



**CRICKHOWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
CYNGOR Y DRE CRUG HYWEL**

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15 April 2025 at 7pm at Crickhowell Resource and Information Centre.

**PRESENT**

Cllr P Evans– Chair  
Cllr L Baber  
Cllr Davies  
Cllr S Evans  
Cllr Gruffydd

Cllr Goodman  
Cllr Hall  
Cllr Jeremiah  
Cllr Masefield  
C Beatty – Clerk

**6514: Apologies for absence**

Cllr D'Anna and Morgans.

The Chair shared news of the resignation of Cllr Duncan McInnes. Everyone agreed this was a great loss to the council.

The Clerk was tasked to start the vacancy recruitment process.

**6515: Declarations of Interest**

None.

**6516: Questions from the public**

None.

**6517: Approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 18 March 2025.**

Approved.

**6518: Quick updates and reports on ongoing projects including:**

**Friends of QEII Field:** An inaugural meeting has been held with all taking on different tasks to progress improvements in the park. Cty Cllr Hall is still seeking legal contacts.

**Data entry officer vacancy:** the successful applicant has pulled out. Council agreed to go with the second applicant.

Mayors Initials: 



**VE Day events: the road closure has been approved. A resident is** coordinating a street party on the Sunday. Councillors are encouraged to attend the events at the Clarence Hall as well as the street party. It was suggested that the council should purchase badges for such events to identify Councillors.

**Castle Park Christmas Tree:** It was noted that the Council will need to consider the electrics for the proposed tree.

**Castle Park works:** Cllr D'Anna had sent an update email sharing progress in 24-25 and listing the following focuses for 25-26: tump path, Christmas lights tree, permissive path, water butt installation, wood planter installation, Castle Park signage, information signage, and litter reduction. It was noted that the soft-pour has a large hole developing which needs to be fixed.

**Website, Teams:** It was agreed that we would move to a Microsoft Business account and get Teams set up properly. Cllr Goodman will speak to the new website designer to see if the back end can be simplified.

**Town WiFi** The installers have put in the routers on Grenfells, the Library and Crickhowell Adventure. The wifi is a good initiative for the town and shows the council is digitally inclusive. The switch on date is not yet known. It was noted that the Council may need to budget for use of electricity at around £100 a year.

**Permissive path:** Cllr Davies will follow up with Cllr Morgans and the contractor. Christmas light tree: Cllr Baber and Masefield are progressing this. Cllr Baber asked if the Council could purchase a copy of the regulations of putting up lights in public places. The Clerk offered to see if another council would lend a copy of the regulations.

**Pedestrian crossing:** a generic response had been received to the Chair's letter. It was agreed that the letter and response should be shared on the noticeboard and Facebook.

**One Voice Wales Awards:** Cllr Goodman and Gruffydd (and latterly Cllr Hall) will represent the Council

Penguin Books 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary: Cllr Goodman has submitted an application for a book swap arrangement.

**Actions:**

**Cllr Davies to fix soft pour**

**Clerk to sort out Microsoft account.**

**Cllr Goodman speak to website designer**

**Clerk see if another council would lend a copy of the electrical regulations.**

**Clerk to share the pedestrian crossing letter and response**

**6519: Receive an update from the County Councillor**

Mayors Initials: .....



The County Councillor had provided a written report. Highlights discussed included:

- The PCC Estyn report and Strategic Review of Post 16 offer in Powys
- The High School has appointed a new headteacher, Mr Marc Yeoman
- Feedback on the Brecon recycling system is positive.

**6520: Discuss the issues on the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal**

It was agreed that the Council would write a letter regarding the abstraction of the water from the canal.

**Clerk and Chair to draft a letter to Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal authority.**

**6521: Discuss and agree responses on planning applications received since the last meeting.**

- 25/23714/FUL: Vancouver, Standard Street, Crickhowell. Bungalow that needs upgrading. **No adverse comments.**
- 25/23676/FUL: Jasmine House, Llangenny Lane, Crickhowell. Changing the garage door. **No adverse comments.**

**Clerk to submit planning response**

**6522: Receive the Nature Recovery Project final report**

Cllr Gruffydd had submitted the Nature Recovery Project final report and received a very positive response from the BBNPA who had funded the project. Thanks was given to the councillors who had been involved in getting parts of the project completed, especially Cllr Masefield.

Outstanding elements include the clearing and planting by the library, interpretation boards for the wild flower areas, the permissive path and the mowing regime for Castle Park.

Thanks was given to Cllrs Jeremiah and Goodman for their presentation to the National Parks on 28 March.

**6523: Place Plan update**

In addition to the elements discussed above, other elements of the Place Plan to be progressed include, potentially, signage including by the bridge, Bullpit Meadow, St Edmunds Church, the Cemetery and walking routes.

Mayors Initials: 



**6524: Grants timetable 2025-26**

It was agreed that the timetable should change to grants being considered in June, September, December and March.

**Clerk to update website with grants timetable.**

Finance

**6525: Receive a year-end report from the Finance Committee**

The following over and underspends were noted:

Assets – did not spend anything for the second year running

Burial fees – less received than expected. Council may need to begin to finance the Cemetery rather than it being self-financing.

Castle Park – overspent on the Tump

Events – underspent on the Events

Subscriptions – underspent

Staff salary – confusion about how we account for tax and pension contributions.

Grants received – would like to find a way where we can take this off the budget as it skews the balance of expenditure and usual income.

The Chair of Finance commented that for next year's budget the Council should look more carefully at historic budgeting and sometimes adjust the budget downwards if necessary.

**6526: Review 2025-26 budget and planned expenditure**

Council was content with the planned budget but noted that a new contract and service level agreement with the Crickhowell Resource and Information Centre for management of the public toilets was needed urgently.

**Chair of Finance to arrange new contract and SLA with CRIC for the toilets**

**6527: Approve the monthly bank reconciliations**

The Chair of Finance signed the monthly bank reconciliation.

**6528: Approve the payment and receipts sheet**

The payment sheet was approved.

**6529: Consider grant applications received**

Three applications had been received. The Council agreed to award the following amounts:

Mayors Initials: 



Clarence Hall: VE Day – Approved. £450. This was to be taken from the Events cost code as it would have been funded by the Council regardless of the application.

Bowls Club: Youth shelter – Approved. £500

Crickhowell Open Studios – various. £150

Regular items

**6530: Discuss any Correspondence items of interest**

CORRES 21: Cllr Jeremiah will meet with the Lewis family from the USA.

**6531: Receive reports of meetings/exchange of information**

The Chair and County Councillor had attended meetings with the Deputy Fire Officer, and the Police and Crime Commissioner. Both were reported as good meetings with representatives participating from the 5 Councils. It was confirmed that the police station would be sold and the police co-located with the fire service in the present fire station. The question of giving the community first option on the purchase of the police station was raised. It was noted that the Police and Crime Commissioner had agreed to come back to meet with key organisations in Crickhowell again..

**6532: Exchange of information**

Cllr Goodman has been in touch with several theatre companies regarding a possible performance in the Castle Park. Average production fee is £3000.

*The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9.00 pm.*

**The next meeting will be on 20 May 2025.**

Signed.......... Date: 