

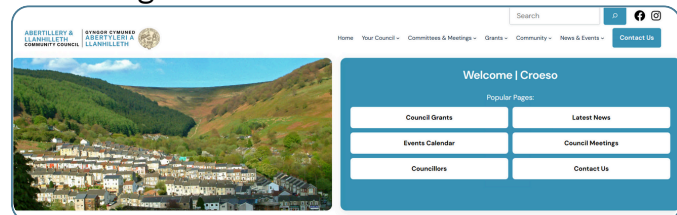


#### New Website

We recently launched our brand new Council website!

The new site meets WCAG2.2 regulations and has a stronger focus on accessibility and usability.

This site was designed by Her Web Solutions, a Cardiff-based company specialising in sustainable and accessible website for public sector organisations.



#### Grants Awarded

We awarded **£2,260** of grant funding to **3** organisations between October-December, including Roseheyworth PTFA and Abertillery Excelsiors.

#### Youth Reps

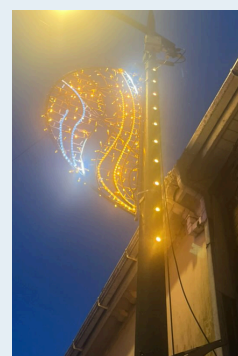
In November, Council appointed Jackson and Riley as its new Youth Representatives.

#### Annual Report

In November, we published our 2024-25 Annual Report on our website.

#### Christmas with ALCC

- Our Community Carol Concert in St. Michael's Church raised £1011.10 for our Chair's nominated groups - AYDMS & The Mitre.
- We provided Christmas lights in Abertillery and Six Bells, and awarded grants to groups in Swffryd, Llanhilleth, Brynithel, Aberbeeg and Cwmtillery to provide lights.
- Unfortunately, we experienced issues with some of our Christmas lights this year. We apologise for this and are working hard to ensure these issues are resolved for 2026.
- We awarded a £1,000 grant to Llanhilleth Miner's Institute to host four Christmas parties for the pupils of St. Illtyd's.
- Ebenezer Baptist Church hosted their Messy Christmas event, supported by a grant from ALCC.
- We gifted 86 bags of sweets to the young performers at AYDMS.
- We sponsored the Hospice of the Valleys Christmas Concert.
- We provided lanterns for Llanhilleth TRA's Carol Service.
- We provided funding for Ffrindiau Tyleri's Winterfest.



#### Defibrillators

We recently took over guardianship of the defib on Bethany Chapel, Six Bells. The pads and battery have been replaced.

We also installed a new defib at Shore MMA in Llanhilleth. We now maintain 15 24/7 accessible AEDs.



#### 2026-27 Budget

In January, Council set a budget of £503,400 for 2026-27. The precept request will be £445,611.

#### Remembrance Day

The Chair of Council attended the service at Abertillery War Memorial to lay a wreath. Councillors also laid wreaths in Llanhilleth, Swffryd, Bournville & Blaenau Gwent Village.

We also created and printed programmes for the RBL Remembrance Concert, and helped Abertillery Knit 'n' Natter hang their poppy cascade again.



#### The Deal

In December, we met with Dave Leech, Deputy Chief Executive for BG and Torfaen Council, to learn more about the Blaenau Gwent 'Deal'.

#### Scare in Jubilee Square

We provided grant funding for Ffrindiau Tyleri's 'Scare in Jubilee Square' event.

