

**“QUICK NOTES” OF A MULTI-LOCATION MEETING OF THE
ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD USING MICROSOFT TEAMS
ON WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 5.30 PM**

NB the full minutes will be published in due course

In attendance (all using Teams):

Councillor: John Killick (in the Chair)

and Councillors: Elaine Chilcott JP, Lynda Clarkson, Gaynor James and Norma Parrish

Officers: Richard Gwinnell (Acting Clerk)

231. **Apologies for absence:**

Received from Councillors Keith James and Rose Matthews.

Councillors Giles Davies and Matt Ford were also absent.

232. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Lynda Clarkson, Gaynor James, John Killick and Norma Parrish declared personal and non-prejudicial interests in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) (e.g. the Pension Fund) as they were members of TCBC, as well as members of Pontypool Community Council.

233. **Friends of the Earth Letter**

The committee received:

- a letter from Friends of the Earth (FOTE) Cymru, seeking a decision by the Council to support calls for its local authority pension fund (LAPF) to divest from fossil fuel companies
- information from the Chair of the Greater Gwent (Torfaen) Pension Fund (GGTPF) on the steps being taken to ensure responsible investment and reduce the funds placed in fossil fuel enterprises
- a news release from the Wales Pension Partnership (WPP) on its decarbonisation initiative and
- an opinion paper from Elizabeth M. Carey, an advisor to local government pension schemes, asking whether local government pension schemes (LGPS) should divest from fossil fuel assets.

RECOMMENDED*: (1) to write back to FOTE, thanking them for the information they provided, referring to the significant efforts being made by the GGTPF and the WPP to ensure responsible investment and contribute to decarbonisation, and stating the Council's desire to see this good work continue

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(2) to write to the Chair of the GGTPF and the WPP, thanking them for the significant efforts being made to ensure responsible investment and contribute to decarbonisation, and stating the Council's desire to see this good work continue.

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234. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED: By virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be 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.

- * This is a recommendation to the Council. The Council will make the final decision at a future meeting.

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