



## Draft Minutes (Public)

1. To receive apologies for absence
  - a. **None received, Councillors Jordan Thorne and Jamie Daniel did not attend.**
2. Disclosure of personal and pecuniary interest in items of business listed below in accordance with the Code of Conduct
  - a. **No declarations were made in respect of public business.**
3. Public presentations to Council
  - a. **The Clerk brought to the Council's attention planning application in relation to The Barn public house in Mwyndy. Planning is requested to change from a Pub to Offices. The Council decided not to comment.**
4. To confirm minutes of the Council's meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. are a true record and discuss minor matters arising from them.
  - a. **The minutes were confirmed, there were no matters arising.**
  - b. **The Clerk confirmed that on the morning of the meeting he received an acknowledgement from RCT regarding the September query on speeding and parking issues. An Officer will look into these and revert in due course.**
5. To consider report on Council Payments and finances
  - a. **The Council confirmed the September payments and September bank reconciliations.**
  - b. **The Council approved payment of the following bills**
    - i. **SLCC membership for Clerk £240**
    - ii. **Invoice for bins - £1269.45 plus vat**
    - iii. **£2540 plus vat for Christmas decorations. £800 to be paid for by CIL (councillors Wayne Owen, Sue Owen and Sian Assiratti declared an interest as they had previously agreed to pay towards cost to keep precept down)**
  - c. **The Council agreed to purchase 2 post mounted bins and 3 dog poo bins. To be funded by CIL**
  - d. Pre-Internal audit actions
    - i. **The Council noted and confirmed processes.**
  - e. Interim internal audit 2024-25
    - i. **Council noted changes and Councillors will provide updated Declarations of Interest**
  - f. Budget planning 2025-26
    - i. **Council noted comments about planning for 2025-26 budget and agreed the following.**
      1. **Complete summer floral planting order for 2025 at a cost of £1957 plus VAT**
      2. **Noted and agreed proposed changes with finance software to take effect end of March.**
      3. **Gave agreement to Clerk to commence purchases of replacement laptops where advantageous terms can be obtained over Black Friday period.**
6. To receive update on Community Events
  - a. **The Council noted that all 3 Remembrance Day parades in the Council area had been very well attended and the road closure arrangements had worked well.**
  - b. **Updates for Christmas were noted.**
7. To receive report on Town improvements
  - a. **Members noted the position.**
  - b. **A flag policy was adopted that means.**
    - i. **Welsh Dragon can be flown all year.**
    - ii. **If at some time a UK/Welsh/RCT mandate is given to fly a particular flag, then we would comply.**
    - iii. **Our separately agreed policy for Death of a senior Royal would be followed (using the Welsh Flag)**
    - iv. **No other flags to be flown except by separate decision by Council.**
8. To receive report from Pontyclun 175 organising committee
  - a. **The Council received the report on Pontyclun 175 actions, noted the contents and confirmed to proceed.**
  - b. **The following specific actions were also agreed.**
    - i. **Try to find a volunteer(s) to help with copying historic photos of Pontyclun and curating into a display for the Arts Festival. If required officers could pay for time up to a total of £200**
    - ii. **The Arts festival quiz night would be run by Councillors on behalf of Friends of Pontyclun**

- iii. **VE80 – The Council would engage Forces Fitness to arrange an obstacle course for the 5<sup>th</sup> of May.**
  - iv. **Picnic in the Park**
    - 1. **The Council would hire a stage.**
    - 2. **Spaces could be made available to craft stalls if any spaces remained after Community groups/sports clubs and food traders had been accommodated.**
    - 3. **Phil Howe to be engaged to compare the event.**
    - 4. **The Council will arrange a fund-raising raffle for the day. Tickets to be sold at the park entrance.**
    - 5. **A Commemorative programme to be prepared (paid for by advertising) to include the activities and also a short history of Pontyclun. A quote/template example to be obtained for next meeting if possible.**
    - 6. **The Council will have a weather contingency.**
      - a. **Move venue to Car park/Community centre is one.**
      - b. **Have a very large marquee in Park as rain cover is another – costing to be obtained.**
    - 7. **Councillor Binning will contact Royal Mint about a commemorative coin and report back at next meeting.**
    - 8. **Friends of Pontyclun would be invited to run a Cider stall.**
  - v. **Twining**
    - 1. **Council noted option of asking RCT/Other Taf Ely Community/Town Council to host our visitors for part of their time here.**
    - 2. **Accommodation would wait on confirmation of numbers. If small, then hotels may be used.**
9. To consider draft report of the Independent Remuneration panel for Wales
    - a. **The Council noted this updated report and confirmed the payments/allowances agreed in the autumn.**
  10. To consider report on Council benchmarking
    - a. **The Council noted this report, no actions required.**
  11. To consider Crime report from South Wales Police
    - a. **The Council noted this report.**
    - b. **The Council agreed to put additional signage at the Maesyfelin Rugby pitches regarding not parking on the pavement.**
  12. To respond to RCT Consultation on improvements to walking routes in Pontyclun
    - a. **The Council noted this informal consultation, and the information provided.**
    - b. **Members were disappointed that RCT had not provided further information requested ahead of this meeting.**
    - c. **A letter from a member of the public was read to Council – objecting to proposals.**
    - d. **The Council agreed.**
      - i. **We would object to the proposals.**
        1. **Removes parking so would affect Residents and Businesses**
        2. **We did not believe it would achieve its aims.**
        3. **There was insufficient consultation by RCT (no businesses were included, nor residents unless the proposals were directly at their property)**
      - ii. **We would offer to meet RCT to discuss alternative options prior to a more meaningful consultation on any proposed to be taken forward to next stage.**
  13. To respond to RCT Consultation on Community Reviews
    - a. **The Council noted this report and decided to support the recommendations.**

**These are a copy of the minutes of the November meeting of Pontyclun Town Council. A signed copy can be viewed at the Council Offices**