



## **Cyngor Cymuned Grosmont Community Council**

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2026 at 7.30pm in St Nicholas Church, Grosmont

**Present:** Cllr Lowri Wynn Morgan (Chair), Cllr Nicholas Jones, Cllr Witek Mintowt-Czyz, Cllr Alex Hill.

**Also in attendance:** Monmouthshire County Councillor David Jones and five members of the public.

**Clerk/RFO:** Cathy Kennedy.

### **1. Apologies**

***The following apologies for absence were noted:***

Cllr Jamie Edwards, Cllr Jan Williams and Cllr Margie Barker.

### **2. Declarations of interest**

Deferred to specific issues as per policy.

### **3. Minutes**

***To consider and if accepted, approve the minutes from the previous meeting(s).***

### **RESOLVED**

The minutes from the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record.

### **4. To consider matters arising from the minutes**

***The following matters arising were discussed:***

- The Memorial Bench – Cllr. Hill will reach out to a local constituent to confirm details.

## 5. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that she commenced in post during the week beginning the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February and was in the process of familiarising herself with the Council's procedures and processes. She advised that she had attended and taken the minutes of a Grosmont Community Hub Management Group (GCHMG) meeting.

The Clerk further reported that she had spoken with HMRC and, following their advice, had submitted an appeal against the decision to withdraw the VAT registration application, which had been based on a perceived lack of communication from the Community Council. She added that she would prioritise VAT registration and, in the interim, would undertake further research into whether the Community Council may reclaim VAT under Section 126 without being VAT registered.

## 6. Town Hall Project

- a) **Project Manager Report:** The Highlight Report and the GCHMG meeting minutes were provided. Cllr Witek Mintowt-Czyz gave an update based on the attached minutes and supporting documents.
- b) **Joint Meeting Update:** The letter received by the Community Council from Grosmont Futures was noted. Cllr Witek Mintowt-Czyz updated the meeting that it had been agreed the Partnership Agreement should be reviewed on an annual basis and that further clarification is required regarding the responsibilities of the body that will operate the Town Hall. It was also noted that a Hub Coordinator will need to be in post at least one month prior to the Hub opening. Grosmont Futures will need to meet with the Community Council to discuss in detail their expectations of the organisation that will run the Hub. It was agreed that three representatives from the Community Council and three from Grosmont Futures, together with the Clerk, should attend the meeting.

**ACTION:** The Clerk write to Grosmont Futures to propose and confirm this arrangement and to agree a meeting date.

- c) **Village Shop Update:** An update was received from Mr Andrew North, who reported that a Community Benefit Society has been established and is now a legal entity. A bank account has been opened, and the organisation has been registered with HMRC. Initial meetings with funders and shareholders have also taken place with Monmouthshire County Council.

## 7. Finance

The cashbook was considered and it was noted that further financial reports and bank reconciliations will be presented at the next meeting, as the Clerk is awaiting completion of the bank mandate to obtain access.

### **RESOLVED**

The cashbook up to the 5<sup>th</sup> of February was approved

**8. Planning Applications**

There were no planning applications received.

**9. Policing Matters**

The Police Report was noted.

**10. Highways & Roads**

The temporary bridge at Mill Farm remains in place while clearance works following the floods continue. County Councillor David Jones reported that funding has been allocated for road improvements and confirmed that he would raise concerns regarding the condition of the roads, with Monmouthshire County Council.

**11. Footpaths**

There were no updates received.

**12. Correspondence**

One item of correspondence reporting that refurbishment works on Grosmont Castle had commenced was noted.

**13. Matters Raised by Members**

There were no matters raised by members.

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2026 at 7.30PM in St Nicholas Church.

The meeting closed at 8.20PM

Chair: Cllr Lowri Wynn-Morgan

Signed: .....