



COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 8th JANUARY 2025 AT 7.00 PM via TEAMS

Present: Councillor M Williams(Chair)

Councillors: S Bletsoe
Y Walton-Davies (from 7.32 pm)
G Langdon
L Richards
P Robinson
A Wathan
A Williams
J Williams

Apologies: Councillors N Deere & D Wingar

No Apologies:Councillor L Lewis

Public: None present

Minute 125/25-26

126/25-26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Minute	Interest	Speak/Vote
Steve Bletsoe	BCBC Bridgend TC	All rel n/a	Member Member	No/No No/No
Yvonne Walton-Davies	St Brides Minor CC	138/25-26	Member	No/No
Gareth Langdon	Parc Derwen	129/25-26	Resident	No/No
Luke Richards	Ynysawdre CC	138/25-26	Member	No/No
Peter Robinson	Bridgend TC	n/a	DC/Planning	No/No
Alan Wathan	BCBC Parc Derwen Bridgend TC	All rel 129/25-26 n/a	Member Resident Member	No/No No/No No/No
Amanda Williams	BCBC Proposals by M Williams Chair Coety Primary School	All rel 132/25-26 134 & 135/25-26	Member Wife Chair of Governors	No/No No/No No/No
John Williams	Parc Derwen	129/25-26	Resident	No/No
Martin Williams	BCBC Proposals by A Williams Litchard Primary School St Brides Minor CC	All rel. n/a n/a 138/25-26	Member Husband LEA Governor Councillor	No/No No/No No/No No/No

127/25-26 TO RATIFY THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2025 PRECEPT MEETING

The Minutes of the December 2025 Precept Meeting were presented for approval.

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

128/25-26 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE DECEMBER 2025 PRECEPT MEETING

Minute 115/25-26 Co-option Pendre Ward

This has been re-advertised with a closing date of 5th February 2026 and a decision to be made at the February 2026 meeting.

Minute 116/25-26 To Set the Precept Budget for 26/27

Requested and an acknowledgement received from BCBC.

Minute 124/25-25 Draft Biodiversity Report

Drafted and on the February 2026 agenda.

Resolved: All information was noted.

129/25-26 DEVELOPER UPDATE

Councillor A Williams gave feedback from a meeting held on 12th December 2026 including a site visit with Taylor Wimpey and BCBC Officers to look at plans for the pay area for Gerddi/Trem y Castell. A request was made for the main route through Ffordd Cadfan to be gritted and the grit bins topped up and the same for Parc Derwen. The lighting columns are still not fixed at Parc Derwen, the flooding behind Coety Primary School is being looked at and an update was given on CAT transferring the parks. It was noted that Taylor Wimpey do not have grit bins on Parc Derwen. It has been agreed that parts of Parc Derwen will be adopted, whilst some area still have on-going work being carried out. The chip shop on Parc Derwen is preparing for opening and Pugh's will work on opening this year. Persimmon are creating a crossing point to McArthur Glen. It had been a positive meeting.

Resolved: The information was noted.

130/25-26 CHAIN OF OFFICE

This item had been requested by the Clerk as there is no more room on the current Chair's chain to add tabs from 2020 onwards. Some examples and estimated prices had been obtained by the Clerk. A discussion followed on the like/dislike of civic chains, the historical aspect, in-line with other councils, how the council has grown over the years, a legacy to pass on, the honour of wearing the chains, the cost and value for money, whether names are needed on the chain etc.

Resolved: It was agreed that a chain is needed, that quality is important but the council must be mindful of the budget. It was agreed that engraved names are not needed as we now have a virtual roll of honour board on the council's website and the cost would be taken from the general reserve. The Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk were asked to choose a design and obtain a price to recommend to full council at a future meeting.

131/25-26 MAYOR'S CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

The Awards are now open to receive nominations with a closing date of 16th January 2026. The categories and link to the nomination form had been sent out to all members. This was discussed. Two councillors had already made nominations.

Resolved: It was agreed that any nominations would be made by individual councillors.

132/25-26 EVENT SUGGESTION

Councillor M Williams had attended a civic service earlier this year and suggested that the council is missing an opportunity and proposed that the council considers maybe sponsoring a Christmas carol service or similar event. He asked if the council had an appetite for this, though he wouldn't want it to be extra work for the staff. This was discussed and some suggestions made. It was agreed that it's a good idea.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed to support this proposal and look at ways of sponsoring each of the 3 churches to bring the community together. A working group would be set up.

133/25-26 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1.Payment of Cheques

Authority was requested for the payments of all the invoices listed on the expenditure sheet shown below:

Payee	Description	£	p
HMRC	NI & PAYE December 2025		
RCT Pension	Staff Costs December 2025		
Clerk	December 2025 Salary		
Clerk	Mileage December 2025	29	70
Asst. Clerk	December 2025 Salary		
Asst. Clerk	Mileage December 2025	11	93
SW Contractors Ltd	Creation of footpaths between allotment beds at Coety Primary School (grant funding to be claimed towards the cost)	15,233	75 + VAT

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 December 2025 and the budget monitoring sheet was accepted and approved.

134/25-26 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING PROJECT UPDATES

CAT Update:

A letter was sent to BCBC on 20th November and copied to the CEO, Leader and cabinet office. No acknowledgement or response has been received apart from the Leader's PA acknowledging that the letter had been sent to the Corporate Director's PA.

Project Updates:

Coety Primary School Allotment Paths: the final licence has been received for the Chair to sign, the work started this week and the aim is to finish by the end of the week. The invoice has been included in this month's payment in order for it to show as debited on the council's bank statement so that the Clerk can make a grant funding claim before year end.

Llys Gwyn Play Area: the contractor is on course to start the work in February. V2C have confirmed that they are no longer in a position to help with replacing the benches as time has lapsed and the contractor they had in mind is no longer in contract with them.

Black Path Project: an EOI was submitted in December in time for the CAT Steering Group meeting, however the meeting was cancelled. They met on 7th January though the CAT officer was not in a position to give me any feedback in time for this meeting.

Coity Castle Play Area Lease: no news due to the holiday period.

SSE: no response to the letter we sent to SSE.

Training: the Clerk is booked on a Biodiversity Annual Plan Workshop on 20th January.

Resolved: All information was noted. The Clerk was asked for forward the correspondence with the CAT Officer, V2C and the letter sent on 20th November to Councillor A Williams. The Chair was given the go ahead to sign the Coety Primary School Allotment Paths licence.

135/25-26 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair had attended St Mary's Church Coity's Christmas Carol Service and a service at Gillead Chapel. He had also been a guest on Coety Primary School's radio where he talked about his professional career.

Councillor A Williams, Chair of Governors at Coety Primary, invited any member who wished to speak on their careers or political work to let her know. It is hoped that the service will roll out to the community too. Councillors S Bletsoe, P Robinson and G Langdon said they would be happy to chat.

Resolved: The information was noted.

136/25-26 MEMBER REPORTS

Resolved: There were no member reports.

137/25-26 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES

Councillor A Williams: gave an update on Coety Primary extension plans for the fencing, grit bins and a collapsing pavement in Litchard.

Councillor M Williams: said he'd reminded BCBC that they can compel Welsh Water to take action.

Councillor A Wathan: had nothing to raise.

Resolved: The information was noted.

138/25-26 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:

- St Brides Minor CC - next working group meetings for the bus route and footpath map will be held on 22nd January 2026.
- Brackla Community Council - response ref. email regarding the protocol for wearing chains of office in other wards.
- One Voice Wales - Community Boundary Review webinar
- Resident - correspondence regarding poorly maintained parks
- Resident - complaint ref. overflowing bin Par Derwen
- Public - request for information about the closure of the road from Coity Village onto Heol Simonston
- LEA Governor vacancy Coety Primary School - details online

Resolved: The Chair will attend the Community Boundary Review webinar.

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

139/25-26 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND PLANNING MATTERS

3 planning application had been received, along with 6 decisions and 0 appeals and 2 items of correspondence from Planning Aid Wales. The planning applications were discussed.

Resolved: The planning items and correspondence were noted.

140/25-26 ITEMS FOR THE FEBRUARY 2026 ORDINARY MEETING

- Invite the PCSOs to attend the meeting
- CAT Process Concerns
- Co-option Pendre Ward
- Feedback on Chain of Office

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- Agenda Items T&CC Forum 16/4/26
- Quotes for grass cutting, weed spraying, footpath maintenance and flower provision
- Draft Biodiversity and Resilience Report 2025

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

The next council meeting will be an Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 12th February 2026 at Litchard Primary School and via Teams.

The meeting closed at 8.13 pm.