CYNGOR CYMUNED DINAS POWYS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting of Full Council

Thursday, 17 September - Lee Hall – 6.30pm

Minutes of Meeting

Register of Members present

Present:

Cllr D Evans (Chair)
Cllr J Cowpe
Cllr M Cowpe
Cllr A Asbrey (via Zoom Conferencing)
Cllr C Mirza-Davies
Cllr C Franks
Cllr K Hatton
Cllr R Grigg
Cllr C Asbrey (Vice Chair)
Cllr J Fanshaw
Cllr K Shaw
Cllr V Driscoll
Cllr M Phillips (via Zoom Conferencing)
Cllr S Griffiths
Cllr L Stevens

Also Present

1 member of the public
4 members of Bethesda Chapel

40. Apologies for Absence

Cllr M Hartrey

41. Declaration of Interests

There were no declaration of interests.

42. Bethesda Chapel – Bible presentation

The Chair welcomed Leaders of Bethesda Chapel, Matt Guy, Jeff Lacey, Roger Newbury and Jean Newburry to the meeting and read out a short history of Bethesda Chapel which celebrated its centenary in November 2025. Before handing out the bibles to Members present, Roger Newbury thanked the Chair and began by explaining how Bethesda Chapel decided to dedicate the anniversary by giving a personalised copy of the bible to every household in Dinas Powys. 3585 books have been hand delivered in total. The response from residents has been overwhelming. On behalf of Bethesda Chapel Roger Newbury thanked all the Councillors for everything they have done for the community.

Cllr L Stevens expressed her gratitude to Bethesda Chapel. Cllr Stevens noted that she has attended services at their Chapel on several occasions with friends, particular Baptism services. She remarked that following every visit she leaves the church with a heightened sense of personal reflection and thought.

On behalf of the Council, the Chair thanked members of the Chapel

[Leaders of Bethesda Chapel left the Meeting]

[As members of the public were present, the Chair changed the Agenda order by moving Item 47 forward]

47. Brookside Crossing

a. Correspondence from residents

Correspondence received from the Older People's Commissioner for Wales and from a member of the public and was circulated to all members.

b. To note the abrupt closure of the pedestrian crossing to Brookside by Network Rail
The Chair invited a member of the public present at the meeting to speak to Council. He advised Members that as a previous train driver, he spoke from experience. He also worked on the trains which passed through Eastbrook. He has written to Network Rail 3 times but hasn't received reply from them. He has also written to the Senior Officers of the Vale Legal Department and Highways Department. Having looked at Network Rail's Policies and Risk Assessment he believes they have not fulfilled their duties, and that the closure is not 'legal'.

c. To consider and agree that; the Council resolves to object to this closure of the crossing and make appropriate representations to Network Rail, the Vale of Glamorgan Council, the local Senedd members and the Senedd Transport Minister
Following a discussion it was RESOLVED, the Council write to Network Rail, Vale of Glamorgan Council, the Local Senedd Members and Senedd Transport Minister, to complain about the handling of the residents' letters of complaint to Network Rail, and if they do not respond within 40 days, ask them to refer him to the Independent Complaints Assessor. It was also suggested the Council refer the matter to the Rail Ombudsman and the Office of Rail and Road.

The Chair thanked the member of public for their work.

[The Chair returned to the normal Agenda]

43. To confirm Minutes of the Full Council held on Thursday, 16 July 2026
The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday; 16 July 2026 having been previously circulated were taken as read. Cllr J Cowpe proposed, and seconded by Cllr R Grigg it was **RESOLVED** the Minutes be **APPROVED.**

44. Matters arising from the Minutes of Full Council held on 16 July 2026
Cllr M Cowpe asked PC D Tunnicliffe and PCSO S Byrne could be invited to attend a future meeting.
Action: Clerk to contact South Wales Police

45. To authorise and confirm

a. Payment of Accounts as at 31 August 2026
Cllr K Hatton proposed, seconded by Cllr R Grigg and Council **APPROVED** the Payments of Accounts for August 2026.

b. Financial Position as at 31 August 2026
The Financial Position was **NOTED.**

46. To receive Committees and other reports

a. Planning Committee – 15 July 2026
The Minutes of this meeting were noted at the previous Full Council meeting held on Thursday, 16th July.

b. Halls Committee – 14 July 2026
The Minutes of this meeting were ratified at the previous Full Council meeting held on Thursday, 16th July.

c. COSAC Committee – 15 September 2026
Cllr C Franks provided a brief overview of the Minutes, emphasising the need to keep a better eye on the cemetery. All members are welcome to meeting on the Twyn to

discuss a planting scheme on Thursday, 24 September at 11am. A Working Group for Cross Common has been set up.

Cllr K Hatton raised a few points, notably the Planting Scheme; the Council will need to think about how and who will water the plants?

As the boundary of Cross Common is vague in places there may well be a need to fence it. The Chair advised this is one of the recommendations in the Ecology Report and as outlined in the COSAC Draft Minutes, to Recommend to Full council that they Council employs a Surveyor in order to establish the boundary. Cllr K Hatton advised he was approached by WANDP and proposed they should be allowed to get on with grass cutting on Cross Common at the weekend as the weather is fine. The Chair informed Cllr K Hatton that was not what was agreed in COSAC. The Chair of COSAC confirmed what had been said. Cllr K Hatton was concerned about climate change.

Following a brief discussion it was AGREED NOT to give permission to WANDP to make a start. The date for the first Cross Common Working Group meeting is to be brought forward to Tuesday 29th September at 10am. It was also suggested the Working Group make the decisions.

Action: Clerk to notify all interested groups/individuals of the new date.

Cllr V Driscoll noted in Item 25 – that realigning the stones on Southra side of the Common was omitted from the Draft Minutes.
Action: Clerk to amend the Minutes accordingly.

Cllr R Grigg proposed, seconded by Cllr C Asbrey, and AGREED by Members that Council accept the recommendations contained therein.

d. Finance and GP Committee
Extraordinary Meetings – 2nd & 9 September – **SEE PART 2 - CONFIDENTIAL**
Cllr R Grigg proposed, seconded by Cllr C Mirza-Davies and AGREED by Full Council, NOT to accept the Recommendations in the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meetings held on 2nd and 9th September 2026.

e. Report from Councillors on meetings/training attended

i. Meeting with the National Lottery
Cllrs D Evans, A Asbrey, C Asbrey, J Fanshaw and the Clerk attended a Teams Meeting on Thursday, 10th September at 11am regarding applying for lottery funding. The meeting was informative.

ii. Dinas Powys Flood Volunteer Group – Training Session
Cllrs C Mirza Davies and M Phillips attended a training session put together by the Dinas Powys Flood Volunteer Group, on how to put up the flood barriers on residential properties. They also discussed other PFR measures and talked about how to help homes without PFR. It was a very productive session.

iii Cardiff City Council & University of Wales Health Board
Cllr M Cowpe attended a meeting set up Cardiff City Council and the University of Wales Health Board last week. It is intended to encourage people to express their concerns about the health service

f. County Councillors Report
Cllr C Franks provided an update on the issues relevant to Dinas Powys.

i. Railway Scandal
The closure of the Brookside crossing affects many but especially elderly people. We have written to the Age Concern Cymru and the Older People's Commissioner for Wales about the situation asking for support. We await a full reply.

ii. Road Clutter
We have reported more abandoned traffic signs across the community. Most have been removed.

iii. Victoria Bridge, Penarth
The bridge has a weight limit of 3 tonnes. This rule however, seems to be frequently broken.

iv. Footpath to Biglis to Parc Bryn y Don
The footpath proposals are being presented to the Vale Planning committee.

v. New recycling Services
The Vale is proposing the expansion of the textile recycling service across the entire Vale following a successful trial in Barry. Every item recycled is one less item going into a black bag, helping reduce waste, increase recycling and support Project Zero and environmental objectives. These changes would make it easier for residents to recycle more and waste less.

vi. The expansion of textile recycling across the Vale would provide opportunities for residents to recycle unwanted clothing, shoes and household textiles through a convenient kerbside collection service. The initiative follows the success of the Barry trial, which has demonstrated strong public participation and the potential to increase recycling rates.

The Chair raised a question about additional hygiene collections. She had heard they were going to be weekly and was there any information about it? There is not as yet.

County Councillors -Anne Asbrey, Marianne Cowpe, Chris Franks

48. Social Media Guidance

The Chair took the opportunity to remind Members of the key issues regarding the Community Council's Social Media Guidance

- To be honest and open
- Be mindful
- Do not discuss colleagues
- Think before posting
- Engage positively

Cllr J Cowpe applauded the Chair for the reminder.

PART 2 CONFIDENTIAL

Cllr K Hatton proposed, seconded by Cllr J Cowpe 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 confidential data in Items 49a – 49g.

49. Parish Hall Roof

[The meeting resumed as normal]

50. To consider any items which the Chairman has decided are urgent
There were no items the Chairman decided were urgent

51. Matters which the Chairman and other Members may wish to bring before Council
There were no matters the Chairman or other Members wished to bring before Council

52. Date of next Meeting – Thursday 15 October 2026

Signature: …… Date: …….