



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWM GARW

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE WILLIAM TRIGG CENTRE,
BLAENGARW and VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 18th MAY 2026 AT 6.00 PM**

Present: Councillor M Lewis (outgoing Chair)
Councillor C Lloyd (incoming Chair)

Councillors: G Andrews
J Coles
D Davies
W Davies
H Griffiths
M Lewis
G Lloyd
N Harwood Scorer
G Walters (via Teams)
D Williams

Apologies: None

No Apologies: Councillor M Trowbridge

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 18th MAY 2026

The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm and was initially chaired by Councillor Maxine Lewis up to and including minute 3/26.

1/26 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As detailed on the front page of the minutes.

2/26 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared in items on the agenda. Councillors H Griffiths and M Lewis gave declarations for any matters relating to BCBC.

3/26 TO APPOINT A CHAIR FOR THE YEAR 2026/27

One nomination was proposed and seconded - Llangeinor Ward Councillor Christine Lloyd.

Councillor Maxine Lewis welcomed Councillor Chris Lloyd to her role as Chair of Council.

Councillor Chris Lloyd led the Members in thanks to Councillor Maxine Lewis for the work she carried out on behalf of the Garw Valley Community Council in 2025/26. Councillor Maxine Lewis thanked the Council and the Clerk for their support during the year. Councillor Lewis handed over the civic chains to Councillor Lloyd.

RESOLVED: Councillor Christine Lloyd was unanimously elected Chair of Council for the year 2026/27 and took over chairing the meeting from this item onwards. Councillor Lloyd signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

4/26 TO APPOINT A VICE CHAIR FOR THE YEAR 2026/27

One nomination was proposed and seconded- Blaengraw Ward Councillor David Williams.

RESOLVED: - Councillor David Williams was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair of Council for the year 2026/27. As per point 5e of the Council's Standing Orders Councillor David Williams will be the in-coming Chair for 2027/28 if elected in the 2027 local elections. Councillor Williams signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

5/26 TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE APPROVED MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MAY 2025 MEETING AS AN AIDE MEMOIRE

The Minutes were received and noted.

6/26 TO DETERMINE A TIME-TABLE OF MEETINGS FOR 2026/2027

The Clerk had distributed a list of meetings for the year.

RESOLVED:

It was unanimously agreed that the council meetings would remain on the 3rd Monday of the month and start at 6.30 pm except for the Annual and July meetings in 2026. The Annual meeting would start at 6.00 pm. The July meeting will be held a week later on 27th July to accommodate the Clerk's annual leave.

7/26 TO APPOINT COMMITTEES AND AGREE THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED:

Finance & Resources Committee:

The Terms of Reference would remain unchanged. The Committee will be made up of the following Members:

Cllr N Harwood-Scorer - Bettws
Cllr D Davies - Llangeinor
Cllr H Griffiths - Pontycymer
Cllr C G Andrews - Blaengarw

Events Committee:

The Terms of Reference would remain unchanged. The Committee will be made up of the following Members:

Cllr J Coles - Blaengarw
Cllr H Griffiths - Pontycymer
Cllr C Lloyd - Llangeinor
Cllr N Harwood-Scorer - Bettws

Staff Appointments Committee:

The Terms of Reference would remain unchanged. The Committee will be made up of the following Members

Cllr H Griffiths - Pontycymer
Cllr M Trowbridge - Bettws
Cllr D Davies - Llangeinor
Cllr G Andrews - Blaengarw

Disciplinary Committee:

It was also resolved that the Staff Appointments Committee will also serve as the Disciplinary Committee to meet when necessary to deal with all matters relating to staff discipline.

8/26 TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES

RESOLVED:

- BCBC T&CC Forum - Councillor John Coles
- One Voice Wales Area Committee - Councillor Deb Davies
- One Voice Wales Larger and Annual Meetings, plus Conferences - Councillor Chris Lloyd (Vice-Chair as reserve)

9/26 TO ACCEPT THE 2026/27 ALLOWANCES FOR CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR AS AGREED AT THE DECEMBER 2025 PRECEPT MEETING

RESOLVED:

It was noted that allowances would be paid in line with the amounts set out in the above meeting and in the timescales agreed in the Allowances Policy.

It was noted that no allowance would be paid to the Vice-Chair as previously agreed.

The Clerk issued an opt-out form for all councillors to complete and return in order for allowance payments to be made. Absent attendees would be sent an electronic copy.

10/26 TO AGREE THE INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR THE 2025/26 ACCOUNTING YEAR

The Clerk had approached 7 accounting companies to obtain quotes for the internal audit and only two were able to quote.

RESOLVED:

It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote from JDH Business Services Ltd to carry out the internal audit.

11/26 TO AGREE THE COUNCIL'S SOLICITOR FOR 2026/2027

The council's solicitor was discussed for 2026/2027.

RESOLVED:

It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk would engage the services of a local solicitor if the need arises.

12/26 TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S RISK MANAGEMENT DOCUMENT 26/27

A draft risk management document for 26/27 had been included with the meeting papers.

RESOLVED:

It was unanimously agreed to approve and accept the risk management document for 26/27.

13/26 AGREEMENT FOR ALL TO ADOPT THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT and CURRENT STANDING ORDERS, FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND CURRENT POLICIES.

RESOLVED:

All Councillors agreed to adopt the Code of Conduct and approved the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and current policies.

With there being no further matters to discuss the Chair thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 6.19 pm