

# Skenfrith Community Council

## Cyngor Cymuned Ynysgynwraidd

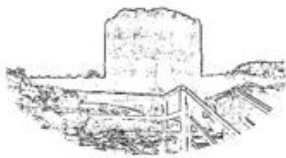
**Minutes of the meeting held at The Village Hall, Cross Ash, on Monday, 17 November 2025 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs D Hughes Jones, S Dickens, A Phillips and V Diamond

Clerk: C Arvanitis

**Also present:** V Hepburn-John

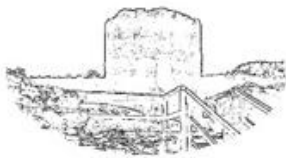
|    |     |  | Action |
|----|-----|--|--------|
| 25 | 355 | <b>Apologies for absence</b><br>-Cllr J Beavan and County Cllr I Chandler.   |        |
| 25 | 356 | <b>Declarations of interest</b><br>-None.  |        |
| 25 | 357 | <b>Police report</b><br>-18/10/25 – Report received of an illegal hunt in Cross Ash (being dealt with by Rural Crime Team).<br>-23/10/25 – Report received of fail to stop RTC in Llantilio Crossenny, where a vehicle hit the caller's wall and drove off.<br>-28/10/25 – Report received of possible rave in Skenfrith. Officers attended the area but did not hear or see anything.<br>-29/10/25 – Report received of poaching at the Rolls of Monmouth golf course (being dealt with by Rural Crime Team).   |        |
| 25 | 358 | <b>County Council report</b><br>-In Skenfrith, river levels exceeded all previous records and all homes flooded. MCC will review once things settle down, but residents, council and emergency services were prepared for the worst. Work to be done to clean up and restore homes and the village hall.<br>-Awaiting news from NRW about funding for individual household resilience measures.<br>-Wye & Usk Foundation are due to publish a hydrological study on Skenfrith looking at how natural flood management measures in the Monnow catchment area could help absorb more water, slow water flows and suppress river peaks.<br>-Response awaited from CADW and Fire Service on Skenfrith summer visitor impact. |        |
| 25 | 359 | <b>Minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2025</b><br>Approved and duly signed.   |        |
| 25 | 360 | <b>Matters arising from the meeting held on 20 October 2025</b><br>None  |        |
| 25 | 361 | -DM/2025/00328, Ty Deri Barn, Ty Deri Farm, B4521 Pont Gilbert to Hill House, Llanvetherine, single storey extension to the west wing to provide additional living accommodation, with first floor extension to west end to provide additional bedroom area to the existing dwelling – <b>recommend approval.</b><br>-DM/2025/01414, Land at Old Porth-Gwyn, Abergavenny, proposed new agricultural building for the dry storage of machinery and hay – <b>recommend approval.</b>   | CA     |



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|                                     |   | -DM/2025/01314, Plas Yr Ywen, Llantellen Road, Cross Ash, barn conversion to provide dwelling – <b>no objections.</b>  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|-------|------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|-------|--------|--------------|------------|-----|------------------|---------|------------|---|-----|-----------------------------|--------|---------------|-------------------|-----|----------|--------|---------------|-------------------------|-----|------------------|---------|---------------|---------------------------------|-----|---|---------|--|---|--|--|---------|--|--|----|
| 25                                  | 362   | <b>Planning decisions</b><br><br>-DM/2025/00454, Bridge House B4347 Copes Farm to the Garth, Norton, Skenfrith, proposed conversion of barn to dwelling, utilising existing entrance, installation of package treatment plan and planting of wildflower meadow and native hedgerow – approved.<br>DM/2025/01393, St Bridgets Church, Malthouse Road, Skenfrith, re-pollarding of sweet chestnut tree. – approved.  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| 25                                  | 363   | <b>Bank reconciliation and accounts for payment</b><br><br>-Bank reconciliation <table border="1"><tr><td>Balance in bank at 31.10.25</td><td><b>£14,190.80</b></td></tr><tr><td>Net opening balance at 1.4.25</td><td>£9,191.90</td></tr><tr><td>Receipts to 31.10.25</td><td>£10,194.66</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>£19,386.56</td></tr><tr><td>Payments to 31.10.25</td><td>£5,195.76</td></tr><tr><td>Closing account balance at 31.10.25</td><td><b>£14,190.80</b></td></tr></table><br><br>-The following payments for October were approved: <table border="1"><tr><th>Chq no</th><th>Payee</th><th>Amount</th><th>Power to pay</th><th>Budget pot</th></tr><tr><td>109</td><td>MCC Inv 70267941</td><td>£130.72</td><td>HA1980 s96</td><td>Grants / Amenities – amenities / Skenfrith war memorial</td></tr><tr><td>106</td><td>Playworks Nov Invoice 10241</td><td>£20.00</td><td>LGA 1972 s112</td><td>Admin – Playworks</td></tr><tr><td>107</td><td>HMRC Nov</td><td>£13.63</td><td>LGA 1972 s112</td><td>Salary / payroll - HMRC</td></tr><tr><td>108</td><td>Clerk salary Nov</td><td>£257.40</td><td>LGA 1972 s111</td><td>Salary / payroll – Clerk salary</td></tr><tr><td>109</td><td>Clerk expenses Dec24-Oct25 – Mileage £122.76, Stationery £12.00, Postage £40.25, Skenfrith wreath £25.00, WFH allowance £264.00</td><td>£464.01</td><td>Travel LG FPA 1963 s5, stationery LGA 1972 s111, postage LGFPA 1963 s5, wreath WM LAP A1923 s1, WFH LG FPA 1963 s5</td><td>Admin and office – mileage, stationery, postage, WFH<br/>Grants / amenities – Skenfrith war memorial</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>£885.76</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> | Balance in bank at 31.10.25  | <b>£14,190.80</b>   | Net opening balance at 1.4.25 | £9,191.90 | Receipts to 31.10.25 | £10,194.66 | Total | £19,386.56 | Payments to 31.10.25 | £5,195.76 | Closing account balance at 31.10.25 | <b>£14,190.80</b> | Chq no | Payee | Amount | Power to pay | Budget pot | 109 | MCC Inv 70267941 | £130.72 | HA1980 s96 | Grants / Amenities – amenities / Skenfrith war memorial | 106 | Playworks Nov Invoice 10241 | £20.00 | LGA 1972 s112 | Admin – Playworks | 107 | HMRC Nov | £13.63 | LGA 1972 s112 | Salary / payroll - HMRC | 108 | Clerk salary Nov | £257.40 | LGA 1972 s111 | Salary / payroll – Clerk salary | 109 | Clerk expenses Dec24-Oct25 – Mileage £122.76, Stationery £12.00, Postage £40.25, Skenfrith wreath £25.00, WFH allowance £264.00 | £464.01 | Travel LG FPA 1963 s5, stationery LGA 1972 s111, postage LGFPA 1963 s5, wreath WM LAP A1923 s1, WFH LG FPA 1963 s5 | Admin and office – mileage, stationery, postage, WFH<br>Grants / amenities – Skenfrith war memorial |  |  | £885.76 |  |  | CA |
| Balance in bank at 31.10.25         | <b>£14,190.80</b>   |  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| Net opening balance at 1.4.25       | £9,191.90   |  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| Receipts to 31.10.25                | £10,194.66  |  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| Total                               | £19,386.56  |  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| Payments to 31.10.25                | £5,195.76   |  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| Closing account balance at 31.10.25 | <b>£14,190.80</b>   |  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| Chq no                              | Payee   | Amount   | Power to pay   | Budget pot  |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| 109                                 | MCC Inv 70267941  | £130.72  | HA1980 s96   | Grants / Amenities – amenities / Skenfrith war memorial   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| 106                                 | Playworks Nov Invoice 10241   | £20.00   | LGA 1972 s112  | Admin – Playworks   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| 107                                 | HMRC Nov  | £13.63   | LGA 1972 s112  | Salary / payroll - HMRC   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| 108                                 | Clerk salary Nov  | £257.40  | LGA 1972 s111  | Salary / payroll – Clerk salary   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| 109                                 | Clerk expenses Dec24-Oct25 – Mileage £122.76, Stationery £12.00, Postage £40.25, Skenfrith wreath £25.00, WFH allowance £264.00 | £464.01  | Travel LG FPA 1963 s5, stationery LGA 1972 s111, postage LGFPA 1963 s5, wreath WM LAP A1923 s1, WFH LG FPA 1963 s5 | Admin and office – mileage, stationery, postage, WFH<br>Grants / amenities – Skenfrith war memorial |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
|                                     |   | £885.76  |  |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| 25                                  | 364   | <b>2026-27 budget</b><br><br>-Subject to the inclusion of £2,000.00 for Skenfrith visitor impact, the 2026-27 budget and precept of £17,000 was approved (final version attached).   | CA   |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |
| 25                                  | 365   | <b>Clerk's report</b>  | CA   |   |                               |           |                      |            |       |            |                      |           |                                     |                   |        |       |        |              |            |     |                  |         |            |   |     |                             |        |               |                   |     |          |        |               |                         |     |                  |         |               |                                 |     |   |         |  |   |  |  |         |  |  |    |



# Skenfrith Community Council

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|    |     |   |    |
|----|-----|---|----|
|    |     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The proposed biodiversity action report, which has to be submitted to Welsh Government in December, was approved.</li> <li>-In order to comply with Assertion 10 (2025 edition of the Practitioners' Guide), clerk to get quote for changing email address to .org or similar and to check that Council website fulfils standard WCAG 2.2 AA.</li> <li>-Clerk to ensure remote access to meetings is made available.</li> </ul> |    |
| 25 | 366 | <b>Other reports</b><br>-Cllr Diamond has been appointed a Minor Authority Governor for Cross Ash Primary School.   |    |
| 25 | 367 | <b>Correspondence</b><br>- MCC, Media Release: Monmouthshire County Council full council approves RLDP to be submitted for independent examination<br>MCC, TTRO Consultation - 19th November - 25th November 2025<br>-Catherine Fookes - MP Mobile Phone Signal Survey<br>One Voice Wales, Draft minutes - One Voice Wales Monmouthshire & Newport Area meeting- 9 October 2025<br>One Voice Wales, free councillor training.   |    |
| 25 | 368 | <b>Highway matters</b><br>-MCC Highways Department have agreed to monitor traffic speeds at different points through Llanvetherine. Once data available, they will discuss options to reduce speed through the village.<br>-Pothole past Lanes garage at Llanvetherine, has been repaired.<br>-Drains blocked on approach to Hillcrest and Graig View, Cross Ash.   | CA |
| 25 | 369 | <b>Urgent items (for next meeting)</b><br>None  |    |
| 25 | 370 | <b>Date of next meeting</b><br>-19 January 2025, 7.30pm, Cross Ash village hall.  |    |

Meeting closed 8.40pm



# Skenfrith Community Council

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| <b>Budget 26-27</b>          |                     |                      |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Description</b>           | <b>Budget 25-26</b> | <b>Spend to date</b> | <b>Proposed for 26-27</b> |
| <b>Cashed from last year</b> | £0.00               | £331.60              | £0.00                     |
| <b>Salary etc</b>            |                     |                      |                           |
| Salary etc                   | £3,000.00           | £1,495.84            | £3,190.00                 |
| HMRC                         | £780.00             | £373.80              | £800.00                   |
| <b>Admin and office</b>      |                     |                      |                           |
| One Voice Wales membership   | £119.00             | £0.00                | £125.00                   |
| Web hosting                  | £400.00             | £276.00              | £425.00                   |
| Postage                      | £60.00              | £0.00                | £70.00                    |
| Mileage                      | £209.00             | £0.00                | £209.00                   |
| Stationery                   | £50.00              | £0.00                | £50.00                    |
| Misc admin                   | £50.00              | £46.99               | £0.00                     |
| Hardware                     | £0.00               | £0.00                | £50.00                    |
| WFH                          | £378.00             | £0.00                | £378.00                   |
| ICO                          | £0.00               | £0.00                | £52.00                    |
| Council insurance            | £224.00             | £224.18              | £250.00                   |
| Hire of venues for meetings  | £350.00             | £50.00               | £300.00                   |
| Internal audit               | £100.00             | £75.00               | £100.00                   |
| External audit               | £600.00             | £0.00                | £600.00                   |
| Playworks                    | £260.00             | £80.00               | £260.00                   |
| Allowances for councillors   | £1,050.00           | £0.00                | £700.00                   |
| Bank charges                 |                     | £35.50               | £72.00                    |
| <b>Grants / amenities</b>    |                     |                      |                           |
| Village Life                 | £1,000.00           | £1,000.00            | £1,000.00                 |
| Amenities / grants           | £5,000.00           | £0.00                | £7,000.00                 |
| Skenfrith war memorial       | £150.00             | £0.00                | £150.00                   |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>     | <b>£13,780.00</b>   | <b>£3,988.91</b>     | <b>£15,781.00</b>         |
| <b>Description</b>           | <b>Budget</b>       |                      |                           |
| Brought forward              | £8,000.00           |                      | £8,000.00                 |
| Precept                      | £15,000.00          |                      | £17,000.00                |
| HMRC VAT refunds             | £250.00             |                      | £250.00                   |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>£23,250.00</b>   | <b>£0.00</b>         | <b>£25,250.00</b>         |
| <b>Reserves</b>              | <b>£9,470.00</b>    |                      | <b>£9,469.00</b>          |