



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

****Report of the Full Council Meeting held on**
Monday 27th January at 6.00pm
Council Chamber, Woodland Road Sports & Social Centre, Croesyceiliog

Present:

Cllr S Matthews (Chair)	Cllr V Williams
Cllr D Dewar	Cllr N Davies
Cllr V Crick	Cllr C Crick
Cllr M Price	Cllr J Boycott
Cllr D Williams	Cllr L Boycott
Cllr S O'Dobhain	

Sian Davies, Clerk
Kelly Lewis, Administrator

1. Apologies for absence

None

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr M Price – Hwb, Community Garden
Cllr J Boycott – Community Garden
Cllr C Crick – Torfaen Museum Trust
Cllr V Crick – Friends of Bruchsal

3 Minutes

3.1 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 25th November 2024 were approved as an accurate record

RESOLVED: Members approved.

3.2 **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 25th November 2024.**

Members were advised that the Community Council Charter meeting has been rearranged for February. Members noted

3.3 **To receive draft minutes of Business Planning Committee of 8th January 2024**

Members noted.

3.4 Minutes of the Pre-Budget Meeting held 8th January 2025 were approved as an accurate record

RESOLVED: Members approved.

3.5 **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8th January 2025.**

None

4. Financial Reports and Statements

4.1 Bank Statements

Bank Statement and Visa Card Statements.

RESOLVED: Members noted the statements

4.2 Cheque and Direct Debits Payments List

Cheque and direct debits payments list was received & approved.

RESOLVED: Members approved the payments.

4.3 To receive the monthly Financial Report up to 27.01.2025

RESOLVED: Members noted.

5. Presentations & Representations

5.1 None

6. Chair's Announcements

The Chair attended the following:

- The Congress Theatre Board meeting – the theatre has had a very good Christmas and put on extra pantomime shows, it was the most attended pantomime at the theatre
- The One Voice Wales Gwent Valleys meeting – speaker Jane Mudd, Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner – Cllr Matthews asked for an update relating to the police headquarters and was advised that developments are on hold for the foreseeable future due to awaiting funds, but in the meantime police are using the existing grounds as part of police driver training. At the meeting Ponthir Community Council raised speeding concerns and was advised that Police officers are available to meet to discuss speeding concerns and Cllr Matthews suggested this may be useful for members concerns relating to The Highway. Cllr C Crick to contact the Police and Crime Commissioner to discuss further.

7. To receive the Clerk & Administrator Reports

7.1 Members noted.

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

Planning applications detailed on the agenda were noted.

9. Members Reports – Meetings of Outside Bodies

- Cllr D Williams attended the Torfaen Museum Trust meeting where discussions related to core funding and a forward plan and that a subsequent meeting with TCBC is coming up following a letter sent to them. Cllr C Crick added that this is a result of TCBC reducing the 3-year SLA to an annual SLA, and so TMT have submitted SLA proposals to TCBC, who are awaiting consideration of a consultation report which was completed over a year ago.
- Cllr N Davies – attended a CCYP management committee meeting and advised members that money from the social enterprise fund will include redecoration of the centre. Members were also advised that an open day for young people and their families will be held at the centre on 26th February between 12pm and 6pm
- Cllr D Williams attended a talk with Pethau Bychain relating to managing habitats for adders. Members were advised that they hold interesting, informative talks which may be of interest to members.

10. Items for Consideration

10.1 To discuss and confirm the budget and agree the Precept figure for 2025/26 financial year

Members agreed to review core funding, and any organisations outside the constituency to be considered as a larger grant rather than core funding and will maintain the same total amount for core funding and larger grants, but increase grant funds and decrease core funding. Members agreed it would provide an opportunity to review larger grants annually, and the annual completion of a larger grants form ensures the community council applies a fiduciary duty and justify spending public money. Administrator to send previous grant forms to members to consider what should be included in the larger grants' application form prior to the review to be held at BP meeting where all members will be invited.

Members discussed the precept figure for 2025/26, and Cllr M Price proposed an increase of 5% which was seconded by Cllr V Crick, and unanimously agreed by members. This will increase a Band D household's contribution from £43.02 to £45.17 per year for 2025/26, and raise an additional £7469.10 to assist with ever increasing costs.

****Cllr V Williams left at 6.45pm****

10.2 Bruchsal Return Visit

Cllr V Crick advised members that Annette at Friends of Cwmbran had made contact with members of Friends of Bruchsal requesting a virtual meeting to discuss the FOB visit to Bruchsal. Members of FOB, Harmonise choir, and Community Council Chairs are hoping to visit at the end of October this year but Cllr V Crick will report back to members following the meeting. Cllr Crick also reiterated thanks to the Clerk and members who attended the events of the Friends of Cwmbran visit as the Germans were delighted with the welcome that they had.

10.3 Community Council Charter

Cllr S Matthews and Cllr M Price attended the meeting but unfortunately the meeting did not proceed due to poor attendance, however the meeting has been rearranged to 6th February and it was agreed that if there is low attendance the charter will be adopted.

10.4 Joint Projects with Cwmbran CC

Cllr's S Matthews, J Boycott and M Price attended the meeting relating Joint working to together with CLCC to support joint projects, which is also an expectation of TCBC. It was expected CCC would consider making a core funding contribution to The Hwb as this Council does with organisations in CCC's areas, but CCC stated they only core fund projects in their own areas. However, they stated that if The Hwb were to request a grant for a specific project, they would consider any application on its merits and act accordingly. Members agreed this was disappointing and the reluctance to work together on joint projects that benefit both Council's electorate should be fed back to David Leech, as part of the Local Partnership Committee meetings.

11. Any Other Business

- Cllr N Davies advised members that a local resident, Amanda Say, raised concerns with Cllr Davies relating to the unreliable lifts at Cwmbran Train Station, which are regularly closed, and so suggested the CC makes contact with Transport for Wales relating to the unreliability of the lifts. Clerk to send an email to TFW and copy in Gareth, Clerk at CCC as the concern relates to their area.
- Cllr D Williams – advised members that Able and TCBC are happy to provide trees for the memorial area but wondered whether any members would like to be involved in planting. Cllr S Matthews and Cllr J Boycott volunteered to support planting. Cllr Williams also had a hedgehog box from Able and members agreed to place it at the community garden but will find out costs for more so that members can consider other areas.

**** This report is NOT a set of authorised meeting minutes, but a reflection of the meeting held. The minutes of the meeting this report refers to will reviewed and discussed at the next Full Council meeting and authorised accordingly.**
