

**Minutes of the Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday 15 November 2017**

**Present** Councillor R Jones (in the Chair). Councillors SWJ Ashley, Rh Bennett, SJ Brooks, PJ Cathcart, JS Davenne, M Day, N Hopkins, LG Johnston, M Johnston, KK Manneh, J Rees, M Villars and WJ Walker

Also David Collins (Clerk to the Council) and Clare Facey (Administrative Officer)

**CL17/058 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were accepted from AL Bird (civic duties)

**CL17/059 Cwmbran Policing Update**

(The Chairman agreed to take this item early in the meeting as PC Muir's attendance was required in the town centre for the switching on of the Christmas lights)

The Chairman welcomed PC R Muir of Gwent Police.

PC Muir provided an overview of recent incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour. He made particular reference to incidents of public order and shoplifting. Vehicle crime also remained a problem in Greenmeadow. He also outlined recent success in relation to tackling a drugs issue.

PC Muir advised that the results of the "Your Voice" survey were currently being analysed (Minute CL17/050 refers) He also encouraged Members to follow Gwent Police on Twitter @gpcwmbran

After PC Muir had left the meeting, some Members highlighted matters which they had wished to raise. These included the use of "quad bikes" at Llantarnam and recent burglaries at Pontnewydd. The Clerk agreed to bring these matters to the attention of Gwent Police. He also clarified the arrangements which the Council had put in place to encourage Members to submit any questions for the Gwent Police representatives in advance of the Council meeting.

**Resolved** that PC Muir is thanked for his attendance and willingness to answer questions.

**CL17/060 Chairman's Announcements**

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

Members' Visit to Police Control Room	17 October 2017
Poppy Appeal Launch	21 October 2017
Dementia Awareness Training	2 November 2017
Remembrance Sunday Parade	12 November 2017

The Chairman reported that he had been unable to attend an event at Greenmeadow Farm for personal reasons. (The Chairman had also attended the Council's Senior Schools Choral Festival on 9 November at Cwmbran High School.)

The Chairman encouraged Members to attend future events and activities organised by the Council. He also paid tribute to the contribution of Rev Frieda Evans and the Salvation Army musicians to the Remembrance Parade.

**CL17/061 Vice Chairman's Announcements**

The Vice Chairman announced that he had attended the following events.

Dementia Awareness Training	2 November 2017
Remembrance Sunday Parade (Pontnewydd)	12 November 2017

**CL17/062 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.

Any Declarations of Interest had to be made in writing, as described above.

**CL17/063 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.

**CL17/064 Fire & Rescue Update**

No representative of the Fire & Rescue Service was able to attend

**CL17/065 Council Meetings 27 September and 4 October 2017**

The Chairman introduced the minutes of the above meetings.

**Resolved** that the minutes of the above meetings are confirmed.

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

**CL17/066 Events & Community Projects Committee 9 October 2017**

Councillor M Day introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

**Resolved** that the minutes of the above meeting are confirmed.

**CL17/067 Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee 9 October 2017**

Councillor WJ Walker introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

In relation to Minute GVO17/016 (Previous Grant Awards) the Clerk drew attention to a grant recommended for approval on 26 June 2017 to Trellech & Talgarth Allotment Association for £500 towards the provision of a communal area. (Minute GVO17/00 (c) refers.) Members had asked the Clerk to obtain a copy of the association's Annual Report but, having made enquiries, he explained that no such report existed.

**Resolved** that

- (1) Subject to the correction of the name of the applicant in GVO17/017(a) to West Pontnewydd Community Association, the minutes of the above meeting are confirmed.
- (2) The grant of £500 to Trellech & Talgarth Allotment Association referred to above is approved. Minute GVO17/00 (c) refers.

**CL17/068 Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee 18 October 2017**

Councillor KK Manneh 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 1204 and 1205

**CL17/069 Policy & Finance Committee 23 October 2017**

Councillor Ashley introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

In relation to Minute PF17/034 (Itemised Schedule of Receipts & Payments (August 2017 and September 2017)), the Clerk drew attention to fees due in respect of his status as a Fellow of the Society of Local Council Clerks (£75.00).

The Clerk also drew attention to a recent review of Business Rates backdated to 2010 (Minute PF16/101 refers.) He advised that a series of bills had now been received and that he had arranged to meet officials of Torfaen County Borough Council to clarify the payment arrangements and amounts owing.

In relation to Minute PF17/037 (Financial Regulations), the Clerk reminded those Members who had not yet undertaken Code of Conduct training to do so as soon as possible.

In relation to Minute PF17/039, Members noted that the committee's observations had been forwarded to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, subject to confirmation by the Full Council.

In relation to Minute PF17/040 (Council House Matters), the Clerk reported that testing of the Council's Portable Appliances had recently been carried out.

In relation to Minute PF17/042 (Review of the Community and Town Council Sector), the Clerk advised that he had met the panel recently to discuss partnership arrangements between community and town councils. The panel had been happy with the evidence submitted and the views which had been shared with the panel members.

**Resolved that:**

- (1) the minutes of the above meeting are confirmed.
- (2) payment of the Clerk's fees in relation to his status as a Fellow of the Society of Local Council Clerks is approved.

**CL17/070 Thanks & Appreciation**

Thanks were received from

- (i) Lorna John and Mrs J Williams (Task Force)

**Resolved** that the expression of thanks are noted.

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