

Wednesday, 12 December 2018

Notice of meeting

County Council

**Thursday, 20th December, 2018 at 2.00 pm,
Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA**

AGENDA

Prayers will be said prior to the Council meeting at 1.55pm. All members are welcome to join the Chairman for prayers should they wish to do.

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for absence	
2.	Public Open Forum	
3.	Chairman's announcement and receipt of petitions	1 - 2
4.	Notices of Motion:	
4.1.	<p>From County Councillor D. Batrouni</p> <p>This Council strongly disagrees with Newport City Council's decision to withdraw from the regional SenCom service and deeply regrets the level of uncertainty it has created around this essential support network. That Monmouthshire County Council remains firmly committed to this service and will work with all partners to reduce any uncertainty or fears held by staff and parents.</p>	
4.2.	<p>From County Councillor D. Batrouni</p> <p>That the Council starts the process of increasing council tax on second homes that have been vacant for over 6 months in the next financial year. Notes that it is estimated to raise over £200,000 per year and will have the added benefit of discouraging people from purchasing Monmouthshire properties as holiday homes that are only lived in for part of the year. As well as offsetting some of the budget deficit, the Labour group urges the Council to set aside £30,000 raised from this, on a per annum basis, to help fund young local carers with their tuition fees if they go to university. Any amount of the money unspent each year should go into a new social justice reserve in order to support the</p>	

Council's social justice agenda.

4.3. From County Councillor T. Thomas

Full Council recognises that a result of Public Realm work in Abergavenny town centre, bus services operated by larger vehicles are no longer able to access the bus stops in Frogmore Street.

The other town centre stops are located on narrow, unsheltered pavement on the Hereford Road or at the Bus Station. However, these are extremely inconvenient and impractical for many older residents and those with limited mobility and parents with young children.

Bus passengers are using an unofficial Bus Stop outside Robert Price on Park Road, on the A40 which has been deemed to be unsuitable and unsafe by SEWTRA. Passengers waiting there have no shelter or seating.

The Council instructs the Highways section to make progress as soon as possible to establish a suitable Bus Stop on the A40 – the site identified in Phase 3 of the Public Realm Works is to establish a Bus Stop at the end of the Tesco Store (currently where there are flower beds) so that bus passengers may wait in a suitable shelter with seating. The current provision is totally inadequate.

4.4. From County Councillor J. Watkins

Transport for Wales took over the new rail franchise in the autumn. Since they did so services have been repeatedly cut to the stations in Monmouthshire. Consider the main morning commuter service toward Bristol and Cardiff that calls 08:17 from Lydney, the 08:25 Chepstow, the 08:35 Caldicot, the 08:38 Severn Tunnel Junction. From a survey of this service in October and November it was cancelled 17 days out of 25.

Transport for Wales say that they try not affect the same group of customers disproportionately but these figures show we are losing many more services than the rest of the Cheltenham - Maesteg line.

We ask that this council writes to Welsh Government to ask why the standards of service have dropped so significantly and what direction the Welsh government is giving to Transport for Wales to solve these issues.

5. Members' Questions:

5.1. From County Councillor J. Becker to County Councillor P. Murphy

With the services provider Interserve now in great financial difficulty can the Cabinet Member for resources tell us what contracts or services we have that are supplied by this company and, if appropriate, then tell us what steps are being taken to mitigate any risk to our residents.

6. Reports of the Chief Officer for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health:

6.1. Crick Road Care Home

6.2.	Gwent Homelessness Strategy	41 - 258
7.	Report of the Chief Officer for Children and Young People	
7.1.	Establishment of a project team to support Monmouthshire's 21st Century Schools' Developments	259 - 268
8.	To confirm the minutes of the meeting of County Council held on 25th October 2018	269 - 276
9.	To note the County Council Action List	277 - 280
10.	To note the following minutes:	
10.1.	Audit Committee 13th September 2018	281 - 290
10.2.	Democratic Services Committee 24th September 2018	291 - 294
10.3.	Public Service Board 18th July 2018	295 - 298

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors:

P. Clarke
D. Batrouni
D. Blakebrough
M. Powell
V. Smith
D. Dovey
A. Easson
R. Edwards
D. Evans
P.A. Fox
R.J.W. Greenland
L. Guppy
R. Harris
J. Higginson
G. Howard
S. Howarth
D. Jones
P. Jones
S. Jones
S.B. Jones
P. Jordan
P. Murphy
B. Strong
F. Taylor
A. Watts
A. Webb
K. Williams
J.Becker
L.Brown
A.Davies
L.Dymock
M.Feakins
M.Groucutt
R.John
L.Jones
M.Lane
P.Pavia
J.Pratt
R.Roden
T.Thomas
J.Treharne
J.Watkins
S. Woodhouse

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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.

Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Our purpose

Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Objectives we are working towards

- Giving people the best possible start in life
- A thriving and connected county
- Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment
- Lifelong well-being
- A future focused council

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.

