFO provided members with an overview of concerns raised by a neighbouring property regarding balls and children entering the property from Ammanford Park.

Cllr C Higgins provided further background regarding the complaints received and highlighted the need to consider the neighbouring resident's peaceful enjoyment of their property, together with the safety and welfare of children leaving the Council's land to retrieve balls.

Members discussed the potential risks and the measures that could be taken to address the concerns raised.

Unanimously resolved to proceed with the installation of ball-stop fencing at Ammanford Park.

12.28092026 I dderbyn y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 21 Medi gydag AFC a JLF. / To receive update on meeting held 21st September with AFC and JLF.

The Chief Officer & RFO circulated indicative drawings showing prospective plans for the site. It was emphasised that these were **prospective plans only** and that the necessary site investigation work would need to be undertaken before proposals could progress further.

Members noted that any future development proposals would require a substantial **public consultation exercise** before progressing to subsequent stages of funding and planning.

Cllr P Allchurch commented positively on the meeting and advised that he had come away enthused by the discussions.

Cllr E John sought clarification as to whether a commitment had been made to undertake public consultation. Cllr C Higgins confirmed that consultation would be a requirement in progressing future funding opportunities.

Cllr A Jones commented that the meeting had been worthwhile and requested that meetings of this nature take place more regularly.

He also sought clarification regarding the statutory power available to the Council should it provide a financial contribution.

Following a discussion with Cllr K McMinn-Davies, the Chair nominated Cllr K McMinn-Davies for appointment to the **Finance Committee**.

No other nominations were received.

Unanimously resolved to appoint **Cllr K McMinn-Davies** to the Finance Committee.

16. diweddariad i aelodau ar gyd-ddewis. / Update to members on co-option
The Chief Officer updated councillors to the 2 Vacancies for co-option.

The Chief Officer & RFO provided members with an update on the current **co-option process**.

As at the date of the meeting, **two formal Expressions of Interest** had been received, together with **two further enquiries** from individuals interested in the vacancies.

Members were reminded that the **closing date for Expressions of Interest was 2nd October 2026**.

Members **NOTED** the update.

17. Ceisiadau cynllunio a anfonwyd i'r Cyngor yn flaenorol / Planning applications previously sent to Council.

Cllr E John expressed disappointment that the application **Planning Application PL/11283** was **retrospective** and raised concerns regarding the lack of communication.

The Chief Officer & RFO advised members that a **Sports Forum** was scheduled to take place, bringing together sports clubs from across the area. The purpose of the forum would be to help improve communication, strengthen relationships and encourage greater collaborative working between local sports organisations.

Members **NOTED** the comments and update.

Closure of Meeting
There being no further business, the Chair thanked members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 19:01

Approval and Signature
These minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Chair: Cllr Calum Higgins

Date: 26/10/26