

CYNGOR CYMUNED TAWE UCHAF COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 19th February, 2026

Present: Councillors Stephen Davies, Sandra Howard, Gareth Hayton, Susan Pyart, Ann Watkins, Sandra Clayton, Alun Thomas (via ZOOM), County Councillor David Thomas (via ZOOM)

Observers - None

In attendance – PC Luke Shackley, Ystradgynlais Police

The Chairman welcomed members to the February meeting of the Council.

1. **Apologies for absence** were approved from Councillors Arlene Jones, Geoff Woods and Gail Hopkins-Williams.
2. **Declarations of interest –** None declared.
3. **Police Matters –** PC Luke Shackley provided an update. The Police and Fire Service had attended a fire at the former Coelbren School. The fire had been started deliberately. The Police are following up and taking action against the perpetrator's. The Fire service is also considering follow up action.
In response to questions, the Police will continue to monitor parked vehicles on the side of the road at Craig y Nos and on Heol Eglwys Coelbren. The Council registered concerns of speeding traffic on the A4067 from Ynyswen to the National Showcaves and on the A4221 Inter Valley Road, near Cefnbyrle and requested monitoring by the Roads Policing Unit.
4. **Finance**
 - a) **Income/Expenditure Report –** The report to 31/01/26 had been circulated. The Clerk summarised the report. The Council approved the report.
 - b) **Budget Update –** The budget update had been circulated. The Council approved the update.
 - c) **February Payment Register –** The Council approved the payment register.
5. **Planning –** Ref 24/23469/Full Reconsultation due to amendment.
Retrospective installation of one sheperd's hut and one lodge for holiday accommodation use on agricultural land. Associated retrospective installation of toilet and shower room within agricultural workshop, and establishment of external washing up area and bin store. Proposed replacement of exizting septic tank with sewage treatment plant and drainage plant to serve retrospective development and farmhouse. Cae Glas, Penycae.
The Council considered the amended retrospective application and agreed the following comments;

Thank you for inviting the Council to comment on the reconsultation of planning ref 24/23469/FUL at Cae Glas.

The Council considered the reconsultation at its recent meeting and approved the following comments;

1. The Council records its concern at the use of retrospective planning applications;
2. The Council cannot support the application for reasons of highway safety, previously submitted. The Council has serious road safety concerns at the junction of the site access road with the A4067 highway. The road junction to the site is on a series of bends on the A4067. The approach from the North is on a blind bend on the A4067. Therefore, the Council respectfully suggests the junction should be modified to create a clear line of sight to approaching traffic on the A4067. Any proposed modification of the junction of the A4067 should be subject to a further consultation process. The Council requests the planning authority to apply a consistent approach on highway safety.
3. Any right of way/bridleway close to the site location must be protected and any changes subject to a legal diversion order;
4. The bio-diversity of the area must be protected;
5. All visitors must be made aware of neighbouring agricultural holdings and respect the presence of livestock on the hillsides.

6. Footpath/Playgrounds

- a) Playground Inspection Report** – Gareth Hayton presented the inspection report. Chain and bearing wear on swings was visible at each site. The chains and connections will need to be replaced. In addition the seat on the see-saw at Cefnbyrle will need to be replaced. The Playground team is meeting Stephan Butcher of PCC in March for discussion on possible replacement of the chains and bearings. The gate at Caehopkin will be inspected during the visit. An update will be provided at the next meeting of the Council. Other issues identified, concerned cleaning of play equipment. The Clerk will discuss with staff of the probation service.

In response to a question the bearing assembly on the basket swing at Penycae was inspected regularly. If a failure was identified, the basket and chain will be removed to prevent use and a replacement unit purchased.

- b) Caehopkin Playground Trees** – A report of the site meeting with Ein Cwmni Coed had been circulated. The Council approved the report. Further, Ein Cwmni Coed have advised they intend to commence work on the 20th April.

- 7. Interpretive Panel – Supplier Selection** – The selection of a supplier was deferred from the last meeting. The Chairman circulated an update with supplier matrix, to the Council. The Council considered the information provided and approved the selection of Anglezarke Dixon. The Clerk was asked to contact Anglezarke Dixon to attend an exploratory meeting to commence the project. The Council will write to the Welfare Hall Committee, with a request to locate the panel outside the Hall.

8. Correspondence

- a) **Cross Border Healthcare Meeting** – Llandrindod Town Council have advised that the initial meeting will be held over ZOOM on Monday 16th March at 6.30pm. Susan Pyart will represent the Council.
- b) **A4221 Highway** – Jo Lancey of PCC has responded to advise, due to absence from work, the signage review remains outstanding. The work will be undertaken in the near future.
- c) **1st Caehopkin Scouts** – A request for a donation was made by the Scouts. The Council approved a donation of £200.00 to the Scouts.
- d) **Local Bus Service No 62** – The Chairman had progressed a previous complaint, made to PCC, requesting a change to allow the 62 service to serve Cefnbyrle. A failure by drivers to recognise the bus stop at Cefnbyrle was also raised.
- e) **Annual Remuneration Report** – The Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru has published the annual remuneration report. The report had been previously published by the IRPW. The only changes for Community and Town Councils is the optional financial loss compensation. The Council noted the report.

9. **County Council update** – County Councillor David Thomas provided a County Council update. A Sustainable Powys update will be presented at Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall on the 9th March. The update will include economic developments in Powys and a presentation on pride in place. Stephen Davies and Susan Pyart will represent the Council.

Refuse and Recycling – Following a review some areas of Powys will have the collection days changed. The Council was mailing all residents with information of changes and an update on recyclables.

Council Budget – The Council's draft budget for 2026/2027 will be considered by the full Council on the 26th February. The forecast Council tax increase is 4.9%.

10. **Annual Report** – The draft annual report had been circulated for comment. No comments were made. The report will be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

11. **Councillor Vacancy** – No expressions of interest have been received. Facebook messages are continuing.

12. **Minutes 15/01/26** – The minutes of the previous meeting on 15/01/26 were approved and signed as a true record.

13. **Matters Arising** – There were no matters arising.

14. Member Issues

- a) **National Trust Land** – Sandra Howard advised that Chris Smith of the National Trust had been in contact with the Hall Committee to discuss current lease between the NT and Hall. Gareth Hayton expressed surprise. In his opinion the lease would not up for renewal at this time. A further update will be provided to the next meeting.

- b) OVW AGM Report** – The Chairman had circulated a report of the OVW AGM together with minutes and finance reports. The Council noted the report.
- c) Defibrillator Caehopkin** – The defibrillator at Caehopkin is out of order. Susan Pyart will undertake further tests on the unit. The Clerk advised a set of batteries were available in stock.

15. Date of Next Meeting 19th March 2026