

**Minutes of a Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday
18 February 2015**

Present Councillor S Evans (in the Chair), Councillors SWJ Ashley, S Brooks, LJ Chaney, J Davenne, M Day, WM Howell, R Jones, R Kemp, KK Manneh, TA Matthews, J Rees, D Standing, WJ Walker, PJ Williams and TJ Winter

Also David Collins (Clerk to the Council) & Clare Rowles (Administrative Officer)

CL14/083 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors D Daniels (illness) and M Johnston (working).

CL14/084 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported that he had recently attended the following events:

- Members Seminar re. Cwmbran Shopping. 2 February 2015
- Llanyrafon & Croesyceiliog Community Council Grants Presentation Evening. 4 February 2015
- Mayor of Torfaen's charity "Elvis" night. 6 February 2015
- Torfaen (Pontypool) Museum Art Exhibition. 7 February 2015
- Charity Quiz Night @ Page's. 12 February 2015

CL14/085 Vice Chairman's Announcements

The Vice Chairman was not present.

CL14/086 Declarations of Interest

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

CL14/087 Inclusion of Items on Agendas

The Clerk reminded members that agendas should not include the item "any other business" and that no decisions could be taken on any matter not specified on agendas.

Resolved that the matter is noted.

CL14/088 Public Question Time

In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders approved on 25 June 2014, the opportunity for public questions was included as an item on the agenda for the meeting.

No questions had been submitted.

CL14/089 Cwmbran Policing Update

The Chairman welcomed Inspector David Morgan of Torfaen Local Policing Unit to his first Council meeting.

Inspector Morgan described recent changes to the structure of Gwent Police, which had resulted in the creation of East and West Areas. Torfaen was a sector within the West Area. Inspector Morgan's role was Torfaen-wide but Inspector Morgan confirmed his commitment to continue to provide a police presence at all meetings of Cwmbran Community Council. He invited members' comments on the best way of providing this support at future meetings.

Inspector Morgan reported that crime levels in Cwmbran remained relatively low, though the Town Centre had seen a "spike" in the number of crimes reported. This, along with Anti Social Behaviour, remained a priority for him. He also referred to potential changes to PACT meetings and new methods of public engagement, such as On Line dialogues.

Issues raised by members included:

- to welcome the increase in the number of patrolling officers in Torfaen and the priority which would be given to criminal damage.
- the importance of keeping members informed of Gwent Police's future Forward Plans.
- the potential for web broadcasting of future Council proceedings when the police were present.
- off-road biking.
- Canal Watch.
- the positive impact of Owl and the inclusion of Community Safety updates in Members Matters.
- the potential for a Members Seminar to discuss current police initiatives. Members of other Local Councils could be invited to attend.
- the excellent relationship which the Council enjoyed with Gwent Police.

Members emphasised their appreciation of a regular presence at Council meetings and discussed options for ensuring that this continued in the most constructive and effective manner. Members discussed whether it would be necessary for Inspector Morgan to attend every meeting or whether other representatives of Gwent Police could sometimes attend.

Resolved that

- (1) Inspector Morgan is thanked for his attendance and willingness to answer questions.
- (2) an item is included on the agenda for the next Full Council meeting to enable members' to consider their preferred options for attendance at future meetings by representatives of Gwent Police.

CL14/090 Cwmbran Fire & Rescue

No representative of Cwmbran Fire & Rescue was able to attend.

The Clerk drew attention to the South Wales Fire & Rescue Service's Strategic Plan 2015-2020, details of which had been included on the agenda. The Consultation Period on the Plan would run from 20 January 2015 to 31 March 2015.

Resolved that the above information is noted.

CL14/091 Council Meetings 7 January 2015

The Chairman introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

In relation to minute CL14/077 (Events & Community Projects Committee), members noted that all members had been invited to attend the meeting of the committee on 23 February 2015 to discuss the 2015 Playschemes.

In relation to minute CL14/078, members noted that the next meeting of the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee had been moved to 2 March 2015. This followed consultation with the Chairman of that committee.

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting are confirmed.

(The Chairman signed and initialled the minutes of the above meetings in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, paragraph 12.)

CL14/092 Events & Community Projects Committee 12 January 2015

Councillor Chaney introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting are confirmed.

CL14/093 Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee 21 January 2015

Councillor Day introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

Resolved that

- (1) the minutes of the above meeting are confirmed.
- (2) no objection is offered to Planning List 1079 and 1080

CL14/094 Policy & Finance Committee 26 January 2015

Councillor Howell introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting are confirmed.

CL14/095 Letters of thanks and appreciation

Thanks were received from the following:

- (a) CADESA (Loan of PA System)
- (b) Cwmbran Baroque Singers Choir (Carol Singing in Town Centre).
- (c) CCYP (Donation from Chairman's Charity)

Resolved that the expressions of thanks are noted.

Signed
(Chair, Cwmbran Community Council)