



**CROESYCEILIOG AND LLANYRAFON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR CYMUNED CROESYCEILIOG a LLANYRAFON**  
**Caring for the Community**

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on**  
**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 6.00pm**  
**Council Chamber, Woodland Road Sports & Social Centre, Croesyceiliog**

**Present:** Cllr S O'Dobhain Cllr M Price  
Cllr V Williams Cllr D Dewar  
Cllr C Crick Cllr S Matthews  
Cllr V Crick Cllr D Williams  
Cllr J Boycott

Sian Davies, Clerk

Also attended by Mr Ben Black of Cwmbran Life

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr L Boycott, Cllr N Davies, Administrator K Lewis

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr J Boycott – Community Garden  
Cllr M Price – Community Garden, Hwb

**3 Minutes**

3.1 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were approved as an accurate record.

**RESOLVED:** Members approved

3.2 **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**

None

3.3 **To receive draft minutes of Business Planning Committee of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Noted

**4. Financial Reports and Statements**

4.1 Bank Statements

Bank Statement and Visa Card Statements.

**RESOLVED:** Members noted the statements

4.2 Cheque Payments List

Cheque payments list was received & approved.

**RESOLVED:** Members approved the payments

**5. Presentations & Representations**

None.

**6. Chair's Announcements**

- Attended and opened St Mary's Church Christmas Fayre in December 2023.
- Attended and hosted Council's Grant Evening celebration event. The event went well, and feedback was very positive. The Chair recorded thanks to Llanyrafon Social Club for accommodating the event, and to the Administrator and Clerk for organising it.

**Clerk & Administrator Reports**

7. The Clerk's Report previously circulated was noted. The Clerk reported that she is arranging for

regular Police attendance at meetings and for previously received regular Police reports to be reinstated.

## 8. Planning Applications considered in advance of this meeting of Council:

TBRA/24/P/0036/TPO	6 Ynys Lane, Croesyceiliog, Cwmbran	25% reduction to the crown of a mature Oak (T1) to decrease the risk of root failure (decay at base).	No objections
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## 9. Members Reports – Meetings of Outside Bodies:

- Cllr S Matthews – attended The Congress Theatre meeting – Things are going well, and theatre bookings for 2024 look good so far. The board are looking forward to joining in with Cwmbran’s 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Torfaen is to repair issues with its roof. Cllr S Matthews also attended the TCBC Partnership meeting in January, and Cllr Matthews & Cllr Davies attended the John Fielding Memorial service at the church at Llantarnam.
- Cllr V Crick & Cllr D Williams– attended the Friends of Bruchsal meetings in December and January. The organisation is looking to the future with an online meeting with Bruchsal taking place on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Cllr Williams reported the organisation is exploring the potential for charitable status.
- Cllr D Williams – attended the AGM at Torfaen Museum Trust, he reported that the organisation is being restructured with the support of Torfaen. That banking issues are in the process of being sorted and that a Ukrainian refugee is assisting with the translation of a book which had been presented to the museum many years ago.
- Cllr C Crick had attended a CCYP committee meeting.

## 10. Items for consideration:

### 10.1 Approval of Council’s 2024/25 budget and Precept request

This section of the meeting was held in camera and Mr Ben Black left the room for this section of the meeting.

Members discussed the proposed budget for 2024/25, and agreed that in order to fulfil its obligations, provide services and carry out planned projects in the ward, it regrettably would need to raise its Precept requirement by £2.04 to £43.02 per Band D household per year. This was proposed by Cllr Crick, seconded by Cllr Dewar and approved unanimously. It was noted that Council had not raised its precept in the previous 4 years.

### 10.2 Volunteer for OVW National Executive Committee Member

The Clerk advised OVW was looking to recruit a member to sit on the committee. Cllr V Crick volunteered to take up the post if needed. Clerk to advise OVW of her offer.

### 10.3 Former Clerk of Cwmbran Urban District Council

Cllr S Matthews advised Council it was the former Clerk’s 100 birthday and asked permission to send a card on behalf of Members. Council were happy to agree and asked Cllr Matthews to extend their congratulations and their recognition of his past service to the community.

### 10.4 Boundary Review consultation response

Members asked the Clerk to relay Council’s hope that the suggested proposal to move Llanfrechfa to the Ponthir Ward would not be chosen, as it would be a tragic loss making this Council less sustainable and effective. That also it is within the historical boundary of Newtown and is an integral part of Llanyrafon. It is hoped that the review has concentrated on the effectiveness and performance of Community Councils and that this Council has a proven track record that it performs well with the current structure. Council does however agree with the suggested proposal to include Station Farm as part of Croesyceiliog within its boundaries. This would be sensible, as it has a Croesyceiliog postal address, the area is on the Croesyceiliog side

of the railway and residents do consider themselves to be Croesyceiliog residents.

**11. Any Other Business**

- The Clerk had been asked that Council formally approve the appointment of Rev Boxall to Llanyrafon Primary School's governing body. Council approved. The Clerk was asked to inform the school and forward a letter of congratulations and best wishes to Rev Boxall on his appointment.
- The issue of the Afon Lwyd river turning orange after heavy rain 2 weeks previously was discussed. It was advised this was due to weather conditions flooding the remains of the old ironworks at Abersychan. Iron oxide turned the river orange, and it was noted that sediment still remains. No reports of dead fish had been made, but there is concern there could be a loss of Atlantic Salmon eggs or fry. This is being investigated by NRW. It is hoped work to prevent another occurrence in the future can be carried out. Members were also concerned about flood prevention measures, as there are a number of old flood defence bunds in the ward which are sinking over time and in need of repair. This will be discussed with a Torfaen Flood Risk Management Officer at the February Full Council meeting.

<b>12. Date of Next Meetings</b>
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Business Planning Meeting – Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 commencing 6.00pm Full Council Meeting – Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 commencing at 6.00pm
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There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was concluded at 6.50pm

Signed:..... (Chair) – 26.02.24