CYNGOR CYMUNED DINAS POWYS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
COSAC Committee

Minutes of – Extraordinary Meeting of COSAC Committee held in the Old Library
Tuesday 13 October 2026 at 13.30hrs

Register of those Present

Cllr A Asbrey (Chair)
Cllr D Evans
Cllr K Hatton
Cllr V Driscoll
Cllr C Asbrey
Cllr M Phillips - via Zoom conferencing

Also Present

A Bassett Evans – Footpaths Warden
D Guy – Resident

31. **Apologies for Absence**
Cllrs C Franks, K Shaw
A Holcombe, Allotment Representative

32. **Declaration of Interests**
There were no Declarations of Interest

33. **To consider and approve Actions contained in the Notes of the Cross Common Working Group meeting held on 29 September 2026**
Notes taken at the meeting were circulated to all Members present (see attached document). A discussion took place over the items listed in the Notes. The Committee's **RECOMMENDATIONS for Full Council** are outlined below.

1. **Land Survey of Cross Common**
Nothing to discuss. Clerk currently seeking quotes.

2. **Gravel area in front of the two residential properties**
Members **AGREED** in principle with the recommendation to place boulders along the edge of the gravel area to prevent further encroachment onto the grassland. It **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** the Clerk looks for quotes.

   Cllr D Evans advised she has approached a local quarry to inquire about the possibility of the donating any boulders and surplus materials which the council could put to good use at Cross Common. Cllr D Evans will provide any updates on their response.
   Action: Clerk to pursue and seek additional quotes and or possible donations.

3. **Bridle Path – the boggy area before the Bridle Path**
Members **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** to resident, D Guy's proposal to measure out the boggy area and price the stone/materials needed to do the work.
Note this is only on the condition the Council provide the materials.
Action: Clerk to liaise with D Guy

4. **Bamboo and other vegetation situated between the two residential properties**
Members **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** to resident R Richards cutting back the bamboo and other vegetation situated in the area between the two properties. The bamboo needs to be removed completely as per the recommendations in the Ecology Report. Care must be taken not to damage the telegraph wires located in this area.
Action: Clerk to contact R Richards

5. **Encroachment of Brambles on Cross Common**
   Members **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** to initially cutting the back the brambles hard, rather than in stages

   It was noted that WAND would be prepared to cut the grass land back once a year in late summer and remove the cut material from the grassland (not three times a year as initially thought).
   Note: Clarity is needed on how much of the grassland they are prepared to cut back

6. **Pathway through woodland**
   Members **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** to clearing an existing pathway (currently overgrown with brambles) leading from the grassland on Cross Common towards Rest Harrow.

   Action: Clerk to notify residents living in neighbouring property of the above proposals.

7. **Back History**
   It was noted that previous clearance work at Cross Common took place in 2012 **not** 20 years ago..

   Note: **No work is to commence on any of the above recommendations before first contacting the Clerk. Maintenance Manager is also to be kept informed of any works.**

34. <u>St Andrews Cemetery – Burial Board Fees</u>

A discussion took place over the cost of a test dig a burial plot to ensure there was enough space to accommodate a third full coffin burial. It was **RESOLVED** to reimburse the grave owner £60.
Action: Clerk to arrange repayment.

27. <u>Any Items which the Chairman has decided are urgent</u>

<u>Email from Resident – re: ivy growth</u>
A discussion took place over a residents' concerns of ivy growth encroaching into their garage, from the Scout Field in Greenfield Avenue.
Action: Cllr C Asbrey and Clerk to draft a letter

28. <u>Any items Members would like to bring to the attention of the Committee</u>

There were no items Members wished to bring to the attention of the Committee.

29. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, 3 November 2026

Signature: …… Date: ……

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COSAC COMMITTEE - CROSS COMMON WORKING PARTY
TUESDAY 29th SEPTEMBER

NOTES

Present:
Cllrs A Asbrey, V Driscoll, C Asbrey, D Evans and C Franks
Dave Guy, Lauren Aldridge Local Nature Partnership (VoG), Angela Peterken, WANDP, Anne Bassett Evans (DPCC footpaths Warden), Ronald Richards

Apologies
Jocelle Lovell, Cllr K Hatton, Adrian Holcombe (Allotment Rep)

Cllr Anne Asbrey welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone present agreed the Common had been neglected and work was needed. The main items for discussion were as follows:

1. **Land Survey of Cross Common**
   Clerk is currently in the process of seeking quotes. Quotes will be presented to COSAC and Finance Committee.

2. **Gravel area in front of the two residential properties**
   To prevent this area expanding and encroachment onto the Common it was suggested that a row of large boulders, similar to those on Dinas Powys Common are placed there. Dave Guy is prepared to put them into position if the Council purchase and drop them off at Cross Common. Everyone present AGREED there were strong grounds for this.

   Action: Clerk to seek quote

3. **Bridle Path – the boggy area before the Bridle Path**
   The soil here is clay and can hold lots of water – resulting in a boggy, claggy area which continues to be a problem, especially during the wet months. Inevitably horse hooves and human footprints cause a lot of damage to the soil in this area.

   For whatever reason it was never the plan was excavate the grassland area of the common for the bridle path. In hindsight it may have been a good idea for the Council to have considered this and pay the difference.

   Dave Guy is prepared to measure out the area, price the stone/materials needed and do with work, if the Council provide the material.

4. **Bamboo and other vegetation situated between the two residential properties**
   As the vegetation growing in this area is obscuring his CCTV cameras, Ronald Richards is prepared to cut back the vegetation and the bamboo which is non-native.

   Note: The Ecology Report did suggest weed killer/poison is used to kill the bamboo. The roots of the bamboo are intertwined with the telecoms wires at the bottom of the post

5. **Encroachment of Brambles on Cross Common**
   There were to strain of thoughts

   a. **Hard clearance of Brambles** which have over years of neglect encroached onto the Grass area and woodland. Dave Guy is prepared to cut back the brambles hard with his Flail Mower and leave WANDP to continue with their method.

b. **Cut back the brambles in stages** - WANDP would prefer to manage and cut back the brambles in stages rather than in one fell swoop as it would be better for the wildlife. If managed this way, Nature in Partnership may be happy to use their flail mower.
WANDP would also be prepared to cut the grass land 3 times a year using scythes.
Note: WANDP do have insurance to use tools of this type.. DPCC does have insurance cover for volunteers. Clerk, needs to check specifics.

WANDP would also be happy to make a record of species of plants in the area. Lauran from Local Nature Partnership suggested coming back separately with a Ranger.

6. **Pathway through woodland**
Dave Guy is prepared to help clear a path through the brambles leading down towards Rest Harrow
Note: It is possible to see a pathway, which previously ran to the

7. **Back History**
Dave Guy explained that approximately 20 years ago he did some clearance work on the Common on behalf of the Council. Acorn Trees cleared the area of trees at the same time. In doing so, it opened up the area running alongside Cross Common Road and help to discourage fly tippers and joy riders. Now this area is once again congested with vegetation there is evidence of fly tipping.

Further Actions: Contact Lisa Elliot c/o Active Travel to enquire whether there is any scope to help create a footpath through the woodland.

Details contained in these notes are to be presented to COSAC COMMITTEE

Date of next meeting: TBC

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