

**Minutes of the Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee held on
Wednesday 3 June 2026 at 6.00 pm.**

The recommendations below will be submitted to the Council Meeting to be held on
Wednesday 24 June 2026.

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the meeting of the committee to be held on
Wednesday 8 July 2026.

**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, M Day, G Lloyd-Tolman, L Lloyd-
Tolman, K Manneh, C Morgan (Chair), P Seabourne, M Villars & W Walker

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

Also Gareth Davies (Clerk) & Councillor S Morgan (Torfaen County Borough
Council)

Absent Councillors F Jones, P Jones & S Wharton

(No Public Participation Session was held at this meeting)

ESP26/001 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were accepted from Councillors F Jones, P Jones &
S Wharton

ESP26/002 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.

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

ESP26/003 Minutes – 8 April 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2026 were confirmed as a correct
record of the meeting and are approved and actioned therein.

Councillor C Morgan signed the minutes.

ESP26/004 Planning, Highways & Footpaths Matters

(a) Planning Lists

Planning lists 1598 no objections.

(b) **Schedules of Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Decisions**

Members noted the Schedule of Planning Decisions.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) to note the Schedules of Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Decisions.
- b) the position is noted.

ESP26/005 Neighbourhood Services/Partner Update

Councillor S Morgan updated members on the recycling performance with positive improvements in food waste recycling being seen across the borough, removing food waste from purple lidded bins and making a positive impact on the 70% recycling target.

Improvements are also being made with digitalisation and live reporting, making it easier for residents to report failed or late collections and to also check their collection day by just entering their postcode. Improvements are also looking to be made to support households who do not own a car for items to be collected.

Councillor Morgan reported to members how concerning climate change was with the changes in rainfall and temperatures rising effecting communities and the importance of nature to assist absorbing the additional rainfall. Work to restore peatland is taking place in the north of the borough and this will hopefully be expanded to other areas.

Members were concerned that there had been long queues at the New Inn recycling centre on weekends and discussed how this could be improved. Councillor S Morgan confirmed that improvements are being looked at including if a booking system could be implemented to improve the flow of the site.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) Councillor S Morgan (TCBC) is thanked for attending the meeting.
- b) the position is noted.

ESP26/006 2026/27 Focus and aims

Members discussed the ongoing project development.

- a) the position is noted.

ESP26/007 Environmental Reports

(a) Updates where Notified

No updates received.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

ESP26/008 Reports regarding any Climate & Nature Emergency Activities

The Clerk reported to members that the additional batteries have been installed and during the last week the solar panels had provided 98.9% of the electricity used by the building.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

ESP26/009 Project Development

a) Wildflower Meadows

The Clerk informed members that the project was ongoing with the Events & Outreach Office connecting with schools.

b) Cwmbran Futures Fund Bid

Councillor Bird informed members that the meeting had been postponed.

c) Canal Weed/Vegetation Cuts - TCBC

The Clerk informed members that he is waiting for an update from TCBC that the work has been completed.

d) Pontypool links update

Members received an update from the Clerk.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

ESP26/010 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.

ESP26/011 Task Force

Members received an update from the Clerk. The decision as laid out in previous report are accepted.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the decision as laid out in previous report are accepted.
- b) the position is noted.

Signed
(Chairman, Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee)