



Gwernyfed Community Council
Minutes of Gwernyfed Community Council AGM
Held in person at Felindre Hall and online.
Meeting Date & Time: 11th December 2025, 7.30pm

Cllr Nick Pritchard	Chair, Finance Sub-Committee	Present
Cllr Mike Bugler	Vice Chair, Finance Sub-Committee	Present
Cllr Peter Varcoe	Personnel & Finance Sub-Committee	Present
Cllr Will Lloyd	County Councillor	Present
Cllr Graham Day		Present
Cllr Kelly Doel		Present
Cllr Chris Jones	Personnel & Finance Sub-Committee	Present
Sue Thomas	Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer	Present

Item of Business		Action
1.	Declarations of Interest	None
2.	Apologies	None
3.	Agree minutes of 13 November 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes of the 13 November 2025 were proposed as a true and correct record of the proceedings. Proposed: Cllr Day, Seconded: Cllr Varcoe 	All Approved
4.	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No response yet from PCC about the footpath at the bus stop in Glasbury. 20251113 – agreed to progress this in January 2026 Clerk has informed Dyfed-Powys Police that GCC do not manage any CCTV. No comments received from Councillors on the consultation on changes to local government elections. Wi-Fi at St Peter's Church Hall Action – Clerk to give details of current Felindre Village Hall Wi-Fi provider to Cllr Day. Action - Cllrs Day and Bugler to visit Anne Collins. Action: Clerk to pick up with potential suppliers about the Wi-Fi – there is some urgency to have the Wi-Fi up and running by the beginning of February 2026 as there will be some of the Community Skills Training Sessions held there. Clerk has contacted PCC Planning Department and requested the Section 106 Agreement No update from Welsh Audit Office yet Section 6 report – Clerk to resend to all councillors, must be published by 31 December and sent to OVW 	Noted Noted Noted Clerk Cllrs Day and Bugler Clerk Noted Clerk
5.	Correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OPCC Survey OVW Survey – The Clerk has partially filled this in and requires more information. Action – Clerk to resend to Cllr Pritchard for added info. PTHB Charity Fundraise for inpatient Christmas Presents - PAVO e-Bulletin Resignation Update – Rachel Harding - Noted the appreciation of the councillors to Rachel. Consequences of Cllr Resignation. PCC Returning Officer has been informed, Notice of Vacancy has been posted, Checklist has been sent to and actions confirmed by Rachel Harding, Email and OneDrive access has been removed. Talgarth Focus Group Invite. This has been sent to Councillors. There is a link in the email, to register interest in attending. PTHB Winter Vaccinations Programme 	Noted Clerk Noted Noted Noted Noted Noted
6.	Finances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank Balances – Current: £18,622.11 Reserve: £9,945.14 (inc. interest £7.24) #DE017 - Pay Llanigon Hall Community Skills Retrospective Decision £60.00 	Clerk

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #DE018 - Pay Digital Skills Trainer Retrospective Decision £375 • #DE019 - Pay Wye Local Advert Retrospective Decision £193.20 • #DE021 - Propose the following Invoices and Expenses to be paid - Clerk's Salary £443.52, Clerk's Expense inc. Llanigon Village Hall £83.10, MSFT December (Cllr Pritchard) - £52.92, Vodafone December £27.55, HMRC £11.94 • Cashbook has been updated and circulated. • #DE013 – Propose Approval of Budget vs Actual and Cashbook • Review Draft Budget 2026-27 • Proposer and Seconder for all Decisions Proposed: Cllr Bugler, Seconded Cllr Jones 	
7.	Communication and Publication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication Plan has been prepared. • First Article – Flooding at the Gro – has been published (Cllr Bugler) Noted that the article did not appear to be live. Action – Clerk to check with the Webmaster. • Second Article – Community Life Skills – is in progress (Cllr Pritchard) • Councillors have all agreed to review the articles they could write and will work with Cllr Pritchard and the Clerk to produce them over the next 12 months. 	Clerk Clerk All
8.	Review Draft Budget for 2026-27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance Sub-committee have prepared the Draft Budget for 2026-27 <p>The Clerk has received the Tax Base Table and Precept Request form to be completed and sent to PCC by 31 January 2026.</p> <p>Councillors reviewed the draft budget and a proposal to accept the draft was put forward.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Day, Seconded: Cllr Pritchard</p>	Approved
9.	Solar Speed Sign - Elan City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elan City Solar have emailed to ask if GCC has an update on the potential order for the Solar Powered Radar Speed Signs at the discounted rate of £ 4679.98 plus VAT. <p>Decision #DE021: The proposal is to proceed to purchase two Solar Powered Radar Speed Signs, both to be sighted in Three Cocks, pending a view from Cllr Lloyd as to whether Planning Permission would be granted. Proposed Cllr Bugler, Seconded: Cllr Pritchard</p> <p>Action – start planning permission for Signs at Three Cocks.</p> <p>Action – Cllr Lloyd to contact PCC about potential pre-planning approval.</p> <p>Action – Postpone buying the signs for two weeks while Cllr Lloyd investigates the Planning Permission.</p> <p>Action – Clerk to negotiate an extension on the discount if possible. Will to contact PCC re planning permission.</p>	Approved Clerk Cllr Lloyd Clerk Clerk
10.	Anti-Poverty Locality Fund Support – Training Initiative Update Re #DE011 The Clerk has approached VISI Direct about the impact of their delivery schedule on the campaign. They were given an opportunity to make reparation, and after negotiation, they offered 2 options. Please see email in the Meeting Documents folder. Option 1 - 30% discount on one future campaign Option 2 - 20% discount on 2 future campaigns. The Clerk suggested that Option 2 was the most economically advantageous, should GCC wish to engage with VISI Direct for any future campaigns. Four Councillors responded 'yes' to Option 2, so as there were time constraints in the contract to ensure a resolution, the Clerk confirmed with VISI Direct that GCC would accept Option 2. Retrospective Decision Required #DE020 Proposed Cllr Bugler, Seconded Cllr Varcoe Cllr Pritchard updated the Council on the feedback from the attendees. All rated the training sessions very good or excellent. There was a request to hold a First Aid course in the summer as some of the community were hesitant to attend on dark winter nights. Action - Clerk to work with VISI Direct in January to arrange delivery last week of Jan/1 st week of Feb for 17/2. To be booked and paid for in December 2025. Councillors thought the sessions they attended were very good. However, as some of the older community, who would benefit from the Digital Skills training especially considering the scams they could be subjected to, were hesitant about attending on dark winter nights, the question was raised about providing more sessions in the summer months. Additionally, the question was raised about providing handouts to all the community on how to avoid the scams etc. Feedback:	Approved Noted Clerk Noted

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Aid – there was a lot of content and attendees asked that future sessions split this into 2 or more to cover more in depth at each session. Other councils have approached Cllr Pritchard asking for advice on how to run these themselves. <p>Action – it was decided to Capitalise on the negotiated discount offer from VISI Direct to distribute the annual budgets, newsletter etc in New Year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that at least one member of the Gwernyfed community has been a victim of a sophisticated phone scam and Cllr Bugler noted that we should make the community aware of these scams. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Noted</p>
11.	Planning Applications and Notices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	Noted
12.	Green Spaces – CAT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bill of Quantities (BOQ) received for Boules Area Progress Update All Heads of Terms sent to Fred Morgan at Morgan’s Law- Nothing received from Powys solicitor, chased again on holiday, Job assigned to Ffion Howarth. Meeting with Dave Jenkinson contractor, £37,000. More than anticipated. 2 more quotes to be requested. Three Cocks Matter committee are drafting a funding strategy and will share this soon with Cllr Bugler. Radnorshire Wildlife Trust have agreed to provide 500 trees for free for the green spaces. 	<p>Cllr Bugler</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
13.	County Councillor’s Report Powys County Council – Key Updates (Oct & Dec 2025) Leader’s Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet Reshuffle (Oct): Aligning with Sustainable Powys priorities, portfolio changes included Learning Powys and Adult Social Care. Transport Investment (Dec): £12.8 million secured from Welsh Government for Mid Wales transport improvements. Council Motions October 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Cohesion & Anti-Discrimination: Motion to reaffirm Powys as a county of sanctuary and counter misinformation. Visitor Accommodation Levy: Discussion on implementing or consulting further. Pensions Divestment: Motion to review investments linked to human rights concerns. December 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statement of Common Ground: Reintegration of MOD safeguarding zone into Local Development Plan. Mid Wales Dental School: Support for establishing a regional dental school. Air Ambulance Rapid Response Vehicles: Request to implement RRVs before base closures. Cabinet Decisions (Oct–Dec) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Tax Base 2026–27 Approved: Set at 65,692.50; no premium changes. Annual Corporate Self-Assessment 2024–25 endorsed. Audit Wales Risk Review Response and Severn Valley Water Management update noted. Post-16 Learning Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Review: Consultation underway to address declining sixth form numbers, limited curriculum, and financial sustainability. Challenges: Lower A-level performance vs Welsh average; 25% of learners leave Powys for post-16 education. Options Proposed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rationalise sixth forms (larger cohorts). Create two dedicated post-16 centres (Newtown & Brecon). Retain current model with improvements. 	Noted

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeline: Consultation through Nov 2025; public consultation on shortlisted options in summer 2026; implementation expected by 2030. Implications for Gwernyfed Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor potential sixth form changes and advocate for local access. • Engage in consultations to influence post-16 provision. • Prepare for possible transport and infrastructure impacts linked to new hubs. New Survey – Have Your Say for Powys Action - Put the link to this on the website, and on Facebook.	Clerk/Cllr Pritchard
14.	Training Report: Training Dates loaded - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new dates for December 2025, waiting for new dates for January 2026. Action - send latest training dates to Councillors 	Clerk
15.	Forward Look For January Council Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget • Grit Bins • Noted that the next Full Council meeting in January will be held online only 	Clerk Noted
16.	Close of meeting The meeting was closed at 9.35	Noted

Signed on behalf of Gwernyfed Community Council

Signature:		Chair of Gwernyfed Community Council	
Name:		Date:	

Next Meeting DATE 2026 at 7.30 pm as a virtual meeting over Teams