

CYNGOR CYMUNED DINAS POWYS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting of Full Council

Thursday, 18 December 2025 - Lee Hall – 6.30pm

Minutes of Meeting

Register of Members present

Present:

Cllr J Cowpe (Chair)
Cllr M Cowpe
Cllr A Asbrey
Cllr J Fanshaw
Cllr C Franks
Cllr C Mirza-Davies
Cllr S Griffiths

Cllr D Evans (Vice Chair)
Cllr C Asbrey
Cllr M Phillips
Cllr R Grigg
Cllr V Driscoll
Cllr K Shaw

Also Present

2 members of the public (one in person and one virtually)

Apologies for absence

Cllrs M Hartrey, L Stevens, K Hatton

67. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs D Evans, K Shaw and C Franks declared an interest in item number 72 (Seel Park)

68. To confirm Minutes of Full Council Meeting held on Thursday, 20 November 2025

The Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council held on Thursday; 20 November 2025 having been previously circulated were taken as read. Cllr R Grigg proposed, and seconded by Cllr M Cowpe, it was **RESOLVED** the Minutes be **APPROVED**.

69. Matters arising from Minutes of Full Council

Item 59 Matters Arising from Minutes of Full Council

Item 34 – Empty Houses in Dinas Powys.

Details provided by the Exchequer Manager at Vale of Glamorgan Council were circulated to all Members. The information is not to be disclosed without first seeking permission from the Exchequer Manager.

Item 53 – To consider right of access to land via Cross Common Land

Cllr C Asbrey and the Clerk are still waiting to hear back from Vale of Glamorgan Legal Department regarding this matter i.e. to draft a deed as it appears there is a prescriptive right to access, which would help to 'tidy' the situation up.

Item 63 – To consider disposal of the old flail mower (as replaced with new)

Contractor has been advised to proceed with the disposal of the flail mower and to notify the clerk as and when this occurs.

70. Authorise and confirm

a) Payment of Accounts as at 30 November 2025

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Income and Expenditure Schedule as at 30 November 2025.

b) Financial Position as at 30 November 2025

The Financial Position was **NOTED**.

71. To receive Committees and other Reports

a. Finance and GP Committee – 17 December 2025

Chair of Full Council provided a brief outline of the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Finance and GP Committee. Cllr R Grigg proposed, seconded by Cllr C Mirza-Davies and **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** that the Minutes and **RECOMMENDATIONS** contained therein be **ACCEPTED**.

b. Planning Committee – 17 December 2025

Cllr K Shaw provided a brief outline of the Minutes which had been previously circulated to all members. The Minutes and observations were **NOTED**.

c. Details from Councillors on meetings/training attended

- i) Cllr M Cowpe advised Members that Vale of Glamorgan Council are holding a number of training courses for Vale Councillors. Details to be circulated to Vale Councillors.
- ii) Cllr S Griffiths advised Members that he has 'dropped off' the One Voice Wales email list.

Action: Clerk to notify One Voice Wales; forward AGM invite to Cllr S Griffiths.

a. County Councillors Report

Cllr C Franks provided an update on the issues relevant to Dinas Powys.

i) Car Parking Charges

Car parking charges were introduced in September as part of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's tactic of seeking more income via its car parking strategy. The Council's Cabinet on 04 December agreed that these be suspended temporarily. This follows huge public dissatisfaction with the additional costs at Penarth Cliff Walk, Cold Knap and Bron-y-Mor. The Cabinet were clearly warned by opposition councillors that it was wrong to impose yet more charges. Unfortunately fees continue at other car parks such as Cosmeston.

ii) Murch Play Area

We are struggling to ensure that this well-used play facility is maintained properly. There is decomposing leaves, moss and rain water ponding. Promises are made but still the situation stays the same.

iii) Highway Maintenance

It is clear that the state of roads and payments is worsening. Councillors do their best to report problem areas to the Highways Department.

iv) Project Zero

The Vale Council's reports on the environmental green "Project Zero" indicate that efforts have been *"disappointing"*. It states :- *"It is disappointing that despite considerable work across the Council and investment in our buildings to make them more energy efficient that our carbon emissions increased in 2024/25."*

The council admits that there is *'Persistent absence and rising exclusion rates across primary and secondary sectors remain a significant concern'*.

v) CRUZ Site - Update

The Project Manager from VOG provided the following update
The developer has confirmed that they have selected a replacement Landscape contractor that they wish to appoint.

They will look to appoint this new Landscape contractor to complete the remaining landscaping works shortly. However, given the ground conditions and the winter weather, works will not take place until Spring 2026.

The VOG Project Manager is looking to arrange a few inception meetings in January 2026 with the Developer and Landscaping Contractor to clarify what is expected and the tasks outstanding. The Project Manager will keep the Community Council informed of progress in due course.

Cllr A Asbrey explained it is a complex issue, as are the lines of communication between all of the parties involved. The Community Council's communication is only with the Vale of Glamorgan Council, not the Developers. All COSAC Committee Members have been to the site at one time or another. COSAC Committee Members are to continue liaising with the Vale Council.

72. **To consider proceeding with the Asset Transfer, Seel Park from Vale of Glamorgan Council to Dinas Powys Community Council**

Cllrs C Asbrey and D Evans provided a brief update. They are still waiting to receive the revised quote to resurface the play area as discussed at a site meeting with a Vale Officer. We have provided them with an alternative quote from a supplier used by the Vale in the past. The process has been very slow. Cllr C Asbrey advised that nothing is legally binding yet. However, it was previously agreed in Full Council that we will take over the park if certain conditions are met. The Community Council will draft an email to Rob Thomas to say 'this is what we expect' for the transfer to go ahead. The cost of ground maintenance and litter bins were also mentioned and need to be considered for budgeting purposes.

73. **To consider approving the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2025.**

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Report which is a working document. As such it will be updated as and when required over the next three years.

74. **To consider Management Committee to be Responsible for enacting the Council's Biodiversity Action Plan and bringing biodiversity issues to Full Council**

Cllr C Franks proposed, and seconded by Cllr M Cowpe, and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED that Management Committee be responsible for enacting the Action Plan and bring any biodiversity issues to Full Council.

75. **Correspondence**

Newsletter 'Dinas Powys Cadoxton Catchment' was circulated to all members. It contained updates on current works and details of organisations involved with them. It is hoped the Newsletters will provide consistent communications between the organisations associated with the Natural Flood management in the Cadoxton catchment.

76. **To consider any items which the Chairman has decided are urgent**

The Chair advised Members that he has received a response from Inspector Gareth Childs at South Wales Police as well as two of his Officers. The Clerk has invited them to the next Full Council meeting but is still waiting for confirmation that one of them can attend. Chair suggested that Councillors share any questions they may have with the clerk in advance. The clerk can then compile a list to forward to the Officers attending in advance, to facilitate discussions at the meeting of Full Council.

77. **Matters which the Chairman and other Members may wish to bring before Council**

a) **Puffin Crossing on Cardiff Road**

Cllr V Driscoll mentioned that works for the new Puffin Crossing on Cardiff Road (near the entrance to Bryn Y Don) appear to be in the wrong place but this is not the case. The crossing is a part of the Active Travel plan. Works will restart in January 2026

b) **Dinas Powys Flood Action Group**

Cllr C Mirza-Davies shared some of the details contained in the Groups latest Newsletter; 88 houses have now had their flood protection gates installed. Their next meeting is scheduled for 10 January 2026. In that meeting they plan to address the volunteer issue.

c) A pile of metal poles, with jagged edges, left by a bin has been reported to the Vale and dealt with.

d) The Chair expressed his thanks to Cllr M Phillips and his team's hard work at Dinas Powys Library in coordinating the delivery of Christmas Cards. This year the deliveries have been extended beyond Dinas Powys to Penarth, Rhos, St Athan, Sully Michaelston-le-Pit and Wenvoe.

PART 2 – CONFIDENTIAL

Cllr C Franks proposed, seconded by Cllr J Fanshaw that the Meeting move to Part 2 – Confidential. The public and press (if any) are to be excluded from the meeting in order to consider personal data.

78. **Approval of Councillors Absences**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Councillors absences for six months, pursuant to Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

79. **Staff Matters**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Management Committee's recommendations.

The Chair closed the meeting and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

80. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next Full Council Meeting will be held on **Thursday, 15 January 2026**

Signature:

Date: