

**QUICK NOTES OF A MULTI-LOCATION MEETING OF
PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 June 2022 AT 6.30PM**

NB: The full minutes will be published in due course

In attendance:

Councillor: Matt Ford# (in the Chair)

and Councillors: Nick Byrne#, Lynda Clarkson*, Anne Gunter#, Lizzie Hunt#, Gaynor James#, Jon James#, Nick Jones*, John Killick#, Jonathon Martin#, Rose Matthews#, Richard Overton#, Caroline Price#, Bob Rogers*, Jools Rogers*, Nick Simons# and Nathan Warren#

Officers: Richard Gwinnell# (Acting Clerk), Lisa McMail# (Finance Manager), Olivia Williams# (Youth Project Leader), Annette Ambrosen# (Events Officer) and Rebecca Cronin# (Events Officer)

Guests: David Leech* (see minute 69 below), Helen Cooling# (Torfaen Youth Service) and 3 Members of the Youth Council#

* 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
66.	<u>Questions from the Public</u> No questions had been received in advance from the public. The Chair welcomed the guests attending and asked members of the Youth Council if they wished to ask anything. They declined to do so.	
67.	<u>Apologies for absence</u> Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Keith James.	
68.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Councillors Nick Byrne, Gaynor James, Jon James, Rose Matthews, Caroline Price and Nick Simons declared	

Community Council members enthusiastically welcomed the ideas and were very keen to see these developments progress and therefore supported the LUF bid.

Members were keen to encourage visitors into the town but were realistic that this would take time. Several members raised the matter of the upkeep of the town and litter, cleanliness and basic maintenance problems that had been an issue in the town centre of late. The public who used the town on a regular basis and any new visitors would like a clean environment to visit.

A member stated that a major employer was needed in the town, so that employment would rise, and people would have money to spend in the town. Another member suggested a big attraction such as a cinema was needed. Comments were also made about the need to make more use of the market (as happened a few years ago for French, Spanish and comedy nights) and to promote local bands, music, arts and the bandstand. It was also suggested that massive opportunities for the town could be achieved if the National Eisteddfod was brought to Pontypool. This would promote the Welsh language as well as the town itself.

Members thanked DL for attending.

71. **Youth Project – Trustee Board**

The Chair agreed to take this item (agenda item 17) next as the Youth Council representatives needed to leave.

The Chair nominated Councillor John Killick to serve on the Pontypool Youth Project Management Committee/Trustee Board. No nominations were made for the second position on the Committee/Board. Members were advised to email Olivia Williams at a later date to nominate themselves or to request further information.

Olivia Williams and the Youth Council members left the meeting at this point.

RESOLVED: (i) that the process shown in section 2 of the report be agreed and
(ii) Councillor John Killick be nominated to serve on the Pontypool Youth Project Management Committee/Trustee Board, with the second position to be determined at a later date.

OW

77.

Outside Bodies

The Acting Clerk gave a verbal update on the nomination of members to serve on outside bodies. He explained that the Torfaen Environmental Association had not met since 2018 and the Torfaen Local Access Forum had not met for several years, so they could be removed from the outside bodies list.

Torfaen Community Enterprises Association and Torfaen Community Transport appeared to be one organisation. They were still active and had reported that Norma Parrish was the representative for Pontypool. Norma Parrish was no longer a Pontypool Community Councillor (but was a TCBC Councillor).

Members agreed not to nominate anyone else (noting that Norma Parrish remained on the organisation).

RESOLVED: (i) that Torfaen Environmental Association be removed from the Outside Bodies list

RG

(ii) that Torfaen Local Access Forum be removed from the Outside Bodies List

RG

(iii) to note the position regarding Torfaen Community Enterprises Association and Torfaen Community Transport.

78.

Torfaen Museum Trust

The Council was asked to nominate a new representative to the above body, as Councillor Keith James was unable to continue serving on it due to work commitments.

RESOLVED: that Councillor Richard Overton be nominated as PCC's representative on the Torfaen Museum Trust.

RG

79.

Knowledge Partnership

The Acting Clerk explained that he awaited a reply (as to whether the new Knowledge Partnership was operational and whether they wanted a PCC nominee(s)).

RESOLVED: to consider this matter further at a later date, when the position becomes clear.

RG

80.

Planning Applications

Members received and considered details of planning applications submitted to TCBC, on which the Community

83.

TVA Gold Award

The Council was asked to nominate a member to attend the Torfaen Voluntary Alliance Community and Volunteer Awards event on Friday 21 October 2022.

RESOLVED: that the Chair of Council (Councillor Matt Ford) attend the TVA awards on behalf of the Council.

84.

Condeixa-a-Nova

Council received a letter from the Mayor of Condeixa-a-Nova in relation to the Clerk's retirement.

The Leader stated that Mrs Tucker had worked tirelessly for over 20 years with Twinning and she was admired by all the Twin Towns. Members agreed that this was lovely to hear.

RESOLVED: that a copy of the letter be sent to Mrs R Tucker.

CC

85.

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.

Signed by the Chair