



# Complete Agenda

Democratic Service  
Swyddfa'r Cyngor  
CAERNARFON  
Gwynedd  
LL55 1SH



Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.

This document is also available in Welsh.

Meeting

**CAMBRIAN COAST RAILWAY LIAISON COMMITTEE**

Date and Time

**10.30 am, FRIDAY, 22ND MAY, 2026**

Location

**Virtual Meeting**

**\*For public access please contact us**

Contact Point

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(DISTRIBUTED 15/05/26)

# CAMBRIAN COAST RAILWAY LIAISON COMMITTEE

## MEMBERSHIP

Cyngor Gwynedd

Councillors:

Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn

Louise Hughes

Elin Hywel

Anne Lloyd Jones

Eryl Jones-Williams

Gwilym Jones

Dewi Owen

Gwynfor Owen

Richard Glyn Roberts

Vacant Seat – Plaid Cymru

Craig ab Iago – Cabinet Member for Environment

Ceredigion County Council

Awaiting Nomination

Powys County Council

Councillor Alwyn Evans

Co-opted Members:

Aled Williams

Aled Jones-Griffith

Ann Elias

Tom Lewis

Stephen Greig

Councillor Meryl Roberts

Councillor Alun Wyn Evans

Vacant Seat

Councillor Trevor Roberts

David Crunkhorn

David Thorp

Delwyn Evans

Liz Saville Roberts

Mabon ap Gwynfor

To be confirmed

Bill Redfern

Lorraine Simkiss

Ysgol Ardudwy

Coleg Meirion Dwyfor – Grwp Llandrillo Menai

Ceredigion County Council - CCC

Mid Wales Regional Transport Manager - CCC

Ffestiniog Railway

Snowdonia National Park Authority

Meirionnydd Representative of One Voice Wales

Dwyfor Representative of One Voice Wales

Shrewsbury/Aberystwyth Railway Committee

Arriva Trains Wales

Ysgol Uwchradd Tywyn

Meirionnydd Access Group

Member of Parliament Dwyfor Meirionnydd

Member of Senedd Dwyfor Meirionnydd

Member of Senedd Mid and West Wales

Shrewsbury-Aberystwyth Passenger Association

Talyllyn Railway

Other Members:

TBC

James Nicholas

Rhian Williams

Tomos Davies

Deb Justice

Network Rail

Transport for Wales

Integrated Transport Manager and Road Safety Cyngor Gwynedd C

British Transport Police

Development Officer - Community Rail Cambrian Line CRP

# **A G E N D A**

## **1. ELECT CHAIR**

To elect Chair for 2026/27

## **2. ELECT VICE CHAIR**

Elect Vice Chair for 2026/27

## **3. APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence

## **4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

To receive any declaration of personal interest

## **5. URGENT MATTERS**

To consider any business which the Chairman decides is urgent.

## **6. MINUTES**

4 - 8

The Chairman shall propose that the minutes of the previous meeting of this committee, held on the 21st of November 2025 be signed as a true record.

## **7. TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM SERVICES**

To receive an update from representatives.

- Network Rail
- Transport for Wales
- British Transport Police
- Other

## **8. FORMAL QUESTIONS**

9 - 10

To receive responses to the questions received

## CAMBRIAN COAST RAILWAY LIAISON COMMITTEE

21 November 2025

### Virtual Meeting

#### Present:

Cllr Dewi Owen (Cyngor Gwynedd),  
Cllr Anne Lloyd Jones (Cyngor Gwynedd)  
Cllr Eryl Jones-Williams (Cyngor Gwynedd)  
Cllr Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn (Cyngor Gwynedd)  
Cllr Gwilym Jones (Cyngor Gwynedd)  
Cllr Louise Hughes (Cyngor Gwynedd),  
Cllr Meryl Roberts (Eryri National Park Authority)  
Bill Redfern (Shrewsbury - Aberystwyth Rail Passengers' Association)  
Lorraine Simkiss (Talyllyn Railway)  
Linda Taylor (Ffestiniog Railway)  
Liz Saville Roberts (MP Dwyfor Meirionnydd),  
Ffion Williams (Office of Liz Saville Roberts – UK Government)  
Llio Hughes (Plaid Cymru Office - Dwyfor Meirionnydd)  
James Nicholas (Transport for Wales)  
Lowri Haf Evans (Democracy Services Officer, Cyngor Gwynedd)

#### 1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

It was proposed and seconded to elect Cllr Dewi Owen as Chair.

**RESOLVED to re-elect Cllr Dewi Owen as Chair of this Committee for the year 2025/26**

#### 2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

It was proposed and seconded to elect Cllr Gwynfor Owen as Vice-chair.

**RESOLVED to re-elect Cllr Gwynfor Owen as Vice-chair of this Committee for the year 2025/26**

#### 3. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Cllr Craig ab Iago (Cyngor Gwynedd - Cabinet Member for Environment), Cllr Gwynfor Owen (Cyngor Gwynedd), Cllr Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn (Cyngor Gwynedd), Cllr Richard Glyn Roberts (Gwynedd), Cllr Alwyn Evans (Cyngor Sir Powys), Cllr Trevor Roberts (Shrewsbury / Aberystwyth Railway Committee), Mabon ap Gwynfor (Senedd Member for Dwyfor Meirionnydd), Joyce Watson (Senedd Member for Mid and West Wales), Gwyn Rees (Network Rail) and Robert John Jones (Cyngor Gwynedd - Education Transport Manager)

Condolences were expressed to Cllr Anne Lloyd Jones who had recently lost her sister.

#### **4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

No declarations of personal interest were received from any members present.

#### **5. URGENT ITEMS**

None to note,

#### **6. MINUTES**

The Chair accepted the minutes of the previous meeting of this committee held on 28th March 2025 as a true record.

#### **7. UPDATE FROM THE SERVICES**

##### **Transport for Wales (TfW)**

James Nicholas was welcomed to the meeting; he worked as a Business Support Partner for Transport for Wales.

It was reported that the performance of the service had been good over the last period with the number of cancelled trains at 0.7% of all services along the Cambrian. He reiterated that this was seen as a solid service and an improvement in the performance of trains on time. He noted that performance is measured by a 3-minute rule from arrival at the station and expressed that the percentage of 75% above the Welsh target of 72% is acceptable given the number of trains running.

In the context of the Cambrian Railway's Winter timetable, it was expressed that Transport for Wales had decided to continue the service of the last train and that this was encouraging news. He highlighted that Transport for Wales will keep an eye on user numbers and encouraged everyone to promote usage.

It was expressed that safety tests on the fleet of the new Class 197 trains had been implemented and it was hoped that the new trains would come into service in September 2026, following the completion of platform improvements at some stations. He added that further test journeys would be conducted in January 2026 and training for drivers and conductors in the new year.

An update was given that Network Rail had procured a new Maintenance Delivery Unit to replace several unsuitable facilities at the Machynlleth depot. The site will be a modern, safe and efficient workplace that will be able to fully support services across the region.

It was pointed out that defence works will be completed during May 2026 which is likely to cause some disruption to services: The dates in mind were 13-17 May between Machynlleth and Pwllheli and 17 – 23 May between Dyfi Junction and Aberystwyth. It was reiterated that

preparatory work was being carried out for the installation of toilet waste disposal (CET) tanks from the new trains.

James was thanked for the update.

Comments and matters arising from the ensuing discussion:

- It was welcomed that the last train service would be retained – this was a major boost to the local economy. Everyone was thanked for the positive campaign.
- There was concern about the publicity of the Cambrian Railway – there was a need to operate regular marketing campaigns to encourage use. That clear messages need to be shared that the evening service would continue.
- A request was made for a special meeting to be arranged to discuss the implications of the Talerddig accident on 21 October 2024. Although an interim report had been published in April 2025, a final report was expected to confirm the conclusions and recommendations.
- Concern that a vulnerable section of the railway near the Dyfi Junction was vulnerable to flooding which could be prevented if Natural Resources Wales took action. Was this a long-term plan to sacrifice the railway? More information was required.
- The lack of opening up ditches near the railway, created flooding.
- Request for information regarding user numbers. Has the service returned to pre-covid figures?
- That good use was made of the train and the introduction of four-carriage trains in the summer would continue. Standing during a journey should not be an option.
- Request for information about the locations of the Harrington Humps.
- Illegal use of the crossing at Penrhyndeudraeth – update needed from British Transport Police.
- That the service was very good, the staff were friendly and willing to help. The experience of travelling by train was positive.

In response to the disappointment that the Class 197 fleet was not being introduced in May 2026, it was noted that this was due to the need to conduct test journeys and training prior to rolling-out the entire fleet on the railway. It was decided to avoid the busy summer months.

In response to a comment that trains had been cancelled during Storm Claudia due to flooding, although the water did not appear to be high, and therefore the water level which leads to an impact assessment prior to train cancellations, it was noted that the decisions were not made lightly. It was reported that decisions relating to extreme weather were being made in conjunction with information from the Met Office and plans being implemented based on the needs and safety of passengers. He highlighted that decisions must be made in advance so that alternative modes can be arranged, but every attempt was being made to avoid no travel. He added that the information that led to decisions made during the storm could be shared.

In response to a suggestion that there was a need to increase the use of freight trains, which will consequently generate income and reduce freight lorries causing damage to bridges e.g. the Dolgoch Bridge, which was causing significant delays for rail passengers, it was noted

that Network Rail was responsible for freight route arrangements and was not aware of any intention to suspend the service. In terms of increasing the service, it was noted that the railway was currently at full capacity, and therefore it would be difficult to run more freight trains unless there was significant expenditure to create passing loops; it would also be difficult to run more on the evening service as Network Rail was carrying out maintenance during this period.

In response to a question as to whether there were plans to run a steam train trip from Machynlleth to Pwllheli which was a good attraction for visitors and rail users, it was noted that due to the full use of the railway, it would be difficult to run a steam train without an impact on the daily service. However, the comment was accepted, and a promise was made to look into this and share information with the Committee.

### **Network Rail**

Disappointment was expressed that a representative from Network Rail was not present at the meeting to provide an update, but their willingness to receive comments/feedback about the service was noted.

### **British Transport Police**

There was no representative from the British Transport Police present at the meeting to give an update.

## **8. FORMAL QUESTIONS**

Questions were received from Cricieth Community Council, Pwllheli Town Council and Porthmadog Town Council.

The Transport for Wales Officer stated that he would be responding directly to the Local Councils, but the following issues were broadly addressed:

- Location of a Historic Tram at Pwllheli Station – construction work had been carried out on the previous site and at present no suitable site had been identified.
- Painting Cricieth Station - painting the station was the responsibility of the building owners. They should be contacted first to see what is possible.
- Welsh-language announcements between Porthmadog and Shrewsbury - that there are bilingual announcements on the trains, although there may be a technical problem on the day in question. Certainly, it was agreed that consistency was needed.

Other questions raised at the meeting:

Dyfi Junction:

- The noticeboard is not visible/conspicuous from one platform to the next
- That the shelter and the width of the platform need to be looked at
- That the Derwen las road down to the station was in poor condition

Next meeting to be held March 2026.

Questionnaire about time/date to be circulated to Members/Officers.

The meeting commenced at 10:30 and concluded at 11:35

**CHAIR**

**PWYLLGOR CYSWLLT RHEILFFORDD ARFORDIR Y CAMBRIAN**  
**22 Mai 2026**

**CAMBRIAN COAST RAILWAY LIAISON COMMITTEE**  
**22 May 2026**

<b>Cwestiwn i TRAFNIDIAETH CYMRU / Question for TRANSPORT FOR WALES</b>	
<b>Mae Cyngor Tref Criccieth yn holi am ddyddiad ar gyfer gwasanaeth gan y trenau newydd.</b>	
Criccieth Town Council is asking about a date for the new train service	
<b>Cwestiwn i NETWORK RAIL/ Question for NETWORK RAIL</b>	
<b>Cwestiwn i'r PWYLLGOR / Question for COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>Cwestiwn i UNED CLUDIANT CYNGOR GWYNEDD / Question for TRANSPORT UNIT CYNGOR GWYNEDD</b>	
<b>Cwestiwn i HEDDLU TRAFNIDIAETH PRYDEINIG / Question for BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE</b>	
<b>Oddiwrth / From: Cyngor Tref Criccieth</b>	
<b>I'w dychwelyd at To be returned to:</b>	Lowri Haf Evans Gwasanaethau Democratiaeth / Democratic Services Cyngor Gwynedd / Gwynedd Council Stryd y Jel, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1SH 01286 679 878 <a href="mailto:lowrihafevans@gwynedd.llyw.cymru">lowrihafevans@gwynedd.llyw.cymru</a>
<b>Erbyn / By:</b>	<b>7fed o Fai / May 7th 2026</b>

Mae'r panel llwybrau yn edrych yn dda iawn.

Mae'r amserlen newydd wedi cael ei chyhoeddi, yn weithredol o 16 Mai. Ar gyfer y llinell arfordirol dim ond trenau hyd at Fachynlleth y mae'n eu dangos. Rwyf wedi cael sicrwydd gan TrC y bydd trenau trwodd yn parhau i Birmingham International ond rwy'n credu ei bod hi'n werth codi'r mater yn y cyfarfod a gofyn a allai'r amserlen ddangos y trenau trwodd i ac o Birmingham gan nad yw pob trê'n yn dod i fyny'r arfordir. Fe wnaethon ni ddal y trê'n yr wythnos diwethaf a dim ond hyd at Fach yr aeth - roedd yn rhaid i ni fynd ar y trê'n o Aberystwyth. Roedd ein trê'n ni eisoes yn llawn dop a dim ond lle i sefyll oedd yno o Fachynlleth! (mewn gwirionedd fe wnaethon ni newid yng Nghyffordd Dyfi felly llwyddon ni i gael sedd!)

Mae'n werth sôn unwaith eto y gall ein platfform wneud gyda rhywfaint o ofal - yn ddelfrydol estyniad platfform ond mae hynny yn annhebygol

Llwybr mynediad i'r orsaf - mae wedi'i wneud mewn manau eraill.

The routes panel looks very good.

The new timetable has just been published (effective from 16<sup>th</sup> May.) For the coast line it only shows trains as far as Machynlleth. I have been assured by TfW that through trains will continue to Birmingham International but I think it's worth raising at the meeting and ask whether the timetable could show the through trains to and from Birmingham as not all trains come up the coast. We caught the train last week and it only went as far as Mach - we had to get on the train from Aberystwyth. Ours was already packed and it was standing room only from Machynlleth (actually we changed at Dyfi Junction so managed to get a seat!)

Worth mentioning yet again that our platform could do with some TLC - ideally a platform extension but I guess that's unlikely!

Access path to the station - it's been done elsewhere.