

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 3rd July 2025 7pm at Tretower Village Hall.

Attendance: Cllr M Pearce (Chair), Cllr J Williams (Vice-Chair),

Public Participation:

14/25	Apologies for absence: Cllr J Jones, Cllr P Silk
15/25	Members' declarations of Interest: Cllr J Williams stated he felt an interest in the Post 16 Education item was declarable.
16/25	<p>Minutes to approve from the previous ordinary meeting of the Full Council and any matters arising:</p> <p>May 1st Ordinary Meeting Proposed: Cllr W Forster and seconded by Cllr M Calvin it was resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record</p> <p>The annual meeting minutes will be presented at the September meeting for approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post 16 Education - consultation Powys County Council and community representation - 30th June report. <p>Cllr W Forster reported that the meeting was well presented and effective with knowledgeable speakers. County Councillor Chloe Masefiled stated that the overwhelming push from those present was a "call to arms" if the community wished to continue to have a 6th form at Crickhowell High School. Cllr M Pearce confirmed that social media for the surrounding villages had been utilised to communicate the situation to residents and there had been interest shown. Cllr C Masefiled confirmed that there were three options being presented and an official engagement process underway, however general knowledge regarding lobbying campaigns would suggest that making early representations is effective. After some discussion, Cllr M Pearce suggested that the Council respond with the following statement:</p> <p>"Following communications with residents, this Council would like to support retaining the current 6th Form in Crickhowell. The school remains very successful and well supported as shown in the recent public meeting, reported league tables and public numbers. This Council looks forward to the engagement process in the Autumn to respond further"</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr W Forster Seconded: Cllr S Clay Resolved: for the Clerk to send the response to Powys County Council and other links published on Crickhowell Town Council's website.</p> <p>Other comments included a discussion on the pupil premium and that some Bwlch children may attend other schools than Crickhowell High School and will be impacted differently. The cost of building new schools was also mentioned, along with the economic impacts on all surrounding towns.</p>
17/25	Standing Item: Governance

	<p>One Voice Wales - governance toolkit - Clerk & Cllr J Williams</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the toolkit will be reassessed once the section 6 biodiversity report and the website project had concluded. It is a live document and can be accessed via the drive if Councillors would be interested in viewing it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training Plan - any updates <p>Cllr W Forster will be attending 08th July for module New Councillor Induction, Cllr M Calvin reported that the second biodiversity module had been very helpful in relation to the section 6 report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Section 6 report from the working group <p>Cllr M Calvin confirmed that the working group had met and had produced a report, he ran through the report with Councillors. The Council praised the working group on their hard work and diligence in this area and agreed in supporting the Flood Wardens contacting a local resident in order to access land in readiness for river clearance, this recommendation was accepted before the September review due to the time sensitivity to the project.</p> <p>The report was discussed fully, with Cllr M Calvin confirming the remit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the current plan and identify any areas of current concern. 2. Review guidance from the Welsh Government. 3. Identify any areas requiring attention. 4. Devise an action plan to begin addressing these gaps. <p>Council requested that this report be fully digested and brought back to the September meeting for motions and resolutions. However the recommendations were presented, along with various suggested solutions which will be examined further:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Action to assist pollinators ● Action to assist bird life. ● Action to increase awareness of and address potential Flooding. ● Action to deal with littering. ● Action to encourage and promote tree planting. ● Action to promote awareness of the risk of wildfires. <p>Bracken?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Media and Website - update from the Clerk. <p>The Clerk updated the Council; Aubergine have commenced the registration of the new .wales website address and will begin work on the design with input given from Councillors.</p> <p>Casual Vacancy Notice and Co-option: no update at the time of this agenda or the meeting.</p>
18/25	<p>Standing Item: County Councillors Report (for information only)</p> <p>Cllr C Masefield reported to the Council on projects that have been found for the Anti-Poverty Fund, including a Community Fridge to be located in the Crickhowell Volunteer Bureau and supporting a lunch club.</p> <p>The community transport/bus project is currently looking at a rentable electric car scheme and a pilot with Dial a Ride to use their buses when not in use.</p>

19/25	<p>Standing Item: Place Plan/Community Plan</p> <p>Invite has been sent to BBNPA - awaiting new contact. The Clerk confirmed that no new contact had been given by the BBNPA.</p> <p>Playing Field - update from Cllr W Forster No further information to be given at this point. The Clerk will contact the Powys officer in relation to goalposts on the site. There had been an accident involving the posts, Councillor's discussed their ownership and Powys will be contacted in the first instance regarding them being checked and removed if an inspection deemed it necessary.</p>
20/25	<p>Standing item Vedw Wood Charity (Clerk):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motion: To enter discussion with Black Mountains College in relation to Vedw Wood <p>The sample contract was received with thanks. Councillors wished to request that a draft contract for the Council can be sent and it was proposed by Cllr W Forster and seconded by J Williams that the contract be signed once received by the Council and Trustees of the Charity.</p> <p>The ongoing issue of the lack of governing documents was discussed and the Clerk was requested to find solicitors with the correct knowledge to assist the Council and the Charity in adopting a governing document.</p>
21/25	<p>Standing Item Planning applications:</p> <p>25/23663/FUL - Proposal: "Proposed installation of 14 ground mounted solar panels". Address: Pen-Y-Gaer Farm , Cwm-Du, Crickhowell NP8 1SB No comment.</p> <p>25/23501/CON - Cilhelig Farm, Cwm-Du, Crickhowell - REFUSED Noted.</p> <p>Non Statutory application: 25/23692/AGI - Cllr M Calvin to update the Council on this agricultural application.</p> <p>Cllr M Calvin gave Councillors information on the application noted above that explained the concerns of local residents that had contacted him. After a discussion the Clerk was requested to contact the BBNPA and request clarification on the conditions on the Public Right of Way access path.</p> <p>Issues:</p> <p>Cllr J Johns to update the Council on a recent meeting with County Councillor Gareth Ratcliffe (Deputy Chair BBNPA). Councillor J Jones was not at the meeting, Cllr J Williams gave information on the discussion that had taken place and requested that the Council revisit their communications with the National Parks within the next few months to allow any changes to take place within the organisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nant Helyg - currently no further action taken after the previous meeting. ● Tretower Court and Castle - CADW - no further action taken after the previous meeting. <p>The Clerk was asked to chase up the actions from the site meeting in December 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Glanpant Farm - an update has been received from the BBNPA and circulated to Councillors.

	<p>Concerns relating to the site were raised by some Councillors, the Council is currently awaiting a report from the National Parks before any further response can be given.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Enforcement case - Penuel Chapel - BBNPA <p>The response from the National Parks was discussed. Councillors wished to query the report and requested the Clerk send a response that will be drafted.</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 council● Motion: To note payments already made and payments due in May/June via ONLINE PAYMENT: <p>Proposed: Cllr W Forster Seconded: Cllr S Clay Resolved: that the reconciliation was accepted and the Clerk/RFO was instructed to set up payments online for the invoices listed below.</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>8</td><td>01/04/2025</td><td>BACS</td><td>Stefhan Caddick</td><td>Website hosting</td><td>45.00</td><td>0</td><td>45.00</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>28/04/2025</td><td>BACS</td><td>One Voice - 9363</td><td>Training</td><td>42.00</td><td>0</td><td>42.00</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>13/05/2025</td><td>BACS</td><td>Aubergine</td><td>Website</td><td>499.00</td><td>99.80</td><td>598.80</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>16/06/2025</td><td>BACS</td><td>One Voice - 9592</td><td>Training</td><td>42.00</td><td>0</td><td>42.00</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>22/06/2025</td><td>BACS</td><td>Zoom (J Williams)</td><td>Subs</td><td>129.90</td><td>25.98</td><td>155.88</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>25/06/2025</td><td>BACS</td><td>One Voice- 9657</td><td>Training</td><td>42.00</td><td>0</td><td>42.00</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>27/06/2025</td><td>BACS</td><td>M Calvin</td><td>Travel</td><td>11.70</td><td>0</td><td>11.70</td></tr></table> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Online bank access/banking matters (JW/RFO) - switch has taken place, signatories being updated, forms were passed to for signing. The reserves transfer has already taken place.● BASIC tools software issue (RFO)- update, the Clerk confirmed that the issue with the software has been resolved.● Motion: To accept the updated Financial Regulations <p>Council requested that this be moved to the September agenda.</p> <p>Motion: To accept the report from the internal auditor and instruct the RFO to send the Full Audit to the Welsh Audit Office.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr J Williams Seconded: Cllr M Pearse Resolved: That the Council accepted the internal auditor's report and is in the process of working through the recommendations, which are known</p>	Voucher No	Date	Type	Name	Budget	Nett	Vat	Gross	8	01/04/2025	BACS	Stefhan Caddick	Website hosting	45.00	0	45.00	9	28/04/2025	BACS	One Voice - 9363	Training	42.00	0	42.00	10	13/05/2025	BACS	Aubergine	Website	499.00	99.80	598.80	11	16/06/2025	BACS	One Voice - 9592	Training	42.00	0	42.00	12	22/06/2025	BACS	Zoom (J Williams)	Subs	129.90	25.98	155.88	13	25/06/2025	BACS	One Voice- 9657	Training	42.00	0	42.00	14	27/06/2025	BACS	M Calvin	Travel	11.70	0	11.70
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	<p>and being attended to. They resolved that the Clerk should send the Audit (once signed by the internal auditor) to the Welsh Audit Office by the cut off date of the 7th August 2025.</p> <p>ITEM TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - due to confidential HR Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Council unanimously agreed to go into a private session and County Councillor C Masfield left the room
23/25	<p>Standing Item: Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tremynfa Road Bench - reported to the police (Clerk/Cllr H Jackson) - insurance claim <p>The clerk confirmed she is awaiting a final settlement from Zurich as the first was incorrect. She will liaise with Cllr H Jackson on installation, which may be delayed due to the contractor being unavailable for a short period of time.</p>
24/25	<p>Standing Item: Speeding & other Village Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U0503 verge Cwmdu - 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed gun/speedwatch/speeding issues <p>The Clerk was requested to bring this item back in September as the Welsh Government advice on speed on trunk roads should be available by this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenman <p>The Clerk had requested that the Greenman team send passes to the residents of Cwmdu & District Community Council using the royal mail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date and Plan for Greenman 2025 - see below <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent bridge closures (Cllr W Forster/Cllr H Jackson) <p>The Council have not been informed by Powys County Council regarding the closure of the bridge for Greenman or the recent Trek 26 event. The Clerk confirmed that Llangynidir were also unaware of the closure for the Trek 26 event and their County Councillor was investigating why. The Clerk was requested to write to their Powys contact in relation to the travel management plan for this year.</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 replied with a work ticket to wash out the culvert, which they confirmed has been completed.</p> <p>The location has been confirmed with photos and what three words - awaiting response from Glanusk.</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. - TSL helpdesk confirmed receipt of the request.
25/25	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>26/06/2025 - Powys Engagement (Health) - Neville Hall services consultation After a discussion it was decided that Cllr J Williams and Cllr J Jones would write a response and send it to all before the approved draft was sent by the Clerk.</p> <p>Outside body reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hinterland Group - any further updates - no updates ● Five Councils - any further updates from the meeting on the 13th February - no updates ● Community Transport Group - any update from Councillor M Calvin - this was already given by Cllr C Masefield earlier in the meeting ● LGV Five Councils Energy Group - any update from Councillor M Calvin <p>LGV - letter of support request It was decided that no response to the request be sent until the Council has received the feasibility study, it is hoped that LGV will attend the next Council meeting in September.</p> <p>Update: The potential community use of Bwlch Church (Cllr J Williams) - no updates</p>
26/25	<p>Date of next committee meeting 4th September 2025 The Council proposed to go into delegated power for the Summer recess Proposed: Cllr S Clay and Seconded by Cllr M Pearse - unanimously resolved</p>

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Topic: Cwmdu & District Community Council - Ordinary Meeting

Time: Jul 3, 2025 07:00 PM London

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