

Minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on Monday 23 January 2023 at 6.00 pm.

Venue: The meeting was held remotely and at the Council House, Ventnor Road, Cwmbran NP44 3JY in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

The recommendations below will be submitted to the Council Meeting to be held on 1 February 2023.

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the meeting to be held on 6 March 2023

Present: Councillor A Bird, F Jones (Vice-Chair), P Jones, P Seabourne & M Villars

(Councillors R Bennett (Chair), SWJ Ashley, C Morgan, S Morgan participated in the meeting via remote means)

Also: Gareth Davies

Absent: Councillors L Chaney, M Day, L Johnston, L Lloyd-Tolman, K Manneh

(No Public Participation Session was held at this meeting)

PF22/067 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were accepted from Councillors L Chaney (illness), L Lloyd-Tolman (Personnel), K Manneh (Holiday)

PF22/068 Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests that they may have and sign the Interests Sheet to give details of the nature of the interest.

Councillor A Bird declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute PF22/072 Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) for Cwmbran. He remained in the meeting during the discussions.

PF22/069 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

PF22/070 Itemised Schedule of Receipts & Payments (November 2022)

Members considered the above information, including bank reconciliations. The Acting Clerk confirmed that corresponding statements and reconciliations had been verified by Councillor M Villars, in accordance with financial regulations.

It was **recommended**:-

- a) that the Itemised Schedule of Receipts & Payments for November 2022 is noted
- b) that Councillor Villars is thanked for verifying the accounts.

PF22/071 Council House Matters

- a) The external works have been completed and the scaffolding has been removed. Members commented on how much better the building now looked.
- b) Internal Alterations to Reception and Main Office area – in 2019 the Council received architectural drawings from Torfaen County Borough Council.

Members discussed the plans and agreed to not move ahead with the current plans as they stand. Members suggested having a full architectural and disability assessment of the building and to carry out an audit of the current use of the building to ensure the building functions for the staff and is fit for purpose.

It was **recommended**:-

- i) Internal Alterations to The Council House to be discussed at Full Council Meeting 1st February 2023.
- ii) that the information is noted.

PF22/072 Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) for Cwmbran

Councillor A Bird declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute PF22/072 Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) for Cwmbran. He remained in the meeting during the discussions.

Councillor S Morgan updated members on the Community Alcohol Partnership which is moving on to a Torfaen wide basis. The Community Safety Team has taken it on board and will be driving the partnership with their expertise at the heart of the project. There are a number of projects in the Cwmbran area, with the Community Safety Team taking the lead and updating partners as and when they can be involved.

It was **recommended** that the position is noted.

PF22/073 Traffic Speed Signs

Councillor Villars updated members on the ongoing issues with traffic speed signs at Llantarnam Road, Councillor Villars noticed that the new sign was being fitted to the wrong lamp post and spoke to the team installing the sign. There are now two Traffic Speed Signs fitted, however there is an issue with the new sign showing kilometres instead of miles per hour.

Members discussed the issues with signs being calibrated in kilometres and not miles per hour. It has been reported to Torfaen County Borough Council who are aware of the issue and the Council are awaiting an update.

It was **recommended** that the position is noted.

PF22/074 Seminars & Outside Bodies

Members noted the following meeting has taken place:-

- i. Friends of Bruchsal Society - Members received a report from Councillor A Bird who attended the meeting. Councillor Bird received an invitation as Chair to attend a 200 year Celebration at Bruchsal in April, which he has politely declined. The Friends of Bruchsal have now employed a member of staff, to help re-establish and encourage teams and local groups to get involved and establish more links with Bruchsal. Councillor Bennett has previously visited Bruchsal with a group of young people and suggested getting the group back together to talk about the benefits and what they gained from the visit to share with new groups.

It was **recommended** that the meeting is noted.

Signed(Chair, Policy & Finance Committee)