

**Minutes of the Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on
Wednesday 24 July 2024 at 6.00pm**

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on
Wednesday 25 September 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, A Bird, L Chaney, J Davenne, M Day, F Jones,
P Jones, G Lloyd-Tolman, L Lloyd-Tolman, C Morgan (Chair), S Morgan,
P Seabourne, D Thomas, M Villars & W Walker

(Councillor S Ashley participated in the meeting via remote means)

Also present: Gareth Davies (Clerk), Andy Smith (RFO/Deputy Clerk) & Michelle Thorn
(Gwent Police Neighbourhood Sergeant)

Absent: Councillors L Johnson, K Manneh & S Wharton

(No public participation session was held at this meeting)

CL24/033 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors K Manneh (Work) &
S Wharton (Holiday)

CL24/034 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.

CL24/035 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”.

CL24/036 Chair's Announcements & Vice Chair's Announcements

Councillor C Morgan attended the Crowfest Music Festival which was a stupendous enjoyable event and thanked the Clerk and Events and Outreach Officer for their hard work organising the event.

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

CL24/037 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.

CL24/038 Gwent Police Update/South Wales Fire & Rescue Service Update

- i) Members welcomed Michelle Thorn (Gwent Police Neighbourhood Sergeant) and received a report on the current Crime activity in the Cwmbran area. The top two areas of offences in the last month being Violence without Injury with 154 offences reported over the last month, with many of the offences reported at the Grange Hospital. The second group of offences being Criminal Damage and Arson, with the busiest area being Llantarnam.

Officers are working with the Community Safety Team to reduce crime and identify individuals committing offences.

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

Councillor P Jones reported to members his concerns that the Cwmbran Fire Appliance had again been dispatched to Abergavenny, leaving Cwmbran without an appliance.

Councillor Bird was concerned with the recent use in the area of Chinese Lanterns which could cause a grass fire.

The Clerk will pass on members concerns to South Wales Fire & Rescue Service.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Michelle Thorn (Gwent Police Neighbourhood Sergeant) is thanked for attending the meeting.
- b) the Clerk contacts South Wales Fire & Rescue Service with members concerns.
- c) the position is noted.

CL24/039 Council Meeting: 26 June 2024

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meetings.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL24/040 Events & Community Projects Committee 15 July 2024

Councillor J Davenne introduced the minutes of the above meetings.

Apologies for absence to be added to the minutes for Councillor S Morgan.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL24/041 Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee 15 July 2024

Councillor L Chaney introduced the minutes of the above meetings.

The Clerk updated members on the response for more information received from Croesyceiliog Male Choir concerning the grant application to fund a concert to celebrate 75 years of Cwmbran to be held at Cwmbran Stadium. Members approved the grant application for £2,330 to fund a concert to celebrate 75 years of Cwmbran.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Croesyceiliog Male Choir grant application approved.
- b) the minutes of the above meetings are approved and actions approved therein.

CL24/042 Regeneration & Major Grants Committee 15 July 2024

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meetings.

The Clerk to the Council updated members on the progress of the new notice boards.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL24/043 Environmental Sustainability & Planning Committee 17 July 2024

Councillor M Villars introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

Councillor Walker informed members that he had received an email from Mark Thomas (TCBC) concerning the water and sewage issues at Llantarnam Playing Fields. Councillor Walker was not satisfied with the response as, in his opinion, the issues identified remain unchanged.

The Clerk to the Council will contact TCBC and Natural Resources Wales for further clarification.

Councillor Bird enquired if a decision had been made to implement the red recycling bags. Councillor S Morgan confirmed that it had been agreed to implement the Red bags which would give more capacity to the recycling service.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Planning Consultation list 1514 no objections.
- b) the Clerk contacts TCBC and NRW concerning the water issues at Llantarnam Playing Fields.
- c) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actions approved therein.

CL24/044 Policy & Finance Committee 8 July 2024

Councillor M Day introduced the minutes of the above meetings.

It was **Resolved** that:-

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

CL24/045 Crowfest

The Clerk to the Council reported to members that the Crowfest Music Festival was an enjoyable and successful day. Feedback had been very positive with only one complaint received which has been responded to. The Clerk thanked the staff for their hard work. A full report of the event will be available at the next Events & Community Projects meeting.

Members were pleased with the event and agreed to start the planning process to run the event again next year.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) starting the planning process for an event next year is approved.
- b) the position is noted.

CL24/046 Live Christmas Trees

The Clerk to the Council reported to members the cost to purchase live Christmas trees was £95 for a 6ft tree and £150 for a 7ft tree, the trees would then grow approximately 1ft per year.

Members discussed the process required to gather the information on the location for trees and working in partnership with local groups who would need to commit to the ongoing maintenance of the trees.

The option of using solar lights on the Christmas Trees was also discussed.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) Requests for Live Trees to be submitted to the Clerk.
- b) the position is noted.

CL24/047 Card Machine/POS

Members received a report from the RFO that it would be beneficial to be able to take card payments in the office for the Task Force payments, as this would also assist residents with making payments over the phone. The card machine could also be used at events, as at present only cash can be accepted at events.

Members discussed the benefits of a card machine and approved the recommendation.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the recommendation of a card machine is approved.
- b) the position is noted.

CL24/048 Grant Application Received

i) Welsh Ghurka Community

Members considered the grant application for part funding of £1,000 towards the costs of the Ghurka Cultural Festival to be held at Mount Pleasant Hall, Pontnewydd on 5 November 2024. Members approved the application.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) the grant application to the Welsh Ghurka Community is approved.
- b) the position is noted.

CL24/049 Windrush Event Funding

The Clerk reported to members that an application had been made to Torfaen County Borough Council for a Community Cohesion Grant to fund the event. Members discussed the event and agreed to fund the costs of £3,200 if the bid was unsuccessful.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) members approved the funding of the Windrush Event.
- b) the position is noted.

CL24/050 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.

CL24/051 Member Allowance Forms

The RFO asked members who are required to complete the documentation to return the form as soon as possible as it is a requirement of the audit.

The RFO reported that he has received an invoice from One Voice Wales to continue the service provided. Members discussed the invoice and agreed that the service provided is invaluable and essential, payment of the invoice was approved.

It was **Resolved** that:-

- a) payment of the One Voice Wales invoice is approved.
- b) the position is noted.

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