



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

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 December 2025 at 7pm at Crickhowell Resource and Information Centre.

PRESENT

Cllr P Evans – Chair
Cllr L Baber
Cllr A D'Anna
Cllr S Evans
Cllr J Gruffydd

Cllr M Goodman
Cllr C Hall
Cllr A Jeremiah
Cllr H Morgans
C Beatty - Clerk

6659: Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs M Clark, D Davies.

6660: Declarations of Interest

None

6661: Questions from the public

A question was asked whether CTC were paying room hire costs for the Civic Society to hold meetings about the QEII Recreation Ground. The Mayor responded that the Council pay for room hire for meetings for the whole group of the Friends of Top Park working party, not for any specific representatives within that group.

6662: Approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 18 November 2025

The minutes were approved.

6663: Quick updates and reports on ongoing projects including:

- **Repair of the soft pour in the child's play area in Castle Park:** the lowest quote received for repair of the largest vandalised soft pour surface was £4630 plus VAT. The insurance company have paid CTC the full amount less £100 excess. Cllr D'Anna has contacted the contractor who will schedule the work after the holidays.
- **Sixth Form Action Group:** Cllr Baber is meeting with the Headteacher regularly. David Chadwick, Liberal Democrat MP for Brecon, Radnor and Cwm Tawe, is visiting the school to see the positive impact it has on students and the surrounding area. Cllr Baber has also met with in the leader of Powys CC. It was felt that the authority needed to be aware of the already negative impact the process and effect on potential parents' views of the school.
The discussion also covered marketing of the campaign.
- **Town Christmas tree:** CTC worked in partnership with Crickhowell Cricket Club to place the tree on their field. Suitable lights and supports were purchased. Unfortunately, the Council's existing power junction for the lights could not be repaired in time for Christmas, and a portable battery power pack also had to be purchased. Matt Perry offered to follow up on the correspondence with PCC officials to get the junction box fixed as the problem has not been resolved to date.

Mayors Initials: 



- **Library:** the library was part of an arrangement between the local authority and the school, but it is no longer viable for the school to fund it. Cllr Hall explained that it was important for the Council to work with PCC to enable the library to remain as a community asset.
- **Christmas market:** By all reports and feedback this was a well-organised, well attended and community-supported event. The Council recorded its thanks to all those who had helped with the organisation and on the day with the erection and dismantling of the marquee. A special mention went to Crickhowell Rotary.

6664: Reports from the County Councillor and Chief Officer – Place, Powys County Council

- Powys CC was currently scrutinising its budgets and there is a survey running until 4 January which is to help identify priorities. Details of the Climate and Nature conference on 7 February in Knighton had been shared – Councillors were requested to register directly.
- The Post 16 review is ongoing. County Cllr Hall is still waiting for an answer to the latest Any Question which relates to the criticism of the questionnaire.
- Matt Perry reported that he had contacted Welsh Government regarding the resurfacing work, which will commence in March 2026 on the A40.
- Mr Perry agreed that the recent flooding had been well handled locally – the pumps were currently down on New Road. He gave thanks to the Flood Wardens for their continued help during local flooding in Crickhowell.
- Mr Perry will check if there is any update on the proposed use of the Upper Farm site for housing. The Chair commented that the Council felt that the land would be very useful as a temporary car park for a couple of years

6665: Planning applications

25/24211/FUL: 2 Bank Buildings, Beaufort Street, Crickhowell Powys NP8 1AD (Grade 2 LB) - No adverse comments

25/24227/FUL: 10 Pen Y Dre, The Haven, Brecon Road Crickhowell Powys, NP8 1DG No adverse comments, the Council supports the restoration of this dilapidated property

25/24256/CAC: Land North of Brecon Road , Crickhowell, NP8 1DG - Councillors had concerns about the safety aspect of increased entrance and exit to A40 where visibility will still be limited, and also biodiversity loss.

6666: Council priorities for 2026 and draft budget 26-27

Councillors discussed the Transforming Towns grant and agreed that Cllr Hall would work with Chris Jones to submit it and on the details of a pre-feasibility study.

They also agreed that the Council should build up reserves for Castle Park over the next few years as a hedge against necessary future capital investment.

Other aspects of the draft budget were noted and a final draft will be presented to the January meeting for agreement..



Action: Cllr Hall to work with Chris Jones on submitting the Transforming Towns grant application and feasibility study details

6667: Place Plan

Cllr Gruffydd explained that the Friends of Top Park were hoping to use the services of a park designer for the next phase of their project. Council agreed in principle to use money from the Place Plan budget for this, but only once the quotes had been received and reviewed. Reassurance was given that it is not going to cost the Council anything to take ownership, and that there were no barriers to this happening if the Town Council wishes to do that.

It was agreed to consider tenders for a park design study to be funded from the 25-26 Place Plan budget.

Cllr Goodman joined the meeting at this point.

6668: Section 6 Biodiversity report

The report was agreed with a couple of amendments which had been requested by Cllr D'Anna and P Evans. Cllr Gruffydd was thanked for her work on this.

In relation to biodiversity and the Castle repairs project, Cllr Gruffydd explained that the bat survey carried out in November had recommended emergent surveys in May and June. Unfortunately this would lead to a delay in completing the process in line with the grant criteria. Cllr Goodman will draft a letter to CADW to explain the situation and seeking agreement to delay the work.

Action: Cllr Gruffydd and the Clerk finalise the Biodiversity report.

Action: Cllr Goodman to draft letter to CADW regarding delays to the Castle Repair project timings.

Finance

6669: Grant applications

An application was received from Abergavenny Cricket Club for a grant to support the labour costs to maintain the Crickhowell Cricket Field and square throughout the summer, and provide general maintenance in the winter. Council did not agree to support this grant application at this time.

A second application from South Powys Youth Music was discussed. Councillors felt that the benefit to Crickhowell children was tangible and that funding transport costs was a good use of the budget. They agreed to grant £500 to South Powys Youth Music.

Action: Clerk to communicate with South Powys Youth Music.

6670: Monthly bank reconciliations

Mayors Initials:



Approved.

6671: Payment and receipts

The payment and receipts were approved.

Human resources (in private)

6672: HR issues

Council agreed to take forward the co-option process to fill the current vacancy at the January meeting.

Regular items

6673: Correspondence

Corres 09 – Breathing new life into high streets – Council agreed not to send a representative to this conference as it was directed at larger towns and cities..
Corres 27 - Application for Victoria Wood grant – Cllr Goodman reported that it did not apply to this area.

Corres 14 –Cllr Gruffydd has registered for the biodiversity reporting webinar.

Corres 16 – Crickhowell and District Angling Society – Council took note.

It was agreed that the Mayor should send a letter of condolence on behalf of the Council to the Legge Bourke family.

6674: Communication items

None

6675: Reports of meetings/exchange of information

None

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9.00 pm.

Signed.....*[Signature]*.....Date:.....*15 January 2016*.....