

**Minutes of the Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday
8 November 2023 at 6.00pm**

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on
13 December 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: R Bennett, A Bird, L Chaney, J Davenne, M Day, F Jones,
P Jones, L Lloyd-Tolman (Chair), K Manneh, C Morgan, P Seabourne,
D Thomas & M Villars

*(Councillors SWJ Ashley & G Lloyd-Tolman participated in the meeting via
remote means)*

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

Absent: Councillors L Johnson, S Morgan, WJ Walker & S Wharton

(No public participation session was held at this meeting)

CL23/076 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors S Morgan (Personal),
WJ Walker (illness) & S Wharton (Work)

CL23/077 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.

*Councillor Ashley declared a non-prejudicial interest in minute CL23/089
MBACT Funding for Canal Project Work. He remained in the meeting during
the discussion.*

*Councillor Davenne declared a non-prejudicial interest in minute CL23/092
Torfaen Play. He remained in the meeting during the discussion.*

CL23/078 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".

CL23/079 Chair's Announcements & Vice Chair's Announcements

The chair reported to members that she had been out and about in the community supporting the Poppy Appeal and helping on the Royal British Legion stall.

Councillor C Morgan has also been supporting the Poppy Appeal and will be attending the Remembrance Concert on Friday 10th November at St Gabriel Church.

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

CL23/080 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.

CL23/081 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.

CL23/082 Council Meetings: 27 September 2023

Councillor L Lloyd-Tolman introduced the minutes of the above meetings.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL23/083 Events & Community Projects Committee 2 October 2023

Councillor M Day introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL23/084 Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee 2 October 2023

Councillor P Seabourne introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

Members enquired if Game N More had been contacted and the Clerk informed members that they were now using the Annexe every Monday.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL23/085 Regeneration & Major Grants Committee 2 October 2023

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL23/086 Environmental Sustainability & Planning Committee 11 October 2023

Councillor S Ashley introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Planning Consultation lists 1481 & 1482 no objections.
- b) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actioned therein.

CL23/087 Policy & Finance Committee 16 October 2023

Councillor R Bennett introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL23/088 Cwmbran @75

Councillor Bird updated members on the progress and planning for the events and publicity. Llantarnam Grange will be putting together the branding, with several groups coming together doing their own thing, to be promoted under the central branding through the Council. The College will be doing a video project and Costar will also be working on the video memories.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) The position is noted.

CL23/089 MBACT – Funding For Canal Project Work

Councillor Ashley declared a non-prejudicial interest in minute CL23/089 MBACT Funding for Canal Project Work. He remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Members discussed the request for funding from MBACT to fund the Canal Project Work and agreed that a significant portion of the funding should be used on the non-inhabitable parts of the canal with regular reports back to the Council on the progress of the project, before the next instalment.

Members agreed to support the project with MBACT working together with other groups involved in improving the canal.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) MBACT Funding for the Canal Project is approved.
- b) the position is noted.

CL23/090 Grant Application – SARA Fire & Rescue

Members considered the grant application from SARA Fire & Rescue for £4,736. The application was discussed, and members agreed to award £1,500 with the organisation asked to report back on activity in the Cwmbran area.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) grant awarded of £1,500 to SARA Fire & Rescue.
- b) the position is noted.

CL23/091 Name Our Annex Competition

Members considered the list of entries received to name the Annex and agreed that the Annex would be named Cwmbran Community Hub.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the Annex would be named as Cwmbran Community Hub.
- b) the position is noted.

CL23/092 Torfaen Play

Councillor Davenne declared a non-prejudicial interest in minute CL23/092 Torfaen Play. He remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Members received a presentation and update from Councillor Davenne on the progress of Torfaen Play. Recruitment of volunteers starts January each year with Play Schemes taking place for 4 weeks during the summer school holidays at 13 venues across Torfaen with organised timetables of activities to ensure all core elements are included.

1913 children are registered with Torfaen Play in the Cwmbran area, with 212 children requiring additional support. Members enquired about children who are home schooled, and Councillor Davenne confirmed that they are received applications for Children who are home schooled to attend.

Councillor Thomas enquired on the amount of funding support given and the Clerk confirmed that Torfaen Play received £90,000 funding for 2023/2024.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Councillor Davenne is thanked for his presentation.
- b) the position is noted.

CL23/093 Thank You Note

Members were pleased to receive a thank you note from Cwmbran 50 Plus Forum for the grant awarded to them.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

CL23/094 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.

CL23/095 Finance Update

The RFO reported to members that the new finance system is progressing well and a meeting has been arranged with the software provider to iron out some issues with the opening balances.

Training has been arranged for the staff for Admin Plus, to automate the agendas, minutes etc

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

CL23/096 Proposed Budget Virements

The RFO updated members on the proposed budget virements to relieve the current budgetary pressures. The recommendations are approved.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL23/097 Staffing Update

The Clerk reported to members that a member of staff is working extra hours to assist with the setting up of the new finance system.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

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