

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of St Arvans Community Council held at St Arvans Meeting Rooms on Wednesday 21 October 2026 at 7.00pm.		Action
2610.01	ATTENDANCE Cllrs P Farley, P Taylor, H Hathaway, A Clay, I Costello, B Howells, T Houghton and County Cllr A Webb Apologies: Also in attendance: C Arvanitis (clerk), S Banfield	
2610.02	PUBLIC SESSION -Sheena Banfield, Chair of St Arvans Village Trust Management Committee, requested support in generating interest in hire of the Meeting Rooms and in attracting more people to sit on the management committee.	
2610.03	DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEM(S) ON THE AGENDA -Cllr Clay disclosed an interest in Minute 2610.11 – planning application DM/2026/01091.	
2610.04	APPROVAL OF MINUTES The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16 September 2026 were approved and duly signed.	
2610.05	MATTERS ARISING -None	
2610.06	REPORTS RECEIVED	
a	Neighbourhood Police Crime & Traffic: report from PCSO Dave Cordingley. -No report received for September. -Clerk to make contact with Tea and Chat organisers to discuss potential for occasional embedded police surgeries.	CA
b	County Council report: -Overgrown areas of footpath adjacent to racecourse on A466 to be cut back. -The Council are considering safety aspects of the new road layout on Devauden Road as well as safety for pedestrians crossing the A466 outside the Piercefield.	
c	Other reports: -Cllr Costello attended the September Wye Valley Villages meeting. -Cllr Clay attended the September Memorial Hall meeting.	
2610.07	HIGHWAYS	
	-Awaiting meeting with MCC regarding road safety and new road layout on Devauden Road.	BH, IC
2610.08	ENVIRONMENT	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-The Council agreed not to purchase any further dog waste bags for the Stud Path bin and to monitor the situation over the coming months.-Notices about dog waste and dog attacks to be added to website and Facebook.-The Council agreed in principle to the amended MCC contract subject to receipt of further information from Monmouthshire County Council.-The Council resolved to pay for pruning of the tree at the Fountain and subsequent putting up of Christmas lights at a total cost of £520.-The Council resolved to purchase a bench for the bus stop on the A466 going towards Monmouth.-Leaf blower, currently held by Cllr Howells, to be offered on loan to The Meeting Rooms.-The Council resolved to install and secure handrails on the slope leading to the Grange Road bench.-Clerk to seek alternative quote for dog waste collection for 2027-28.-A health and safety inspection will be carried out on the Sports Field in November.	CA, HH																								
2610.09	BIODIVERSITY																									
	-Cllr Hathaway to purchase two further planters.																									
2610.10	FINANCE																									
a	<div>Reconciled balances at bank and building society were approved.</div> <table><tr><td></td><td>To end Sep</td></tr><tr><td>Mon BS</td><td>£10,446.31</td></tr><tr><td>Unity Trust</td><td>£39,031.49</td></tr><tr><td>Net balance</td><td>£49,477.80</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Net opening balance on 1 April 2026 Unity</td><td>£30,944.42</td></tr><tr><td>Mon BS</td><td>£10,446.31</td></tr><tr><td>Receipts year to date</td><td>£17,281.93</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>£58,672.66</td></tr><tr><td>Less payments year to date</td><td>£9,194.86</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Closing balance end of month</td><td>£49,477.80</td></tr></table>		To end Sep	Mon BS	£10,446.31	Unity Trust	£39,031.49	Net balance	£49,477.80			Net opening balance on 1 April 2026 Unity	£30,944.42	Mon BS	£10,446.31	Receipts year to date	£17,281.93	Total	£58,672.66	Less payments year to date	£9,194.86			Closing balance end of month	£49,477.80	
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b The August / September cashbook was approved:

<i>Supplier</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Debit</i>	<i>Credit</i>
Barclaycard	JAMF (£12.31), Microsoft (£12.10)	£24.41	
Three	Mobile phone	£9.00	
MCC	Precept		£8,333.00
Unity Trust	Bank charge	£7.00	
St Arvans Village Trust	Meet 15.7	£19.00	
Merlin	Dog waste August	£163.24	
Vision ICT	SSL cert	£60.00	
Vision ICT	Website and email	£610.86	
HMRC	Employers NIC Sept	£124.00	
Clerk	Clerk Salary Sept	£496.50	
BT	BT Sept	£40.78	
Merlin	Dog waste Sept	£163.24	
Barclaycard	JAMF (£12.22), Microsoft (£12.10)	£24.32	
Barrie Howells via Amazon	Defib supplies	£149.98	
Three	Mobile phone	£9.00	
Unity Trust	Bank charge	£7.00	
Total	Aug / Sept	£1,938.85	£8,333.00

c	<p>The following new payments for October were approved:</p> <table> <tr> <td>St Arvans Village Trust</td><td>Meetings 16.9 and 23.9</td><td>£55.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Merlin</td><td>Dog waste emptying Oct</td><td>£163.24</td></tr> <tr> <td>Three</td><td>Mobile phone</td><td>£9.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>BT</td><td>Oct</td><td>£40.78</td></tr> <tr> <td>Barclaycard Oct</td><td>JAMF (£12.22) and Microsoft (£13.61)</td><td>£25.83</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td></td><td>£293.85</td></tr> </table>	St Arvans Village Trust	Meetings 16.9 and 23.9	£55.00	Merlin	Dog waste emptying Oct	£163.24	Three	Mobile phone	£9.00	BT	Oct	£40.78	Barclaycard Oct	JAMF (£12.22) and Microsoft (£13.61)	£25.83	Total		£293.85	CA
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d	<p>-Cllr Clay reported that finance checks had been done satisfactorily for year to date and will now be completed once every 3 months.</p> <p>-The Council resolved to approve a virement to provide a budget allocation for BT expenditure during 2026-27.</p> <p>-Regarding Monmouthshire Building Society account, Council resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain current signatories- Cllrs Farley and Howells. Add Cllr Clay and Carole Arvanitis (clerk) as authorised signatories to the mandate. Take off Rita Edwards and Lucy James (nee Allen) from the mandate <p>-Cllr Clay to present ID document to Monmouthshire Building Society.</p> <p>-Clerk awaiting payslips for August and October (including salary, income tax, employers NI and pay increase) whilst new payroll is set up. Council approved Cllr Clay signing these off for payment before next meeting.</p>																			
2610.11	PLANNING																			
	<p>New applications:</p> <p>-DM/2026/01091, Piccadilly Cottage, Piccadilly Spur, replacement of the existing two-storey dwelling at Piccadilly Cottage with a new single storey house, together with associated external works including the provision of a new driveway and parking for occupants – recommend approval.</p>	CA																		
	<p>Planning decisions:</p> <p>-None.</p>																			
2610.12	FOOTPATHS																			
	<p>-Path order (No. 75A, St Arvans) at Piercefield Wood – no objections.</p> <p>-Clerk to ask Footpaths Officer to attend a meeting for a general discussion.</p>	CA																		
2610.13	COMMUNICATIONS																			
	<p>-Following resident feedback, the Council's policies for complaints and for GDPR have been reviewed and approved.</p> <p>-The Clerk was requested to establish a Council WhatsApp group to facilitate communication between councillors.</p>	CA																		
2610.14	PERSONNEL																			
	-Clerk appraisal to be arranged.	CA / TH																		
2610.15	RESILIENCE PLANNING																			
	-Cllr Costello agreed to investigate potential for showing the People's Emergency Briefing film in the village.	IC																		
2610.16	RESIDENT SURVEY																			

	-It was resolved to go ahead with a resident survey, aiming to complete it by end of March 2027.	
2610.17	CORRESPONDENCE	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -MCC, Monmouthshire's Road Works Report- week ending 18.09 -MCC, Media release: Let's Talk Resident Survey 2026 -MCC, Monmouthshire's Road Works Report- week ending 25.09 -MCC, Media release: Enforcement officers supporting cleaner and safer public spaces across Monmouthshire -MCC, Media Release: Cabinet approves updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy -MCC, TTRO Consultation- 23rd- 29th September 2026 -MCC, Media Release: Council agrees recommendations to improve pothole repairs -MCC, Media Release: New strategy to support safer journeys across Monmouthshire -MCC, Monmouthshire's Road Works Report- week ending 09.10 -MCC, FW: Monmouthshire's Road Works Report- week ending 16.10 -M48 Severn Bridge Medium Term Solution (MTS) Bi-weekly Project progress session- Parish & Town Councils -M48 Severn Bridge Medium Term Solution Parish & Town Councils- Meeting Minutes & Presentation Slides -OVW, Publication of the Draft Annual Remuneration Report 2026–27 	
2610.18	CLERK'S REPORT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Councillors were reminded of Remembrance Day on 11 November. -It was resolved to make a donation of £50 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in lieu of a new wreath. 	CA
2610.19	FORTHCOMING MEETINGS	
	-	
2610.20	DATE OF NEXT MEETING (Ordinary)	
	18/11/26, 7.00pm at The Meeting Rooms, St Arvans.	

The meeting closed at 21.10.

Chair's signature:

Date: