



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

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 17 March 2026 at 7pm at Crickhowell Resource and Information Centre.

**PRESENT**

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

Cllr M Goodman  
Cllr C Hall  
Cllr A Jeremiah  
Cllr J Leighton  
Cllr H Morgans  
C Beatty – Clerk  
Members of the public

**6708: Apologies for absence**

None

**6709: Declarations of Interest**

None

**6710: Questions from the public**

Mrs Orinda Williams shared information on noise constraints as listed in BS 4142. The Chair explained that the Town Council doesn't have an opinion on the question posed as it is a matter for the Friends of Jubilee Park group.

A second point was made around additional drainage infrastructure being required if a large concrete structure was built on the QEII Park. The Chair again referred the member of the public to direct their questions to the Friends of Jubilee Park group.

A resident requested that the Town Council do whatever it can to ensure the Crickhowell Sports Centre remains open. The Chair explained that whilst the main responsibility for the Sports Centre lies with Powys County Council, the Town Council will do whatever it can to support the process for it to be reopened. The Chair also noted that the Council are equally disappointed with the notice period given for the closure.

**6711: Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 17 February 2026**

The minutes were approved. The following points were noted:

- A typing correction was made
- The Town of Culture application had been submitted.

**6712: Quick updates**

- **Town Council website:** Thanks was given to Cllrs Goodman and Leighton for getting the website updated. It is now live.

Mayors Initials: 



- **Microsoft Teams:** The Clerk requested that those who have been asked to user-test the instructions on setting up Microsoft 365 accounts do so.
- **The Town Wifi:** a router has now been installed in Crickhowell Adventure, and the car park will be done soon.
- **The Transforming Towns** grant application has been successful and will be used for a feasibility study on the High Street. The amount was not confirmed. It was noted that there is another round of funding still available, and PCC are happy to accept a bid which will deal with the more expensive things on the Place Plan list. The first pot of money allocated will be used for smaller items such as town seating, signage etc. Thanks was given to County Cllrs Hall and Masefield who will continue to work with the Business Association for the second EOI.
- **Pride in Place Impact Fund grant application:** the Council has also had approval in principle for this funding.
- **A40** – no update beyond the roadworks starting after Easter. Cllr Jeremiah gave thanks to County Cllr Hall for how helpful she had been to the queries from the members of the public. The Mayor reported his disappointment about the siting of the zebra crossing reverting to the current position.
- **Soft pour:** repairs will hopefully start on 23 March.
- **Town of Culture application:** the group of volunteers writing the EOI met last week and Cllr Clark will submit the final document on 31 March. Thanks was given to Cllr Clark for his work on leading the community collaboration for this application.

#### **6713: County Councillor report**

County Cllr Hall has shared a written report. Items of note that Council discussed were:

- The Chair asked Cllr Goodman to prepare a visual showing the 2026-27 budget plans, similar to the visual in the report.
- The Chair agreed to represent the Council at the Powys CC Accountability Session.

#### **6714: Discuss the proposed hanging basket project**

Robin Masefield was going to speak to all the other businesses in town to determine interest in the project. Councillors discussed watering and that a suitable bowser with high reaching pipe would be useful. Businesses could then water their own baskets.

#### **6715: Biodiversity Action Plan 2026-27**

The draft Action Plan had been circulated to all Councillors. Any further comments should be submitted to Cllr Gruffydd this week.

Mayors Initials: 

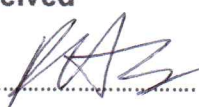


**6716: Approve the updated Burial fees**

A 3% increase is being recommended to the 2026 Burial Fees. The following amendments were agreed:

<b>Charges for purchase of a plot</b>		
Item	25-26 fee	26-27 fee
For the exclusive right of burial for a period not exceeding 99 years in an earthen grave 7 ft x 4 ft	£950.00	£980.00
For the exclusive right of burial for a period not exceeding 99 years of cremated remains in an earthen grave 2 ft x 2 ft in the Garden of Remembrance	£475.00	£490.00
There is no charge for the purchase of a plot for a child under the age of 18 at the time of their death, or a stillborn child.	£0.00	£0.00
<b>Period of residence in Crickhowell at time of death – purchase price</b>		
0-3 years	£1,925	£1,980
3-6 years	£1,760	£1,810
6-9 years	£1,570	£1,615
9-12 years	£1,350	£1,390
12-15 years	£1,100	£1,130
<b>Charges for interments</b>		
For the interment of a body in a grave	£290.00	£300.00
For the interment of cremated remains in a grave	£290.00	£300.00
For the interment of cremated remains in a plot in the Garden of Remembrance	£290.00	£300.00
<b>Charges for the erection of monuments</b>		
A headstone not exceeding 3 ft. in height	£275.00	£285.00
A flat stone level with the ground	£240.00	£250.00
A vase not exceeding 18 ins. in height	£120.00	£125.00
A tablet on cremated remains not exceeding 18" x 18"	£100.00	£109.00
A planter not exceeding 18" x 9" x 9" (in certain areas of cemetery only)	£100.00	£109.00

**6717: Consider any grant requests received**

Mayors Initials: ..... 



No grants have been received during this reporting period.

Council had agreed to fund the Summer Festival road closure. The Clerk will submit the application within the 10-week timeframe. Council was also reminded that they had agreed to pay £1500 to the Crickhowell Volunteer Bureau for the maintenance of defibrillators in the 26-27 financial year. Cllr S Evans, as the contact point on defibs, was asked to speak to CVB regarding the commitment given to getting a new appliance on The Swan Inn.

ACTION: Clerk to submit the Summer Festival road closure application

ACTION: Cllr S Evans to discuss a defibrillator on The Swan with CVB.

The public were asked to leave at this point as the Council was discussing matters of commercial sensitivity

**6718: Contracts**

3 tenders were received for the QEII Park Park Designer contract. Councillors reviewed the differing offers and proposed costs. They noted the importance of community consultation within the design process. Council agreed to award the contract to Tir Collective

ACTION: Clerk to inform Friends of the Jubilee Park of the successful tender for Park Design.

The Chair reported on a recent High School Governors meeting that had discussed the potential closure of the Sports Centre and Library. On the latter, The Chair sought agreement from Council that if PCC would not agree to cancel rental payments until 31 August 2026, then the Council would cover the rental costs, which would be around £3000. Council agreed in principle to pay the Library rent if required. They also noted that the Library needed to offer relevant services for the community and this should be part of any community working group's criteria terms of reference.

**6719: Approve the monthly bank reconciliation**

Approved.

**6720: Approve the payment and receipts sheet**

Approved.

Council returned to public session

Cllrs Baber and Leighton joined the meeting at this point.

**6721: Receive an update from the Post-16 working group and related High School matters**

Mayors Initials: 



### Post 16

On Wednesday 11 March, Powys County Council released a report which sets out how it will begin developing a fairer, broader and more sustainable 14+ offer for learners across the county over the coming year.

Council discussed feedback from the community Post 16 group which felt that the report has moved away from 6<sup>th</sup> forms specifically and has introduced a number of other initiatives; the report does say that no decision will be taken before May 2027; there were still a number of questions that the Scrutiny Committee should consider (thanks was given to Liam Fitzpatrick, a local resident, for his work drawing up the questions).

The Council noted that the evidence gathering period should have been done before the consultation, that the report is not highlighting any options at this stage; and that they are now looking to engage with businesses next, not the community. Cllr Baber reported on a recent meeting with the Headteacher and learned of the collaboration between Crickhowell high School and other 6<sup>th</sup> forms on the issues affected them. The Chair reported that he had written to the Five Councils for review and approval of a joint letter to go to PCC. He felt that given the delay to May 2027 then the letter should be postponed until there is more clarity on proposals.

Council noted the change of name of the campaign to Support our Sixth Form, from Save our Sixth Form.

ACTION: Cllr P Evans to tell 5 Councils about the postponement of sending the joint letter

ACTION: Cllr Goodman to update website with new Support our Sixth Form slogan.

### Sports Centre and Library

The Chair reported on a recently attended meeting of the High School Governors, as a Community Governor, at which it was announced that they would be closing the Sports Centre and Library for community use on 31 March 2026. The Governing Body was first made aware of this imminent closure date at a meeting on 04 March and asked for the decision to be deferred to the next meeting so that financial information could be shared and scrutinised in advance. The governors who attended on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> voted by majority to close the Sports Centre on 31 March and put back the Library closure until end August.

Council agreed that the impact on the town is huge, closure would affect children, young adults, and all the groups who hire and use the facilities on a regular basis. They noted the focus from PCC on health and wellbeing and yet their apparent lack of care in maintaining the facilities that support this.

Council were made aware of a number of issues for the financial situation of the Sports Centre including,

- a loan charge that the school cannot afford to pay back and is being used as a 'trojan horse'

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- The recent resignation of the Manger made it difficult for the school to run the facilities
- The school will not pay for the running of the Sports Centre out of its budget anymore. A community supported solution needs to be found.

The Council then discussed that the Town Council will soon reach a point at which it will have to discuss how much it is willing to spend to help the community run various properties, such as The Sports Centre, Library, and future community facilities.

Regular items

**6722: Correspondence**

- Councillors acknowledged receipt of the Annual Remuneration Report 26–27
- Corres 19: Pride in Place Impact Funding to be submitted
- Transforming Towns application due by end April

**6723: Reports of meetings/exchange of information**

The Governing Body meetings were noted as above.

**6724: Communication items**

None

*The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9.10 pm.*

Signed..... *RA Mo* ..... Date: *21.4.20* .....