

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 12 May 2026

PRESENT: Councillor Non Dafydd (Chair) (for items 1 to 7),
Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas (Vice-Chair) (for items 1 to 7).

Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas (Chair) (for items 8 to 17),
Councillor Jackie Lewis (Vice-Chair) (for items 8 to 17).

Councillors Geraint Bebb, Paul Ellis, Neville Evans, Douglas M Fowle, Glyn Haynes, Kenneth P Hughes, Carwyn Jones, Aled M Jones, Gwilym O Jones, Dyfed Wyn Jones, Euryrn Morris, Pip O'Neill, Llio Angharad Owen, Derek Owen, Gary Pritchard, Dylan Rees, Alun Roberts, Dafydd Roberts, Keith Roberts, Margaret Murley Roberts, Nicola Roberts, Ken Taylor, Alwen P Watkin, Ieuan Williams, Robin Williams, Sonia Williams and Liz Wood

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive,
Deputy Chief Executive,
Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer,
Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer,
Director of Social Services,
Director of Education, Skills and Young People,
Head of Housing Services,
Head of Adults' Services,
Head of Highways, Waste and Property,
Head of Regulation and Economic Development,
Head of Human Resources, Communication and Customer Experience,
Head of Digital, Performance and Modernisation,
Head of Democratic,
Communications Manager (GJ),
Committee Officer (MEH),
Webcasting Committee Services Officer (FT).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Jeff M Evans, John Ifan Jones, Robert LI Jones and Arfon Wyn

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Isle of Anglesey County Council held on 5 March, 2026 were confirmed as correct.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Celfyn Furlong declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Visitor Levy Consultation.

Councillor Derek Owen declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Visitor Levy Consultation.

Councillor Alun Roberts declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Visitor Levy Consultation.

Mr Arwel Owen, Head of Adults' Services declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Visitor Levy Consultation.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair made the following announcements :-

- The Chair wished to thank all the volunteers across the Island who have been raising money and making arrangements for the Ynys Môn Urdd Eisteddfod 2026 to be held between 25 May to 31 May. She sent her best wishes to all the children and young people who will be competing during the week.
- Congratulations were extended to Mr Derek Evans from Llannerch-y-Medd for being honoured by the Urdd in winning the John and Ceridwen Hughes Trophy. It is awarded annually by the Urdd to extraordinary volunteers who have made a significant contribution to the lives of the young people of Wales. A special ceremony will be held at the Urdd Eisteddfod in Ynys Môn at the end of the month.
- The Chair extended her best wishes also to everyone from the Island who will be competing at the National Eisteddfod in Pembrokeshire in August. She congratulated Malachy Owain Edwards from Llanfairpwll who will be honoured with the green robe at the Eisteddfod this year.
- The Chair extended her best wished to everyone from Ynys Môn who will be taking part in the Royal Welsh show this year. Ynys Môn will be the Feature County in 2027; therefore, it will be a busy year for the agricultural communities.
- The Chair congratulated RAF Valley who recently celebrated 85 years since being established. The celebrations were noted by a visit from Prince William who trained and worked at the base for a period.
- The Chair extended her best wishes to all the young people who will be sitting their GCSE and A Level examinations as well as any other qualifications. The Council is also a Corporate Parent and best wishes to all those young people receiving care in their examinations over the next few weeks.
- Congratulations were extended to Ellie Corcoran from Ynys Môn who won the Miss Wales 2026 title recently. Ellie volunteers with Careers Wales and assists young people. She has also raised more than £40,000 for various charities.

- Congratulations to the Môn Actif service for their national success in receiving the 'Building Belonging' award at the Youth Sports Trust Awards 2026.
- Congratulations extended to the Iorwerth Arms, Bryngwran in receiving the Arfor prize for the most Welsh Social Enterprise in the World.
- Congratulations to 101 young people of Year 10 age across the Secondary Schools on the Island who have successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award over two days during the Easter holidays. She thanked the Authority's Youth Service for co-ordinating and leading the excursions as well as the support given by the Urdd's outdoor team. Ynys Môn Youth Service continues to have the largest number of young people achieving the Duke of Edinburgh accreditation in Wales.
- The Chair wished to thank all the staff who have assisted in the arrangements to hold the Senedd Cymru elections in the Bangor, Conwy Môn constituency last week. The Chair congratulated the six successful candidates and wished them well in their new roles.

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Best wishes were extended to Councillor Jeff Evans and his family as his daughter has recently undergone major surgery in Liverpool.

Best wishes were extended to Mrs Nia Owen, the wife of the former Leader of the Council, Mr Bryan Owen who is recovering from surgery recently.

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Condolences were extended to the family of Mrs Gladys Pritchard from Holyhead who passed away recently. Mrs Pritchard worked tirelessly to promote the Welsh Language on the Island and was very hardworking in her community. She was accepted into the Orsedd at the National Eisteddfod in 2005.

Condolences were also extended to the family and friends of the former County Councillor Mr Eric Jones of Llanfihangel Esceifiog.

Councillors Aled Morris Jones and Carwyn Jones paid tribute to the former County Council Member Eric Jones and referred that he was elected to the County Council in 2007 and served on the Llanfihangel Esceifiog Community Council for over 30 years. He also worked for the former Isle of Anglesey Borough Council within the Rates Department for over 25 years and was a Youth Leader within Youth Clubs on the Island.

Condolences were extended to the family of Mr Gwyn Owen from Valley, who was one of the founders of MônFM and one of the regular broadcasters on the radio station.

Condolences were extended to any Member of the Council or Staff who had suffered a bereavement.

Members and Officers stood as silent tribute.

4. NOTICE OF MOTION

Submitted – a Notice of Motion by Councillor Neville Evans : -

'I call on Anglesey County Council to recognise Anglesey as a County that has a higher density of Welsh speakers as is noted in the report of the Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities Chaired by Dr Simon Brooks.

With a new Government staring its work in Cardiff Bay, I call on Anglesey County Council to work alongside the Welsh Government and to encourage the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities so to reinforce the Welsh language as a living language within our communities here on the Island.'

Councillor Neville Evans said that the Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities was established by the Welsh Government to make recommendations aimed at strengthening Welsh speaking communities with a report published with 57 recommendations in 2024. He considered that he was privileged to have been raised in a Welsh community in Bryngwran. He noted that over the last 30 years there has been a reduction in Welsh speakers in local communities and the use of the language within these communities. Councillor Evans said that the Welsh language needs to be protected and people should be encouraged and supported in the use of the language. He further said that Dr Simon Brookes reported is a detailed and comprehensive report which gives suggestions to enhance the language. Councillor Evans further referred that Welsh place names on properties also need to be protected.

The Leader seconded the Motion and said that this is a timely Motion with the Urdd Eisteddfod to be held on the Island at the end of May. He said that he attends learning sessions within his community and it is pleasing to see that people are enthusiastic to be able to learn the Welsh language. He further said that Ynys Môn is one of two Counties with the highest proportion of Welsh speakers with 70% of children from 3 to 15 years of age who speak Welsh. The Council is committed to promote and safeguard the Welsh language as an integral part within the Council Plan. The work of the Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities gives clear direction and emphasises that the first key steps is to promote the language and to create a platform for purposeful policies. The Leader further said that partnership working will need to be undertaken with Welsh Government to be able to address the recommendations within the Commissions report.

Councillor Kenneth P Hughes said that he supported the Motion and any other avenue to enhance the Welsh language within the local communities. He said that it is important to secure employment opportunities for young people on the Island as many young people are having to leave the Island to find work.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones agreed with his fellow Member, and he said that with employment opportunities and keeping young people on the Island will enhance the use of the Welsh language. He noted that with the Wylfa site being identified for the siting of three small modular reactors (SMR), it will create employment opportunities whilst there is a potential for more SMR's on the site.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Motion to call on Anglesey Council to recognise Anglesey as a County that has a higher density of Welsh speakers as is noted in the report of the Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities Chaired by Dr Simon Brooks. With the new Government starting its work in Cardiff Bay, he called on Anglesey County Council to work alongside Welsh Government and to encourage the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities so to reinforce the Welsh language as a living language within our communities here on the Island.

5. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

No petitions received.

6. THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025/26

The Annual Report of the Leader of the Council for 2025/2026 was presented.

The Leader presented his Annual Report for 2025/2026 and noted that it is an important and exciting year for realising potential and new economic opportunities on the Island with the announcement in November when it was announced that the Wylfa site would be the first site to welcome small modular reactors within the British Isles. He noted that this is a result of cross-party lobbying by the Members of Parliament and Senedd Members and Members of this Authority. Work has now been undertaken to ensure that the benefits of the intended development will reach the people of Anglesey, and it is important that skills pathways are created for employment opportunities. He said that it was a pleasure to sign a formal agreement of collaboration with Great British Energy Nuclear last month. In March, an important milestone was reached in realising the Freeport developments by signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Welsh and UK Governments to release initial funding of £25m, allowing the Freeport to move forward to be completely operational by the Spring 2026. The Council and other partners can accelerate plans that strengthen the Island's role in areas such as energy, manufacturing and trade and promote long-term prosperity on Anglesey and North Wales. The Leader said that he wished to thank the Economic Development staff for their work in securing a £10.4m investment through the North Wales Economic Ambition Board to support long-term economic growth in the Amlwch area by renovating the former Marine Terminal Building at Porth Amlwch and building 10 business units in the Amlwch Industrial Estate. Ensuring that the economy is thriving and providing high standards of employment opportunities is imperative to support local businesses to take advantage of opportunities and to enable young people to stay on the Island.

The Leader further referred that he welcomed the findings of the recent inspection by Care Inspectorate Wales within the Social Services Department. During their

visit in January 2026, they reviewed the Children and Families Services and its conclusion was that children and families are supported well by a caring, skilled and committed team and that there were many examples of good practice. The Anglesey Fostering Service was also inspected, with Inspectors highlighting that the children in care have stability and receive support to build positive relationships with Foster Carers, together with praising the Trauma Informed training, constant supervision and support networks that Foster Carers receive. The Leader wished to thank the Foster Carers for their work in caring for the children and young people on Anglesey.

The Leader referred to several Awards received by the Council as is noted within the report. He referred to the commitment and hard work by the staff of the Council for the benefit of the residents of Anglesey.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones thanked the Leader for his report and referred that there are still employees employed at the Wylfa site and other decommissioning sites across the UK. He referred to the investment in the North of Anglesey and noted that it needs to be recognised the support of the NDA to these projects. The Leader said that he accepted that the NDA is a key partner in the north of the Island and across Anglesey and was aware that there are a number of employees still employed on the Wylfa site.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones further raised that children seemed to be having their requests refused for registration to their preferred schools and he has raised a specific case within his Ward. He noted that the school and Governors are willing to accept additional pupils to the school. He further said that the cost-of-living crisis increases the pressure on parents having to travel further in taking their children to school. The Portfolio Holder for Education and the Welsh Language responded that each individual schools have an 'intake number' of pupils. He noted that there is a process of appeal available to parents if they objected any decision. Councillor Aled Morris Jones responded that there is no right of appeal for nursery admissions. The Chief Executive said that there are regulations that the Education Authority must adhere to and a decision will be made in due course as to the specific case the Member has raised. The Leader said that he shared the frustration of parents as regards to 'intake number' into schools and lobbying has been made with Welsh Government to review the current policies.

7. VISITOR LEVY CONSULTATION

The Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer advised that if any Member has a personal interest in this item, they need to declare such interest as the matter before the Council is to decide whether the Authority decides to undertake a public consultation on the introduction of a visitor levy on Anglesey. If the Council decides to undertake a public consultation process and the feedback from such a consultation is reported back to the Council for final decision, the personal interest will evolve to a prejudicial interest. She further said that if any Member considers that they have a personal interest they should contact the Legal Department to make a request to the Standards Committee for dispensation which could result in enabling Members to be able to take part in discussions.

The Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer advised that Members should not pre-empt their comments on the visitor levy at this Committee as the item before the Council is only to consider whether a public consultation process is to be undertaken by this Authority.

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development was presented for the Council's consideration.

The Portfolio Member for Leisure, Tourism, Maritime and Property, Councillor Alun Roberts said that he would not be presenting the item as Portfolio as he will be declaring a personal interest as a close member of his family is employed in the tourism sector and he would not take part in the discussion on the item and would be abstaining from voting. He said that the Leader will be presenting the item to the Council.

Councillors Celfyn Furlong, Douglas Fowlie and Derek Owen declared a personal interest in this item. Mr Arwel Owen, Head of Adults' Services declared a personal interest in this item.

The Leader said the report presented before the Council is decide whether to conduct a public consultation process as regards to the introduction of a visitor levy for people staying in visitor accommodation in Wales. He noted that the aim of such consultation is to invite views on the potential levy from residents, local businesses, visitors and partner organisations. It will aim to gain a greater understanding of local opinion, potential impacts and any concerns before any future decision is considered. He said that he has several discussions within the tourism sector and other businesses on the effect of a visitor levy. The Leader further said that neighbouring Gwynedd County Council and Conwy County Borough Council intends to undertake a consultation process and Anglesey considers it sensible to collaborate with both Councils on the approach and timetable, though each Council would run its own consultation independently.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones ascertained as to the responses from the tourism industry to Welsh Government, and whether the consultation process was necessary and the costs associated. He noted that if the levy is introduced it will be a burden on businesses to administer. The Portfolio Member for Finance, Council Business and Customer Experience said that public consultation process are mainly an 'on-line' process with limited costs associated.

Members of the ruling group considered that the residents and businesses on the Island have a right to express their opinion on the visitor levy.

Councillor Kenneth P Hughes said that he did not object to the consultation process and noted that it is important to listen to the opinion of the residents of Anglesey.

Councillor Glyn Haynes said that he supported the consultation process on the visitor levy but information as to how the money collected is to be used should be part of the consultation.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones questioned whether the inclusion of the intended use of the levy would prejudice the consultation process. The Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer responded that if the Council decides to undertake a consultation process and thereafter concludes that a visitor levy be introduced, statutory measures will limit the use of the money collected from the levy. The consultation process will note how the Council may spend the levy collected but would not refer to specific projects

The Chief Executive referred to Appendix A of the report which refers to the 'Visitor Accommodation Consultation Expectations' which refers as to how the levy may be invested and it is a requirement, as part of the consultation, to allow people to make an informed decision and to contribute effectively from a business perspective, residents and local communities.

Following the vote of 27 in favour, 3 against and 1 abstaining.

It was RESOLVED that a public consultation process be undertaken regarding the potential introduction of a visitor levy on Anglesey (in line with Council and Welsh Government guidelines).

8. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

It was RESOLVED that Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas be unanimously elected as Chairperson of the Isle of Anglesey County Council for 2026/2027.

In accepting the honour of being appointed, Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas assured the Council that she would endeavour to fulfil his duties as Chairperson to the best of his abilities. He thanked his predecessor Councillor Non Dafydd on the dignified and honourable way in which she carried out his duties as Chair of the County Council and presented her with a gift to acknowledge her service.

The outgoing Chairperson, Councillor Non Dafydd thanked the Elected Members and Officers for their support. She referred to the numerous events that she attended and the honour of representing the County Council in these events. Councillor Non Dafydd referred to the personal challenge she set herself as Chair to walk 130 miles around the Island over a period to a few weeks and she thank the Members and those who supported her during her challenge and the generous contribution towards her chosen charity, Rasasc North Wales. Rasasc is supporting men, women and children who have experience violence. She further referred to the Chair's Sunday Service at Llanbadrig Church on the 15th March, 2025. She wished to thank the staff of Democratic Services for their support during her term as Chair of the Isle of Anglesey County Council.

9. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

It was RESOLVED that Councillor Jackie Lewis be unanimously elected as Vice-Chairperson of the Isle of Anglesey County Council for 2026/2027.

10. MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE

In accordance with Paragraph 4.1.1.2.7 of the Constitution, the Leader named the following as the Members he had chosen to serve on the Executive along with their Portfolio responsibilities :-

Councillor Gary Pritchard (Leader) with Portfolio responsibility for Economic Development;

Councillor Robin Williams (Deputy Leader) with Portfolio responsibility for Finance, Council Business and Customer Experience;

Councillor Neville Evans with Portfolio responsibility for Adults' Services;

Councillor Carwyn Jones with Portfolio responsibility for Housing and Community Safety;

Councillor Dyfed Wyn Jones with Portfolio responsibility for Children, Young People and Families;

Councillor Alun Roberts with Portfolio responsibility for Leisure, Tourism, Maritime and Property;

Councillor Dafydd Roberts with Portfolio responsibility for Education and the Welsh Language;

Councillor Nicola Roberts with Portfolio responsibility for Planning and Public Protection;

Councillor Ieuan Williams with Portfolio responsibility for Highways, Waste and Climate Change.

11. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

In accordance with Part 3.4.12.3 of the Constitution it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Keith Roberts be elected Chairperson of the Democratic Services Committee.

12. CONFIRMATION OF THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION

In accordance with Part 3.2 of the Constitution, it was **RESOLVED** to confirm such part of the Scheme of Delegation as the Constitution determines it is for the Council to agree.

13. CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEES

It was **RESOLVED** to re-appoint the Committee structure as referred to in Section 3.4 of the Council's Constitution, together with the following:-

- **Standards Committee Appointments Panel;**
- **Standing Advisory Committee (SAC);**
- **Indemnities Sub-Committee.**

14. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR 2026/27

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following programme of ordinary meetings of the County Council for the ensuing year :-

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| • 24 September, 2026 | - | 1.00 pm |
| • 8 December, 2026 | - | 1.00 pm |
| • 4 March, 2027 | - | 1.00 pm |
| • May 2027 (Annual Meeting) | - | date to be confirmed |

15. POLITICAL BALANCE OF COMMITTEES

The report of the Head of Democracy regarding the Council's political balance arrangements were presented for consideration.

It was **RESOLVED** :-

- To confirm the political balance arrangements and the number of seats allocated to each of the Groups under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;
- That Group Leaders advise the Head of Democracy as soon as possible if there are any changes to Group Membership on Committees.

16. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The report of the Head of Democracy regarding the appointment to Outside Bodies was presented for consideration.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree and confirm appointments as detailed in the schedule to the report.

17. DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION CYMRU – ANNUAL REMUNERATION REPORT 2026-27

The report of the Head of Democracy regarding the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Annual Report for 2026/2027 was presented for consideration.

It was **RESOLVED**:-

- To accept the determinations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales for 2026-2027 ;
- To confirm that holders of the same posts as 2025-2026 will be entitled to receive senior salaries in 2026-2027- 2026, namely:-

Chair of the Council;
Vice-Chair of the Council;
Leader of the Council;
Deputy Leader of the Council;
Other Executive Members (7);
Leader of the Largest Opposition Group;

**Chairs of Scrutiny Committees (2);
Chair of the Planning and Orders Committee**

- **To authorise Officers to amend Part 6 of the Council's Constitution (Schedule of Member Remuneration) to reflect the determinations made in the Annual Report for 2026/2027.**

**COUNCILLOR NON DAFYDD
(FOR ITEMS 1 TO 7)**

**COUNCILLOR DAFYDD RHYS THOMAS
(FOR ITEMS 8 TO 17)**