



DRAFT Unapproved Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting Wednesday 16th September 2026

Present in person: Councillors C Bissex-Foster; R Carroll; P Collins; J Davies; M Ingram-Jones; Y Price.

Present online: none

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams (Town Clerk); Mr G Wadley (Deputy Clerk).

Meeting Chairperson: Councillor R Carroll

To receive Apologies for Absence.

Councillor Andrews (away); Councillor Llewellyn (work).

To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate.

No declarations made.

Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received by the clerk.

1. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the last meeting 29th July 2026.

Councillor Davied moved, Councillor Y Price seconded.

Resolved to approve and sign the minutes.

2. To receive details of correspondence from Lloyds Bank plc regarding maintenance fees; review and approve bank reconciliations as at 31st July 2026 and 1st September 2026; and approve the payment list to date.

The Clerk verbally reported on communication from Lloyds Bank about changes to account maintenance fees with effect from November 2026 to £10 per month. Members spoke about a need to investigate transaction costs and calculate monthly outgoings on other town council accounts with a view to closure of Lloyds Bank account. Clerk instructed to review direct debits and transaction fees by the next meeting.

The committee reviewed bank reconciliations and scrutinised the payment list noting balance at 1st September 2026 of £322,357.53 and gross payments totalling £30,960.38.

A Member asked about the bank balance in Lloyds as at 31st July 2026, and the clerk explained this was planned with the delegated Member to support expected expenditure prior to the precept being received.

Resolved to approve both bank reconciliations and authorise the payment list.

3. To consider three quotations for the supply of 2000 selection boxes as instructed by committee 14th January 2026 – minute reference 5, and provide instruction to the clerk.

The clerk provided detail of three quotations from the manufacturer, a local wholesaler and the local supermarket advising the store manager at the local supermarket has advised that if a loyalty card is used there is a further discounted rate available on the purchase subject to immediate purchase.

Members **Resolved** to support the local store and use a loyalty card purchasing the 2,000 selection boxes from Morrisons Bargoed store with £3,500 authorised expenditure. A signatory to accompany the clerk to store to make purchase following the meeting.

Local Government Act 1972 s137 expenditure.

4. To receive requests for financial assistance as follows and provide resolutions as considered appropriate by Members:

Resolved to authorise a £200 donation to each of the following organisations:

4.1 Eisteddfod Y Cymoedd

Local Government Act 1972 s145.

4.2 Eisteddfod Yr Urdd Bro'r Wenynen, Rhanbarth Gwent 2027

Local Government Act 1972 s145.

4.3 Cerebral Palsy Cymru

Local Government Act 1972 s137

5. To consider applications to the Community Grant Programme from:

The clerk provided Members with updates from applicants including an error on the registered name of Gilfach men's bowling club application. Members approved the issue of a community grant in the name of the registered bank account.

Heol Fargoed allotment advised of having overcome recent anti-social behaviour with inappropriate use of an allotment plot.

Bargoed Rugby Club apologised to the Town Council and advised Members that the junior teams are not separate constituted organisations and therefore only applications from the leadership team should be considered by the Town Council.

Members **Resolved** to award a Community Grant to:

5.1 Aberbargoed Community Action Team (ACAT) - £250

Local Government Act 1972 s145

5.2 Bargoed Male Voice Choir - £250

Local Government Act 1972 s137

5.3 Gilfach Ladies Bowls Club - £250

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19

5.4 Margaret Street Allotments - £250

Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908

5.5 Gilfach Recreational Management Committee (Glfach Men's Bowling Club) - £500

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19

5.6 Bargoed Rugby Football Club - £500

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19

5.7 Aberbargoed Old Friends - £300

Local Government Act 1972 s137

5.8 Heol Fargoed Allotments - £250

Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908

5.9 Salvaged Creations CIC - £400

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 s6

5.10 Plattfform - £250

Local Government Act 1972 s137

6. To hear from the Clerk on the following items and provide resolutions or instruction as appropriate:

6.1 Town Centre Event Programme delivered in collaboration with Caerphilly County Borough Council. Members are requested to consider consultation and draft budget allocation.

Members instructed the clerk to meet with the Events team to discuss the future planning including obtaining costings, budget availability and consideration of alternative options for pre-Christmas town centre activities. A special meeting to be convened with full council following the fact finding discussions.

6.2 National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) annual salary award for 2026-27.

The clerk provided the meeting with details of the notification from the NJC of a 3.30% salary uplift to be backdated in accordance with Green Book Terms and Conditions of Employment to 1st April 2026.

Resolved to instruct the clerk to implement the annual uplift and backdate to the start date for the two new officers, and 1st April 2026 for the clerk.

6.3 Caerphilly County Borough Council Draft Participation, Engagement and Consultation Framework 2026-2023; deadline date 23rd September 2026. Members are required to consider delegation to the Clerk.

Resolved to delegate to the clerk to make a submission to the consultation by the deadline date.

6.4 New mileage rates as contained within the updated green book written terms and conditions of employment.

Resolved to implement the revised rate of mileage as per the updated model contract with all mileage being paid through the payroll with effect from September 2026 at the casual rate of 65p per mile, the additional 10p per mile being taxable.

7. To review, edit and adopt the Draft Employer Pension Discretions Statement and Policy Document, providing instruction to the Clerk regarding publication and sharing with the LGPS Administering Authority, namely Torfaen County Borough Council.

Members received a verbal report from the clerk explaining the process of producing the statement and policy document, working with the Chair of the HR & Staffing Committee, obtaining guidance from the administering authority and the chair of the P&R Committee along with the Mayor having both reviewed the draft document.

The committee reviewed the draft document and **Resolved** to approve the draft, instructing the clerk to register it with the administering authority, Torfaen County Borough Council.

8. To note responses provided to the local planning authority to the following planning applications:

Ref 26/0500/COU - 15 Llancayo Street Bargoed CF818TD - change the use of three bedroom dwelling into a four bedroom HMO.

Members noted an objection having been raised by the Town Council on the grounds of parking issues.

Ref 26/0501/HH - 22 Lewis Crescent Gilfach Bargoed CF818JU - erect single storey rear extension.

No comments or objections raised. Neighbours views encouraged.

Ref 26/0536/HH - 11 Marsh Court Aberbargoed Bargoed CF819BF – extend existing garage. The local planning authority was encouraged to consider neighbours views.

The Chair thanked Members closed the meeting at 17.05pm.