

Pencoed Town Council
Minutes of Full Council meeting Thursday 9th May 2024
Salem Chapel Vestry, Pencoed

Present Councillors:

P Edwards – Town Mayor/Chair

B Doughty

R.J Hancock OBE

R. Williams

J. Ryan

C. Cannon

T. Lyddon

M. Evans

M. Walters

In attendance: Geraint Thomas, Town Clerk and Administrative Assistant Morgan Davies

This was a Hybrid meeting, and the zoom link was tested prior to meeting commencing.

8439 Apologies for absence and dispensation

Apologies were received from the following due to illness/unavailability:

H. Whyley

L. Lewis

J. Butcher

8440 Declarations of interest

Cllr M Evans – Item 8+9 regarding Nolan Waste, Penprysg Bridge and TFW report – Member of BCBC.

Cllr R Williams – regarding the possible increase in housing – Member of BCBC Committee.

8441 To receive the police report and any correspondence

Nothing to report. The Town Clerk states that one current PCSO is now seeking to be employed as a full-time police officer, leading to a possible further decline in PCSO numbers.

Cllr B Doughty urges the Town Clerk to write to the police encouraging regular written reports for Council meetings.

RESOLVED TO NOTE

8442 To receive duly notified questions from the public

No questions.

8443 To receive Mayoral messages

GIVEN BY FORMER MAYOR (CLLR B DOUGHTY) – nothing of significance.

8444 To receive the minutes of the full council meeting held on 11th April 2024

The minutes of the April 11th meeting moved by Cllr R J Hancock OBE and seconded by Cllr T Lyddon.

8445 To consider the recommendations from Cttee 2 in respect of Financial /Budgetary matters consequent upon the balances to be carried forward from the Financial Year 2023 /2024

Town Clerk states it has been difficult financial period, and praises the Chair of Finance for supporting the Town Clerk. Clerk further states that the original budget for 24/25 is less than anticipated due to high out turn.

Budget made up of a £175,000 precept, £30,000 carried over and a £9,000 VAT return submitted.

Cllr R J Hancock OBE – increases in salary and wage figures due to the presence of a new employee, which is necessary.

Cllr R J Hancock OBE recommends that money should be placed in contingencies, around £3,000.

£25,000 originally put aside for tennis courts, however money is no longer available.

Likewise, the £34,000 budget for pavilion and playing fields reduced to £10,000 for 24/25.

Due to reduced budget, there is nothing in the budget for the provision of a fireworks display.

No means of funding fireworks put forward by other councillors.

Fireworks display not able to be funded.

Other priorities over the firework display, i.e., training plan, allowances to Councillors, and Mayor allowance.

Cllr R J Hancock OBE makes clear that austerity does not solely apply to the budget, but also for Councillor and Mayoral allowances.

Regeneration strategy cut from £40,000 to £20,000.

Promise of £40,000 to be rescinded and replaced by £20,000.

Cllr R J Hancock OBE – moved that the Council adopts the Committee 1 recommendations and removal of the £40,000 promise – seconded by Cllr C Cannon.

It is possible to invite other organisation to provide/sponsor a firework display, with the assistance of the council – Cllr R J Hancock OBE.

Possibility of charging entrance to the firework display to mitigate costs.

Cllr R J Hancock OBE states that Committee 1 has assessed all options, other alternatives asked for 6 months ago, but none given until now. Can this be done by November?

Moved by Cllr R J Hancock OBE, seconded by Cllr T Lyddon.

8446 To receive a list of creditors from the 1st April 2024 to 31st April 2024

Town Clerk - Expenditure date and bank reconciliation not produced yet but will be distributed soon after the accepting of the above budgetary recommendations.

Cllr R J Hancock OBE asks whether there has been any response from BCBC regarding SLA?

The Town Clerk wrote to cabinet member for communities, not forgotten about, but still awaiting response. No responses from BCBC generally.

RESOLVED TO NOTE

8447 Correspondence –

8 June – D-Day ceremony, fun day held at the Social Club, Hendre Road – notice asked to be provided.

Town Clerk – standing order amendments to be provided through a written report.

Suggested meeting dates and times provided – all at 7pm, and a Committee One and Two meeting on 20th June.

At the next Council meeting an annual report and training plan to be produced by the Town Clerk and Admin Assistant.

Cllr M Evans – School transport consultation and public engagement event for learner travel at Pencoed Comp on June 10th.

Cllr R J Hancock OBE – public meeting called by MS, MP, and TFW regarding an increase in train services to and from Maesteg. Intent from TFW to increase frequency of services from Maesteg to Ebbw Vale. It was raised that such services would be detrimental to Pencoed due to traffic and Penprysg bridge crossing.

Concerns raised to MS regarding lack of Penprysg report from MP. Still no response.

Action must be taken as a council now. Write to the new Minister of Transport, objecting to any new increase in services across Pencoed line, particularly by TFW until money is found to improve traffic flow at Penprysg bridge.

Should also write to the Secretary of State for Wales.

Such objection to be sent to all relevant individuals/organizations – moved and agreed by council.

RESOLVED AS INDICATED

8448 If appropriate, to receive items for future agendas

Cwtch issue – in September?

Moved by Cllr R J Hancock OBE, seconded by Cllr M Evans.

The matter of 804 new houses raised by Cllr R Williams.

8449 To consider passing the following resolution

That in the view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporary excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

The resolution was not passed.

MEETING ENDED AT 8:08pm