Minutes of the Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday 23 July 2025 at 6.00pm

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 24 September 2025.

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 S Ashley, R Bennett (Chair), A Bird, J Davenne, F Jones, P Jones, C Morgan, P Seabourne, M Villars & W Walker

(Councillor M Day participated in the meeting via remote means)

Also present: Gareth Davies (Clerk), Andy Smith (RFO/Deputy Clerk), Jane Mudd (Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent), representatives from Gwent Police & Louise Jones-Williams Director (Llantarnam Grange)

Absent: Councillors L Chaney, L Johnson, G Lloyd-Tolman, L Lloyd-Tolman, K Manneh, S Morgan, D Thomas & S Wharton

(No public participation session was held at this meeting)

CL25/037 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors L Chaney, L Johnson, G Lloyd-Tolman, L Lloyd-Tolman, K Manneh & S Morgan

CL25/038 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.

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

CL25/039 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”.

CL25/040 Chair's Announcements & Vice Chair's Announcements

Councillor R Bennett reported to members that Crow Fest 2025 had been a great success showing what can be achieved. The day flowed well with fantastic music and stalls providing a wide variety for everyone who attended. Councillor Bennett thanked the staff for there hard work organising the event and on the day.

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

CL25/041 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.

CL25/042 Gwent Police Update/South Wales Fire & Rescue Service Update

i) Representatives from Gwent Police attended the meeting and updated members on the work in the community by the Community Action Team. Good progress is being made with the ongoing issues of electric bikes and drug crime, Officers asked members to encourage residents to report any issues.

Members thanked the officers for attending the meeting and discussed visiting the new Police Headquarters.

ii) No update received from South Wales Fire & Rescue Service.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) The Officers from Gwent Police are thanked for attending the meeting.

b) the position is noted.

CL25/043 Council Meetings: 18 June 2025

Councillor R Bennett introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL25/044 Events & Community Projects Committee 23 June 2025

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the position is noted.

CL25/045 Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee 23 June 2025

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the position is noted.

CL25/046 Regeneration & Major Grants Committee 23 June 2025

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the position is noted.

CL25/047 Environmental Sustainability & Planning Committee 2 July 2025

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) Planning Consultation list 1562 no objections.

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

CL25/048 Policy & Finance Committee 7 July 2025

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

Councillor Bird informed members that there will soon be a vacancy on the Ethics & Standards Committee for a Community Council representative.

Members approved the IRPW recommendations and core funding of £6,500 to Torfaen Community Transport.

It was **Resolved** that:

a) the IRPW recommendations are approved.

b) core funding of £6,500 to Torfaen Community Transport is approved.

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

CL25/049 Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Members received a presentation from Jane Mudd (Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent) on the Police, Crime and Justice Plan for 2025 – 2029.

The plan has been developed with the engagement of the community and will focus on five priority areas –

i) Preventing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
ii) Making our Communities Safer
iii) Protecting the Vulnerable
iv) Putting Victims First
v) Reducing Reoffending

Jane Mudd (Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent) informed members of her role including setting the precept for policing in Gwent and working with partners to focus on tackling issues together and investing in new crime prevention, victim services and increasing the number of police officers on the streets.

Members asked questions and thanked Jane Mudd (Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent) for attending the meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) Members thanked Jane Mudd (Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent) for attending the meeting.

b) the position is noted.

CL25/050 Llantarnam Grange – Update on Arts Council Grant

Members received a presentation from Louise Jones-Williams Director (Llantarnam Grange) detailing the Arts Council of Wales grant application.

Llantarnam Grange is a Victorian building which currently has issues with water ingress requiring work to four chimneys and broken pipes causing toilets to regularly become blocked. An application has been submitted to the Arts Council for Wales for 90% of the repair costs. The estimate received is for £54,720 and Llantarnam Grange are looking for 10% match funding of £5,472.

Members discussed the application and the importance of Llantarnam Grange to Cwmbran and the surrounding area and approved the application for match funding of £5,472.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) match funding of £5,472 to Llantarnam Grange is approved.

b) the position is noted.

CL25/051 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.

CL25/053 Staffing Update

The Clerk updated members on the work carried out by staff at the Big Event and Crow Fest which included long hours and carrying heavy items such as barriers on site, on the day of the Crow Fest event members of staff worked from 8am up to midnight and were onsite again Sunday morning. Members agreed that casual workers should be hired to provide extra support at these events.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) Casual workers are hired to provide extra support at events.

b) the position is noted.

Signed…… *(Chairman, Cwmbran Community Council)*