

## **REPORT FOR WEBSITE AND MINUTES**

This is the report for the year ending 13 November 2025.

We had the driest Spring for 150 years. That means we have to be very prudent in our use of water, our provision of future sources and, particularly, in the maintenance of our network so that there are no leaks.

We try to keep all our costs to a minimum. That our costs are so low is largely down to the hard work of the volunteers who make up the committee – whether they are involved in the physical works or the administration. They are all due our sincere thanks.

We do need new volunteers, especially from the younger residents of the community. We also need new trustees for the charity. If we don't have people stepping forward, then eventually the CWU will not function – and that really will be a disaster for Cwmdu.

All in all, it has been a quiet year for the CWU.

We have made no progress in transferring assets to the CIO because we have not ironed out the legal issues and we are reluctant to spend money on legal expenses. However, the CIO costs us nothing and it remains in formal existence. We will hold its formal AGM at the end of today's proceedings.

One thing that we have done on the legal front is to have a statutory declaration made by Winston Farr, as the person in the community with the longest knowledge of the CWU, about the history of the CWU. This was regarded as an important thing to do to protect us from any future challenge to our network. Martin Pearse helped us to do this. His continued free legal advice is invaluable.

One of the things we are doing is to establish a clearer description of the respective responsibilities of the CWU and of its customers. Most importantly, the CWU delivers water to properties. It does not guarantee the wholesomeness of that water. Customers have the responsibility to instal and maintain UV filters. They also have the responsibility for all pipework within their property

We have developed our website – [cwmduwater.org.uk](http://cwmduwater.org.uk). Our Constitution and our policies and other information can be found there. We have been developing the policies that we need to have as a charity, and we now have policies on internal financial controls, reserves, risk management, trustee remuneration, conflicts of interest, serious incident reporting, safeguarding and GDPR. And we have registered with the ICO. So our governance is in good order.

We are moving our communications to electronic where possible, though we will always ensure that those who do not want electronic communications will be communicated with in hard copy.

Powys CC continue to inspect our supply and have found it satisfactory.

Looking to the future, the regime for private water supplies is unlikely to get any easier. There are threats on the horizon. For example, there is talk of a licensing regime for lower levels of water abstraction – we are just below the level at which licences are at present required. And there is also talk of a stricter regime for inspecting water quality.

All this means we will have to continue doing what we believe we have done to date – maintain a safe and efficient water supply that conserves water, and ensure that we are compliant with all statutory requirements.

We can only do any of this with the full-hearted support of the community – stepping forward to volunteer to help practically, to be trustees or committee members, and, of course, paying the levy. Average unmetered water charges for Welsh Water customers will rise next year to just over £900 pa. We get a very good deal in Cwmdu.