Minutes of the Meeting of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday 24 September 2025 at 6.00pm

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 29 October 2025.

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, L Chaney, J Davenne, P Jones, G Lloyd-Tolman, L Lloyd-Tolman, C Morgan, S Morgan, P Seabourne, M Villars & W Walker

(Councillor S Ashley, M Day & L Johnson participated in the meeting via remote means)

Also present: Gareth Davies (Clerk), Andy Smith (RFO/Deputy Clerk), David Leech (Strategic Director for Adults & Communities) & representatives from Gwent Police

Absent: Councillors R Bennett, F Jones, K Manneh, D Thomas & S Wharton

(No public participation session was held at this meeting)

CL25/054 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors R Bennett, F Jones, K Manneh & S Wharton

CL25/055 Declarations of Interest

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

Councillors G Lloyd-Tolman & L Lloyd-Tolman declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute CL25/066 – Expansion of the Current Wellbeing Activities. They remained in the meeting during the discussions.

Councillors S Ashley declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute CL25/067 – Update on External Audit and publication of accounts. He remained in the meeting during the discussions.

CL25/056 Voting

It was **Resolved** that the manner of any voting at this meeting would be by calling each name alphabetically with a response of “for” or “against” or “abstain”.

CL25/057 Chair's Announcements & Vice Chair's Announcements

There were no reports received, a written update from Councillor Bennett will be circulated to members.

It was **Resolved** that the above is noted.

CL25/058 Public Question Time

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

No questions had been submitted.

CL25/059 Gwent Police Update/South Wales Fire & Rescue Service Update

i) Representatives from Gwent Police attended the meeting and updated members on the areas which have been focused on during the summer including violence without injury, shoplifting and public order offences. Shoplifting has increased and the team have been working closely with retailers and Cwmbran security. Patrols have also been increased to deal with anti-social behaviour in hot spot areas.

The Community Action Team are looking at crime trends and prolific offenders, with warrants issued focusing on drug crimes.

Members thanked the Officers for their update and were interested if there were any plans to revive volunteers carrying out speed monitoring and the parking policy with parking on yellow lines in Pontnewydd being an issue. The Officers asked members to report any incidents.

ii) No update received from South Wales Fire & Rescue Service.

iii) Members received an update from David Leech (Strategic Director for Adults & Communities) on the broader policy framework asking community groups to do more and inadvertently making it more difficult. Policies need addressing and reviewed covering two main areas of leasing and charging.

The policy review will be taking place and members were asked to come back with any issues with disconnect between departments within Torfaen County Borough Council.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the Officers from Gwent Police are thanked for attending the meeting.

b) David Leech (Strategic Director for Adults & Communities) is thanked for attending the meeting.

c) the position is noted.

CL25/060 Council Meetings: 23 July 2025

Councillor G Lloyd-Tolman introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the minutes of the above meetings are approved and actions approved therein.

CL25/061 Events & Community Projects Committee 1 September 2025

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the position is noted.

CL25/062 Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee 1 September 2025

This meeting was postponed.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the position is noted.

CL25/063 Regeneration & Major Grants Committee 1 September 2025

Councillor A Bird introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the position is noted.

CL25/064 Environmental Sustainability & Planning Committee 3 September 2025

Councillor M Villars introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

The Clerk informed members of plans to install two pitches at the South Sebastpol development and Torfaen County Borough Council would like members input on the type of pitches. Members discussed the plans and agreed that one rugby pitch and one football pitch would be the preferred option to cater for more residents.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) Planning Consultation list 1568 & 1569 no objections.

b) Members agreed that one rugby pitch and one football pitch would be the preferred option for the South Sebastopol Development.

c) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actions approved therein.

CL25/065 Policy & Finance Committee 8 September 2025

Councillor C Morgan introduced the minutes of the above meeting.

It was **Resolved** that:

a) the minutes of the above meeting are approved and actions approved therein.

CL25/066 Expansion of The Current Wellbeing Activities to Provide Fitness Classes for Over 65s

Councillors G Lloyd-Tolman & L Lloyd-Tolman declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute CL25/066 – Expansion of the Current Wellbeing Activities. They remained in the meeting during the discussions.

Members considered the current classes taking place at Thornhill Community Centre which are thriving and discussed expanding the group and to also provide provision at other venues across the Cwmbran area. Members approved the policy with other venues to be investigated with the levels of interest.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the expansion of the current wellbeing activities to provide Fitness Classes for Over 65's

b) the position is noted.

CL25/067 Update on External Audit and Publication of Accounts

Councillors S Ashley declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute CL25/067 – Update on External Audit and publication of accounts. He remained in the meeting during the discussions.

The RFO informed members that we have a legal duty to publish accounts by 30th September 2025. The audit has currently not been received and if it is not received by 30th September, it would be published stating that the audit has not been received and updated once the audit has been received.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the position is noted.

CL25/068 Statement of Member Payments 2024-2025

Members considered the statement and agreed that the RFO submits the statement of Members Payments 2024-2025 to the IRPW.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the RFO submits the Statement of Member Payments 2024-2025.

b) the position is noted.

CL25/069 HDRC Data Sets

The Clerk asked members to clarify the training required, with members requesting training on civic protocol and refresher training.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the Clerk arranges training for members.

b) the position is noted.

CL25/070 Information Security Policy

The RFO informed members that there were no real changes to the policy and asked members approval to reassert the assertation to the card company. Members approved the policy and assertation to the card company.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) members approved the policy and assertation to the card company.

b) the position is noted.

CL25/071 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.

CL25/072 Staffing Update

Members received a staffing update from the Clerk.

It was **Resolved** that:-

a) the position is noted.

Signed…… *(Chairman, Cwmbran Community Council)*