

**MINUTES OF A MULTI-LOCATION MEETING OF PONTYPOOL
COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH 2023**

In attendance:

Councillor: Matt Ford# (in the Chair)

and Councillors: Nick Byrne#, Lynda Clarkson*, Anne Gunter#, Jon Horlor*
Lizzie Hunt#Gaynor James#, Jon James#, Nick Jones*,
John Killick#, Sue Malson#, Rose Matthews#, Jonathon
Martin#, Richard Overton*, Caroline Price*,

Officers: Mrs Lisa McMail, Clerk#, Ms Jane Wright, Assistant Clerk#

Also in attendance: Olivia Williams, Youth Lead#
Dave Leech, Chief Officer, Communities, Customer
Service and Digital (TCBC)#

* 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
457.	<u>Questions from the Public</u> There were no questions from the public	
458.	<u>Apologies for absence</u> Apologies received from the following Councillors: Jools Rogers, Bob Rogers, Nick Simons and Nathan Warren.	JW
459.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Councillors Nick Byrne, Lynda Clarkson, Jon Horlor, Gaynor James, Jon James, Rose Matthews, Caroline Price and Sue Malson 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.	JW

460.	<p><u>Youth Project</u></p> <p>The Council welcomed Ms Olivia Williams, Youth Project Lead to give a presentation and update on the Youth Project (attached as an appendix to the minutes).</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the information be welcomed and that OW be thanked for attending the Council and giving an excellent presentation on the work of the Youth Project.</p>	LM
461.	<p><u>Dave Leech</u></p> <p>The Council welcomed Mr Dave Leech (DL), Chief Officer, Communities, Customer Service and Digital (TCBC) in relation to a follow up workshop he had undertaken in relation (attached as an appendix to the minutes).</p> <p>Mr Leech informed the meeting that the Clerk had given him the information that he had requested from when he last attended the meeting and thanked members and the Clerk for their input. The information would now enable him to map out the different organisations within the different wards that could benefit from grants, external funding etc that they may not be aware of; he would follow up with the Council in the next few months.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that Mr Leech be thanked for attending the Council meeting and he would follow up again once he had mapped out the different organisations throughout the Pontypool wards.</p>	LM/ JW
462.	<p><u>Council Meeting – 22 February 2023 – Minutes</u></p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 February 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	JW
463.	<p><u>Policy & Finance Committee – 1 March 2023 – Minutes</u></p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Policy and Finance meeting held on 1 March 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	JW
464.	<p><u>Events – 8 March 2023 - Minutes</u></p> <p>The Chair of Events referred to minute 443 and read out an update in relation to the Fairground as follows:</p> <p><i>Since the events meeting the Project and Events Manager received a phone call from Mr Charles Deakin regarding him bringing the funfair to Party in the Park this year. Mr Deakin</i></p>	

	<p><i>stated that he had tried contacting PCC via Mr Bendell to give the donation via cheque last year, but had not received a reply. Mr Deakin confirmed that should he be allowed to bring the fair this year, he would donate these years and last year's £1000 donation. He also commented that he and his family had been attending the event for many years.</i></p> <p><i>At the initial working party meeting for Party in the park, the Youth Leader and Torfaen Play service Leader had stated that without the Fair, there would be little entertainment for older youth.</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, it is now suggested that Mr Deakin be informed to bring the funfair, with £2000 being paid to PCC. The free circus show and possibly some smaller fairground stalls (dependent on budget) would still be booked.</i></p> <p>It was unanimously agreed by Council that the funfair be booked for Party in the park subject to the £2000 being paid.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(i) that the minutes of the events meeting held on 8 March 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p> <p>(ii) That Mr Deakin be informed that the Council have agreed to have the Fair at Party in the Park subject to the £2000 being paid.</p>	<p>JW</p> <p>RC/AA</p>
465.	<p><u>Planning & Environment Committee – 8 March 2023 - Minutes</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Planning and Environment meeting held on 8 March 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	<p>JW</p>
466.	<p><u>Water Station quotes for Pontypool Market</u></p> <p>The Council was asked to approve the best quote for a mains fed water station to be sited at Pontypool Indoor Market which would be funded by the Youth Council. Three quotes had been obtained and listed in the report. All quotes came with a 3-year contract. The preferred choice of the Youth Council was Eden Springs. Council unanimously agreed to go with their preferred choice which was also the cheapest.</p> <p>RESOLVED: that the Council award the 3-year contract to Eden Springs at £20.70 per month, which includes free installation, bi-annual filter change and maintenance.</p>	<p>CC/OW</p>

467.	<p><u>Co-option</u></p> <p>The Clerk informed members that three letters of Expression of Interest had been received. It was agreed that Dr. John Cox be the Council's preferred choice to be co-opted on to the Council for Garndiffaith & Varteg Vacancy.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that Dr John Cox be co-opted on to the Council for the Garndiffaith & Varteg ward.</p>	LM
468.	<p><u>Myfanwy Poetry Trail</u></p> <p>The Clerk gave an update on the Myfanwy Poetry Trail, asking for the Council to earmark additional costs for the Trail which she outlined to them at the meeting. She was having a further meeting with Ms Jenni Craig on the 24th April so would be able to give an update in relation to exact costs after this meeting. The Chair and members felt that due to the prominence of the event and the increased publicity for Pontypool Community Council that additional funds should be made available. Unanimously agreed.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) that the information outlined by the Clerk in relation to the Myfanwy Poetry Trail be received and noted. (ii) that the Council approve additional funds as outlined above. 	LM
469.	<p><u>One Voice Wales Training Needs Survey</u></p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the Clerk bases the response on replies received as at the 30th March 2023 from the original e-mail she had sent in relation to this survey.</p>	JW
470.	<p><u>Levelling Up Fund and presentation</u></p> <p>The Council received the presentation delivered by Kelly Collins-Thomas at the information coffee morning on the 7th March 2023 in the Council Chamber of Pontypool Community Council offices.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the presentation be received and noted.</p>	
471.	<p><u>Local Voluntary Funding</u></p> <p>The Committee was asked to approve the Local Voluntary Funding applications (attached as an appendix to the minutes).</p> <p>In relation to the LVF funding project applications for New Inn in relation to a second speed awareness sign and the "Smart Water"</p>	

	<p>Project it was agreed that the amounts for £3000 and £1500 respectively be accrued subject to the exact cost being confirmed by TCBC in relation to the sign and the LVF form for the “Smart Water” being amended to state 3 batches of £500.00 to avoid losing the money.</p> <p>RESOLVED: that the LVF applications as outlined in the appendix be approved, with the money for the LVF Projects for the New Inn Sign and “Smart Water” being accrued as outlined above.</p>	CC
472.	<p><u>Youth Festival</u></p> <p>The Council received an invitation from Condeixa inviting the youth and 3 representatives to attend the Youth Festival/Conference from Monday 21st to Sunday 27th August. It was agreed that the Council would participate but would not be able to let them know the names(s) until after the Annual meeting in May.</p> <p>RESOLVED: that the invitation be received and accepted, with names being sent after the Annual meeting in May.</p>	LM/ RC/ JW
473.	<p><u>Reports/Minutes</u></p> <p>The following minutes were received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) National Executive Committee meeting of One Voice Wales held on 16 December 2022. (ii) One Voice Wales Gwent Valleys Area Committee held on 24 January 2023 (iii) Torfaen Community Transport committee meeting on Thursday 23 February 2023. <p>From the above reports/minutes it was agreed that the Police & Crime Commissioner be invited to a future Council meeting to answer members questions, in relation to crime statistics, community policing, closure of Pontypool police station.</p> <p>In relation to the One Voice Wales Gwent Valleys Area Committee if for unforeseen reasons one or either of the nominated members was unable to attend it was agreed that Councillor NW be asked to attend in his role as the Council’s biodiversity champion.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) that the minutes of the meetings above received, and the information contained within noted. (ii) that the Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner be invited to a future Council meeting (iii) that Councillor NW be the reserve if either of the 	

	nominated Council representative(s) was unable to attend.	
473.	EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC 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.	
474.	<u>Establishment Committee – 1 March 2023 – Minutes</u> <u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Establishment meeting held on 1 March 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.	LM
475.	<u>Work Experience</u> The Clerk informed members that she had been approached by ACT asking if the Council would approve a work experience placement for one of their learners for one day a week for them to gain experience in a workplace setting as well as supporting them in building their confidence. (As the person was 18 years of age then a risk assessment would not be necessary). <u>RESOLVED:</u> that the Council unanimously approve the request from ACT for a work experience placement for one day a week.	LM

Signed by the Chair