

**Minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on Monday 2 June 2025 at 6.00 pm.**

**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**

The recommendations below will be submitted to the Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 18 June 2025.

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the meeting to be held on: Monday 7 July 2025.

**Present** Councillors S Ashley, L Chaney, M Day, P Jones, G Lloyd-Tolman, L Lloyd-Tolman, C Morgan (Chair), P Seabourne & W Walker

*(Councillors R Bennett, F Jones, M Villars participated in the meeting via remote means)*

Also Gareth Davies (Clerk), Andy Smith (RFO/Deputy Clerk) & Mark Ward-Jones (Fairwater Square Regeneration Campaign)

**Absent** Councillors A Bird, K Manneh & S Morgan

*(No Public Participation Session was held at this meeting)*

**PF25/001 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were accepted from Councillors S Morgan & K Manneh

**PF25/002 Declarations of Interest**

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

*Councillor S Ashley declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute PF25/004 – Fairwater Square Regeneration Campaign. He remained in the meeting during the discussions.*

**PF25/003 Minutes –14 April 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2025 were confirmed as a correct record of the meeting and are approved and actioned therein.

Councillor C Morgan signed the minutes.

**PF25/004 Fairwater Square Regeneration Campaign**

*Councillor S Ashley declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute PF25/004 – Fairwater Square Regeneration Campaign. He remained in the meeting during the discussions.*

Members received a presentation from Mark Ward-Jones outlining proposals for the regeneration of Fairwater Square to create a new shopping centre, with community facilities and new housing.

Fairwater shops and Fairwater House were built in the late 1960's and were at the time, award winning for their design. Fairwater House is now derelict and the Fairwater shops are in a poor state of repair, although they are still well used with several shops currently trading.

In 2016 a Feasibility Study was conducted with the report looking at several options from a simple "facelift" through to a full development. After considering multiple options, the report recommended a plan to build a new shopping centre on the site of Fairwater House and new housing to replace the existing shopping centre.

Cwmbran was one of the towns chosen to receive £20m investment, to be released in stages over 10 years starting in 2026 focusing on revitalising local areas by way of three goals thriving places, stronger communities and taking back control.

The campaign has been set up to lobby Cwmbran Futures, in conjunction with Torfaen CBC, Bron Afon and other interested parties to provide funding for the regeneration of the Fairwater Square site, subject to an up-to-date feasibility study.

Members were asked to consider passing a motion to publicly support the campaign.

Members thanked Mark Ward-Jones for his presentation and deferred the motion to the next full council meeting.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) Mark Ward-Jones is thanked for his presentation.
- b) the motion is deferred to the next full council meeting.
- c) the position is noted.

**PF25/005 Seminars & Outside Bodies**

There were no reports received from seminars & outside bodies.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

**PF25/006 Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy 2025**

Members considered the attached Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy 2025 and approved the Policy.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy 2025 is approved.
- b) the position is noted.

**PF25/007 Exclusion of the Public & Press**

In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is **recommended** that the following matters 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.

**PF25/008 Year End Report 2024-25**

Members received an update from the RFO on the attached end of year Report 2024-25.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

**PF25/009 Council House Building Update**

The Clerk reported to members that the work to refurbish the Council Chamber kitchen will be carried out week commencing 18 August 2025 and a number of companies have been contacted to quote to install solar panels at the Council House.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) The position is noted.

**PF25/010 Staffing Update**

Members received a staffing update from the Clerk.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

*Signed .....*(Chair, Policy & Finance Committee)