

ERWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT ERWOOD MARKET HALL ON
THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2025 AT 7:30PM

Members Present

- Cllr Alan Pryce
- Cllr Louis Macdonald-Ames
- Cllr Lisa Payne
- Cllr Caroline Baldwin
- Cllr Stephen Davies (Chair)

In Attendance

- Saloni Srivastava (Clerk)
- Carrienne Ralph (former Clerk)

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

1. Apologies

- Apologies were received from County Councillor Tom Colbert and Cllr. Geoffrey Lewis.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made in relation to any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(95.2025)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as a correct record.

4. Road Traffic Signs

(96.2025)

It was noted that the Welsh Government had not accepted the Community Council's request for funding for its own road traffic signs for Erwood Village. Cllr Alan Pryce suggested that the Go Safe Campaign and Operation Snap could be used to address speeding concerns. The Clerk will contact the campaign organisers for further information.

5. Grass Cutting

(97.2025)

The grass cutting of the estate has been completed. Cllr Alan Pryce proposed that the landlord be invoiced for the cost of the work, with payment made to the Chair in recognition of his efforts in undertaking the task. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Louis Macdonald-Ames and agreed by all. The Chair indicated his intention to donate this payment back to the Council and be included in the budget of Erwood Phone box renovation. The Clerk will contact One Voice Wales for legal advice on the matter before issuing the invoice. It was also agreed that the grass should be cut at least twice during the summer to keep the common area accessible. The next cut will be scheduled for next month or the month after, depending on growth.

6. Phone Box Painting

(98.2025)

Cllr Lisa Payne has contacted contractor Lins for a quote to repaint the phone booth. The Chair offered to inspect the kiosk and, if possible, paint the front section himself as a starting point. The date and time for this visit are to be confirmed.

7. Finance

Payment to HMRC

(99.2025):

The clerk noted that the sum agreed to be paid to HMRC at the previous meeting (see minute number 89.2025) was incorrect by £79.40. The clerk assured all that the correct sum had now been paid. Receipts were available and in future this difficulty would not occur after the payment to HMRC is electronically automated.

Setup of Direct Debit to HMRC

(100.2025):

It was agreed to set up a direct debit to HMRC. The Clerk will action this.

Adding New Clerk to HMRC, Internet Banking, and SLCC

(101.2025):

It was agreed to add the new Clerk, Saloni Srivastava, to HMRC, internet banking, and the SLCC for day-to-day operations. Former Clerk Carriane Ralph will assist with this process.

8. Clerk's Report

Signing of Clerk's Contract

(102.2025):

The Clerk signed the contract in the presence of all Councillors, witnessed by the Chair.

Direct Debit for Clerk's Salary (103.2025): It was agreed that the Clerk's salary will be paid monthly by direct debit, to be set up once the Clerk's name is added to internet banking.

9. Training

(104.2025)

Training opportunities were shared with councillors via email throughout the month. No training was taken up. The clerk requested to undertake an ILCA training course once she had registered with SLCC. This was accepted by all.

10. Highways

(105.2025)

Councillors noted that several roads in and around Erwood Village have recently been repaired and welcomed the improvements. However, some roads remain in poor condition. The Chair will contact the depot to discuss the remaining works required.

11. Banking Signatory

(106.2025)

Cllr Louis Macdonald-Ames reported he has not yet received confirmation from the bank regarding his status as a signatory (see Minute 90.2025). The bank advised that he must contact them directly to pass security checks and confirm the request.

12. Vacancy in the Councilors.

(107. 2025)

Honorable Cllr Caroline Baldwin will be vacating the office from 1st of September, 2025 after contributing to the society for the term of five years. All the councilors expressed their gratitude and wished her luck. The clerk shall take steps in regard to the vacancy and inform the Powys county council about the vacancy and further process.

12. Matters for the Next Meeting

Update on the phone booth decoration.

Advertising for new councilors and liaising with Powys County Council regarding the process for filling the vacancy.

Meeting closed at 8:30