



Skenfrith Community Council
Cyngor Cymuned Ynysgynwraidd

SKENFRITH COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24



Skenfrith Community Council covers the villages of Skenfrith, Llanvetherine and Cross Ash.

What we do

Community Councils are made up of local people who give their time to work for, and on behalf of, their community.

The Council meets monthly (except August and December) at Cross Ash village hall. Starting at 19:30, the meetings last approximately 1.5 hours and are open to the public. Our chief responsibility is to make known the concerns of local people to Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) and other public bodies for example the Police, Welsh Assembly Government, and Natural Resources Wales.

MCC has a duty to consult with Skenfrith Community Council over local services such as planning and licensing applications.

In addition, the Community Council:

- Provides small grants for local projects and charities.
- Owns and maintains notice boards.
- Owns and pays for maintenance of Skenfrith War Memorial.
- Consults with residents and makes recommendations on planning applications.
- Reports highway problems to MCC.
- Consults with MCC and the Police on issues of speed and road safety.
- Reports issues concerning public rights of way such as stiles, diversions, and blockages.
- Has a bio-diversity plan.
- Investigates resident enquiries and questions.

What can we help you with?

Skenfrith councillors can act directly on your behalf on a number of issues such as potholes, and small grants.

Councillors represent the area and can make our voice heard on bodies such as village halls and One Voice Wales.

We can make direct communication with Monmouthshire County Council on issues such as highways, planning, public transport, and schools.

We are represented by County Councillor Ian Chandler (previously a Skenfrith Community councillor). He gives us a resume of issues that might directly affect the residents of Skenfrith Community Council area and is able to take local concerns back to the appropriate department at County Hall.

If you have questions or concerns, we will try to help directly or put you in touch with an appropriate organisation.

Our website: <https://www.skenfrithcommunitycouncil.cymru>
In the first instance please contact one of your councillors.

Who we are

Skenfrith: Karen Rockash
Email: karen.skenfrithcommunitycillr@gmail.com

Llanvetherine: Jim Beavan
Email: kate@stumpupfortrees.org

Sarah Dickins
Email: sarah@blackwelshlamb.com

Cross Ash: David Hughes Jones (Chair)
Email: DavidHughesJones@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Andrew Phillips
Email: amanda_phillips@btconnect.com

Valerie Diamond
Email: valeriediamond123@btinternet.com

County Councillor: Ian Chandler
Email: IanChandler@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Clerk: Carole Arvanitis
Email: skenfrithcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

What we cost you

The council is funded via a precept from Monmouthshire County Council. Our income / expenditure in 2023-24 was as follows:

Expenditure

Admin and office costs

Clerk's salary and expenses	£4,833
Payroll	£127
Hall hire	£125
Audit fees	£132
Insurance	£545
Website and IT	£1,020

Amenities

Grass cutting	£197
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Subscriptions, projects & donations

Subscription to One Voice Wales	£113
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Total **£7,092**

Income

Funds from Llangattock	£5,280
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Total **£5,280**



Chair's report

We took on a new clerk, Carole Arvanitis, following Les Taylor's resignation in September 2023. We are grateful to both for a smooth handover.

Councillor Hepburn-John resigned at the end of last year and we welcomed Councillor Diamond to fill her place. Councillor Chandler resigned recently, and we are now looking for a new councillor.

Council business has continued as normal with recommendations for planning applications, pothole reporting and budgeting.

We are grateful to Councillors Rockach, Dickins and Chandler for their work on biodiversity.

We remain mindful of the need to represent and promote the well-being of our community and thank everyone involved for their efforts this year.

David Hughes Jones
Chair 2023/24