

**Draft Summary of the Ordinary Meeting of the Garw Valley Community Council
held on Monday 16th March 2026 at Halo Leisure, Pontycymer and via Zoom**

Attendance:

Councillors G Andrews*, J Coles, D Davies*, W Davies, M Lewis (Chair), D Williams and Glyn Walters*

*via zoom

Apologies: Councillors H Griffiths, C Lloyd and G Lloyd

No Apologies: Councillors N Harwood Scorer, L Thomas and M Trowbridge

Also Present: Yiota Haramblos (REACH), Gareth Kiddie (Gareth Kiddie Associates), 2 members of the public

Councillor	Item	Interest
J Coles	REACH Project	Holiday cottage owner
D Davies	Richard Price Centre	Director
M Lewis	All Bridgend County Borough Matters Calon y Cwm CIC Tyn yr Heol Primary School	Member Director Governor
D Williams	Awen Cultural Trust/Blaengarw Workmen's Hall	Volunteer at Blaengarw Workmen's Hall

Due to an issue with the wifi the meeting started later than scheduled at 6.38 pm
The Chair introduced those attending online to those attending in person and welcomed the members of the public to the meeting.

Minute Number	Agenda Item	Action
186/25-26	To Receive Apologies for Absence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above
187/25-26	To Receive Declarations of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above
188/25-26	To Receive Gareth Kiddie and Yiota Haramblos ref. REACH Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair thanked Gareth Kiddie for all the company's hard work.
189/25-26	To approve the Minutes of the February 2026 Ordinary Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minutes of the February 2026 Ordinary Meeting were approved and signed by the Chair.
190/25-26	To Consider Matters Arising from the February 2026 Ordinary Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All information was noted and actions approved.

191/25-26	Crime Figures February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The crime figures were noted.
192/25-26	PC Lan use for Gender Reveals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that Councillor D Williams would research gender reveal guidelines and report back to council at the next meeting.
193/25-26	Draft Sexual Harassment Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy was unanimously adopted.
194/25-26	Draft Lone Worker Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that the Clerk would recirculate the draft policy and the OVW lone policy document for councillors to compare the two and feedback their comments at the next meeting to form a more detailed policy. • In the meantime, the Clerk would obtain more information about the use of a mobile phone app suitable for lone workers.
195/25-26	Deferred Financial Requests for 2025/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The offer from the Bangar councillors was unanimously agreed and a donation of £25 to the Wales Air Ambulance and Marie Curie would be made.
196/25-26	Pride in Place Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite the two day turnaround to application, the Clerk was asked to apply for the pump park using the REACH project report as evidence. • It was agreed to apply for £71,250 of funding, using the project budget line for 26/27 and some of the reserves for the remainder as the total quoted cost is £86,250.
197/25-26	Finance & Accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All information was noted. • Authorisation was given for all payments on the sheets presented. • The budget monitoring sheets were approved. • The Llangeinor councillors agreed to fund the two financial requests for their ward from their ward funds.

198/25-26	Borough and Ward Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The information was noted.
199/25-26	Chair's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair had attended Blaengarw Primary School's Eisteddfod and been a judge; it had been an honour to witness the children's talent.
200/25-26	Clerk's Report incl. Warden's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The information was noted. The Clerk was asked to arrange for the Meadow Street bench to be moved further away from the house entrance, to ask the contractor to delay work on the Meadow Street steps, the proposed railings design was unanimously approved, the Clerk would accept the offer of end of year finance training, the website redaction had been carried out and the Blaengarw ward councillors agreed to cover the cost of £381 for Blaengarw Primary School PTA.
201/32-26	Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All information was noted. Authority to renew the OVW membership was given, thought would be given to where the apple trees could be planted, the resident emails had been answered by the Clerk and the FOI request would be answered within the response time.
202/25-26	Planning Matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All information received was noted.
203/25-26	Items for the April 2026 Ordinary Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The agenda would be kept open for items to be added in the month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lone Worker Policy feedback by all ➤ Event Opportunities (DW) ➤ To receive the Warden <p>The date of the next Ordinary Council meeting is Monday 20th April 2026 and will take place at 6.30 pm at Halo Leisure, Pontycymer and via zoom</p>