



2 July/Gorffennaf 2026

Dear Sir/Madam, Anwyl Syr/Fadam

You are summoned to attend a **MULTI-LOCATION MEETING** of the **PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 JULY 2026 AT 6.30 PM.**

The meeting will be held remotely, using Microsoft Teams and physically for those who wish to attend the Council Chamber. Councillors have been provided with a link to attend the meeting. If any member of the public wishes to attend the meeting remotely, please contact the Clerk of the Council (by e-mail or telephone) at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions at Council meetings and to speak in Welsh or English, provided that at least 3 working days' notice in writing of the question has been provided to the Clerk. The agenda for the meeting is set out below and relevant papers are attached.

Gofynnir drwy hyn i chi fynychu **PWYLLGOR CYNLLUNIO A'R AMGYLCHEDD**, yn Rhith Gyfarfod am **6.30 PM, DYDD MERCHER 8 GORFFENNAF 2026.**

Cynhelir y cyfarfod o bell ar Microsoft Teams ac yn gorfforol ar gyfer y rhai sy'n dymuno mynychu Siambr y Cyngor. Mae cynghorwyr wedi derbyn dolen i fynychu'r cyfarfod. Os yw unrhyw aelod o'r cyhoedd yn dymuno mynychu'r cyfarfod o bell, cysylltwch â Chlerc y Cyngor (trwy e-bost neu dros y ffôn) o leiaf 24 awr cyn y cyfarfod.

Mae gan aelodau o'r cyhoedd yr hawl i ofyn cwestiynau yng nghyfarfodydd y Cyngor, mae gan aelodau o'r cyhoedd hefyd yr hawl i siarad yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg, cyn belled ag y rhoddir tri diwrnod o rybudd ysgrifenedig o'r cwestiwn i'r Clerc. Mae agenda'r cyfarfod wedi'i nodi isod ac mae papurau perthnasol ynghlwm.

Yours faithfully/Yr eiddoch yn gywir

*C Drew*

Cathryn Drew

**CLERK TO THE COUNCIL/ CLERC I'R CYNGOR**

## **AGENDA**

### **Recording of Meeting**

To approve recording of meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence**  
To receive apologies for absence.
2. **Declarations of Interest**  
Members to declare any interests in any items on Agenda.
3. **Biodiversity Sub-Committee – 24 June 2025 - Minutes**  
To approve the minutes of the Biodiversity Sub-Committee held on 24 June 2026 (attached: page(s) 1 – 6)
4. **Planning Applications**  
To receive and consider planning applications on which the Community Council is being consulted (attached: page(s) 7 - 8)
5. **Planning Determinations**  
To receive information on planning applications which have already been determined for June 2026 (attached: page(s) 9 - 11)
6. **Notice Boards, Bins and Benches**  
To receive an update report on the current status of noticeboards, bins and benches (attached: page(s) 12 - 13)
7. **Financial Assistance Requests**  
To receive requests for financial assistance from:
  - (i) After the Bell Club, Penygarn for play equipment for disabled children (attached: page(s) 14)
  - (ii) Central Drive residents to update the playground equipment on Central Drive, Trevethin (attached: page(s) 14)
8. **Happy to Chat Bench Plaques**  
To receive an e-mail from TCBC's Active Travel Officer relating to the 'Happy to Chat Bench Plaque' competition (attached: page(s) 15)
9. **Committee Budget**  
To inform the Committee of the budget within its remit for 2026/27 (attached: page(s) 16)
10. **Biodiversity and Sustainability**  
How has this meeting contributed to the Council's duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems?

---

*To: Jon James (Chair), Nick Byrne (Vice-Chair), Anne Gunter, Lisa Jones, Sarah Lang, Jonathon Martin, Richard Overton, Bob Rogers, Jools Rogers, Nick Simons. Chair of Council (Councillor Allan Peploe) and Leader (Councillor Gaynor James) Ex-officio*

**MINUTES OF A MULTI-LOCATION MEETING OF THE BIODIVERSITY & SUSTAINABILITY SUB COMMITTEE OF PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2026**

**In attendance:**

**Councillor:** J. Cox# (In the Chair)

**Councillors:** L. Clarkson\*, A. Gunter\*, E. Hunt#, S. Lang#, A. Peploe#

**Officers:** C. Drew# (Clerk) S. Fussell# (Projects & Events Officer and minute taker)

\* *Attending remotely via Microsoft Teams*

# *Attending physically in the Council Chamber*

*The meeting was recorded for minute taking purposes as agreed by Members.*

<b>Min No</b>	<b>Subject and Decision</b>	<b>Action</b>
B1.	<p><b><u>Recording of the meeting</u></b></p> <p>Members agreed that the Council meeting could be recorded for minute-taking purposes.</p>	
B2.	<p><b><u>Apologies for absence</u></b></p> <p>Apologies were received from Rachel Edwards – TCBC Ecologist.</p>	
B3.	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>Councillor L Clarkson declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as they are a member of TCBC, as well as a member of Pontypool Community Council.</p> <p>Councillor A Gunter declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in any agenda items relating to Gwent Wildlife Trust as a member and the Environmental Quiz.</p> <p><b><u>RECOMMENDED*</u></b>: that the declarations of interest be recorded.</p>	CP

B4.	<p><b><u>Go Wild</u></b></p> <p>Members received a report from the Projects &amp; Events Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The date of Go Wild 2026 is Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> of July, and it will be held at Pontypool Park.</li> <li>• The Projects &amp; Events Officer will not be available to attend this year; however, the Clerk can and will attend for a few hours in the day.</li> <li>• The Projects &amp; Events Officer asked if any members could attend on the day for a few hours on a rota basis.</li> <li>• There has been a gazebo and a table booked for the event and there will be arts/crafts and activities provided for the children.</li> <li>• Members were asked for a nominal amount, approximately £60 to purchase activities for the event.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>RECOMMENDED*:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. That the information be noted.</li> <li>ii. Members agreed that the nominal amount of approximately £60 can be spent on activities for the day.</li> <li>iii. That the Projects &amp; Events Officer will email all members to seek attendees for the day.</li> </ol>	SF
B5.	<p><b><u>Branching Out Fund</u></b></p> <p>Members received information on a new funding opportunity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grants are available to fund the purchase of trees between £250 and £2500.</li> <li>• Deadline to apply is the 19<sup>th</sup> of July.</li> <li>• Grants are available after the planting has taken place, members were asked to consider whether this applied in any cases to date.</li> <li>• Councillor L Clarkson has suggested that the information is shared on our social media platforms.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>RECOMMENDED*:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. That the information be noted.</li> </ol>	

	<p>ii. That the Projects &amp; Events officer shares the funding opportunity on our social media.</p>	SF
B6.	<p><b><u>Gwent Wildlife Trust</u></b></p> <p>Members received a verbal update from the Projects &amp; Events Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The council has obtained permission to use the green space at the front of Pontypool Police Station for year 2 of the project.</li> <li>• Members were asked if they are happy to go ahead with this site or would they like to consider Rosemary Lane.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>RECOMMENDED*:</u></b></p> <p>i. Members agreed that they are happy to go ahead with the site at the front of Pontypool Police Station.</p> <p>ii. That the Projects &amp; Events Officer notifies the GWT project team next week of this new site and begin discussions with GWT on what will be required.</p>	<p>SF</p> <p>SF</p>
B.7	<p><b><u>Environmental Quiz 2026 Debrief</u></b></p> <p>Members received a report from the Projects &amp; Events Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Schools Environment Quiz took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2026.</li> <li>• There were four primary schools that took part this year, Griffithstown, Padre Pio, Ysgol Panteg and George Street and this year's winning school was Griffithstown Primary.</li> <li>• A budget of £600 was allocated and the total spend was £518.26.</li> <li>• Next year's quiz will be hosted by this year's winning school Griffithstown Primary once again.</li> <li>• Feedback from the event suggested that we consider holding the event during the school day. Cllr L. Clarkson suggested canvassing all schools for a general consensus prior to any decision being taken.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b><u>RECOMMENDED*:</u></b></p> <p>i. That all schools are canvassed before next year's quiz to decide as to whether it should be during the school day or after school.</p>	SF
B8.	<p><b><u>Forest Schools 2026</u></b></p> <p>Members received a verbal update from the Projects &amp; Events Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The last session will be on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2026.</li> <li>• Ten schools have taken part this year including Home Education.</li> <li>• Feedback so far is excellent, the schools are enjoying it very much.</li> <li>• The programme was delivered within budget and a full debrief report will be presented at the next subcommittee.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>RECOMMENDED*:</u></b></p> <p>i. That the information is noted.</p> <p>ii. That a debrief report will be presented at the next subcommittee.</p>	SF
B9.	<p><b><u>Swift Project</u></b></p> <p>Members received a verbal update from the Clerk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bird boxes have successfully been installed in Stanley Road Garndiffaith, The MyST building Abersychan, on a residential home in Pantygasseg and Panteg House.</li> <li>• A formal thank you was given to the chair of Panteg House for allowing the installation of cameras.</li> <li>• Councillor L Clarkson asked if we could take the House Martin project forward, the Clerk confirmed that next year's project will include House Martins.</li> <li>• Councillor L Clarkson suggested that a social media post to raise awareness of the bird spotting data collection would be beneficial. Ie. South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBReC).</li> </ul>	

	<p><b><u>RECOMMENEDED*:</u></b></p> <p>i. That the Projects &amp; Events Officer share SEWBReC on social media.</p>	SF
B10.	<p><b><u>Varteg Community Woodland:</u></b></p> <p>Members received a verbal update from the Projects &amp; Events Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next VCW project meeting to be held is Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June.</li> <li>• Community Connector Gordon Jones is on board with the VCW project.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>RECOMMENEDED*:</u></b></p> <p>i. That the information be noted.</p> <p>ii. To convene a Stakeholders group for developing the project.</p>	SF
B11.	<p><b><u>Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales:</u></b></p> <p>Members received information on the NRAP for Wales, section 7:</p> <p>An email update was received from Rachel Edwards; they are currently compiling a more user-friendly list of updated data and once complete will circulate.</p> <p>i. That the information be noted.</p>	
B12.	<p><b><u>Budget:</u></b></p> <p>Members received a report outlining the budget and commitments to date.</p> <p>The remaining balance is £5,608, which the members agreed to commit the £608 to the GWT new plot for any expenses that may be incurred, ie, interpretation board etc.</p>	
B13.	<p><b><u>Biodiversity and Sustainability:</u></b></p> <p>Hybrid meeting, paper free and Cllrs L. Hunt and A. Peploe car sharing.</p>	

--	--	--

\* All recommendations to the Planning and Environment Committee.

Signed by Chair .....

**Full Council**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**Planning Applications to be commented on**

<b>1</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0229</b>	<i>District reference</i> Pontnewynydd	<i>Site reference</i> Old Ambassador Buildings, 1 – 2 Estate Road, Pontnewynydd.	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	---	--	------------------------

**Proposal: Change of use of land to site a food truck.**

---

<b>2</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0240</b>	<i>District reference</i> Cwmynyscoy	<i>Site reference</i> Land Off Cwmfields Road, (West of Firtree Cottage, Prescoch Lane), Cwmynyscoy, Pontypool	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	---	---	------------------------

**Proposed siting of polytunnel and hardstanding with associated works.**

---

<b>3</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0243</b>	<i>District reference</i> New Inn Upper	<i>Site reference</i> Former Nylon Spinners, Mamhilad Park Estate.	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	--	--	------------------------

**Proposed installation of three additional extract flues to paint spray booths in eastern courtyard and retention of two existing extract flues on east-facing side of building.**

---

<b>4</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0258</b>	<i>District reference</i> Abersychan and Cwmavon	<i>Site reference</i> Riverside House, Limekiln Road, Abersychan.	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	--	---	------------------------

**PROPOSAL: Change of use from a former funeral directors (Use Class A1) into x2, two bed houses (Class C3) and small commercial unit (Use Class A1). Proposal to include associated external works including two flat roof dormers to the rear.**

---

<b>5</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0264</b>	<i>District reference</i> New Inn Lower	<i>Site reference</i> 129 Golf Road, New Inn, Pontypool.	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	--	--	------------------------

**Proposed widening of front drive, raised patio to rear of house and garden shed with associated external works.**

---

<b>6</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0275</b>	<i>District reference</i> Cwmynyscoy	<i>Site reference</i> Blaendare House, Folly View Lane, Upper Race.	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	---	---	------------------------

**Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 and Condition 9. Removal of Condition 10 (Submission of the Demolition and Construction Method Statement) and removal of Condition 11 relating to application 22/P/0844/FUL Demolition of the existing building and construction of a replacement dwelling.**

---

<b>7</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0277</b>	<i>District reference</i> New Inn Upper	<i>Site reference</i> 3 Ruth Road, New Inn, Pontypool	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	--	--	------------------------

**PROPOSAL: Rear extension (part single part double). Take existing side lean to extension back to rear of proposed extension.**

---

<b>8</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0279</b>	<i>District reference</i> Sebastopol East	<i>Site reference</i> 14 Beech Road, Sebastopol, Pontypool.	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	--	---	------------------------

**PROPOSAL: Single storey extension to rear to accommodate disabled adaptation works.**

---

<b>9</b>	<i>Plan Number</i> <b>26/P/0272</b>	<i>District reference</i> Pontypool	<i>Site reference</i> Rose Cottage, High Street, Pontypool.	<i>Other reference</i>
----------	--	--	---	------------------------

**PROPOSAL: Change of use of outbuilding to a cattery.**

---

**Full Council**  
**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026**  
**Planning Determinations – July 2026**

<i>1</i>	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District reference</i>	<i>Site reference</i>	<i>Other reference</i>
	<b>25/P/0081</b>	Pontypool	Plots 1 and 2 East Side of Lower Bridge Street.	

**PROPOSAL: Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) to planning permission 18/P/0075/FUL - revised siting of dwellings, parking area, and associated works.**

*Comment* 22/04/25  
**This Council has no observations.**

*Decision* 29/06/26  
**Approved.**

---

<i>2</i>	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District reference</i>	<i>Site reference</i>	<i>Other reference</i>
	<b>25/P/0258</b>	Snatchwood	Wrekin Bungalow, Pentwyn Road, Pentwyn.	

**Proposed Replacement Dwelling.**

*Comment* 23/05/25  
**This Council has no observations.**

*Decision* 29/06/26  
**Approved.**

---

<i>3</i>	<i>Plan Number</i>	<i>District reference</i>	<i>Site reference</i>	<i>Other reference</i>
	<b>25/P/0671</b>	New Inn Upper	32 Poplar Avenue, New Inn Pontypool.	

**Construction of single storey granny annex with attached shed and new porch.**

*Comment* 01/12/25  
**This Council has no observations.**

*Decision* 29/06/26  
**Approved.**

---





**Planning and Environment Committee  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**Noticeboards, Bins & Benches Update Report**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 To update members on the status of outstanding jobs in respect of financial year 2025-26, and the current commitments/requests for financial year 2026-27.

**2. Noticeboards**

2.1 Status of current noticeboard works in respect of the current financial year (2026-27):

Ref.	Request	Ward	Location & Detail	Budget	July Update
<b>NOTICEBOARDS</b>				£5000	
N04	Replacement	Trevethin	New noticeboard to be installed, incorporated into the railings at Trevethin shops.		Bron Afon have given permission for a noticeboard to be embedded into the railings outside of the shops.  Request approval from committee
N05	New	Upper Cwmnyscoy	Next to The Old Lamb Inn		To Be discussed.  Seeking approval for a new noticeboard

2.2 Members to approve a request to replace Trevethin noticeboard. As a comparison and for reference the last noticeboard cost £1841.20 plus installation at a cost of £103 = £1,944 (plus £60 consent to advertise) **£2,004** in total.

2.3 Members to consider the request for a new noticeboard in the Cwmnyscoy ward.

### 3. Bins (Budget £2000)

3.1 Nothing new to report

### 4. Benches

4.1 Status of outstanding benches 2025/2026 and 2026/2027:

New Ref.	Request	Ward	Location & Detail	TCBC Response	Budget	July Update
<b>BENCHES</b>					<b>£2500</b>	
BE01	New	Lisa Jones	Canal – Pontypool stretch	Chris Wyatt also asked Bridge 46 to five locks is TCBC land	2025-26 Budget	Action SF to chase CRT
BE03	New	Wainfelin - Jon James	Opposite George Street School	Verbally requested by Cllr at P&E 10/09	2025-26 Budget	Emailed Ryan P to check area is suitable
BE04	Replacement	New Inn Upper – Nick Jones	Blodwyn Road			Members to discuss and consider request

4.2 Members consider the request to replace the bench on Blodwyn Road New Inn Upper (BE04), cost £649 (inc installation).

4.3 Please note BE01 and BE03 are funded from 2025/2026 budget, which they have been accrued for.

### 5. VJ80 Memorial Benches

5.1 The outstanding VJ80 Memorial Bench for New Inn Upper ward is still in storage with no agreed location for installation.

### 6. Recommendations

6.1 That the report be noted.

6.2 That Members agree a decision in respect, 2.2, 2.3 and 4.2.

**Sarah Fussell**  
**Projects & Events Officer, July 2026**

**Planning & Environment Committee**  
**8 July 2026**

**Financial Assistance Requests**

Two financial assistance requests have been received, via Councillor Sarah Lang, from:

(i) After The Bell Club, Penygarn

To purchase 2 pieces of play equipment specifically for the disabled children who attend the above Club.

(ii) Playground on Central Drive, Trevethin

Residents of Central Drive in Trevethin have stated that the equipment has been in place for years and hasn't been updated or maintained and request the addition of some inclusive play equipment, including sensory equipment for autistic children and cited the new Pontnewynydd playground as a gold standard to aspire to.

**Kerrie Smith**

**From:** ksmith@pontypoolcc.gov.uk  
**Subject:** FW: Happy to Chat Bench Plaques

Good afternoon

I hope you are well. You may have seen our competition in the schools we held in February for Torfaen pupils to submit entries for our Happy to Chat bench plaque competition. We are pleased to say we received over 70 entries and it was very difficult to judge the fantastic submissions. The winning entries were selected and made into plaques to install on benches (please see images below).

It has been identified there are many residents in the borough who are combatting loneliness both young and old who would benefit from walking to areas and simply chatting to other residents and getting more involved within their communities. We have a stock of plaques available if you would like to utilise these to add to benches in your area, the plaques however, cannot be sited on benches with memorial plaques. We are also sending out two plaques each to every school so they can use.

If you would like to have any of the plaques please contact me, we plan to create a map of the locations so residents know where they are located.



Kind regards  
 Donna Edwards-John  
 Active Travel Officer/Swyddog Teithio Llesol

## Financial Budget Comparison

Comparison between 01/04/26 and 31/05/26 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions. Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/26

	2026/2027	Reserve Movements	Actual Net	Balance
<b>Planning &amp; Environment Committee</b>				
4001 Environmental Awards/Projects	£12,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£12,500.00
4005 Litter Bins / Doggy Bins	£2,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,000.00
4006 Community Notice Boards	£5,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,000.00
4015 Forest School	£4,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,500.00
4020 Benches	£2,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,500.00
4025 Biodiversity Projects	£10,000.00	£0.00	£415.00	£9,585.00
4030 Poetry Trail	£650.00	£0.00	£0.00	£650.00
4035 Environmental Quiz	£850.00	£0.00	£115.87	£734.13
4055 Woodland Rent	£200.00	£0.00	£98.50	£101.50
4106 Town Improvements	£5,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,000.00
<b>Total Planning &amp; Environment Committee</b>	<b>£43,200.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£629.37</b>	<b>£42,570.63</b>

## Earmarked/Restricted Reserves – May 2026

Heading	Committee Responsible	Bal c/fwd	Trfs In	Out	Balance
Play Equipment	P & E	43,172.00			43,172.00
Notice Boards (purchase and installation)	P & E	242.43			242.43
Biodiversity	P & E	3,718.79			3,718.79
Pilot Project - Biodiversity	P & E	373.58			373.58
Play Equipment - Maintenance 2022 -2027	P & E	5,000.00			5,000.00