

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING UNDER THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES
(CORONAVIRUS) (MEETINGS) (WALES) REGULATIONS 2020
ON THURSDAY, 6TH JANUARY 2022 AT 6PM**

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN: CLLR. MRS S. M. PENRY

COUNCILLORS:
W. CURTIS
MS T. DAVIES
K. FINN
J. HARLE
P. JAMES
MRS L. JONES
MRS J. L. LOCKYER
B. MACCATHAIL
MRS. S. MILLER
G. MORGAN
A. MUSAIED
R. PRICE
MRS S. PRICE
M. PROTHEROE
A. SIMS
J. WARMAN

ABSENT: J. EVANS

IN ATTENDANCE: KATHRYN CHARLES
AMANDA HOLMES
SARA WHARMBY
JOHN JONES

7000 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. A. McGrath.

7001 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. M. Protheroe in respect of item 9 on the Agenda.

**7002 TO WELCOME JOHN JONES, NEATH TOWN CENTRE COORDINATOR,
TO THE MEETING TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON HIS NEW POSITION**

The Chair welcomed Mr Jones to the Meeting.

Mr Jones gave the Meeting an overview of the new position and shared his hopes for a strengthened working relationship with the Town Council in the future.

Members shared the feedback they had received from the Victorian event and agreed that it was a positive event in the town during COVID difficulties.

Cllr. K. Finn disconnected from the Meeting.

Members discussed their concerns regarding the antisocial behaviour and empty properties in the town centre.

Cllr. K. Finn returned to the Meeting.

A Member highlighted difficulties for disabled people at events with lots of people.

Cllr. K. Finn disconnected from the Meeting.

The Meeting discussed the involvement of a Town Crier. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to contact the Town Crier to determine whether they would like to assist Neath in this role.

Cllr. K. Finn returned to the Meeting.

The Chair thanked Mr Jones for attending the Meeting. Mr Jones stated he was looking forward to meeting everyone in person.

Mr Jones left the Meeting.

7003 TO AGREE AND CONFIRM THE PRECEPT FOR 2022/23

A report was received in advanced of the meeting. **RESOLVED:** It was proposed, seconded and agreed to confirm the Precept for 2022/23.

7004 TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

A) MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEETINGS:

i. FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16TH DECEMBER 2021

It was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously to accept the minutes of the Full Council Meeting.

B) RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEES AS SET OUT IN THE MINUTES

All Resolutions agreed.

7005 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

A. GENERAL MATTERS

The Town Clerk stated that the hybrid meeting installation date in Chambers was being chased.

Members were updated on the bus shelter refurbishment which was planned for March/April.

The Town Clerk reminded Councillors who were School Governors to contact their schools regarding the funding available from The Woodland Trust in connection with this year's Jubilee.

Members were reminded that they needed to confirm whether or not they wished to receive their IRP payments for 2021 as soon as possible as payment needed to be made as soon as possible.

The Town Clerk asked Councillors for clarity on the positive remote learning/partial remote learning possibilities with schools and the Council's requirement to provide free children's meals – it was also noted that only some schools in the NPTCBC area would be reverting to this. **RESOLVED:** After discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed to continue to provide free school meals for all school children and to review the decision once 'take up' was known..

B. CORRESPONDENCE

<i>Correspondence received for action</i>		<i>Resolutions</i>
An email from One Voice Wales regarding The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021: Draft Statutory Guidance for Community and Town Councils.	Do Councillors wish to respond? The Clerk has responded separately.	-
An email from One Voice Wales regarding training sessions in January, February & March.	Do Councillors wish to attend any training?	-
<i>Correspondence received for noting</i>		
A letter from Matthew Archer regarding Neath Town Centre and wishing NTC a happy Christmas.		
An email regarding a phone call about a missing person who was found thanks to the community café.		
A letter from NPTCBC regarding the planning application for 1-4 New Street, and attaching an application for Building Regulations approval.		
A letter from Soroptimist International of Neath donating a cheque to the NTC Mayoress Christmas Appeal.		
A letter from Macmillan Cancer Support thanking NTC for the grant aid donation.		
An email from NPTCVS sending Christmas greetings.		
An email from Mr Des Jacob thanking NTC for her daughter's framed Christmas card design and gift card for winning the Mayor's Christmas Card Competition.		
An email from Evan Musgrave at Kooth regarding Kooth mental health support for young people.		

An email from Sioned Williams AS/MS attaching their Christmas card.
An email from Swansea Bay Community Health Council regarding the Priorities letter and questionnaire – closing date 31 st December.
An email from SNAP Cymru regarding the Special Needs Advisory Project.
An email from Boundary Commission for Wales regarding the outcome of the consultation.
A job vacancy for Chair to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.
The One Voice Wales Local Places for Nature slides from Rachel Carter’s presentation at the Full Council Meeting on 2 nd December.
An email from One Voice Wales regarding the NPT Active Travel Network Map Prioritisation and Classification Consultation.
An email from One Voice Wales regarding Well-being of Future Generations National Stakeholder Forum.

<i>Additional Correspondence received for noting</i>
An email from NPTCVS regarding the Your Voice Advocacy AGM on 20 th January 2022.
A letter from NPT Child Contact Centre thanking Neath Town Council for the £200 donation.
An email from NPTCVS regarding the ‘NPT for Nature’ meeting on 18 th January.
An email from NPTCVS regarding the appeal for Third Sector staff to support struggling services.
An email from Kooth attaching information for mental health support for young people in Swansea Bay.
An email from Welsh Government regarding the draft budget 2022-23.

7006 TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK ON CLLR REMUNERATION AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT OUTCOME REPORT IN WALES

A Councillor discussed this.

7007 TO REVIEW AND AGREE INCOME & EXPENDITURE MOVEMENT FOR THE MONTH

a. BILLS AWAITING PAYMENT

Agreed.

b. BACS PAYMENT SCHEDULE

None.

c. BARCLAYS GENERAL ACCOUNT

None.

A Member queried the large income from the NTC Café and asked whether it would be possible to hold other lunch events like the Christmas Dinners.
RESOLVED: To be discussed at a future Events meeting.

Members discussed the Queen's Jubilee events for 2022.

d. INTER BANK TRANSFERS (OVER 10K)

None.

e. NEW SUPPLIER BACS AUTHORISATION

None.

f. PAYROLL

Agreed.

g. BANK STATEMENT RECONCILIATION

Agreed.

7008 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Cllr. M. Protheroe declared an interest and left the Meeting.

A Member stated that a previous application no longer needed an objection as the application had been withdrawn.

There were no objections to the following planning application(s):-

P2021/1198

P2021/1241

P2021/1249

Meeting: Full Council 6 th Jan 2022	Planning Schedule				Date sent: 23.12.21
No. of Application	Applicant	Proposal	Location	Planning Officer	Recommendation
P2021/1198	Mr Rhys Denman	Listed Building Application for survey test core drilling of 4 lightweight 100mm diameter cored boreholes that will extend through the bridge deck down to the original river bed, at the 2 bridge piers and the 2 bridge abutments.	A465 Masonry Arched Bridge, Spanning The River Neath, Off Bridge Street, Neath SA10 7RF	Jessica King	No objections
P2021/1241	Calan DVS	Conservation Area Consent for the demolition of single storey garage to rear of property.	40 Victoria Gardens Neath SA11 3BH	Andrea Davies	No objections
P2021/1249	Mr Alex Holland	Details pursuant to the discharge of Condition 12 (Landscape Management Plan) of Planning Permission P2019/5611.	1 Melyn Close Neath SA11 2DH	Christopher Davies	No objections

7009 TO DISCUSS THE SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT FOR NEATH TOWN COUNCIL

There were no issues to discuss.

7010 TO DISCUSS ANY MEMBER ISSUES AND RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF NEATH TOWN COUNCIL

A Member updated Councillors on a Meeting they had attended.

7011 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

There were no items received.

7012 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS – TO CONSIDER PASSING A RESOLUTION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1(2) OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960, IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS ABOUT TO BE TRANSACTED, IT IS ADVISABLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING

The resolution was duly passed.

Sara Wharmby left the Meeting.

7013 TO DISCUSS AND REVIEW ANY:-

A) INVESTMENT PROPERTY LEASING MATTERS

Several ongoing issues were raised and discussed since the December meeting. The Clerk confirmed that a meeting with the property management agents would be arranged to obtain an update before the Estates Committee.

B) COVID ARREARS REPAYMENT MATTERS

Several ongoing issues were raised and discussed since the December meeting. The Clerk confirmed that a meeting with the property management agents would be arranged to obtain an update before the Estates Committee.

C) ONGOING, CURRENT AND FUTURE COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS

General – Update on Phase 1 and 2 provided, all ongoing. Further update to Estates Committee.

i) TO RECEIVE COSTS FOR REPLACEMENT HOB IN CAFÉ

Discussions took place regarding the replacement cost. **RESOLVED:** Additional leasing costs to be obtained before a decision was made.

ii) TO RECEIVE COSTS FOR REPLACEMENT DISHWASHER IN CAFÉ

Discussions took place regarding the replacement cost for under and over counter equipment. **RESOLVED:** Additional leasing costs to be obtained before a decision was made.

7014 TO RECEIVE AN OVERVIEW OF ANY STAFFING MATTERS

The Clerk informed Members of several staffing issues. A full report would be presented to Policy & Personnel.

7015 TO RECEIVE AN OVERVIEW OF ANY HEALTH & SAFETY MATTERS

The Clerk advised Members that a staff meeting took place on 5th January. A full report would be presented to Policy & Personnel.

7016 TO FIX A DATE AND AGREE AN AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The Chair advised that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 3rd February 2022. An agenda would be circulated in due course.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.