

Minutes of the meeting held on the 19 November 2025

**PRESENT** Clrs Davies, R Morgan, Phillips, Bentley, Rippin, Woodford and County Councillors David Jones. Three members of the public were also present.

**APOLOGIES** Clr Buckler

#### **COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Many accounts of the horrendous flooding recently experienced in the Pandy Area with its obvious consequences re both sewage and surface water entering hydraulically overloaded sewage pipes were relayed to the meeting. Flooding had occurred on Wern Gifford including the primary school field, the area adjoining the school field, earmarked for the proposed new development, the play area, village hall car park as well as a number of houses. The main A465 had also been flooded along with houses bordering the road with a couple of cottages narrowly escaping entry of flood water into the buildings although 2 houses backing onto the school field and facing the A465 had not been so lucky and had been flooded. It should also be noted that the stream which runs through the proposed new development area had risen and flooded out onto the A465. Inspection chamber covers had been lifted due to the pressure exerted by the force of water and sewage and one workman sent out by Dwr Cymru had refused to lift one manually because it was moving as he stood on it and to removed the cover would have been disastrous. Several houses had been flooded in the middle part of Pandy, near the former Lancaster Arms, in the Chapel Area and in Glandwr Cottages, opposite the former Park Hotel where sewage had also backed up in houses there as well as coming up in their gardens.

It should be noted that this episode occurred very soon after Monmouthshire County Council Planning Committee had deferred their decision re the planning application to build 20 further housing units near the school field on Wern Gifford. The planning committee meeting had been attended by representatives of the Llanvihangel Crucorney and Pandy area and their representations are referred to later on in these minutes.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Current A/C: £400

Reserve A/C: £12157.32

Payments since the last meeting had been : £16.08 (Reimbursement to Mr G Whitaker for piping acquired for the watering system for the biodiversity planter project); £180.00 (M. Nichols – biodiversity project installation) and £153.88 (Merlin Waste)

Audit Wales had still not explained its very high fees charged to CCC for the 2021-2022 external audit.

Councillors were reminded that the 'qualified' external audit report from Audit Wales had been forwarded to One Voice Wales for their comments. One Voice Wales had discussed the issues with Audit Wales and had succeeded in obtaining a modified report as follows: The item which remained as Audit Wales' basis for qualification was the Budget Setting process. Further recommendations were to update the Register of Members' Interests and to create and publish a Training Plan. Following the above, after some discussion, it was decided that a training plan would be posted onto CCC's website with suggested courses for councillors being New Councillors' Induction, Code of Conduct, Chairpersons' Skills, Planning and Finance Governance and Budget Setting. As a start, new councillor Woodford agreed to attend the New Councillors' Induction course to be held online by One Voice Wales on the 17 December.

This modified report had now also been posted on CCC's website.

S106 payment due to CCC. No progress.

As there would not be a meeting in December, Councillors were asked to think of what ideas they had for the Budget Proposals re the Precept Request for 2026-2027 as the final request would have to be with MCC by the 20 January 2026. As usual, a full budget proposals meeting for all councillors would be held in early January and all councillors would receive a copy of those proposals in advance of that special budget meeting. The normal full monthly meeting would be also be held the following week in January.

The **MINUTES** of the previous meeting were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

## MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Llanthony Valley compensation request. Further information was awaited from Mr Touhig at MCC.
2. Accessible stiles. Further information to be requested.
3. Re the proposed development at Wern Gifford, the Planning Committee Meeting at County Hall had taken place on the 4 November. County Councillor David Jones, Community Councillor Ann Bentley and local resident Cathryn Ward had spoken eloquently on behalf of the local community re their concerns with regard to the Wern Gifford proposals. After much debate, the MCC Planning Committee unanimously decided to defer their decision until a further meeting when they would have had time to receive further reports from Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water re their reluctance to admit that there were problems re the inadequate sewage and surface water having to pass through a hydraulically overloaded sewage system serving the area. Discussions with MCC Environmental Health Department were also proposed by the Planning Committee. County Councillor David Jones had already contacted the MCC Environmental Health Department and Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water voicing some of the concerns that representatives from the Crucorney area had expressed at the Planning Committee Meeting on the 4 November. **N.B.** It should be noted, too, that on the 10 November, Peter Fox, MS for Monmouth, met with members of the Community Council, County Councillor David Jones and local residents at Pandy Hall. He was very supportive given the concerns of local people with regard to the proposed Wern Gifford Development. He was shown the area of the proposed development and how it would impact the existing inadequate sewage and foul water system. Sadly, these concerns were evidenced a few days later when Storm Claudia struck the area.
4. Land slippage near the Half Moon. No progress.
5. Blocked drain at the top of Trehonddu. No improvement. A local resident had proved with special dye that both sewage and surface (foul) water were passing through the sewage pipes in Llanvihangel Crucorney. **N.B.** Surface water and sewage were also passing through the single system in Pandy as well
6. Parking outside the Local Primary School: No improvement.

## **REPORTS**

1. Pandy Hall. No report.
2. Cwmyoy Hall. No report.
3. School Report. Finances were on an even keel at the moment although a vigilant eye would have to be kept on finance for future months to keep things on track
4. Police Report for October 2025. Reports received had been: off-road biking on Hand Road, Grosmont; a theft of a quad bike in Pansy; a highway disturbance on penbidwal lane where sheep were on the road; and attempted theft of a quad bike in Llanthony and 9 reports of RTCs and broken-down vehicles on the A465.
5. CEC/CIC. No report.

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1. BBNP 25/24179/TPO Twr Mihangel. No objections from CCC.

## **PLANNING DECISIONS**

1. BBNP24/23493/FUL Cap Glas Farm, Bettws. Granted by BBNP.

**OBITUARIES**                    Sue Thomas, Penbidwal Lane.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no further comments from councillors re correspondence which had been sent to them by email.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. County Councillor David Jones had asked SWTRA to check all drains along the A465 through both Llanvihangel Crucorney and Pandy.
2. New councillor Arwyn Woodford would attend the new Councillors' Induction Course on the 17 December.
3. It was reported that a new, huge pot hole had appeared on the way to Lower Stanton.
4. Former Councillor Richard Morgan-Evans had enquired about the floods suffered in the area. He was now based in the Lake District.

5. Flooding at the Old Station, Llanvihangel Crucorney. Little progress had been achieved despite engineers' reports that the 'problem had been solved'.
6. It was reported that there were still issues with the edge of the road between the Queen's Head and Cwmyoy Hall.
7. Councillors were reminded that there would be no meeting in December but a full 'special' meeting re the budget for 2026-2027 would be held early in January (date to be announced) in addition to the normal full monthly meeting which would be held on the 21 January 2026.

The meeting closed at 21.05 date of next meeting : 21 January 2026