

**Minutes of the Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday  
26 July 2023 at 6.00pm**

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on  
27 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: F Jones, P Jones, KK Manneh, C Morgan (Vice-Chair), S Morgan,  
M Villars & WJ Walker

*(Councillors SWJ Ashley, L Chaney participated in the meeting via remote  
means)*

Also present: Gareth Davies (Clerk to the Council) & Andy Smith (RFO/Deputy Clerk)

**Absent:** Councillors R Bennett, A Bird, JS Davenne, M Day, LG Johnson, G Lloyd-  
Tolman, L Lloyd-Tolman (Chair), P Seabourne

(No public participation session was held at this meeting)

**CL23/036 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors R Bennett (Family),  
A Bird (Personal), G Lloyd-Tolman (Personal), L Lloyd-Tolman (Personal),  
P Seabourne (Funeral)

**CL23/037 Declarations of Interest**

Members were asked to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests they  
had and give details of the nature of their interest.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**CL23/038 Voting**

It was **Resolved** that the manner of any voting at this meeting would be by  
calling each name alphabetically with a response of "for" or "against" or  
"abstain".

**CL23/039 Chair's Announcements & Vice Chair's Announcements**

There were no announcements from the Chair and Vice Chair.

It was **Resolved** that the above is noted.

**CL23/040 Public Question Time**

In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders the opportunity for public questions was included as an item on the agenda for the meeting.

No questions had been submitted.

**CL23/041 Gwent Police Update/South Wales Fire & Rescue Service Update**

(i) No update from Gwent Police has been provided.

(ii) No update from Wales Fire & Rescue service has been provided.

It was **Resolved** that the above is noted.

**CL23/042 Council Meetings: 21 June 2023**

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meetings.

Following the resignation of Councillor L Simmonds, members proposed Councillor C Morgan as the Chair of the Regeneration & Major Grants Committee and Councillor L Lloyd-Tolman as the Vice Chair. The proposal was agreed by members.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the Chair of the Regeneration & Major Grants Committee will be Councillor C Morgan and the Vice Chair will be Councillor L Lloyd-Tolman.
- b) the minutes of the above meetings are approved and actioned therein.

**CL23/043 Events & Community Projects Committee 26 June 2023**

This meeting was cancelled.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

**CL23/044 Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee 26 June 2023**

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actioned therein.

**CL23/045 Regeneration & Major Grants Committee 26 June 2023**

This meeting was cancelled.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

**CL23/046 Environmental Sustainability & Planning Committee 5 July 2023**

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Planning Consultation list 1467 no objections.
- b) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actioned therein.

**CL23/047 Policy & Finance Committee 10 July 2023**

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actioned therein.

**CL23/048 Smart Water**

The Clerk informed members that he is waiting for a report from Gwent Police, which will be sent out with Members Matters. If funding is requested, it will be discussed at a future meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

**CL23/049 Financial Regulations**

The RFO/Deputy Clerk reported to members that there were no real material changes to the updated financial regulations, except to add in the RFO role.

Members considered and discussed the updated financial regulations and agreed to adopt the updated financial regulations.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the updated financial regulations are approved.
- b) the position is noted.

**CL23/050 Model Standing Orders**

The Clerk reported to members that the changes to the model standing orders are to update with new legislation.

Members considered the model standing orders and agreed to adopt the updated model standing orders.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the updated model standing orders are approved.
- b) the position is noted.

**CL23/051 Blankets (Winter Warm Scheme)**

Members discussed the winter warm scheme and would have liked more detailed feedback concerning the distribution of the blankets.

Members looked at and considered the supply slow cookers as an energy efficient method of cooking and would like the Clerk to look at comparing the costs of the various cooking appliances including ovens, microwaves and air-fryers.

Going forward members agreed to take advice from One Voice Wales and The Hub's to advise on the help that is required.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the clerk is to report to a future meeting.
- b) the position is noted.

**CL23/052 Training for Fuel Banks**

The Clerk reported to members that at present training is sourced through the Fuel Bank suppliers and background checks are carried out for volunteers.

Members discussed how the fuel bank vouchers provide a gateway to advice and support and that it is essential for the fuel banks to be equipped with enough information to provide support to residents.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the clerk is to report to a future meeting.
- b) the position is noted.

**CL23/053 Hire of Community Council Annexe**

Members considered a letter concerning a regular booking to hire the Annexe for 3 mornings per week. Members approved the booking with a review to be carried out after 6 months.

The Clerk discussed with members using the Council Chamber for lectures once a month on a Tuesday/Thursday when the Chamber is not used for meetings. Members agreed that it would be a good use of the building.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the regular booking of the Annexe is approved with a 6 monthly review.
- b) the use of the Chamber for lectures is approved.
- c) the position is noted.

**CL23/054 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.

**CL23/055 Changes to Banking Arrangements**

The RFO/Deputy Clerk reported to members the issues with banking at present with the RFO being appointed after the Annual Meeting.

Members approved the recommendations.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the recommendations are approved.
- b) the position is noted.

**CL23/056 Staffing**

The clerk reported to members that a request had been received from a member of staff concerning re-grading of there post to align effectively with local comparable jobs.

Members agreed that the Clerk should investigate and report back to members at the next meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) The Clerk reports back to the next meeting.
- b) the position is noted.

Signed..... (Chairman, Cwmbran  
Community Council)