

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd of June 2025
at Coytrahen Community Centre

Chairperson Cllr. Judith Morgan

Clerk Mrs. Louise Turner

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and chaired by Councillor Judith Morgan

Councillors In Attendance: -

Cllr. Davies. Cllr. Faulkner. Cllr. Gronow. Cllr. Windsor Mrs L Turner (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence -

Cllr. Roberts & Cllr. Jones

2. Declaration of interest

Cllr Faulkner on all matters relating to the Coytrahen Community Association.

Cllr. Haines on this month's planning application T/25/21/TPO

3. Police Matters/Report

No police presence, Cllr. Haines will contact PCSO Laura Green.

4. Minutes and matters arising from the councils May 2025 Meeting

Cllr. Faulkner wanted to amend May's minutes regarding the health check at the community centre to read a mini health check.

Cllr. Davies will install the new dog bin next week.

Cllr. Jones gave his apologies for today's meeting and was unable to report on the outcome of the site meeting regarding the workmanship of the trees. Cllr. Haines said he has now taken photographs and will also report this to BCBC.

5. Matters to be discussed

Watercourse - Very little progress has been made regarding the watercourse due to waiting for further instructions from BCBC.

L Turner is still awaiting a response regarding the resilient communities capital grant application. However, this is match funding of a total of 80% to the maximum value of £10,000. LLCC will have to fund all additional costs should we be successful in our application.

L Turner said she had forwarded a copy of the arborist report to BCBC's planning department to seek clarification if planning permission will be needed.

The planning department provided a map of the area showing trees with a preservation order. The councillors confirmed this was not within the watercourse boundary.

L Turner will now notify planning for further instructions.

L Turner has also contacted the community council's insurance via email to inquire about liability whilst the watercourse is closed (awaiting response).

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Cllr. Gronow said that several community residents have approached him regarding the closure of the watercourse and how disappointed they are that it remains closed.

It was reiterated by the chair that the community council wishes for the watercourse to reopen as soon as possible. However, their main priority now is for public safety.

Cllr. Hains said he would forward a copy of the arborist report to Cllr. Paul Davies for further comments.

The Cllrs' pointed out the historical factors of the watercourse, and its imperatives to retain our heritage and this should be considered when seeking financial assistance.

Cllr Faulkner, Cllr. Davies and Cllr. Gronow met with Smith & Son Construction & Maintenance Ltd to discuss the replacement of the wooden bridge. Cllr. Faulkner provided a quotation of £12,000 detailing all works needed.

Should the community council not receive any financial support, the only other solution would be to consider relinquishing the lease. Being that the community council are not in the position to fund the work themselves and securing the football field CAT at the same time.

Football Field CAT - Following the withdrawal of the Expression of Interest (EOI) from a community resident in favor of the community council developing the area into a community allotment. L Turner has completed an additional EOI to incorporate this into the Football Field CAT (we await a response).

The community council has been awarded a grant of £15,000 from the community's feasibility fund. The BCBC "Reach" team responsible for the grant will meet with Cllr. Faulkner, Cllr. Gronow, Cllr. Davies, Cllr Windsor and Cllr. Haines and further report back to the councillors. (L Turner to arrange)

Community Council Ward Change – No further update.

Mr. Thomas has agreed to complete the 2025/2026 Internal Audit for LLCC. His fees will be £200.00. The councillors agreed for L Turner to instruct him.

It was unanimously agreed to renew the membership with one voice Wales at a fee of £89.00.

It was agreed to defer the LLCC policies to July's meeting.

Natwest - L Turner to continue with the application to change from HSBC. Cllr Haines advised that a member of Natwest would be giving a talk during the community's Tea & Comfort event. Cllr. Faulkner said that she would attend the group and gather information.

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L Turner to meet with Sian Thomas & Daughters solicitors to further discuss appointing them as solicitors for Llangynwyd Lower community council

L Turner to give CBT accountants notice of termination and to move to the SAGE payroll system for cost saving.

6. Planning Applications

T/25/21/TPO – St Cynwyd's, Nicholls Road – T1 Sycamore – 2m reduction of downward slope facing limb and height and deadwood. – There were no objections.

7. Correspondence

No correspondence

8. Finance

Display of the Audit Notice – Forms completed and made available also on our website

Display of Notice of conclusion of Audit and right to inspect for 23/24 also on our website.

Before this month's meeting all councillors received the Internal Auditors report for consideration prior to agreeing and the chair signing the annual report.

Scheduled of Payments agreed for June 2025

Admin	£373.36
One Voice Wales	£89.00
Internal Audit	£200.00
Members Allowance	£780.00

9. Clerk's Report

It was agreed by the chair and councillors that L Turner would work remotely and attend meetings via Zoom when she is unable to attend the council meetings. It was suggested to contact OVW for further clarifications on procedures/data protection.

The cheque book will remain with the chair and L Turner to report monthly schedules of payments to be made during her absence.

10. Members Reports

Cllr. Gronow. - Reported of a house on Oak Terrace that's of concern with its overhanging branches pushing people off the pavement to pass. The councillors were unsure if the property was vacant. Cllr Haines will make inquiries.

Cllr. Windsor - Raised concerns that footpath 16 remains closed. He reported that since its closure the grass and brambles have grown excessively, thus including knotweed.

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Cllr. Hains advised he has an upcoming meeting to discuss all pathways and will report back.

The chair asked L Turner to inquire with other community councils to see what contractors they use for clearing the paths. Once contact is made. Cllr. Windsor will meet with them to discuss the work needed to be quoted.

Cllr. Davies - Will be installing the new dog waste bin this week.

Chair Cllr. Morgan - Advised the road signs that differ in height for the railway bridge have not been addressed. The grass bush covering the sign has been trimmed.

Cllr. Haines advised he is still looking into the Tree Preservation Order (TPO) for the monkey puzzle tree and will update once he receives further information.

Cllr. Morgan will meet with Cllr. Haines to discuss applying for a further TPO for the beach trees on the boundary of the paper mill.

Cllr. Morgan agreed for LLCC to jointly work with the community centre in celebrating this year's Memorial Day. The councillors will try and obtain the telephone number of a bugler.

Cllr. Faulkner - Informed the councillors that a road sweeper had been around Cildaudy Road, but debris remain. Cllr. Haines advised that a referral has been made, including one for the blocked drains.

Was disappointed with BCBC, upon telephoning them she was advised to email her inquiry, that she was unable to speak to someone directly. Eventually she was put through to a department Cllr. Faulkner wanted to raise her concern should the elderly or people with no access to the internet.

Cllr. Haines will relay this incident back to BCBC.

Cllr Faulkner and L Turner will work jointly on all upcoming grants.

L Turner confirmed she had signed up to the Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme (LDTCS) that Cllr. Faulkner provided details on access to potential available grants.

11. Cllr Gary Haines Reports

Will seek clarification as to who has the responsibility for the trees overhanging the A463 (opposite the cottages), due to needed maintenance.

Has made a referral to trim the hedges on Heol Treharne

Will report the light out on the lampstand once he is aware of the post number.

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Will report the pothole on the pavement from the community centre towards the Nicholls Arms.

Informed the councillors that all grass-cutting is now being managed by BCBC. Despite having a backlog, they have now completed 47 cuts prioritising the safety areas. Rubbish left in the grass will be collected. However, grass cutting is taking priority.

Shared information that's available on BCBC's website including access to contact details for support services.

Appointments are available on the 11th of July at the Masonic Hall in Bridgend should anyone wish to donate blood.

The new CEO of Bridgend, Mr. Jake Morgan will be meeting each ward and their councillor over the upcoming months to familiarise himself with each ward and the needs of the communities. Cllr Haines invited the community councillors should they wish to attend.

12. Public Participation

No attendees

13. Any other business - Nothing raised

14. Items for June's meeting

- Watercourse
- Football
- Update – Community Repairs/referrals
- Christmas Tree
- LLCC Policies

15 Date of Next Meeting -

Wednesday 30th July at 7.00pm in the Philip Squire Community Centre.

Approved by Chair _____

Date _____

Amendments: -