

1. Attendance

Cllr Jenny Carpenter, Cllr Hannah Dando, Cllr Colin Deakins, Cllr Jan Clarke, Cllr Ann Bowyer
County Councillor Tony Kear, County Councillor Meirion Howells

2. Apologies

Cllr Bowen-Sargent, Cllr Jo Storey – Accepted

3. Nomination of a chairperson

Cllr Deakins motioned to nominate Cllr Dando. Cllr Dando could not accept a nomination
Cllr Bowyer motioned to nominate Cllr Carpenter this was seconded by Cllr Dando. Cllr Carpenter has accepted the role of Chair.

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest

5. Chair's Remarks

The Chair thanked Cllr Deakins for his time as Chairperson.

6. County Councillor Reports

Cllr Tony Kear reported:

1. Storm Claudia led to flooding in Little Mill, properties that had been flooded 12 months ago have been impacted by floods this time around. These should be identified as 'hot spots' and so the drainage around these properties should be prioritised by MCC. There has been a commitment to review the culvert in Little Mill but this is likely to happen after the towns that were affected have been prioritised.
2. Speed Indication Sign at Monkswood has been relocated. Cllr Kear has asked for a review of the SID as it is still not working correctly.
3. Speed data ribbons are due to be installed on the main road at Llanbادoc in early December.
4. Usk Bridge has been struck again by a vehicle.
5. A minor was struck by a vehicle in Little Mill. A member of public has contacted the local MP who has responded that a request for a Zebra Crossing has been applied for the part of the road in question. The location of bus pick-up points is to be reviewed. He is attending a public meeting to discuss speeding concerns and to see if there is interest for a community speed watch.

Cllr Meirion Howells reported:

1. Speed change from Coleg Gwent to the Agricultural college was rejected on the grounds that there would be too many speed limit changes in a short distance.

2. Bridge street will be closed on Sunday 30th November for a Christmas market / fair. An urban clearway has been organised throughout the diversion.
3. The bus route (number 60) will still be running on a Sunday but with a smaller (mini) bus.
4. The 40mph signs around BAE systems have been relocated.
5. Meirion's son has been carrying out a twice monthly litter pick throughout the wards.

7. Comments from Members of Public

Glascoed Hwb & Pit Pony Project

Carl Thomas from the Glascoed Hwb attended the meeting to give an overview of a Pit Pony Project that he is launching. Carl Thomas manages a charity that focuses on ex-veterans to help them deal with PTSD and mental health issues. Carl has networked with a Welsh charity that works with Welsh Veterans and Section-A Welsh Pit Ponies to create fire breaks throughout the Welsh valleys. Carl has attended pony training and purchased two pit ponies to use alongside veterans involved with his current charity. A pilot scheme will be running from January and Carl proposes that The Council applies for a tree grant and then he can give time, volunteers and ponies (with a daily cost of £220 for oversight) to help bolster Council owned woodlands and provide the charity with projects.

8. Clerks Actions & Report

Circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting

Bench has been installed in Twyn Y Cryn woods

Tree quotations are underway for upcoming works on four sites

Llanbadoc Island park visit with MCC postponed

Hedge cutting, vegetation removal and tree works at Llanbadoc Island underway with contractor

Balsam at Lower Common being monitored by contractor

No updates on the telephone box at Llanbadoc Island from Monmouthshire CC Heritage team

A4042 Road sign – Peter Fox AM has been contacted about the missing sign and has acknowledged the issue. Awaiting update.

Defibrillator checks carried out 19th November 2025 – No issues. The Circuit updated.

9. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr Bowyer seconded by Cllr Dando

10. Note Police Report

Police reports received

11. Note Usk & Llanbadoc Bulletin

Noted received

12. Ty Draw Lane & waterway issues

MCC are determining ownership and responsibilities for parts of the brook, Ty Draw lane and the land where the trash screen is. Clerk to contact Flood Officer for more information.

13. Pavements at Cae Melin in Little Mill

Clerk to find quotations for street cleaning for Little Mill including a hand-held blower.

14. Quotations for tree works

Deferred until next meeting – This is to allow an environmental meeting to take place to consider additional tree works.

15. Street sweeping contractor Little Mill

Added to item 13 – (refer to old MCC contract)

16. Hedge cutting Little Mill

The hedge cutting job in Little Mill has not been done to a great standard. A resident has complained that the hedge will continue to affect their fence in the way its been left.
Clerk to go back to MCC to ask for the job to be re-visited

17. Financial Report

Chair to put to Cllr Bowen-Sargent to Chair the Finance Working Group and provide dates they are available for a budgetary meeting. Up to date budget monitoring spreadsheet to be circulated.

18. Finance Group Budget Setting

Consolidated into resolution for item 17.

19. Approval of payments

Merlin Environmental October £114.66

Clerk Salary (PAYE) Minus agreed adjustment

Councillor expense for wreath £20

Proposed by Cllr Deakins and seconded by Hannah Dando.

20. Planning

No objections providing the comments from NRW are adhered. Clerk to send planning applications as soon as they arrive.

21. Councillor Reports

Cllr Deakins: met with Chairperson of Little Mill Village Hall who has expressed dissatisfaction at the speed in which bookings are settled. The Clerk noted that there had been a discrepancy, but this has been rectified. The Chair reminded The Council that there had been a previous agreement to donate £100 per annum in lieu of room rental for meetings. £50 for remaining year then £100 from April to March 2026-2027.

Cllr. Bowyer: A property in Llanbadoc was broken into – since this took place residents of Llanbadoc have started a WhatsApp group to share information and remain in contact with one another.

Cllr Dando: The railway bridge in Little Mill was struck, and a road was closed for repairs to be carried out. There is now width and height signage on the bridge to signify the size restrictions. A resident has commented that the restrictive notice would be better placed on Berthon Road so that drivers have notice to turn around beforehand. As the road is not adopted MCC would be unable to do any work however LCC has noted the concerns and if there is an issue in the future LCC will revisit the subject.

Cllr Carpenter: Took photographs of Glascoed Lane potholes to submit to MCC, intercepted someone repairing some potholes. A road delay notice was placed on Glascoed lane with no notice within the road closure notice from Highways. Received a complaint about an overhanging hedge, this has been submitted through MyMon.

22. Annual Staff Appraisal

A staff appraisal template is available from OVW at a cost of £25 – this is to be purchased by LCC. The staff review will be conducted by Cllr Dando and Cllr Bowyer.

23. Items for next agenda

Quotations for Llanbadoc Island track re-surfacing in areas where the track has worn away leaving potholes.

24. Closed item adjustment of PAYE for remainder of financial year

Resolved. An adjustment to PAYE for remainder for financial year has been agreed between LCC and The Clerk as the only member of staff.

25. Time and date of next meeting

The next Llanbadoc Community Council meeting will be held at Little Mill Village Hall on Tuesday January 6th 2025.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____