

**Special Finance Meeting held on the 7 January 2026 for the Full Council re Budget Proposals for 2026-2027 with all 7 Community Councillors Required to Attend (as per normal) together with the Monmouthshire County Councillor for Crucorney, Councillor David Jones also in Attendance.**

**PROJECTED FINANCIAL STATUS OF CRUCORNEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR THE END OF THE 2025-2026 FINANCIAL YEAR**

1. Projected carry over figure for 2025-2026 = c. £10,000
2. Of these figures, it is proposed to hold £5,000 as a Contingency Reserve in the Council's Reserve Account with NatWest.

**CRUCORNEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2026-2027**

Donation to Pandy Hall Management Committee	£2500
Clerk's Salary	£3000
One Voice Wales Membership	£ 300 (approx.)
Auditors' Fees (Internal and External-based on last Triennial)	£ 600 (approx.)
Further funding towards the cost of <u>projected community improvements</u> which include extra seating for play area; drainage investigation (especially in the light of recent flooding); formation of a local speed awareness group of local residents including purchase of equipment; flashing speed lights for the A465; insulation of attic areas of Hall	£4,000
<u>General maintenance</u> : hedges, trees, grass cutting, guttering maintenance; cleaning of photovoltaic cells on Hall roof.	£1500
Ongoing biodiversity upgrade	£ 300
Councillors' training budget	£ 170 (approx.)
Donation to CAB	£ 200
Donation to Cwmyoy Hall Committee	£1000

Council Website Fees	£ 120
RBL Wreaths and proposed village display	£ 240 (approx.)
Zurich Insurance	£ 600 (approx.)
Allocation for charitable donations	£ 150
Emptying/maintenance of dog bins	£2000 (approx.)
PAYE costs (Ann Powell)	£ 50
<b>Estimated total</b>	<b>£16,730.00</b>

**N.B.** The above estimated total (which councillors agreed should be rounded up to £16,800) would mean that a Band 'D' household would be paying for the 2026-2027 Financial Year towards the Community Council part of the Council Tax the amount of £21.85.

**Minutes of the Special Full Council Finance Meeting for the agreement of the Budget for 2026-2027, held on the 7 January 2026**

**PRESENT** Clrs Davies, R Morgan, Phillips, Rippin, Woodford, Buckler and County Councillor David Jones.

**APOLOGIES** Clr Bentley

There was a discussion of the draft Budget proposals for 2026-2027 which all 7 Crucorney Community Councillors and County Councillor D Jones had had sight of prior to the meeting.

Councillors agreed all budget proposals with the following points highlighted in the discussion:

1. As the Audit Wales bill had not yet been received for the recent Triennial Audit, Councillors agreed that an estimated total for the latter should be based on the fees charged for the previous Triennial Audit in 2021-2022. It should be noted that Crucorney Community Council had still not received an explanation for the very high fees charged for the 2021-2022 Triennial Audit even though they had made several requests for that explanation.
2. Councillors agreed all the projects listed under 'Projected Community Improvements' although detailed costings were still awaited and dependent on the latter, these improvements may have to be in stages.
3. Councillors acknowledged an increase in general maintenance costs and the emptying/maintenance of dog bins.
4. Councillors acknowledged that a donation to the local CAB organisation was appropriate as 98 issues covering 31 cases from 25 people in the Crucorney area had been addressed with advice from CAB in 2024-2025.
5. Councillors acknowledged the need for funding Councillor Training. Councillor Training was a recommendation in the external auditors' recent Triennial Report.
6. Councillors acknowledged the need for and agreed funding for the ongoing biodiversity upgrade.
7. Councillors acknowledged and agreed the funding for the 'new' proposals for a village display with regard to the RBL's Remembrance

events. The suggestion had come from a former veteran living in the Crucorney area.