

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICES
WEDNESDAY 30TH JANUARY 2019

In attendance:

Councillor M. Ford (In the Chair)

Councillors in attendance: Mrs K. Arthur, Mrs E. Chilcott JP,
Mrs G. E. James, N. Jones, J. Killick, Mrs R. Matthews, R. Mills,
R. F. Overton, Mrs N. P. Parrish, B. Rapier

Miss L. Grindlay – Vice-Chair of Youth Council

Officer in attendance: Mrs C. Challenger

308. **Questions from the Public**

There were no questions from the Public.

309. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors N. Byrne,
Miss L. Clarkson, G. Davies, Mrs E. Hunt, D. K. James,
Mrs J. E. Jones and N. Simons.

Miss C. Takel –Pontypool Youth Council

RESOLVED: that the Apologies be
noted.

310. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Mrs G. E. James, N. Jones, R. Mills, R. F.
Overton, and Mrs N. P. Parrish declared an interest on
any item on the agenda relating to Torfaen County
Borough Council.

RESOLVED: that the declarations of
interest be recorded.

JW

311 **Full Council**

Members received and considered the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 12th December 2018.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 12th December 2018 be confirmed as a true record.

312 **Policy & Finance**

Members received the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee held on the 9th January 2019.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee be confirmed as a true record.

313 **Planning & Environment**

Members received the notes of the speaker at the Planning & Environment meeting. As the Planning & Environment meeting was inquorate the Deputy Leader asked that a memo be sent to all members reminding them that apologies for a meeting should be given to the office as far in advance as possible. This ensures that an assessment can be made as to whether a meeting will be quorate or not. This is especially important when the Council has an incoming speaker as happened at the Planning & Environment committee and looks bad for the Council. It is also recognised that apologies have sometimes been tendered through another member in good faith, however by not having all the apologies in one place, the office is not in the position of knowing in advance if a meeting will be quorate.

RESOLVED: (i) that the notes of the speaker at the Planning & Environment meeting be approved.

(ii) that a memo in respect of Councillors apologies be sent out as outlined above.

314 **Events**

Members received the minutes of the Events Committee held on the 23rd January. The Chair of Councillor reiterated the words of the Vice-Chair of Events in respect of how hard the staff worked in making the Christmas Cavalcade a huge success.

He felt that the 2018 Christmas Cavalcade was absolutely superb and it was excellent to have the Youth Councillors on board. He added that the atmosphere was amazing inside and out and thanked all staff and members who attended on the day.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Events Committee held on the 23rd January 2019 be approved as a true record noting his appreciation to all staff and members in respect of the Christmas Cavalcade.

315 **Budget**

The Council received the minutes of the budget day and was asked to approve the budget and precept for 2019-2020 as agreed at the budget day. The minutes were agreed as a true record subject to the last sentence being amended to state £50.96 per household not £50.09 and 0.96 pence to the taxpayer not 0.98 pence.

It was unanimously agreed that from the information received in respect of the budget that the precept requirement be set at £679,015 equating to a Band D requirement of £50.96 per household would result in a weekly increase of 0.96 pence to the taxpayer.

The Deputy Leader referred to the footnote in the minutes in respect of the two units. It was unanimously agreed that the Council would go with one unit instead of two which would save the Council approximately £5,000 per year when you also included the utility bills that the Council were paying. The Christmas decorations could still be stored in the one unit over the Christmas period, however the task force vehicle would need to be sited elsewhere while the Christmas decorations were being stored.

It was agreed that the Finance & Events Manager inform Mr D. Morris at Torfaen County Borough that the Council will only require one unit under the new contract.

RESOLVED: (i) that the minutes of the budget day be approved as a true record subject to the amendments being made as outlined above.

(i) that the precept of £679,015 be approved equating to a 3.7% increase with a Band D requirement of £50.09 per household and Torfaen County Borough Council informed to this effect.

316 **Planning Applications**

Members received and considered Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Applications. In respect of planning application 18/P/0852 Abersychan and Cwmavon the ward member had given detailed observations which will be attached as an appendix to the minutes.

RECOMMENDED: that observations as outlined be submitted to Torfaen County Borough Council.

317 **Plenary Powers**

The Committee was asked to confirm observations made on planning applications by the Clerk to the Council in conjunction with the Chair of Planning under plenary powers.

RESOLVED: that the observations there-on be approved.

318 **Planning Determinations**

The Committee received planning determinations including detailed reasons for approvals or refusals.

RESOLVED: that the planning determinations be received.

319 **Governors**

The Council approved the renewal of Councillor Mrs E. Chilcott JP as a governor on Cwmffrwdoer Primary school.

RESOLVED: that the Governing Support body be informed that Councillor Mrs E. Chilcott JP has been reappointed as a governor on Cwmffrwdoer Primary by Pontypool Community Council.

320 **LRM Planning Limited**

The Council received a publicity and consultation notice from LRM Planning Limited before applying for planning permission notice at manor Way, Abersychan, Torfaen.

RESOLVED: that the information be received.

321 **Playing Field Regulations Consultation: Rugby Grounds within Pontypool Park**

A letter was received from Torfaen County Borough Council regarding the playing fields regulations consultation: rugby grounds within the park.

It was agreed that a response be sent to Torfaen expressing approval providing that the ground would continue to be used for events and that a letter of reassurance is received to this effect.

RESOLVED: that a letter be sent to Torfaen expressing that providing the ground continues to be used for events and that a response is received to this effect the Council does not object.

322 **Party in the Park**

The Council received and considered a quotation from Vibe Creative in respect of Health and Safety advice and Event support for Party in the Park. The Chair of Policy

& Finance stated that the quote stated £5,880 but on adding all the figures the total was actually £6480.00. It was agreed in the first instance that Council approves the quote subject to the Finance & Events Officer clarifying the correct amount with Mr Bendell from Vibe Creative.

The Leader and Deputy Leader also wanted to pass on their sincere thanks to staff for taking on the responsibility and administration of Party in the Park with no prior knowledge and how positive all staff had been in progressing this under difficult circumstances.

RESOLVED:

(i) that the quote from Vibe Creative be approved subject to the correct amount being clarified with Mr Bendell.

(ii) that all staff be thanked for the positive way in which they have taken Party in the Park on.

323 **Charity Concert**

The Council received a report on the Chairman's Charity Concert which was deferred from Events. The Chair of Council proposed that due to unforeseen staff shortages within the office that the Chairman's Concert be postponed for this year. The Deputy Leader seconded this which was unanimously agreed by Council.

RESOLVED: that the Chairman's Concert be postponed for this year as outlined above.

324 **Pontypool Toilets**

A discussion took place on the contribution that Pontypool Community Council had made towards the toilets on Hanbury Road, Pontypool over the last 4 years.

A costing and breakdown which had been received from Torfaen showed that the Council have also been

subsidising the cost of the other public toilets within the Torfaen areas.

In light of this the Council agreed that the contribution be lowered this year to £5000 and possibly for future years as well.

RESOLVED: that the Council lower the contribution made to Torfaen County Borough Council to £5000; to take effect in 2018/19.

325. **Police and Crime Commissioner**

It was agreed that a response should be made to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) which would ask The Commissioner to confirm that he had instructed the Chief Constable to reply to the Council's concerns about the closure of the Pontypool Police Station.

RESOLVED: that the Council replies to the PCC's response seeking confirmation that the Chief Constable had been instructed to reply to the Council.

326. **Torfaen Armed Forces Covenant Forum meeting**

The Council was asked to appoint a Councillor/officer to serve on the Torfaen Armed Forces Covenant Forum meeting. It was unanimously agreed that the Leader Councillor Mrs G. E. James be the nominated representative.

RESOLVED: that the Leader of Pontypool Community Council be the nominated representative and the Public Services Support Unit at Torfaen be informed to this effect.

327. **Proposal to Extend the Age Range of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw from 11 - 18 to 3 - 18**

The Council received a letter from Mr M. Horton, Principal Officer, Torfaen Education Department

regarding the proposal to extend the age range of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw from 11 – 18 to 3 – 18.

RESOLVED: that the information be received.

328. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

By virtue of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public are excluded from discussions thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

329. **Establishment Committee**

The Council received the minutes of the Establishment Committee held on the 9th January 2019. The Chair of Establishment updated members on the present position with the Clerk and Mrs C.H and it was agreed that letters be sent to them both on behalf of the Council sending their best wishes.

RESOLVED: (i) that the minutes of the Establishment Committee held on the 9th January 2019 be approved as a true record.

(ii) that letters be sent to the Clerk and Mrs C. H by the Council sending them their best wishes.

Chair of Council