

## **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 Jan 2026**

**Present: Cllr Mike Parker, Cllr Mike Wedderien, Cllr Sally Davies, Cllr Ffion Green, Cllr Tony Davies and Cllr Louise Stephens**

**Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell**

Steve Veyey of Risca RBL, Jason Harris and Lauren Jones of Heddlu Gwent Police were also in attendance.

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

**Chair/Mayor Cllr Mike Parker chaired the meeting that commenced at 6.30 pm**

**1317 Apologies** - County Cllr Bob Owen and County Cllr Ceri Wright

**1318 Presentation** – The Police Officers present updated the Council on recent reports in the Town. The Council noted that shoplifting reports had risen in November

**1319 Declarations of Interest** - None

**1320 Residents' addresses** - None

**1321 Minutes of the full Council meeting held on 10 Nov 2025**

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record

**1322 County Members updates** – None

**1323 Clerk's Report**

### **1323.1 Finance**

The Clerk's monthly account summary was agreed as satisfactory by the Council. The Clerk again presented four possible budgets/precepts for the Council to decide upon for 2026/2027. The Council is fully aware of the rising cost of living and increasing costs to maintain its projects and services to the Risca community and that Caerphilly county borough council asked for a financial contribution to its CCBC summer events. The Council is also aware that the Boundary Commission's recommendation for Risca to be reunified, rather than being split into East and West Wards, is likely to take place at the Local Government Elections in May 2027. With all these facts in mind the Council decided on a budget of £94K for 2026/2027 with a Band D Council Tax

charge at Band D of £52 per household. The Clerk is to submit that decision to CCBC by 31 January in readiness for April 2026 to March 2027

### **1323.2 Correspondence/financial assistance applications**

The Council agreed to a donation of £250 as financial assistance to Air Ambulance Wales. The Council considered the recent application from local business person Charlotte Evans for the Ty Isaf Fields Ward Member vacancy. The Council agreed for the Clerk to invite Charlotte along to its 12 January 2026 Council meeting to meet all the Town Cllrs

### **1323.3 One Voice Wales/Town and Community Council Liaison Committee**

The next One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting is set for the new year via remote access. The spring TCCLC meeting is programmed for mid February 2026

### **1323.4 Community topics**

The Council are awaiting details of an applicant for Risca Primary School's Governors' vacancy in order to be recommended to represent the Council

## **1324 Current Projects Summary**

The Council are very pleased with the success of its Winter Fair and Christmas Tree lights switch on event on Saturday 22 November. The Council noted the excellent quality of the Town Council's marquee and the stage that were provided this year. It is also grateful for CCBC agreeing to allowing it to erect its 2025 Festive Lanterns project in time to coincide with the Winter Fair. The Council noted its concern at the time it took for the local contractor to obtain the CCBC required certificates and information for Christmas 2025. The Council are also aware of the recent compliments from residents and businesses in the Town's community about the quality of the Festive Lanterns

<b>Project</b>				
<b>A</b>	New PA system	for use at outside events		3000
<b>B</b>	Winter Fair – 22 Nov 2025	For Christmas 2025		14000
<b>C</b>	Christmas Tree lights switch on event	For Christmas 2025		4000
<b>D</b>	Festive Lanterns 2025	2025 Festive Project		7000

E	Festive windows Competition			300

**1325 Planning Applications** – the Council considered the following planning applications that were noted:

Case Ref. 25/0331/HH, Case Ref. 25/0690/COU and Case Ref. 25/0732/ADV

**1326 Exclusion of press and public** – None

**The meeting closed at 8.30 pm**

**Signed:**

**Date:**