

**Minutes of the Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday
27 March 2024 at 6.00pm**

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on
8 May 2024

**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, M Day, F Jones, P Jones, G Lloyd-Tolman,
L Lloyd-Tolman (Chair), K Manneh, C Morgan, S Morgan, D Thomas, M Villars
& WJ Walker

*(Councillor SWJ Ashley, A Bird, P Seabourne participated in the meeting via
remote means)*

Also present: Gareth Davies (Clerk to the Council), Andy Smith (RFO/Deputy Clerk) & Lee
Stachow (Inspector Gwent Police)

Absent: Councillors LJ Chaney, JS Davenne, LG Johnson & S Wharton

(No public participation session was held at this meeting)

CL23/139 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor L Chaney (Personal)

CL23/140 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.

*Councillors SWJ Ashley & A Bird declared a non-prejudicial interest in minute
CL23/155 Councillors Small Schemes Funding. They remained in the
meeting during the discussion.*

CL23/141 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".

CL23/142 Chair's Announcements & Vice Chair's Announcements

The Chair reported to members that she had attended the One Voice Wales Innovative Practise Conference along with Councillor G Lloyd-Tolman and the RFO Andy Smith. Cwmbran Community Council were presented with two awards in the Community Engagement Category, winning the category for the Winter Flexible Support Scheme and also receiving an award for the Big Event.

Members congratulated and thanked everyone for their contribution to the awards and also the excellent work carried out by the staff.

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

CL23/143 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.

CL23/144 Gwent Police Update/South Wales Fire & Rescue Service Update

- (i) Members welcomed Inspector Lee Stachow to the meeting.

The Inspector informed members of an attempted knife point robbery at Thornhill shops. An individual has been arrested, charged with a total of 7 offences and remanded in custody.

An arrest had also been made regarding the graffiti at Pontnewydd near the Canal, officers had recently visited the area and they are satisfied that the issue has been dealt with. Councillor Ashley was concerned with recent graffiti on the Canal Tunnel and the removal of equipment to monitor the use of the Canal. The Inspector will look into this.

The Inspector informed members of the drop in sessions held once a month in Cwmbran Police Station, the Clerk will pass on members email addresses for them to be informed of when the sessions will be taking place.

In general the Inspector informed members that crime figures were looking good with a reduction in the Torfaen area and social behaviour calls also down on last year. Officers had been carrying out proactive work in the evening looking at vehicle crime, which was having a positive effect. Officers were also still working closely with trading standards concerning the sale of illegal vapes.

Members asked the Inspector when officers are out on patrol in their wards. The Inspector reassured members that officers are out and about, but it is hard to say in advance where they will be as they respond to the need daily. A community walk around could be arranged if it would be useful for members.

- (ii) No update from South Wales Fire & Rescue Service has been provided.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Inspector Lee Stachow is thanked for this report.
- b) the position is noted.

CL23/145 Council Meetings: 31 January 2024

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.

CL23/146 Events & Community Projects Committee 20 February 2024

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.

CL23/147 Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee 20 February 2024

Councillor P Seabourne introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL23/148 Regeneration & Major Grants Committee 20 February 2024

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.

CL23/149 Environmental Sustainability & Planning Committee 28 February 2024

Councillor SWJ Ashley introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Planning Consultation lists 1498 & 1499 no objections.
- b) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actioned therein.

CL23/150 Policy & Finance Committee 4 March 2024

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.

CL23/151 Cwmbran @75

The Clerk informed members that there are a couple of proposed designs for the logo which will be considered at the next meeting on 11th April.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

CL23/152 Community Review

The Clerk informed members that he is still awaiting feedback on the latest stage of the Community Review.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

CL23/153 IRPW Report 2024-25

The RFO reported to members that more work was required, and a full report would be provided at the Policy & Finance meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) a full report will be available at the Policy & Finance meeting.
- b) the position is noted.

CL23/154 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.

CL23/155 Councillors Small Schemes Funding

Councillors SWJ Ashley & A Bird declared a non-prejudicial interest in minute CL23/155 Councillors Small Schemes Funding. They remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Members considered the Councillors Small Schemes Funding and discussed whether to make changes or continue with the present scheme. Members agreed that no amendments are made and to continue with the current scheme.

The Clerk asked members to consider a request from Councillor Bird to give funding support from the Councillors Small Schemes Funding to Maendy Primary School PTA. Members approved the funding.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the Councillors Small Schemes Funding continues with the current scheme.
- b) Funding to Maendy Primary School PTA is approved.
- c) the position is noted.

CL23/156 Budget Update

The RFO reported to members that the budget report had been produced on one sheet rather than individual sheets, individual reports can be provided to members if required.

Members enquired about the Planning module on the new finance system and the RFO confirmed that initial training had taken place, and it would be tested at a future meeting.

Councillor Ashley enquired if staff could be trained to use the Torfaen Mapping System, this would be discussed at a future meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

CL23/157 Staffing Update

Members received a staffing update from the Clerk and approved the scale point rise for eligible staff and proposed by the Leader to include the Clerk.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the scale point rises are approved.
- b) the position is noted.

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