

**ERWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
HELD AT ERWOOD MARKET HALL ON THURSDAY 22nd  
JANUARY 2026 AT 7:00 PM**

**Members Present**

- Cllr Alan Pryce
- Cllr Lisa Payne
- Cllr Geoffrey Lewis
- Cllr Louis Macdonald-Ames (Acting Chair)

**In Attendance**

- Saloni Srivastava (Clerk)

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

**1. Apologies**

- Apologies were received from County Councillor Tom Colbert
- Cllr Stephen Davies (Chair)

**2. Declarations of Interest**

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

**3. Appointment of Acting Chair  
(1.2026)**

Members noted the absence of the Chair, **Cllr Stephen Davies** due to illness and surgery. Resolved That Cllr Louis McDonald be appointed to act as Chair of the meeting and during the Chair's absence. The resolution was agreed unanimously by members present

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting  
(2.2026)**

- The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as a correct record by Cllr Louis Macdonald-Ames

**4. Matters arising**

**a. Acknowledgement  
(3.2026)**

Members noted that the Clerk had calculated the draft budget requirement to be £11,931 for the forthcoming financial year. However, as some figures were contingent and subject to adjustment, the Council had previously discussed and agreed that a precept request of £11,500 be submitted. The Clerk confirmed that the £11,500 precept request had been submitted to Powys County Council and that receipt of the submission had been acknowledged.

Resolved: That the Council note and accept the acknowledgement of the precept submission made by the Clerk.

**b. Update on request to GoSafe campaign, request submitted.  
(4.2026)**

The Clerk informed Members that a request had been submitted to the GoSafe Wales regarding concerns about increasing vehicle speeds in the area. It was noted that, as an initial step, GoSafe would deploy a mobile speed enforcement van to monitor and record the speed of passing vehicles. Following this monitoring period, GoSafe will assess the data collected and determine whether further measures, such as the installation of a speed camera, may be required. The Council will be updated accordingly once the monitoring and assessment process has been completed.

Members acknowledged the update and accepted the information provided by the Clerk.

**c. Request Received for Donation from Local Charity**

**(5.2026)**

The Clerk informed Members that a request for a donation had been received from Builth Wells Community Support. The request was presented to the Council for consideration. Members agreed in principle to make a donation to the charity; however, the amount was not determined during the meeting. It was agreed that the matter would be deferred to the next meeting. Members requested that the Clerk review the amount donated in the previous year and assess what amount could be reasonably accommodated within the current budget. The matter will therefore be brought back for further discussion and decision at the next meeting.

**d. Acknowledgement of fees paid by the chair for the Anti-virus for Clerk's laptop.**

**(6.2026)**

Members were informed that Cllr Stephen Davies had personally paid for the antivirus subscription for the Council's cloud-based laptop system from his own funds.

Cllr Davies confirmed that he did not wish to claim reimbursement for this expense. Members expressed their appreciation and, on behalf of the Council, formally acknowledged and thanked Cllr Stephen Davies for his contribution and support in covering this cost for the Council.

Resolved: That the Council formally record its thanks and acknowledgement to Cllr Stephen Davies for meeting this expense personally.

**7. Finance**

**Acknowledgment of Payment to HMRC**

**(7.2026):**

Members noted that a payment of £79 was due to HM Revenue & Customs.

Resolved: That the payment of £79 to HM Revenue & Customs be approved and authorised, with all Members in agreement.

**Approval for the payment to Clerk for the month of January (8.2026):**

The Clerk informed Members that the salary payment for January required approval. It was also noted that the Clerk had not previously been assigned to the Council's bank account, and therefore the salary payments for October, November, and December had not been processed.

Members acknowledged the matter and noted the circumstances.

Resolved: That the Clerk's salary payment for January be approved for payment, with Members in agreement.

**Discussion on the money spent on Christmas event.**

**(9.2026):**

Councilor's informed that no funds were spent from the Erwood Community Council bank account for the Christmas event. The event was organised and arranged by local residents and councillors, who managed the arrangements independently. Members noted that no expenses were claimed and no reimbursement is required from the Council's accounts. Resolved: That the Council formally note that no Council funds were used for the Christmas event.

**Payment of SLCC fees needs approval.**

**(10.2026):**

The Clerk informed Members that the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) membership fee of £52 was due for payment.

Resolved: That the Council approve the payment of £52 for the SLCC membership fees. All Members were in agreement.

**8. Additional Items**

**Cllrs. reported the following issues in the Erwood area:**

**(11.2026)**

1. Street Lighting – ER22 and ER23 (near Tower House, on the road to Kington)  
The street lights numbered **ER22 and ER23** are not working. The area becomes very dark and unsafe for pedestrians.
2. Potholes on Erwood Roads  
Several potholes are present across the roads in Erwood. Temporary repairs have been carried out in the past, but the potholes continue to deteriorate.

3. Blocked Drainage – Erwood Chapel (Postcode LD2 3PQ, coordinates 3MGJ1+7J Builth Wells)  
The drainage near Erwood Chapel is blocked with gravel and requires clearing. Members expressed concern that this could worsen, particularly in wet weather.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk submit a formal request to Cllr Tom Colbert on behalf of the Council, reporting these issues and requesting action by the County Council.

### **Website Updates:**

**(12.2026)**

The Clerk raised to Members that the Council website has not been updated since July, including notices, agendas, minutes, and other important documents. It was noted that Cllr Stephen Davies is responsible for the website and has access, but due to his current commitments, the updates have not been uploaded.

In the absence of Cllr Stephen Davies, the Acting Chair, Cllr Louise McDonald, stated that he would follow up with Cllr Stephen Davies to obtain access and ensure the website is updated. The Clerk was instructed to send all pending documents, including notices, agendas, and minutes, to Cllr McDonald, who will oversee their upload to the website.

**Resolved:** That the Acting Chair, Cllr Louise McDonald, liaise with Cllr Stephen Davies and ensure that all outstanding documents are uploaded to the Council website.

## **12. Matters for the Next Meeting**

**Meeting closed at 20:00**