

In line with the Welsh Government's 'Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021' requirement for all 730 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 with both in person and remote virtual availability 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

A/ Apologies –Cllr Ffion Green, Cllr Clare Evans-Powell and County Cllrs Ceri Wright and Bob Owen

B/ 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.

C/ Declarations of Interest - None

D/ Residents' addresses - None

E/ Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on Mon 13 Nov 2023

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

F/ Mayor and County Members – The Clerk reported that the County Members had been unavailable recently to contribute to the meeting

G/ Decisions made

G1 Finance Report

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 Band D annual council charge to raise from £29 per year to £34.80 per Band D household

G2 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. Also three recent financial applications are to be considered in January after the Town’s Festive projects are completed

H/ Current Projects Summary

The Chair reported that she had received glowing reports from residents and from local business for the Council’s recent 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

I/ Planning Application – 23/0841 was noted

The meeting closed at 7.58 pm

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