

Minutes of the Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee held on Wednesday 5 July 2023 at 6.00 pm.

The recommendations below will be submitted to the Council Meeting to be held on
Wednesday 26 July 2023

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the meeting of the committee to be held on
Wednesday 6 September 2023.

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

Present Councillors SWJ Ashley (Chair), M Day, L Lloyd-Tolman, C Morgan & WJ Walker

(Councillor L Chaney participated in the meeting via remote means)

Also Gareth Davies (Clerk), Andy Smith (RFO/Deputy Clerk) & Rebecca Blount

Absent Councillors R Bennett, A Bird, L Johnston, KK Manneh, F Jones, G Lloyd-Tolman, P Seabourne & M Villars

(No Public Participation Session was held at this meeting)

ESP23/009 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors A Bird (Illness), F Jones (Holiday), P Seabourne (Work) & M Villars (Holiday)

ESP23/010 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.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

ESP23/011 Minutes – 31 May 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 May 2023 were confirmed as a correct record of the meeting and are approved and actioned therein.

The Chair signed the minutes.

ESP23/012 Planning, Highways & Footpaths Matters

(a) Planning Lists

No objections are offered to Planning List 1463.

Planning list 1464, item 6466 concerns from Councillor Bird regarding the site access to be noted on the planning application. No objections to items 6465 & 6467.

(b) Schedules of Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Decisions

Members noted the Schedule of Planning Decisions.

It was **recommended** that:-

- i) Concerns regarding Planning List 1464, item 6466 concerns regarding site access to be noted.
- ii) to note the Schedules of Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Decisions.
- iii) The position is noted.

ESP23/013 Neighbourhood Services

Councillor Mandy Owen, Executive Member for Environment (Torfaen County Borough Council) did not attend the meeting.

Councillor Walker confirmed that issues with the Waste and Recycling collections in Llantarnam were still ongoing. Members discussed The Grange Hospital and would be interested to receive information on the recycling arrangements at the Hospital.

It was **recommended** that:-

- (i) The position is noted.

ESP23/014 Oak Street Environmental Projects

Rebecca Blount attended the meeting and reported to members on projects to look at the planting of trees in the Oak Street Car Park area. Oak Street no longer contains any Oak Trees and Ms Blount spoke to members about the possibility of planting more trees in Cwmbran.

Members discussed where trees could be planted and expressed concerns with provisions for the after care of the trees once planted especially in the 1st twelve months after planting. A forum is to be arranged with all park groups and Ms Blount invited to attend.

The Clerk suggested looking at alternative areas of land to plant trees and the Clerk will enquire about a large area of land at the Celtic Club.

It was **recommended** that:-

- (i) The Clerk makes enquiries about the area of land at the Celtic Club.
- (ii) The position is noted.

ESP23/015 Exclusion of the Press & Public

In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was agreed that the following matter be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised.

ESP23/016 Task Force Performance Information

- a) Members considered performance information regarding the recent work of the Task Force and were pleased with the amount of work taking place. At present the gardening service has a 1 month waiting list and the decorating service a 3 month waiting list.
- b) Members reviewed the current Task Force services offered and discussed ways to raise the profile and target groups who could benefit from the service. Members considered ways to make more residents aware of the service including a flyer drop and discussed ways to extend the service to assist more residents. The clerk will look at the wards where the service is being used and report back to members.
- c) Members were pleased to see the Thank you letters from residents who had used the Task Force service.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the Clerk will report to members a breakdown of the work carried out per ward.
- b) the Task Force performance information is noted.

Signed
(Chairman, Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee)