

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Risca Town Council

The meeting was held as a 'hybrid meeting', thus it was open as an in-person, indoors meeting at the Bethany Church Hall and available on request to the Clerk as a remote virtual meeting on Monday 12 June 2023

Present: Cllr Sally Davies, Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Tony Davies, Cllr Louise Stephens, Cllr Clare Evans-Powell and Cllr Ffion Green

Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell

County Cllrs Ceri Wright and Bob Owen, Marc Owen (Pastor at Moriah Church) and Steve Veysey (Risca RBL and Pontymister Gardens society) were also in attendance

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

Chair/Mayor Cllr Sally Davies chaired the meeting that commenced at 6.30 pm

1037 Apologies

The Clerk reported that Town Cllr Joy Parsons had resigned from the Council on Saturday 10 June with immediate effect. The Clerk reported that he had responded thanking Joy for all her work for the Town and the local community over the last few years

1038 Presentations

Marc Owen reported that following persistent criminal damage and antisocial behaviour in and around the Tredegar Park Toilet Block that the Moriah Charity were struggling to maintain them for public use. The Charity's lease is with Caerphilly CBC who they will consult as the Toilet Block's owners, to see if there any options to keep them open. The Council noted its disappointment at the news but were aware of the vandalism and graffiti that was evident in the toilet block at the Town's recent spring fair. Steve Veysey updated the Council on the Pontymister Gardens society's recent request to Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water for a new water supply to the Gardens. The installation costs had risen beyond the scale of the scheme and the society can no longer pursue this project as feasible. The society noted that they require further financial assistance to maintain the Gardens

1039 Declarations of Interest

None

1040 Residents' addresses

None

1041 Minutes of the AGM and previous Council meetings held on Mon 15 May 2023

The meeting agreed both minutes that were duly signed as true and correct records

1042 County Cllrs Updates

County Cllrs Ceri Wright and Bob Owen reported on their recent activities and concerns in the Town

1043 Clerk's Report

1043.1 Finance

The Clerk's monthly account summary and was agreed as satisfactory by the Council. The Clerk presented the 2022/2023 Internal Audit report and Audit Return form to the Council. The Council agreed the Audit Return and the Chair duly signed the form for the Clerk to submit to Audit Wales by 8 July 2023

1043.2 Correspondence/financial assistance applications

The Council agreed for the Pontymister Gardens society to return the original donation of £1500 for a water supply and for the Clerk to send out its financial assistance forms for the society to complete. The Clerk is to write a letter to Barclays Bank to stress the Council's disappointment at the news that the Risca Branch is to close in the summer of 2024

1043.3 One Voice Wales/Town and Community Council Liaison Committee

The next Town and Community Councils meeting is set for Tues 20 June and the next Joint meeting with CCBC Cllrs is set for Mon 24 July. The next OVW Area meeting is set for Wed 19 July

1044 Current Projects Summary

The Clerk reported that he is still awaiting a cost estimate from CCBC Parks for the erection of a new flagpole in the Darren Remembrance Gardens. This project is to be jointly funded with Risca East community council. The Council is next looking forward to holding its 'Bands in the Park' event (after 3 years of the health crisis) with Crosskeys Silver Band playing in the afternoon of Sunday 23 July in Tredegar

Park; Risca. The Clerk is awaiting permission from CCBC Parks to finalise the event details

Project No.	Project Name	Description & Comments	Amount Paid	Amount Pledged
A	A new flagpole at Darren Gardens	New flagpole estimate of £1300 awaiting erection cost from CCBC Parks – Jointly funded with Risca East CC		
B	2023 summer baskets and planters	Contract is underway		7000
C	Bands in the Park	Sunday 23 July		600

1045 Planning Applications

None

1046 Exclusion of press and public

None

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Signed:

Date: