

Wednesday, 15 January 2025

## Notice of meeting

# County Council

**Thursday, 23rd January, 2025 at 2.00 pm,  
Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA**

## AGENDA

*Prayers will be said prior to the Council meeting at 1.45pm. All members are welcome to join the Chair for prayers should they wish to do.*

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	
2.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
3.	<b>Chair's Announcement</b>	1 - 2
4.	<b>Public Questions</b>	
4.1.	<b>Submitted by Justine Johnson to Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment</b>	
	Under what criteria is the ETRO on Goldwire Lane being assessed and will the results be made available to residents and the public for full consultation and consideration before a decision is made on Goldwire Lanes' future.	
4.2.	<b>Submitted by Jonty Pearce to County Councillor Paul Griffiths, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning and Economy</b>	
	<i>Given the significant objections raised by both CADW and the Wye Valley National Landscape (AONB) to the RLDP, how does the Council intend to address these issues to ensure that it aligns with statutory protections?</i>	
5.	<b>To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th December 2024</b>	3 - 24
6.	<b>Reports to Council</b>	
6.1.	<b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2025/26</b>	25 - 30

6.2.	<b>Gwent Regional Partnership Board (RPB) Area Plan and RPB Annual Report 23/24</b>	31 - 90
6.3.	<b>Council Diary 2025/26</b>	91 - 108
7.	<b>Motions</b>	
7.1.	<b>Submitted by County Councillor Richard John</b>	
	<p>This Council:          Regrets that Monmouthshire, the lowest funded council in Wales, has again received from Welsh Government the lowest increase in funding of any council in Wales.          Notes with concern that, under this administration, council tax is rising at more than double the rate of inflation and the council still forecasts an overspend of over £5million in 2024-25 and its five year forecast shows a shortfall of £35million.          Expresses concern about the administration's capacity to fund essential services in 2025-26.          Supports the administration's regularly repeated statement that "radical change to the council's operating model" is required and instructs the administration to urgently bring this forward.</p>	
8.	<b>Members Questions:</b>	
8.1.	<b>County Councillor Laura Wright to County Councillor Ian Chandler, Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Accessible Health Services</b>	
	<p>"Brew Monday" is this month, encouraging us all to catch up and connect with others to support our mental health. Will the cabinet member please tell us what MCC is doing to support mental health and wellbeing for our residents, council staff and elected members.</p>	
8.2.	<b>County Councillor Laura Wright to County Councillor Ian Chandler, Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Accessible Health Services</b>	
	<p>Can the cabinet member please provide an update on the future of the Tudor Street building in Abergavenny?</p>	
8.3.	<b>County Councillor Paul Pavia to County Councillor Paul Griffiths, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning and Economy</b>	
	<p>Will the Cabinet Member provide an update on what the Council is doing to enforce parking restrictions on High Street in Chepstow?</p>	
8.4.	<b>County Councillor Lisa Dymock to County Councillor Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment</b>	
	<p><i>Please can the cabinet member provide a detailed explanation of the one-way system proposals for Crick Road specifically, can you outline the direction of traffic flow, whether the road will be resurfaced as part of the project, and if</i></p>	

*there are plans to include a dedicated cycle route or other improvements to pedestrian and cyclist safety and how long this work will take?*

**8.5. County Councillor Lisa Dymock to County Councillor Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment**

*Have the changes in garden waste collections effected the number of collections some areas have received?*

**8.6. County Councillor Lisa Dymock to County Councillor Angela Sandles, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Engagement**

*It's been nearly 6 months since the council conducted the raid and seized 71 dogs at Lost Souls Sanctuary. This matter is still of significant concern to members of the public and many are seeking welfare on the dogs and clarity on the resource allocated, please could the cabinet member confirm the total costs incurred to date for the investigation, operation (raid), ongoing shelter of seized dogs and legal representation associated to this case?*

**8.7. County Councillor Louise Brown to County Councillor Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment**

*Please can you provide an update on improvements to High Beech roundabout including nearby land at Moun-ton Road?*

**8.8. County Councillor Penny Jones to County Councillor Angela Sandles, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Engagement**

*In light of the recent proposals of the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cmyru (DBCC) consultation relating to the 2026 Review of Senedd Constituencies, how can the residents of Monmouthshire be assured that this administration is working on their behalf to maintain the identity of Monmouthshire and all that that embodies?*

**8.9. County Councillor Christopher Edwards to County Councillor Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education**

*Could the Cabinet Member for Education inform council of any proposed future investment the current administration intends to make in both Chepstow School and The Dell Primary School.*

**8.10. From County Councillor Christopher Edwards to County Councillor Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education**

*Could the Cabinet Member for Education inform council of what internal and external meetings have been held in this council term in relation to the council's Chepstow School submission as part of the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme, which replaced the 21st Century Schools initiative; and what progress has been made to date.*

**8.11. From County Councillor Jan Butler to County Councillor Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education**

*Could the cabinet member for Education comment on the situation as regards school transport for students attending King Henry School from Penperlleni and Goytre Fawr.*

**8.12.**

**From County Councillor Tony Kear to County Councillor Catrin Maby,  
Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment**

*Could the Cabinet Member please advise what dedicated resources are currently available to MCC for the clearing of highway drains and in light of recent flooding issues, will additional financial support be given to fund next year's programme of works?*

**Paul Matthews**

**Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr**

**MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY**

**THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:**

County Councillor Rachel Buckler	Devauden;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Laura Wright	Grofield;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Tony Kear	Llanbadoc & Usk;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Catrin Maby	Drybridge;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jan Butler	Goetre Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Ian Chandler	Llantilio Crossenny;	Green Party
County Councillor Sara Burch	Cantref;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Alistair Neill	Gobion Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Su McConnel	Croesonen;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Mary Ann Brocklesby	Llanelly Hill;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Fay Bromfield	Llangybi Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Jane Lucas	Osbaston;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Emma Bryn	Wyesham;	Independent Group
County Councillor Peter Strong	Rogiet;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Meirion Howells	Llanbadoc & Usk;	Independent
County Councillor Paul Griffiths	Chepstow Castle & Larkfield;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jackie Strong	Caldicot Cross;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Rachel Garrick	Caldicot Castle;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Maria Stevens	Severn;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Steven Garratt	Overmonnow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Angela Sandles	Magor East with Undy;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Ben Callard	Llanfoist & Govilon;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor John Crook	Magor East with Undy;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Tomos Dafydd Davies	Llanfoist & Govilon;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Dale Rooke	Chepstow Castle & Larkfield;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Sue Riley	Bulwark and Thornwell;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jayne McKenna	Mitchel Troy and Trellech United;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Jill Bond	West End;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Louise Brown	Shirenewton;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Lisa Dymock	Portskewett;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Tony Easson	Dewstow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Christopher Edwards	St. Kingsmark;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Martyn Groucutt	Lansdown;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Simon Howarth	Llanelly Hill;	Independent Group
County Councillor Richard John	Mitchel Troy and Trellech United;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor David Jones	Crucorney;	Independent Group
County Councillor Penny Jones	Raglan;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Malcolm Lane	Mardy;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Phil Murphy	Caerwent;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Martin Newell	Town;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Paul Pavia	Mount Pleasant;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Maureen Powell	Pen Y Fal;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Frances Taylor	Magor West;	Independent Group

County Councillor Tudor Thomas  
County Councillor Armand Watts  
County Councillor Ann Webb

Park;  
Bulwark and Thornwell;  
St Arvans;

Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru  
Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru  
Welsh Conservative Party

## Public Information

### Access to paper copies of agendas and reports

A copy of this agenda and relevant reports can be made available to members of the public attending a meeting by requesting a copy from Democratic Services on 01633 644219. Please note that we must receive 24 hours notice prior to the meeting in order to provide you with a hard copy of this agenda.

### Watch this meeting online

This meeting can be viewed online either live or following the meeting by visiting [www.monmouthshire.gov.uk](http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk) or by visiting our Youtube page by searching MonmouthshireCC.

### Welsh Language

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English. We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

### Public Speaking at Full Council

Members of the public may register to ask a question of the members of cabinet at full council meetings. There is no facility for the public to register to speak as part of the debate of an item on the agenda at full council meetings. The total time allocated for all questions at a meeting of full council is 15 minutes.

No more than one question is permitted per questioner at a meeting of full council and questions will be asked in the order that they are submitted.

In order to submit a question at a full council meeting, notice must be given in writing or by email to the head of democratic services no later than midnight three working days before the day of the meeting with each question providing the name and address of the questioner.

Questions may be rejected if the question;

- Is not about a matter for which the council has responsibility or which affects the county
- Is defamatory, frivolous or offensive
- Is substantially the same question which has been put at a meeting of full council in the past 6 months
- Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information

Where a person is not able to ask the question to full council in person, the chair may decide to read the question out on their behalf, instruct a written response be provided or choose to not deal with the question in their absence. Those who do ask a question in person will be entitled to one supplementary question which must arise out of the original question or the reply. The chair may reject a supplementary question on these grounds.

Any questions that cannot be dealt with at the meeting due to exceeding the time limit for public questions will be dealt with by a written response.

# Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

## Our purpose

- to become a zero-carbon county, supporting well-being, health and dignity for everyone at every stage of life.

## Objectives we are working towards

- Fair place to live where the effects of inequality and poverty have been reduced;
- Green place to live and work with reduced carbon emissions and making a positive contribution to addressing the climate and nature emergency;
- Thriving and ambitious place, where there are vibrant town centres and where businesses can grow and develop
- Safe place to live where people have a home where they feel secure in;
- Connected place where people feel part of a community and are valued;
- Learning place where everybody has the opportunity to reach their potential

## Our Values

**Openness.** We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately, we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

**Fairness.** We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

**Flexibility.** We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

**Teamwork.** We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

**Kindness:** We will show kindness to all those we work with putting the importance of relationships and the connections we have with one another at the heart of all interactions.

