

**Minutes of the Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee held on
Wednesday 8 July 2026 at 6.00 pm.**

The recommendations below will be submitted to the Council Meeting to be held on
Wednesday 29 July 2026.

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the meeting of the committee to be held on
Wednesday 9 September 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 A Bird, M Day, F Jones, P Jones, G Lloyd-Tolman, L Lloyd-Tolman, C Morgan (Chair), P Seabourne & W Walker

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

Also Gareth Davies (Clerk)

Absent Councillors L Chaney, K Manneh, M Villars & S Wharton

(No Public Participation Session was held at this meeting)

ESP26/012 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were accepted from Councillors L Chaney, M Villars & S Wharton

ESP26/013 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.

ESP26/014 Minutes – 3 June 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2026 were confirmed as a correct record of the meeting and are approved and actioned therein.

Councillor C Morgan signed the minutes.

ESP26/015 Planning, Highways & Footpaths Matters

(a) Planning Lists

Planning list 1603, item 6832 change of use from Bank to Adult Gaming Centre, members had concerns with an additional premises in the town centre for gambling purposes, the Clerk will respond to the application. All other items on the planning list no objections.

(b) Schedules of Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Decisions

Members noted the Schedule of Planning Decisions.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the Clerk responses to planning list 1603, item 6832 with members concerns.
- b) to note the Schedules of Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Decisions.
- c) the position is noted.

ESP26/016 Neighbourhood Services/Partner Update

Veronika Brannovic (LNP Coordinator Torfaen CBC) was unable to attend the meeting.

Members were concerned with brambles and nettles overhanging public paths in their wards and also the work required to cut back and treat areas of Himalayan Balsam.

Councillor Walker was concerned with the amount of full green bins left on footpaths in Llantarnam, which have not been emptied due to the reduced operating hours of waste collections in the recent heatwave.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

ESP26/017 One Voice Wales Awards

The Clerk informed members that One Voice Wales had received the highest number of entries this year with 140 entries received from 40 Councils. Cwmbran Community Council submitted 8 entries and were awarded with 3 high commended and 5 commended awards.

- a) the position is noted.

ESP26/018 Environmental Reports

(a) Updates where Notified

The Clerk informed members that a proposal has been received for a contribution to the creation of a Community Memorial Garden the total cost for the project is estimated at £50,000.

Members discussed the project and approved a contribution of £5,000 to be paid when the project costs are confirmed.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) A contribution of £5,000 towards the cost of a Community Memorial Garden is approved and to be paid when the project costs are confirmed.
- b) the position is noted.

ESP26/019 Reports regarding any Climate & Nature Emergency Activities

Members were very concerned with low water levels in the canal and the impact on wildlife and fish stock. The Clerk will make enquiries and report members concerns.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the Clerk will make enquires and report members concerns.
- b) the position is noted.

ESP26/020 Project Development

a) Wildflower Meadows and School Projects

Councillor C Morgan updated members on the plans to regenerate the Rose Garden in Pontnewydd Park, including a large wildflower area, planters for schools to get involved and activity areas.

b) Cwmbran Futures Fund Bid

Councillor Bird updated members with regular meetings expected to resume in September.

c) Canal Weed/Vegetation Cuts - TCBC

No update received.

d) Pontypool links update

No update received.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

ESP26/021 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.

ESP26/022 Task Force

The Clerk informed members that the gardening service should be starting in the next 2 weeks, and staff will be monitoring the work and contacting customers for feedback.

It was **recommended** that:-

- a) the position is noted.

Signed
(Chairman, Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee)