

**QUICK NOTES OF A MULTI-LOCATION MEETING OF PONTYPOOL
COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25TH JANUARY 2023**

NB: Full minutes will be published in due course

In attendance:

Councillor: Matt Ford# (in the Chair)

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

Officers: Lisa McMail (Clerk)#, Jane Wright (Assistant Clerk)#

Also in attendance: Julian Davenne – Torfaen Play service Manager
Teagan – Torfaen Youth Play Volunteer

* 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
347.	<u>Questions from the public</u> There were no questions from the public.	
348.	<u>Apologies for absence</u> Apologies for absence were received from Councillors	JW
349.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Councillors Nick Byrne, Lynda Clarkson, 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.	JW

350.	<p><u>Torfaen Playservice</u></p> <p>The Council welcomed Mr Julian Davenne, Torfaen Playservice Manager and Teagan a play service volunteer to the Council meeting to talk on the findings of the recent play sufficiency assessment, the results of the public consultation and the action plan where it links to the communities of Pontypool and our plans going forward.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that Mr Davenne and Teagan be thanked for attend the Council meeting.</p>	LM/ JW
351.	<p><u>Council Meeting – 14 December 2022 - Minutes</u></p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 December 2022 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	JW
352.	<p><u>Policy & Finance Committee – 4 January 2023 – Minutes</u></p> <p>The Chair of Policy & Finance referred to minute 322 in relation to movement of reserves stating that a request had been received in relation to funding for a musical footpath/steps at Pontypool Park (cost approximately £6,000). She asked if this amount could be added to the earmarked reserves in principle subject to the request being approved at Planning & Environment in February with a minute to this effect; subsequently resolved at February Council. This was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>In relation to minute 326 the financial request from Wainfelin & Pentrench Community Hall to offer Warm Spaces the financial information was not available at the meeting thus on the Council agenda. It was unanimously agreed that the full amount requested of £1100 be awarded.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> (i)that the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee held on 4 January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations of the meeting be approved subject to £6,000 being added to the earmarked reserves as outlined above. (ii) that a financial donation of £1100.00 be awarded to the Wainfelin and Tranch Community Hall for warm spaces.</p>	LM/CC
353.	<p><u>Events Committee – 11 January 2023 – Minutes</u></p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Events Committee held on</p>	

	11 January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations of the meeting be approved.	
354.	<p><u>Planning & Environment Committee – 11 January 2023</u> <u>– Minutes</u></p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on 11 January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations of the meeting be approved.</p>	
355.	<p><u>Myfanwy Poetry Trail</u></p> <p>The Council received the minutes of the Myfanwy Poetry Trail held on the following dates:</p> <p>(a) Thursday 17 November 2022 (b) Tuesday 13 December 2022</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes be received and noted.</p>	
356.	<p><u>Budget and Precept 2023/24</u></p> <p>The Chair informed members that the budget had been well discussed at previous meetings and asked members if they were happy to approve the budget for 2023/24. Unanimously agreed.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the Council approve a budget and precept of £715,824 for 2023/24 (this equates to a 0% increase in Council Tax at Band D, with a Band D equivalent charge of £54.33 per household) and Torfaen County Borough Council be informed to this effect.</p>	
357.	<p><u>Biodiversity & Environment 3-year plan</u></p> <p>The Council received and approved the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Action Plan 2023 along with costings. The Chair and members thanked Councillor Nathan Warren for his phenomenal work in producing this Plan. Cllr NW thanked members for their contribution and gave a special thank you to Mrs AA, Events Officer who had been extremely supportive.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems 3 year Plan with costings be approved and that Cllr NW be thanked for his outstanding work.</p>	

358.	<p><u>Garndiffaith & Varteg Vacancy</u></p> <p>The Clerk informed Council that in relation to the Garndiffaith & Varteg vacancy Caroline Genever-Jones, Elections Manager at Torfaen had informed her that they had not received 10 signatures requesting an election therefore the Council was free to co-opt.</p> <p>It was agreed that a co-option advert for the Garndiffaith & Varteg Vacancy be advertised until the 20th February 2023.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that a co-option advert for the Garndiffaith & Varteg vacancy be displayed as outlined above with the closing date being 20th February 2023.</p>	
359.	<p><u>Co-option for New Inn Upper</u></p> <p>The Clerk informed members that two letters of Expression of Interest had been received; a vote took place. It was agreed by a vote of 13:2 that Mrs S. Malson be co-opted on to the Council for the New Inn Upper ward.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that Mrs S. Malson be co-opted on to the Council for the New Inn Upper ward.</p>	
360.	<p><u>Planning Applications</u></p> <p>Members received and considered details of planning applications submitted to TCBC, on which the Community Council was being consulted. No observations were raised on any of the applications.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the observations (or absence of observations, as the case may be) outlined in appendix B attached to these minutes be submitted to Torfaen County Borough Council.</p>	CP
361.	<p><u>Outside Representative(s)</u></p> <p>The Council was asked to nominate a representative to sit on the Torfaen Community Enterprise Association and Transport. The Clerk informed members that the previous member who sat on this organisation and stood down in May 2022 had indicated they no longer wanted to attend. It was clarified that the organisation meets once a year, the last meeting they had was held via Teams. Councillor Rose Matthews said she would be happy to represent the Council on this organisation.</p>	

	<u>RESOLVED:</u> that Councillor Rose Matthews be the Council's nominated representative to sit on the Torfaen Community Enterprise Association and Transport.	
362.	<u>Armed Forces Covenant</u> <u>RESOLVED:</u> to note that the Armed Forces Covenant was signed by Councillor Gaynor James on 25 October (copy of Covenant distributed).	LM/JW
363.	<u>Community Engagement Survey Winter 2022/23</u> The Chair of Policy & Finance informed the meeting that the Engagement Survey Winter 2022/23 is still open, and she had e-mailed everyone again with the link asking everyone to share. A small amount of people had responded and she was pleased with how the Youth Council had responded. <u>RESOLVED:</u> that the information in relation to the Community Engagement Survey Winter 2022/23 be noted.	LM
364.	<u>Annual (Well-Being) Report 2021/22</u> Members were asked to approve the Council's Annual Report for 2021/22. The Chair stated that there had been a considerable delay in this being presented to Council so wanted to thank the Clerk and Assistant Clerk for all their hard work in compiling the report, which was echoed by members. The Clerk stated that the 2022/23 report was in progress so it would be presented to June Council. The Vice-Chair of Policy & Finance referred to page 8 a resilient Pontypool. It was agreed that subject to the amendment in relation to the public toilets in Pontypool that the Annual Report for 2021/2022 be approved. <u>RESOLVED:</u> that the Annual (Well-Being) Report for 2021/22 be approved subject to the amendment being made as outlined.	LM/JW
365.	<u>EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</u> 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.	

366.	<p><u>Youth Project</u></p> <p>The Council received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Pontypool Youth Project Business Plan and Articles of Association (b) Minutes of the following Youth Project meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd October 2022 7th November 2022 <p>It was agreed that in future only minutes of the Youth Project meetings be presented to Council and the Business Plan once it is fully finalised.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes be received and the information noted.</p>	
367.	<p><u>Establishment Committee - 4 January 2023 - confidential minutes</u></p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Establishment Committee held on 4 January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations of the meeting be approved.</p>	

Signed by Chair

PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED PONT-Y-PŴL
Declarations of Interest Declared

MEETING: FULL COUNCIL

DATE: Wednesday 25 January 2023

<u>Name of Member</u>	<u>Interest Declared</u>	<u>Signed</u>
Councillor Nick Byrne	A personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.	Yes
Councillor Lynda Clarkson	A personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.	Yes
Councillor Jon Horlor	A personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.	Yes
Councillor Gaynor James	A personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.	Yes
Councillor Jon James	A personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.	Yes

Councillor Rose Matthews	A personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.	Yes
Councillor Caroline Price	A personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.	Yes
Councillor Nick Simons	A personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.	Yes