

**Minutes of the Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on  
Wednesday 13 May 2026 at 6.30pm**

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on  
Wednesday 24 June 2026.

**Venue:** The meeting was held remotely and at the Council House, Ventnor Road,  
Cwmbran NP44 3JY in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales)  
Act 2021

**Present:** Councillors R Bennett, A Bird, L Chaney, M Day, G Lloyd-Tolman (Chair),  
L Lloyd-Tolman, P Seabourne, M Villars, W Walker & S Whitehorn

*(Councillors S Ashley participated in the meeting via remote means)*

Also present: Gareth Davies (Clerk), Andy Smith (RFO/Deputy Clerk),  
Station Commander James Cunningham (South Wales Fire & Rescue) &  
Representatives from Gwent Police.

**Absent:** Councillor J Davenne, L Johnson, F Jones, P Jones, K Manneh, C Morgan,  
S Morgan & S Wharton

(No public participation session was held at this meeting)

**CL26/016 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors J Davenne,  
K Manneh, C Morgan, S Morgan & S Wharton

**CL26/017 Declarations of Interest**

Members were asked to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests they  
had and give details of the nature of their interest.

*Councillor A Bird declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute CL26/029 –  
One Voice Wales Awards. He remained in the meeting during the discussion.*

**CL26/018 Voting**

It was **Resolved** that the manner of any voting at this meeting would be by  
calling each name alphabetically with a response of “for” or “against” or  
“abstain”.

**CL26/019 Chair's Announcements & Vice Chair's Announcements**

There were no announcements received from the Chair or Vice Chair.

It was **Resolved** that the above is noted.

**CL26/020 Public Question Time**

In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders the opportunity for public questions was included as an item on the agenda for the meeting.

No questions had been submitted.

**CL26/021 Gwent Police Update/South Wales Fire & Rescue Service Update**

- (i) Station Commander James Cunningham (South Wales Fire and Rescue Service) attended the meeting and updated members on the causes of fires including an increasing number of fires caused by Lithium batteries, especially ones purchased online which do not meet British Safety standards. Batteries should only be charged when someone is present and if a fire starts exit the property and do not try to deal with the fire yourself.

Members were concerned with wildfires during the summer and Commander Cunningham informed members that the Fire Crime Team attend schools to educate and reduce arson. Fire breaks are also used with the Land Engagement Offices working with Natural Resources Wales and local landowners to reduce the impact of wildfires.

- (ii) Representatives from Gwent Police attended the meeting and updated members on the top crimes in the Cwmbran area, with shoplifting offences spiking in the last month and 4 individuals being arrested and charged with several offences.

Officers are currently working on operations engaging with schools and youth centres and the gaming van is proving very popular as a fun way to engage with younger residents. Over the coming month Officers will be continuing with work to target shoplifting and anti-social behaviour, with an operation taking place over the bank holiday weekend targeting off road bikes.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Station Commander James Cunningham (South Wales Fire and Rescue Service) is thanked for attending the meeting.
- b) Representatives from Gwent Police are thanked for attending the meeting.
- c) the position is noted.

**CL26/022      Model Financial Regulations**

Members received an update from the RFO and approved accepting the Model Financial Regulations.

It was Resolved that:-

- a) members approved the Model Financial Regulations.
- b) the position is noted.

**CL26/023      Council Meeting: 25 March 2026**

Councillor Gareth Lloyd-Tolman introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the minutes of the above meetings are approved and actions approved therein.

**CL26/024      Events & Community Projects Committee 30 March 2026**

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the minutes of the above meetings are approved and actions approved therein.

**CL26/025      Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee 30 March 2026**

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the minutes of the above meetings are approved and actions approved therein.

**CL26/026      Regeneration & Major Grants Committee 30 March 2026**

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

Members discussed the Llantarnam Grange grant application and approved the request for funding of £9,500.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the Llantarnam Grange grant application for £9,500 is approved.
- b) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actions approved therein.

**CL26/027 Environmental Sustainability & Planning Committee 8 April 2026**

Councillor M Villars introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Planning Consultation list 1596 &1597 no objections.
- b) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actions approved therein.

**CL26/028 Policy & Finance Committee 13 April 2026**

Councillor Gareth Lloyd-Tolman introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:

- a) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actions approved therein.

**CL26/029 One Voice Wales Awards**

*Councillor A Bird declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute CL26/029 – One Voice Wales Awards. He remained in the meeting during the discussion.*

The Clerk informed members that applications have been submitted for 8 awards, and he was now waiting for a response from One Voice Wales.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

**CL26/030 Solar & Battery Report**

Members received an update from the Clerk on the positive impact of the solar panels on the energy efficiency of the building. Members approved the purchase of extra batteries for the building and instructed the Clerk to explore infrared heating systems for the building to reduce the use of gas heating and use the energy stored from the solar panels.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the purchase of extra batteries for the solar panels is approved and the Clerk is instructed to explore infrared heating systems for the building.
- b) the position is noted.

**CL26/031      Exclusion of the Press & Public**

In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was agreed that the following matter be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised.

**CL26/032      Staffing Update**

Members received an update from the Clerk and considered the accompanying report regarding the Task Force service arrangements. Members approved the recommendations.

Councillors wanted to record their appreciation of the work that the Task force has done over many years and will be inviting them to a meeting before their leaving date.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the recommendations for the Task Force service are approved.
- b) the position is noted.

Signed..... (Chairman, Cwmbran Community Council)