

**QUICK NOTES OF A MULTI-LOCATION MEETING OF THE PLANNING
AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY
COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH MARCH 2023**

NB: Full minutes will be produced in due course

In attendance:

Councillor: Jon James* (In the Chair)

and Councillors: Lyn Clarkson*, Anne Gunter*, Gaynor James*, Richard Overton* Nick Simons*, Nathan Warren*

Also in attendance: James Vale*, Katie Jenkins*, Officers at Torfaen County Borough Council.

Officers: Lisa McMail (Clerk)* Rebecca Cronin* (Projects & Events Manager), Jane Wright (Assistant Clerk)*

* *Attending remotely via Microsoft Teams Teams due to adverse weather.*

The meeting was recorded for minute taking purposes as agreed by Members.

Min No	Subject and Decision	Action
346.	<u>Apologies for absence</u> Councillors Nick Byrne and Matt Ford gave apologies for absence.	
347.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Councillors Lyn Clarkson, Gaynor James, 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 members of Pontypool Community Council.	JW
348.	<u>Waste Consultation/Digital First Draft Strategy and Consultation</u> Katie Jenkins (KJ) informed the meeting that although she was due to speak on the waste consultation this had been postponed until the 27 th March so James Vale (JV), Head of Customer, Digital and ICT services at Torfaen had attended to give a presentation on the Digital First Draft Strategy and Consultation. [Copy of presentation attached	

	<p>as an appendix to the minutes].</p> <p>The Chair thanked both James and Katie for attending the meeting.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED: that Mr James Vale be thanked for his presentation in relation to Digital First Draft and Consultation.</p>	
349.	<p><u>Biodiversity Working Group</u></p> <p>Cllr NW gave a verbal update on the Biodiversity Plan. He informed members that the main thing to update was that he and Mrs AA were supposed to be presenting to the staff in the office today but due to the office being closed because of adverse weather this would be-rearranged.</p> <p>Cllr AG referred to a seminar she attended given by Welsh Water on the 12th February in relation to 'Doing the Right Thing for Nature' which outlines the steps taken by Welsh Water in its commitments for achieving its vision and mission set out in its biodiversity strategy. It aims to maintain and enhance biodiversity within the fulfilment of its functions for the wellbeing of current and future generations. Cllr AG gave a summary of the seminar.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED: that the information relayed by Cllr AG be received and noted.</p>	
350.	<p><u>Planning Applications</u></p> <p>Members received and considered the list of planning applications on which it was being consulted by Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC).</p> <p>RECOMMENDED: that the observations (or absence of observations as the case may be) as outlined in the appendix to these minutes be submitted to Torfaen County Borough Council.</p>	CP
351.	<p><u>Planning Determinations</u></p> <p>Members received and noted Torfaen County Borough Council planning determinations including reasons for approvals or refusals.</p> <p>RESOLVED: that the planning determinations as outlined be noted.</p>	CP

352.	<p><u>Planning Applications: Plenary Powers</u></p> <p>Members received the list of observations made on planning applications between meetings, under plenary powers.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the observations as outlined be noted.</p>	
353.	<p><u>Committee Budget</u></p> <p>The Committee received the budget (and reserves) within its remit and the spend to date.</p> <p><u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the information be received and the spend to date be noted.</p>	
354.	<p><u>Notice Boards</u></p> <p>The Committee received a verbal update by the Projects & Events Manager in relation to Community Council notice boards.</p> <p><u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the information in relation to notice boards be received and noted, with an update being given at the next meeting.</p>	
355.	<p><u>Litter/Doggy Bins</u></p> <p>To receive a verbal update on Litter/Doggy Bins from the Projects & Events Manager and any matters arising from a survey conducted by Councillor Jon James.</p> <p><u>RECOMMENDED:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) that the list of bins that PCC own produced by SW be presented to the next meeting. (ii) that PCC look to improve/replace existing bins rather than install any new ones including a maintenance programme in line with budget restrictions. 	
356.	<p><u>Playground Equipment</u></p> <p>A lengthy discussion took place on playground equipment in relation to enquiries received relating to replacement of Park Fencing at Varteg. Concern was expressed at the cost as there was only £16,000 in the budget of which this would take a massive amount and in addition members</p>	

	<p>pointed out that other play areas throughout Torfaen needed . The Clerk referred to an e-mail from Ms Henrietta Lucas at Torfaen County Borough Council who had informed her that they would be willing to work with the PCC budget in relation to play equipment; a member also pointed out that in relation to maintenance of play areas this would be the responsibility of Torfaen not PCC.</p> <p><u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the information in relation to play equipment be noted and that more information be given at the next meeting after the Clerk had discussed it further with Mrs H. Lucas at Torfaen.</p>	
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Signed by Chair

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

MEETING: PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

DATE: Wednesday 8th March 2023

<u>Name of Member</u>	<u>Interest Declared</u>	<u>Signed</u>
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 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 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

