

CWMDU AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMDU A'R CYLCH

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The following are the minutes of a meeting of the Community Council, held on 1st May 2025 7pm at Bwlch Village Hall.

Attendance: Cllr P Silk, Cllr M Pearce (Vice-Chair), Cllr W Forster, Cllr M Calvin, Cllr Les Doggett, Cllr H Williams

County Councillor Sian Cox, County Councillor C Masefield | Clerk/RFO Kay Bailey

Public Participation: None

14/25	Apologies for absence: Cllr S Clay, Cllr J Williams
15/25	Members' declarations of Interest: Cllr M Calvin any item concerning Tretower Village Hall Cllr P Silk - planning item Pen-Y-Gaer Farm , Cwm-Du, Crickhowell NP8 1SB - 25/23663/FUL if discussed at this meeting.
16/25	Minutes to approve from the previous ordinary meeting of the Full Council and any matters arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed: P Silk Seconded: M Calvin Resolved: that the minutes are a true and accurate record <p>12/25 - Cllr M Pearce requested that the BMCE committee/group be contacted in relation to their minutes from February 2025. The minutes held a statement regarding Councillor support for the Energy project, but it was not possible for this support to be forthcoming at this time. The committee has not presented its conclusions or project to the Council and individual Cllrs are not able to speak on behalf of Councils. Cllr M Calvin will contact the group to request that they revisit the minutes to avoid misunderstandings.</p> <p>County Councillor Sian Cox confirmed that footfall data from the recycling centre (Powys no longer calls it a "tip") would be available after the site had been open for 6 months.</p>
17/25	Standing Item: Governance One Voice Wales - governance toolkit - Clerk & Cllr J Williams <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training Matrix - these forms were given to Councillors, please return to the Clerk once completed. <p>Training Plan report - sent to all for comment. Cllr M Calvin confirmed that he had attended two courses from One Voice Wales, and will be requesting to attend another three over the next few months.</p>

Motion: that a working group be established to review the Council's current s6 policy and to discuss ways in which this could be enhanced to align it more closely to The Environment Act Wales 2016 (Cllr M Calvin)

Proposed: Cllr P Silk **Seconded:** Cllr M Calvin **Resolved:** that the Council will create a working group to review the Section 6 document.

Cllr M Calvin will lead, with Cllrs S Clay, Will Forster joining him.

- Reports: Social Media and Website

Working group meeting - update from the Councillors after meeting with Aubergine on the 23rd April.

Cllr W Forster gave an update on the website face to face provider meeting with Aubergine on the 23rd April, he stated that those in attendance were satisfied with the quotation provided and the services on offer. It was **proposed** that the Council accept the quotation by Cllr W Forster and **seconded** by Cllr M Calvin. **Resolved:** that the council accept the quotation and the Clerk make arrangements for the new website.

Casual Vacancy Notice and Co-option: no update at the time of this agenda

Working group for Policy Reviews/Risk Assessment - working group met in March (Cllr P Silk/ Clerk) Cllr P Silk stated that he and the Clerk had reviewed the risk assessment and the Clerk confirmed that this will be presented at the Annual Meeting. Other documents have been passed to Councillors including the Financial Regulations to Cllr Forster and the Section 6 Biodiversity report to Cllr M Calvin. All other documents are updated and ready for review at the Annual Meeting.

18/25	<p>Standing Item: County Councillors Report (for information only)</p> <p>County Councillor Sian Cox had sent a report to all Councillors that included the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 MPH default speed limit review update • Reducing speeds on roads subject only to the national speed limit • Bwlch litter picking group update • Rogue gardener alert • Post-16 education review • Growing Mid Wales partnership newsletter • First Board of the Marches Forward Partnership • Powys Teaching Health Board 'Better Together' programme consultation • Sustainable Powys town and community council engagement • Contacting the county council <p>Councillors discussed when the 30/40mph roads will be able to be reviewed, a sign is needed on the A470 regardless of any reduction in the future. Cllr S Cox informed the Council that Speedwatch training is currently under review, but had no update regarding the outstanding report from Welsh Government in relation to speed setting.</p> <p>Cllr J Jones stated that the Health Board's communications were important to engage with, it is the type of subject and issue that Town and Community Council's are best placed to respond to. He supported a campaign to re-open Neville Hall and felt that the current situation with patients travelling to The Grange was untenable. Councillors suggested that a letter could be drafted and that it should be sent to all surrounding Councils for support.</p> <p>County Councillor S Cox reminded the Council of the next meeting of sustainable powys in Brecon on the 15th May.</p> <p>Councillors also stated that they would reach out to the community in relation to the potential closure of Crickhowell 6th Form. County Councillor Chloe Masefield stated that she and Cllr Hall will be supporting Crickhowell's retention. She also gave further information regarding the "anti-poverty" fund that is available to projects in the area via the County Councillors.s</p>
19/25	<p>Standing Item: Place Plan/Community Plan</p> <p>Updates from Councillors</p> <p>Invite has been sent to BBNPA - awaiting new contact, no further information received from BBNPA.</p> <p>Playing Field - Cllr W Forster confirmed no further update at this time, the camping site are researching funding options.</p>
20/25	<p>Standing item Vedw Wood Charity (Clerk): No further updates - however the issues surrounding no response from the CSEG were highlighted. It was Cllr M Calvin commented that Vedw Wood would be a good candidate for a project that could be included within the Council's Section 6 Biodiversity report. Questions were asked in relation to the insurance the Council holds in relation to the wooded area, and the Clerk was requested to send CSEG an email to state that the lack of contact would mean that the contract was no longer being honoured.</p>

	Further investigation by Cllr M Calvin and Cllr P Silk would be undertaken in relation to other bodies, such as the Woodland Trust, or Llangattock Green Valleys interest in the area.																								
21/25	<p>Standing Item: Planning applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">25/23686/LBC Internal and External works to facilitate the change of use of existing Chapel into Holiday Let. Penuel Chapel Cwm-Du Crickhowell NP8 1RT <p>Objection to be sent in relation to previous and current application and previous changes to the building.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">25/23685/FUL - “Change of use of existing Chapel into Holiday Let.” Penuel Chapel Cwm-Du Crickhowell NP8 1RT <p>As above</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">25/23501/CON Proposal: “Conversion of the adjoining stone barn to create ancillary accommodation for the farmhouse. - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to application 23/21687/FUL to Replace Drawing Number '143-GA-01 Rev A' with '143-GA-01 Existing and Proposed Plans and Elevations'.” Address: Cilhelig Farm , Cwm-Du, Crickhowell NP8 1RU <p>No objection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">25/23687/FUL Removal of an 8.5m section of hedge and bank in order to create a single hard-standing parking space. Erection of 1.6m high retaining wall with fen... Land Next To Llyssderi Tregraig Road Bwlch Brecon Powys LD3 7SJ <p>No objection as long as the BBNPA’s biodiversity officer was content</p> <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nant Helyg - currently no further action taken after the previous meeting. <p>No further comment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tretower Court and Castle - CADW - no further action taken after the previous meeting. <p>No further update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Glanpant Farm - an update has been received from the BBNPA and circulated to Councillors. <p>It was noted that the BBNPA response gives a timescale for attending the site. The Council will now await further comment.</p>																								
22/25	<p>Standing Item: Finance Report (Responsible Finance Officer):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Motion: Reconciliation to be accepted by full councilMotion: To note payments already made and payments due in March/April: <p>Proposed: Cllr P Silk Seconded: W Forster Resolved: the reconciliation was accepted and payments were noted and approved.</p> <p>Statement of Accounts report</p> <p>Invoices/up-coming payments:</p> <table><tr><th>Voucher No</th><th>Date</th><th>Type</th><th>Name</th><th>Budget</th><th>Nett</th><th>Vat</th><th>Gross</th></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>03/04/25</td><td>001157</td><td>Dial a Ride</td><td>Grants</td><td>200.00</td><td>0</td><td>200.00</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>02/04/25</td><td>001158</td><td>Powys CC</td><td>Rent</td><td>266.00</td><td>0</td><td>266.00</td></tr></table>	Voucher No	Date	Type	Name	Budget	Nett	Vat	Gross	3	03/04/25	001157	Dial a Ride	Grants	200.00	0	200.00	4	02/04/25	001158	Powys CC	Rent	266.00	0	266.00
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	5	02/04/25	001159	Powys CC	Rent	66.00	0	66.00
	6	28/05/25	001160	Kay Bailey	Clerk	507.00	0	507.00
	7	28/05/25	001161	HMRC	PAYE	159.09	0	159.09
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online bank access/banking matters (JW/RFO) - In the absence of Cllr Williams the Clerk/RFO updated the Council that the application is just awaiting confirmation from Natwest on the BACS status and will then proceed. BASIC tools software issue (RFO) - The Clerk/RFO explained that the issue had not yet been resolved and she is still working with online services. Audit paperwork has been received - Cwmdru are on the FULL audit cycle (RFO) - this was noted and the Clerk/RFO confirmed she had started gathering the information. <p>Motion: To accept the AGAR, instruct the Chair to sign and send to the internal auditor Proposed: Cllr L Doggett Seconded: Cllr P Silk Resolved: the Council requested that the Chair sign the AGAR and the RFO/Clerk send to the internal auditor and place up the Electors Audit Notice within the timeframes</p> <p>The full audit paperwork has been started by the RFO and will be brought to Council for sign off in June 2025 along with any recommendations/response from the internal auditor.</p>							
23/25	<p>Standing Item: Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tremynfa Road Bench - reported to the police (Clerk/Cllr H Jackson) A new bench quote has been received for £450 + VAT £540 plus £35 + VAT delivery. The original installer has been contacted for a new quote PSCO Lee Garrett has been in contact with the Clerk and is still investigating The insurance company has been contacted, the Clerk has emailed Councillors with details of the excess and the process involved. Residents have been in contact with Cllr H Jackson in relation to donating towards the cost of replacement. <p>Cllr H Jackson is chasing the installation quotation.</p> <p>Motion: the request that the Clerk move forward with the claim once the installation quotation has been received. Proposed: Cllr M Calvin Seconded: H Jackson</p> <p>Further questions were raised in relation to if the bench could be a memorial bench and donations/payment received for this.</p>							
24/25	<p>Standing Item: Speeding & other Village Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> U0503 verge Cwmdru - Powys Highways bollards - Powys County Council have confirmed that the land is unregistered. <p>Powys Helpdesk has been contacted in relation to the land by the Clerk as requested. The Council requested that the Clerk monitor the date this was sent to Powys County Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed gun/speedwatch/speeding issues 							

	<p>Llangynidr Community Council confirmed that it had used a company called TWM Traffic Control Systems Ltd and purchased the following:</p> <p>The mini matrix signs purchased are approx £5000 each (plus vat).</p> <p>Quote from Powys Highways for 4 VSI Ground Sockets and posts (as the signs will be moveable to different locations in the village) - £4264.20 (plus vat)</p> <p>The Council noted the costs involved. Cllr H Jackson raised the point that Bwlch Village needs enforcement signs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenman <p>The Clerk had requested that the Greenman team send passes to the residents of Cwmdy & District Community Council using the royal mail.</p> <p>There has been no response to this request.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding Storm Bert - report back from Cllr M Calvin in relation to NRW meeting & responses from Glanusk/Powys in relation to the culverts (if available) <p>Powys contacted about culverts - they have replied with a work ticket to wash out the culvert. Glanusk to be contacted again in relation to the position of the other issue once the location is confirmed.</p> <p>Cllr M Calvin reminded Councillors that there is literature available from NRW for residents/visitors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a public footpath that crosses the a479 about 200 yards from the junction with the a40 at Nant y Ffyn. The path crosses the 479 on the crown of a blind bend, but motorists are given no warning of the possibility that pedestrians might be crossing. It could benefit from a warning sign. Motion: Can this Council write to Powys County Council to request the provision on a sign. <p>Proposed: Cllr M Calvin Seconded: Cllr L Doggett Resolved: for the Clerk to write to Powys County Council in relation to the provision of a sign and copy in County Councillor C Masefield</p>
25/25	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>Outside body reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hinterland Group - ongoing discussions in relation to the set up of this group Five Councils - any further updates from the meeting on the 13th February <p>The Clerk stated that she would check with the other Council's but that the next meeting could well be Cwmdy's. There is not a set diary for this group to meet, it was suggested that a date after the Full Audit has been completed could be considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Transport Group - any update from Councillor M Calvin <p>Cllr M Calvin confirmed that the group are in talks with Dial a Ride in relation to a contract to allow for a bus to be used to research the level of interest in the route around the six councils that were involved in the original feasibility study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LGV Five Councils Energy Group - any update from Councillor M Calvin <p>This item will now be referred to as the BMCE Group (LGV) for correctness. There were no further updates from this group.</p> <p>Update: The potential community use of Bwlch Church (Cllr J Williams)</p>
26/25	<p>Date of next committee meeting 5th June 2025 - noted</p>

