



COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 8th MAY 2025 AT 6.30 PM AT LITCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL AND VIA ZOOM

Present: Councillor M Williams(Chair)

Councillors: S Bletsoe
Y Walton-Davies
N Deere (via zoom)
L Jeffreys
G Langdon
L Lewis
L Richards
P Robinson
A Williams (via zoom)
J Williams
D Wingar

Apologies: None
Public: None

Minute 1/25-26

2/25-26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Minute	Interest	Speak/Vote
Steve Bletsoe	BCBC Matters	All relevant	Member	No/No
Yvonne Walton-Davies	Community Award nominees	5/25-26	Known to Cllr Walton-Davies	No/Yes
Gareth Langdon	Parc Derwen	All relevant	Resident	No/No
Peter Robinson	Parc Derwen	All relevant	Resident	No/No
Alan Wathan	BCBC Matters Parc Derwen Bridgend TC	All relevant All relevant All relevant	Member Resident Member	No/No No/No No/No
Amanda Williams	BCBC Matters Coety Primary School Brynteg School Proposals by M Williams Community Award nominees	All relevant All relevant incl. 14/25-26 All relevant All relevant 5/25-26	Member Chair of Governors Governor Wife Known to Cllr A Williams	No/No No/No No/No No/No No/Yes
John Williams	Parc Derwen	All relevant	Resident	No/No
Martin Williams	BCBC Matters incl. Standards Committee Proposals by A Williams Community Award nominees	All relevant All relevant All relevant Any relevant 5/25-26	Member Husband Known to Cllr M Williams	No/No No/No No/No No/No No/Yes

3/25-26 TO RATIFY THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2025 ORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes of the April 2025 Ordinary Meeting were presented for approval.

Resolved: The Minutes were accepted and approved as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

4/25-26 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE APRIL ORDINARY MEETING

Minute 149/24-25 Matters Arising from the January Ordinary Meeting

Minute 154/24-25 Electoral Arrangement Review

Coychurch Lower CC's situation in the review was briefly discussed and it was noted that no-one from the working group had approached Coity Higher CC to ask their views.

Minute 168/24-25 Matters Arising from the March Ordinary Meeting

T&CC Fund: a letter has been received from BCBC regarding the unsuccessful application. The Clerk has asked the CAT Officer for a meeting to discuss further.

Taylor Wimpey and REMUS Meetings: the two new benches have been delivered and will be installed asap.

Bus Shelter Heol Spencer: a land registry search had been carried out which identified Dunraven Estates and Welsh Government owning the land in the location.

Minute 171-24-25 VE Day 80th Anniversary 8th May 2025

As requested at the last meeting the electricity has been switch on though there is a fault with two lights not working.

Minute 173/24-25

As requested at the last meeting no comments had been sent to the Clerk to aid the item on tonight's agenda.

Minute 181/24-25 Correspondence

Planning has confirmed that planning permission is needed for the Llys Gwyn play area as there has not been a play area in the location which was managed by CHCC.

Minute 182/24-25 Development Control & Planning

As requested at the last meeting no view on P/25/137/BCB were received.

Minute 183/24-25 Items for the May 2025 Ordinary Meeting

Spring Bulbs and Motions for the OVW AGM were omitted from the May agenda due to time constraints for VE 80th Anniversary commemorations and will be included on the June agenda.

Resolved: All information was noted. It was agreed that no further action would be taken regarding the bus shelter.

5/25-26 COMMUNITY AWARD 2024/25

3 nominations had been received in each category and these were discussed and votes taken. It was noted that all were worthy nominations.

Resolved: The Community Award in the over 18 category would be given to Mr Hugh Stillman who received the greatest number of votes and in the under 18 category to Rhys Fairchild. Both would be invited to the June meeting for a short presentation.

Councillor M Williams would write to each nominee and certificates would be given to those who did not win the shields. It was noted that the 3rd nomination for a group of Litchard Primary School pupils could be a worthy winner for the School Community Award in July and that the 1st nomination was a previous winner of that School Community Award.

Councillor L Richards abstained from the votes.

6/25-26 SOUTH EAST WALES REGIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN

Information on this consultation had been sent out via email and there was information in the meeting papers pack. Councillor Walton-Davies spoke on the consultation.

Resolved: It was agreed that Councillors Walton-Davies and Amanda Williams would work together to produce a formal statement for the Clerk to submit by the deadline of 19th May. All councillors were encouraged to complete the survey and sent their comments to the Clerk for her to collate into a response to submit on behalf of the council.

7/25-26 1st ROUGH DRAFT SPRING 2025 NEWSLETTER

A copy of the draft newsletter had been circulated.

Resolved: All councillors were asked to send any amendments, additional information, suggestions for improvement, typos etc. to the Clerk by Friday 16th May 2025. Councillor A Williams requested a short piece asking residents not to feed the animals on the common or to dump their garden waste on the common as some garden plants are poisonous to the animals.

8/25-26 PARC DERWEN UPDATE

It was noted that there had not been a meeting with Persimmon since the last council meeting so there was little to report.

Councillor M Williams: reported issues with drainage and lights

Councillor A Williams: said that the school extension planning had been delayed as Pugh's planning application. Councillor Williams had logged all out of order lights to Persimmon.

Councillor L Jeffreys: said Persimmon make promises they do not keep.

Resolved: The next meeting with Persimmon will be held on 22nd May 2025. It was noted that BCBC's new CEO will attend a walkabout once he's in post.

9/25-26 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1.Payment of Cheques

Authority was requested for the payments of all the invoices listed on the expenditure sheet and on the additional sheet as agreed for inclusion by the Chair.

2.Budget Monitoring, Accounts & Budgets

The Asst. Clerk ran through the budget monitoring sheet and answered any questions raised.

Resolved: Authority was given for the payments for April 2025 and the budget monitoring sheet was accepted and approved.

10/25-26 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING PROJECT UPDATES

CAT Update:

Updated Business Plan - this had been sent out to all councillors and now includes project manager biogs, letters of intent from football clubs, updates on land and assets within CHCC's management. Ryan Jones the business manager has a meeting with the CAT Officer on 13th May.

REACH Funding - details of additional REACH funding had been sent to all councillors. The Clerk had asked one of the team if CHCC could apply for further funding for architects fees to get CHCC to the planning stage, but this is not possible as it is for new projects and this would be classed as a continuation of the previous project.

Project Updates:

Footpath Castle/Church - this has now been resolved. The Clerk and Cllr M Williams had met the contractor and the Highways Inspector on site and it was agreed that a section to the front of the path could be sectioned off and everything lifted over the sty. The work is likely to be carried out in the last two weeks of June.

Solar Lighting - these were due to be installed this week but there's been a delay. They will be installed asap.

Other Matters:

Planning Consultee - as requested at a previous meeting I wrote to the Head of Planning to request that CHCC is added as a consultee on any planning application that has implications on junction 36. A reply had been received saying that CHCC cannot be consulted routinely on planning applications outside the boundary of our wards. A weekly list of applications is published on the BCBC portal and this can be checked to look for applications that affect junction 36 or common land.

Handyman and Footpath Maintenance - the Clerk is still desperate to find a replacement handyman and someone to maintain the footpaths.

Allotment Gardens - a grant has become available to T&CCs via BCBC/Welsh Government, the Clerk asked if the council is happy for her to submit the application we used for the T&CC Fund.

Resolved: All information was approved and accepted. Approval was given for the Business Plan to be sent to the CAT Officer following Ryan's meeting and to ask the CAT Officer to raise at the next CAT Steering Group meeting and send a copy to all members of that group. Councillor A Williams will escalate it to the CEO. The Clerk was asked to see if the REACH funding could be used for the Great Western Avenue element of the CAT. It was agreed that the Clerk would apply for the allotment funding. Councillors Y Walton-Davies and D Wingar would forward details of Handyman and Footpath Maintenance contractor to the Clerk.

11/25-26 MEMBER REPORTS

Councillor L Jeffreys - had attended a recent OVW area committee meeting and spoke on green spaces and their maintenance, commuted sums and safeguarding issues for events.

12/25-26 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES

There were no members reports.

13/25-26 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was noted. With the permission of the Chair some additional correspondence received since the papers were distributed to Members were included.

The Clerk drew Members' attention to the following:

- OVW - Revised Financial Regulations
- BCBC - Precept Remittance for 25/26 received
- BCBC -Letter ref. council's unsuccessful application for the T&CC Fund
- Litchard Resident - request from resident to provide large poppies for a VE 80th Anniversary Street Party
- Mynydd y Gaer Action Group - invitation to a meeting in Glynogwr on 10th May
- Resident - broken item in Coity Castle play area
- Resident - report of graffiti on the slide at GWA play area
- Jam in the Castle - request to donate skip to the event
- Parc Derwen Resident - numerous complaints. The Clerk read out the correspondence.

Resolved: The correspondence was noted. The revised Financial Regulations will be included on the June agenda, it was agreed to purchase the requested 5 large poppies for the Litchard street party, the broken item in Coity Castle play area has

been repaired, Councillors M and A Williams will remove the graffiti on the slide and it was unanimously agreed to donate a skip to the Jam in the Castle event which the Clerk would organise. It was agreed that the Clerk would draft a vexatious complainant policy for consideration at the June meeting.

NOTE: Councillor Alan Wathan did not take part in this next item.

14/25-26 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND PLANNING MATTERS

2 planning applications had been received, along with 4 decisions and 1 appeal and 1 item of correspondence from Planning Aid Wales. The planning applications were discussed.

In addition 2 items of correspondence had been received:

PEDW Ref. CAS_04119-v1k710 and PAC Land at Newlands Avenue, Brackla Industrial Estate.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to respond to the PEDW correspondence reiterating the council's comment that the 1976 Commons Act cannot be ignored and asked to object to P/25/234/FUL as this will result in the overdevelopment of a small site, 14 dwellings was capacity and there is no safe walking routes from the site.

15/25-26 ITEMS FOR THE JUNE 2025 ORDINARY MEETING

- Draft Bench Policy
- Draft Vexatious Complainant Policy
- Spring Bulb Order
- Motions for OVW AGM 2025
- Dunraven Estates - Lease Coity Castle Play Area
- Revised Financial Regulations

Resolved: It was agreed to keep the agenda open to include urgent items that may arise during the month.

The next Ordinary council meeting will be held on Thursday 12th June 2025 at Litchard Primary School and via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.02 pm.