

## **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 11 Dec 2023**

**Present: Cllr Sally Davies, Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Tony Davies, Cllr Louise Stephens and Cllr Mike Wedderein**

**Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell**

Sgt Gareth Wilkins of Heddlu Gwent Police was 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 6.35 pm**

### **1087 Apologies**

Cllr Ffion Green, Cllr Clare Evans-Powell and County Cllrs Ceri Wright and Bob Owen

### **1088 Presentations**

Sgt Wilkins gave the Council an update on the Police activities and crime data in the Town ward. Reports of antisocial behaviour by children and youths in Risca and off road motorbiking were still current issues. An illegal cannabis factory in the Town had also been reported

### **1089 Declarations of Interest**

None

### **1090 Residents' addresses**

None

### **1091 Minutes of the Council meeting held on Mon 13 Nov 2023**

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

**1092 County Members updates** – The Clerk reported that the County Members had been unavailable recently to contribute to the meeting

## 1093 Clerk's Report

### 1093.1 Finance

The Clerk's monthly account summary was agreed as satisfactory by the Council. The Clerk presented a budget report for 2024/2025 for the Council to consider. The budget report had been increased to allow for inflation and an initial figure for the recent request for 'Twinning' with the Elegny community of Paris. The Council are mindful of the increases to the current cost of living and inflationary costs of its service and projects. The Council agreed to set a 24/25 budget at £63,500 meaning a likely increase in the annual council charge from £29 per year to £34.80 per Band D household. The Clerk reported that the recent half year Internal Audit had been passed successfully

### 1093.2 Correspondence/financial assistance applications

The Clerk reminded the Council that it had previously decided to consider interests from residents for the Member vacancy by co-option for the Fernlea Ward. This topic and three recent financial applications are to be considered in January after the Town's Festive projects are completed

### 1093.3 One Voice Wales/Town and Community Council Liaison Committee

The next OVW Area meeting is set for Wed 17 Jan 2024 and the next TCCLC meeting is expected on Tues 27 Feb 2024

## 1094 Current Projects Summary

The Chair reported that she had received glowing reports from residents and local business for the Council's 2023 Festive Lanterns project and for its very successful Christmas Tree lighting event held in Tredegar Park, Risca on Saturday 25 November. The Clerk is to write with thanks to those businesses that contributed to the costs of the Festive projects. The Council is to consider its projects for 2024 over the February and March Council meetings

Project No.	Project Name	Description & Comments	Amount Paid	Amount Pledged
A	A new flagpole at Darren Gardens	Estimate of £1300 awaiting an erection cost by CCBC Parks – Jointly funded with Risca East CC	828 to date	1300

<b>B</b>	Festive lanterns project	35 new lanterns erected		4000
<b>C</b>	a/ Christmas Tree switch on event and b/ new Christmas Tree lights			9000
				1600
<b>D</b>	Festive Windows Comp			300

**1095 Planning Application**

Case Ref: 23/0841 was noted

**1096 Exclusion of press and public**

None

**The meeting closed at 7.58 pm**

**Signed:**

**Date:**

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