

**MINUTES OF A MULTI-LOCATION MEETING OF
PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 18 MAY 2022 AT 6.30PM**

In attendance:

Councillor: Matt Ford# (in the Chair)

and Councillors: Anne Gunter*, Jon Horlor#, Lizzie Hunt#, Keith James#, Gaynor James#, Jon James#, Nick Jones#, John Killick#, Rose Matthews#, Jonathon Martin*, Richard Overton#, Caroline Price#, Ben Rapier*, Bob Rogers#, Jools Rogers#, Nick Simons#, Nathan Warren#.

Officers: Richard Gwinnell# (Acting Clerk) and Jane Wright# (Assistant Clerk)

* Attending remotely via Microsoft Teams

Attending physically in the Council Chamber

The meeting was recorded for minute taking purposes as agreed by Members.

Min No	Subject and Decision	Action
14.	<u>Questions from the Public</u> No questions had been received from the public.	
15.	<u>Apologies for absence</u> Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nick Byrne, Lynda Clarkson and Giles Davies.	
16.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Councillors Jon Horlor, Gaynor James, Jon James, Rose Matthews, Caroline Price and Nick Simons declared personal and non-prejudicial interests in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as they were members of TCBC, as well as being members of Pontypool Community Council.	
17.	<u>Council Meeting – 16 March 2022 – Minutes</u> <u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 16 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	

18. **Council Meeting – 12 April 2022 - Minutes**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12 April 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

19. **Governors**

RESOLVED: that the following members be appointed to serve as community councillor governors on the following schools:

- (i) Ysgol Panteg – Councillor Nathan Warren
- (ii) Cwmffrwdor Primary School – Councillor Bob Rogers
- (iii) Griffithstown Primary School – Councillor Anne Gunter.

20. **Planning Applications**

Members received and considered details of planning applications on which the Community Council was being consulted.

RESOLVED: that the observations (or absence of observations, as the case may be) outlined in the appendix attached to these minutes be submitted to Torfaen County Borough Council.

21. **Planning Applications: Plenary Powers**

Members received the list of observations made on planning applications between meetings, under plenary powers.

Members commented that some applications were listed in incorrect wards.

RESOLVED: that the observations outlined be noted.

22. **Planning Determinations**

Members received and noted Torfaen County Borough Council planning determinations, including reasons for approvals or refusals.

RESOLVED: that the planning determinations be noted.

23. **Twinning**

The Council received the following invitations from its twinned towns:

- (i) To receive and determine an invitation from Condexia to send a small delegation of up to 4 people from 17 to 19 June 2022
- (ii) To receive and determine and invitation from Bretten for a small delegation of up to 4 people to attend the Peter & Paul Festival from 1 to 3 July.
- (iii) To receive and determine an invitation from Bretten for 8 young people and two supervisors to attend the Youth Festival from 29 August until 4 September as well as three delegates from each twinned town for the conference from the 2 to 4 September.

The following main points were made:

- Cllr B Rapier felt that, with the present economic climate, it would reflect badly on the Council if several members were sent on twinning trips abroad, paid for by the Council. He understood the Council paying for youth reps to attend the Youth Festival/Conference and that this may be the only time they would ever experience the culture of another country.
- The Leader felt it essential to be represented abroad in a positive light, where there was a benefit.
- Cllr JK referred to the last Youth Festival/Conference which had been held in Pontypool which had been extremely successful and hoped that the Youth Conference this year in Bretten would receive reports on and follow up on those issues that were raised and the outcomes that had been achieved so far. He added that he felt new members should be given the opportunity of visiting twinned towns before returning members.
- Cllr B Rogers suggested that information on twinning be the subject of a future press release. The Leader agreed; after the events had taken place.
- Cllr NJ queried, and the Acting Clerk clarified, the potential costs and the budget and reserves available.
- The Chair asked all members if they were interested in attending.
- It was agreed that the Council should only pay for one representative to attend an event; if other member(s) wished to attend, then they would be responsible for paying for themselves.

RESOLVED:

- (i) no representative to attend Condexia
- (ii) the Leader Councillor Gaynor James (paid for by PCC) and 1 other (paid for by themselves) to attend the Peter & Paul Festival in Bretten (1 to 3 July)
- (iii) 8 young people along with two supervisors to attend the Youth Festival in Bretten (29 August to 4 September) (paid for by PCC) and the Chair of Council Councillor Matt Ford (paid for by PCC) and consort (paid for by themselves) to attend the Youth Festival/Conference in Bretten (2 to 4 September)
- (iv) that the cost for the Youth Festival and Conference in Bretten be met from the Youth Festival Reserve.

24. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: By virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public are excluded from discussions on the following items on the basis that disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

25. **Establishment Committee – 16 March 2022 – Confidential Minutes**

RESOLVED: that the confidential minutes of the Establishment Committee held on 16 March 2022 be approved and that the recommendations of the Committee be adopted.

26. **Full Council – 16 March 2022 – Confidential minutes**

RESOLVED: that the confidential minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 16 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

27. **Full Council – 12 April 2022 – Confidential minutes**

RESOLVED: that the confidential minutes of the Council meeting held on 12 April 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Signed by the Chair

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