

In line with the Welsh Government's 'Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021' requirement for all 735 Town and Community Councils in Wales to electronically publish the key information and the outcome of their Council meetings within 7 days of the meeting, Risca Town Council hereby publish an unnumbered and unsigned summary of the:

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Risca Town Council

Due to the ongoing health crisis it was held as a 'hybrid meeting'. Thus it was open as an in-person, indoors meeting at the Bethany Church Hall and as a remote virtual meeting on Monday 14 Mar 2022

Present: Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Ffion Green, Cllr Sally Davies, Cllr Joy Parsons and Cllr Hazel Dupre. There were no requests for attendance virtually

Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell

Chair/Mayor Cllr Mike Parker chaired the virtual meeting that commenced at 6.35 pm. Also present was Risca RBL representative Steve Veysey

A/ Apologies

Cllr Tony Davies, Cllr Brian Davies and Cllr Louise Stephens

B/ Presentations

Steve Veysey of Risca RBL highlighted the RBL plans for planting in the Pontymister Gardens and their events for the summer. An Easter event will be held at Waunfawr Park on April 16 and the belated 100 years centenary event is also set for May 14 at Waunfawr Park. Risca RBL's Falklands War Commemoration Concert at Moriah Church is set for 10 June at Moriah Church. The Council still wishes to support the Risca RBL Concert plans with a donation. The Clerk is awaiting a response from Risca East community council to ask if they too are to contribute to the RBL Concert

C/ Declarations of Interest

None

D/ Residents' addresses

None

E/ Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on Mon 14 Feb 2022

The meeting acknowledged that the agreed minutes were signed as a true and correct record

F/ Decisions made

F1 Finance Report

The Clerk reported his monthly account summary to date and the Council agreed the report as satisfactory. The Clerk reported that he had still not received any news on the 2020/2021 Audit Return from Audit Wales

F2 Correspondence/financial assistance applications

1/ The Mayor, Cllr Sally Davies and Steve Veysey reported that they are to attend a site meeting with the Caerphilly CBC Cenotaph Officer on Wed 16 March. The meeting is to discuss the Risca RBL requests for a new water supply at Pontymiser Gardens and a new flagpole at the Darren Gardens. The Clerk reported that he had not yet had a response from the Caerphilly CBC Street Lighting Engineer on the previous Risca RBL requests for power supplies at both gardens in the Town

2/ The Clerk is to contact the local Fusion Dance Group to discuss a power supply for a new defibrillator box on the dance centre building

3/ The Clerk is to continue to investigate replacements for the Councils town centre notice boards

4/ The Clerk reported on the recent receipt of an annual invoice for service from One Voice Wales at £896. The Council agreed for the Clerk to pay the invoice

5/ The Clerk reported an annual financial assistance request from Air Ambulance Wales and the Council agreed to donate £150 to this charity

6/ The Clerk reported that he had attended at the Risca Library today Mon 14 March and will also attend on the next two Monday afternoons

7/ The Clerk attended a Risca Town Centre Management Group virtual meeting on Tues 22 Feb. He was advised that CCBC were planning to advertise for the Town Centre Manager's post in the near future

8/ The Clerk also reminded the Council of the coming Local Elections date of Thurs 5 May 2022 to include Risca Town Council's 8 seats for the next 5 years

9/ The Clerk reported on the news of the war in Ukraine. The Council confirmed that the Clerk is to set aside £1500 towards medical supplies for the Ukraine communities and £500 towards the travelling costs of transporting these essential supplies. Cllr Louise Stephens is to advise the Clerk of the appropriate bank account to transfer the funds. Cllr Joy Parsons also asked the Council for a donation to a Ukrainian individual with Risca contacts that lives in Pontypool who planned to drive to Poland to collect his war affected daughter. The Mayor agreed to donate £150 to pass to Cllr Parsons for the individual out of his annual allowance

10/ As the meeting was running over time at 8.30 pm Cllr Joy Parsons asked for Standing Orders to be suspended for the Council to consider the remaining 3 items on the agenda. Council agreed

G/ Current Projects Summary

Cllr Sally Davies outlined the early plans for a Risca Town Council Summer Fair to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee on the afternoon of Sun 5 June 2022. Also to support the Twmbarlwm Society for a Queen's Jubilee Beacon to be lit at 9.45 pm on Thurs 2 June on the mountain. Cllr Sally Davies stated her disappointment that the Clerk had not carried out a tender process for both the summer baskets and planters and the festive lanterns and tree projects for the Council following the February Council meeting. The Clerk had been unable to carry out the necessary tender work in time for both tender processes thus the current local contractor had been contacted to progress the 2022 summer baskets and planters project. The Clerk is to carry out the 2022 Festive project tender process asap

H/ Planning Applications

Case Refs 22/0163, 22/0168, 22/0171 and 22/0186 were all noted

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

The full Minutes when agreed and signed will also be made available on the Council's website as soon as practically possible
