

**COFNODION AM CYFARFOD ANGHYFFREDIN HYBRID A GYNHALIWYD ar 23^{ain} IONAWR
2025 am 7yh
MINUTES FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY HYBRID MEETING HELD on 23rd JANUARY 2025 at
7pm**

Pobol yn presennol:	Cllr. Ros McGarry (Vice Chair)	Cllr. Paul Harries
Persons Present:	Cllr. Jon Letten	Cllr. John Griffiths
	Cllr. Jake Hollyfield	Cllr. Sandra Bayes
		Miss L Evans (Town Clerk)
Ymwelwyr / Visitors	Cllr. Huw Murphy	

1. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb / Apologies for absence

1.1. Apologies received from Cllrs. Morris, Lewis and Paish.

2. Datganiad o ddiddordeb / Declarations of Interest

2.1. No declarations of interest.

3. Praesept / Precept

3.1. The Clerk has circulated 3 different precept options: £5k, 10k and 15k options for Parrog land. The Clerk has also included £800 in the budget for the MUGA caretaker hours payment. Cllr. Bayes asked how the figure of £2k for youth hostel legal fees was determined? The Clerk reported that Cllr. Griffiths had advised that legal fees could cost this amount, if there were more than one tenant then multiple leases could be needed. Cllr. Harries advised that any lease signing with PCC would need to be simultaneous with any prospective tenant lease signing. There are various options for the youth hostel building including low-cost accommodation, business units and town council office. Last years precept was £33k. Increasing the precept by £5k is a 27% rise, by £10k is a 42% rise and by £15k is a 58% rise. Cllr. Griffiths raised his concerns that by not raising the precept the council will be using most of their reserves. In 3 years' time the council need to obtain £133k for the 2nd purchase of the Parrog purchase.

Cllr. Harries advised that the council need £52k for the first phase of Parrog. The council has £10,625 in undesignated reserves, £11,612 in Parrog Capital reserves, £3,456 in GPO reserves, £3,927 from PCC for Section 106, £15k awarded from Enhancing Pembs grant, this comes to £44k. The council are £7k short of the target. £1,500 has been budgeted for solicitors' fees and £5k has been budgeted for decorating which may have to wait. There is £44k in total in the reserves. By using the money above, it will decrease to £18k. There could be a cashflow issue with receiving the Enhancing Pembs grant as this is usually paid retrospectively. The council may need to use more of the reserves which could drop the reserves down to around £4k. This would be temporary for one month.

Cllr. Huw Murphy will check about the Enhancing Pembs to see if there are other payment options.

Cllr. Hollyfield advised it is a risk leaving the account so low in funds and that the council should raise the precept to support their outgoings.

Cllr. Huw Murphy advised that raising the precept would be a £1 a month increase on the council tax for Band D. Cllr. Griffiths advised that the council should be building up a budget for Canolfan Croeso, children's play area which needs refurbishment. The reserves should be increased to help with the 2nd phase of the Parrog purchase. There is an option of a Public works loan board if the money cannot be raised through grants. Most councillors advised they are happy with an increase in the precept.

- 3.2. Cllr. Bayes proposed that the £15,800 is approved to be included in the precept (£15k for Parrog and £800 for MUGA caretaker) and that the precept for 2025-26 will be £52,174, Cllr. Hollyfield seconded, 5 voted for, 1 against, the majority ruled in favour. Cllr. Harries proposed that the Parrog Capital, GPO reserve and undesignated reserve be earmarked in principle for the 2nd phase of Parrog purchase, Cllr. Griffiths seconded, 5 voted for, 1 abstained, the majority ruled in favour.

Cllr. Harries thanked the Clerk for all her work on the budget and precept.

The meeting finished at 8.19pm.