

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

The meeting was held as a hybrid with both in person and remote virtual availability on Monday 12 Dec 2022

**Present: Cllr Sally Davies, Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Tony Davies, Cllr Clare Evans-Powell, Cllr Louise Stephens, Cllr Ffion Green and Cllr Joy Parsons
Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell**

The Clerk reported that he had received no requests to join in virtually

**Chair/Mayor Cllr Sally Davies chaired the meeting that commenced at 6.30 pm
The Council observed a minute’s silence in memory of the recent passing of Town Cllr Brian Davies**

A/ Apologies

Police Officers Oliver Petty and Louise Jenkins and County Cllrs Bob Owen and Ceri Wrght

B/ Presentations – None

C/ Declarations of Interest - None

D/ Residents’ addresses - None

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

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

F/ The Mayor, Cllr Sally Davies reported

G/ Decisions made

G1 Finance Report

The Clerk’s monthly account summary to date was agreed as satisfactory by the Council. audited. The Clerk asked the Council to consider his previously presented budget proposal for 2023/2024 and to decide upon that budget and

Risca Town Council – Early summary of Minutes of 14 November 2022 to publish electronically. A copy in Welsh will be provided upon request.

precept for the next financial year in order for him to present it to Caerphilly county borough council in January 2023. The Town Council are fully aware of the financial demands on households in 2022 with a current interest rate of over 10%, high energy bills and the rising cost of living that is likely to continue into 2023. The Council is aware that it decided upon a **Nil** council tax increase last year and that its planned running costs and Projects for the Town for next financial year will be higher than the last 2 years. Taking all these factors into consideration the Council decided on a compromise Band D rate increase of 5%. This means the annual rate for Band D properties, that was set in Dec 2021 at £27.70 per year, will raise by £1.30 per year to approximately £29 per Band D household for 2023/2024

G2 Correspondence/financial assistance applications

1/ The Clerk was pleased to report that Audit Wales had very recently returned the 2020/21 Town Council's Audit papers that were successful. H added that he had received no news from Audit Wales on the 2021/2022 Audit

2/ The Council are still waiting for Risca Foodbank to provide details of their financial accounts and those of the Trussell Trust charity to assist them in deciding on their financial assistance application

3/ The Council agreed for the Air Ambulance Wales to receive a donation of £250

H/ Current Projects Summary

The Council are aware that its inherited festive lanterns from Caerphilly county borough council are about 15 years old and will consider purchasing new lanterns early in 2023. Following the success of the Town's Queen's Jubilee summer fair last June, the Council will also give consideration in January 2023 for another Town Summer Fair in either May or June next year

I/ Planning Application

Case Ref. 22/0957 was noted

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm

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