

**MINUTES OF A MULTI-LOCATION MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11TH JUNE 2025**

In attendance:

Councillor: Nick Byrne# (in the Chair)

and Councillor(s): John Cox#, Anne Gunter#, Lisa Jones*,
Richard Overton*, Allan Peploe#

Also in attendance: Councillor Bob Rogers#

Officers: Kerrie Smith, Deputy Clerk# (Minute Taker),
Cathryn Drew# (Projects Officer)

* *Attending remotely via Microsoft Teams*

Attending physically in the Council Chamber

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

Min No	Subject and Decision	Action
69.	<u>Recording of Meeting</u> Members agreed that the Council meeting could be recorded for minute taking purposes.	
70.	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Apologies were received from Councillor(s) Gaynor James, Jon James and Jools Rogers.	
71.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Councillor(s) Nick Byrne declared personal and non-prejudicial interests in any agenda items relating to Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) as they were members of TCBC, as well as members of Pontypool Community Council. <u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the declaration be noted.	
72.	<u>Planning Applications</u> Members received and considered the list of planning applications on which it was being consulted by Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC).	

	<u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the comments/observations stated be submitted to Torfaen County Borough Council.	
73.	<u>Planning Determinations</u> Members received and noted Torfaen County Borough Council planning determinations including reasons for approvals or refusals. <u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the planning determinations be noted.	
74.	<u>Planning Applications: Plenary Powers</u> Members noted observations on planning applications which had already been submitted between meetings. <u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the plenary powers applications be noted.	
75.	<u>Notice Boards, Bins and Benches</u> The Committee received a report from the Projects Officer on the status of noticeboards, bins and benches. The new bins in Griffithstown East and Pontymoile Basin have been completed along with the replacement bin in Cwrdy Road/Close, Sebastopol. Purchase orders were raised for these jobs, however due to a change in pricing from Torfaen County Borough Council there is a saving of £354 which will go back into the budget. The following works are outstanding from last financial year: The replacement bin at Lower New Inn. The Projects Officer enquired as to whether Cllr RO had identified a suitable location for the replacement bin. Cllr RO informed the meeting that he thought it had been agreed and that the Projects Officer was going to contact Streetscene to see if they would install it and if the Waste Team would empty it. The Projects Officer advised that the location suggested was not suitable because it was private property and that they had sent an email to Cllr RO as the	

	bin was there prior was over the stile on private property. Therefore, they wouldn't ordinarily replace that bin. They have come up with one more suggestion which is the final offer and if the Church isn't happy to sign off on this location then there is no other area suitable. The Projects Officer agreed to re-send the email to Cllr RO so that he can liaise with the Church. The remainder of the outstanding works are in progress: • Replacement bin in Wainfelin (opp George Street Primary) • Replacement bench at the Llanerch Memorial • Replacement bench in South Sebastopol The Projects Officer is hoping that these works will be completed by the end of July. There has been a change to the prices from Torfaen County Borough Council for the purchase and installation which are cheaper so there are no additional fees. <u>Noticeboards</u> The noticeboard in Cwmynyscoy (which was paid for out of last year's budget) had to be installed by Property Services instead of Streetscene as it needs to be installed on concrete, there is an additional charge of £270.00 which will need to come out of this year's budget. There are two new noticeboard requests for Snatchwood (next to North Road bus shelter) and Pentwyn Village. The budget for the year is £2,000 which has been spent but there is a reserve of £4,000 for noticeboards. The Committee were asked if they would like to go ahead with the purchase of the new noticeboards. <u>Bins</u> The Projects Officer is waiting for further information from Cllr CP in relation to the replacement bin in Pentwyn and the new bin for Pentwyn Lane. Streetscene have advised that they have installed a new bin in Sebastopol East so there is no need for this request to proceed.	CD
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	The two bins for Pontymoile Basin were installed week commencing 2 June 2025. <u>Benches</u> The Projects Officer informed the meeting that there are two bench requests outstanding and advised that they would like to consider these requests as part of the bench audit that is currently being undertaken and will hopefully be presented to the Committee meeting in July 2025. *RECOMMENDED: that the Committee: (i) noted the contents of the report (ii) approved the cost of £270.00 for installation of the noticeboard in Cwmynyscoy (iii) approved the purchase of the 2 new noticeboards in Snatchwood and Pentwyn Village	CD CD
76.	<u>Planning Aid Wales Annual Training Programme</u> The Committee received the dates for the Planning Aid Wales training programme. <u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the training dates be noted.	
77.	<u>Mynydd Maen Wind Farm Proposal</u> The Committee received the latest information regarding the Mynydd Maen Wind Farm proposal and asked to note that the examination's determination period is suspended until 26 September 2025. Cllr AG asked if the Council should be doing more to protect Mynydd Maen. Cllr AP suggested that they are contacted and asked for specific information on how this application impacts on the local wildlife. <u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the: (i) information be noted (ii) Deputy Clerk source copies of the ecological surveys undertaken for the site	KS

78.	<u>Biodiversity and Sustainability</u> How has this meeting contributed to the Council's duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems? <u>RECOMMENDED:</u> that the meeting was hybrid, the agenda was sent electronically and ensuring that there are no adverse effects to the surrounding habitat and biodiversity when arranging the installation of bins, benches and noticeboards.	
79.	<u>Committee Budget</u> Councillors received a copy of the budget (and reserves) within its remit and the spend to date. <u>*RECOMMENDED:</u> that the information be noted.	

*This is a recommendation to Council, the final decision would be made by Council.

Signed by Chair