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Neuadd y Sir
Y Rhadyr
Brynbuga
NP15 1GA

Dydd Mercher, 13 Gorffennaf 2022

Hysbysiad o gyfarfod:

Cyngor Sir

**Dydd Iau, 21ain Gorffennaf, 2022 at 2.00 pm,
Council Chamber - Council Chamber**

AGENDA

Cynhelir gweddïau cyn y cyfarfod Cyngor am 13.50pm. Mae croeso i bob aelod ymuno â'r Cadeirydd ar gyfer hynny os ydynt yn dymuno gwneud hynny

Eitem No	Eitem	Tudalennau
1.	Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb	
2.	Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 23 Mehefin 2022	1 - 8
3.	Datganiadau o Fuddiant	
4.	Cwestiynau Cyhoeddus	
5.	Cyhoeddiadau y Cadeirydd	9 - 10
6.	Cyhoeddiadau Aelodau Cabinet	
6.1.	Cynghorydd Sir Catherine Fookes, Aelod Cabinet dros Gydraddoldeb ac Ymgysylltu – Mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb a thlodi	
6.2.	Cynghorydd Sir Catrin Maby, Aelod Cabinet Newid Hinsawdd a'r Amgylchedd – Mynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng hinsawdd a natur	
7.	AMSERIAD CYFARFODYDD Y CYNGOR	11 - 14
8.	Cynigion i'r Cyngor	
8.1.	Cyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Sir Jill Bond	

Cynnig Argyfwng mewn Costau Byw

Mae ein preswylwyr yn wynebu argyfwng mewn costau byw. Yn ôl y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol, dywedodd 88% o oedolion ym Mhrydain Fawr y bu cynnydd yn eu costau byw ym mis Mai 2022, oherwydd amrywiaeth o ffactorau yn cynnwys cynnydd mewn chwyddiant, cynnydd mewn prisiau ynni a chynnydd yn nhrethi'r llywodraeth. Ar gyfartaledd bydd aelwydydd Cymru o leiaf £600 yn waeth eu byd eleni yn ôl adroddiad gan Ganolfan Llywodraethiant Cymru ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd.

Bu costau byw yn cynyddu ar draws y Deyrnas Unedig ers dechrau 2021. Ym mis Ebrill 2022 cyrhaeddodd chwyddiant y lefel uchaf a gofnodwyd ac mae'r Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol yn amcangyfrif ei fod yn awr yn uwch nag ar unrhyw amser ers tua 1982, gan effeithio ar ba mor fforddiadwy yw nwyddau a gwasanaethau ar gyfer aelwydydd.

Mae'r Cyngor yn nodi:

Bod yr argyfwng costau byw yn fater allweddol i ni yng Nghyngor Sir Fynwy, mewn sefyllfa o ffactorau ariannol ar lefel genedlaethol a rhyngwladol, tebyg i'r rhyfel yn Wcráin.

Yr angen i ni fel awdurdod lleol sicrhau y caiff ein preswylwyr eu cefnogi yn ystod y cyfnodau cynyddol anodd hyn, yn arbennig wrth i ni fynd i'r hydref a'r gaeaf.

Effaith anghymesur yr argyfwng ar aelwydydd incwm isel, fydd yn gwario cyfran uwch o'u hincwm na'r cyfartalog ar ynni a bwyd ac y bydd cynnydd mewn prisiau felly'n effeithio mwy arnynt, gan arwain at lai o incwm gwario.

Y gwaith a wnawn ar hyn o bryd fel cyngor ym mhob adran i gefnogi ein preswylwyr mwyaf bregus, yn cynnwys:

- Y taliadau £150 i'r preswylwyr hynny sy'n byw ym mandiau A i D y Dreth Gyngor
- Taliadau dewisol o £150 i aelodau mwyaf bregus ein cymunedau
- Cefnogi elusennau fel Cyngor Ar Bopeth a MIND a all helpu rhai o aelodau mwyaf bregus cymdeithas
- Cyfeirio preswylwyr at ble gallant gael help drwy ein hymgyrchoedd gwybodaeth

Mae'r Cyngor yn penderfynu:

Ein bod yn ymrwymo ein hunain fel Cyngor i weithio gyda'n teuluoedd a'n cymunedau, gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig i ddarparu cymorth ymarferol i'r rhai sydd fwyaf ei angen.

Ein bod yn sicrhau y byddwn yn parhau i weithredu mewn dull cydlynus i fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng costau byw.

8.2. Cyflwynwyd gan y Cyngorydd Sir Richard John

Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn:

Gwrthwynebu unrhyw gynigion gan Ymddiriedolaeth Gwasanaethau Ambiwylans Cymru i israddio'r gorsafodd ambiwlans yn Nhrefynwy a

Chas-gwent drwy dynnu'r Cerbydau Ymateb Cyflym.
Galw ar uwch swyddogion Ymddiriedolaeth Gwasanaethau Ambiwylans Cymru i fynychu'r pwyllgor dethol perthnasol ar gyfer craffu cyn-penderfyniad o'u cynigion adolygu roster genedlaethol cyn i Lywodraeth Cymru eu cymeradwyo a'u gweithredu.

9. Cwestiynau gan Aelodau

9.1. Gan y Cyngorydd Sir Fay Bromfield i'r Cyngorydd Sir Catrin Maby, Aelod Cabinet dros newid Hinsawdd a'r Amgylchedd

A wnaiff yr Aelod Cabinet roi diweddariad ar gamau i fynd i'r afael â goryrru yn Llantrisant?

9.2. Gan y Cyngorydd Sir Richard John i'r Cyngorydd Sir Rachel Garrick, Aelod Cabinet dros Adnoddau

Pa asesiad a wnaeth y weinyddiaeth am effaith ailbrisiad arfaethedig Llywodraeth Cymru o'r dreth gyngor ar breswylwyr Sir Fynwy?

10. Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf – 22 Medi 2022

**Paul Matthews
Prif Weithredwr**

CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

MAE CYFANSODDIAD Y PWYLLGOR FEL SY'N DILYN:

Cynghorwyr Sir:

Laura Wright
Tony Kear
Catrin Maby
Jan Butler
Ian Chandler
Sara Burch
Alistair Neill
Su McConnel
Mary Ann Brocklesby
Fay Bromfield
Jane Lucas
Emma Bryn
Peter Strong
Meirion Howells
Paul Griffiths
Jackie Strong
Rachel Garrick
Maria Stevens
Steven Garratt
Angela Sandles
Ben Callard
John Crook
Tomos Davies
Dale Rooke
Catherine Fookes
Sue Riley
Jayne McKenna
Jill Bond
Louise Brown
Lisa Dymock
Tony Easson
Christopher Edwards
Bob Greenland
Martyn Groucutt
Simon Howarth
Richard John
David Jones
Penny Jones
Malcolm Lane
Phil Murphy
Paul Pavia
Maureen Powell
Frances Taylor
Tudor Thomas
Armand Watts
Ann Webb

Gwybodaeth Gyhoeddus

Mynediad i gopiâu papur o agendâu ac adroddiadau

Gellir darparu copi o'r agenda hwn ac adroddiadau perthnasol i aelodau'r cyhoedd sy'n mynychu cyfarfod drwy ofyn am gopi gan Gwasanaethau Democrataidd ar 01633 644219. Dylid nodi fod yn rhaid i ni dderbyn 24 awr o hysbysiad cyn y cyfarfod er mwyn darparu copi caled o'r agenda hwn i chi.

Edrych ar y cyfarfod ar-lein

Gellir gweld y cyfarfod ar-lein yn fyw neu'n dilyn y cyfarfod drwy fynd i www.monmouthshire.gov.uk neu drwy ymweld â'n tudalen Youtube drwy chwilio am MonmouthshireCC. Drwy fynd i mewn i'r ystafell gyfarfod, fel aelod o'r cyhoedd neu i gymryd rhan yn y cyfarfod, rydych yn caniatáu i gael eich ffilmio ac i ddefnydd posibl y delweddau a'r recordiadau sain hynny gan y Cyngor.

Y Gymraeg

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu cyfraniadau gan aelodau'r cyhoedd trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Gofynnwn yn barchus i chi roi rhybudd digonol i ni er mwyn darparu ar gyfer eich anghenion.

Nodau a Gwerthoedd Cyngor Sir Fynwy

Ein diben

Adeiladu Cymunedau Cynaliadwy a Chydnerth

Amcanion y gweithiwn tuag atynt

- Rhoi'r dechrau gorau posibl mewn bywyd i bobl
- Sir lewyrchus a chysylltiedig
- Cynyddu i'r eithaf botensial yr amgylchedd naturiol ac adeiledig
- Llesiant gydol oes
- Cyngor gyda ffocws ar y dyfodol

Ein Gwerthoedd

Bod yn agored. Rydym yn agored ac yn onest. Mae pobl yn cael cyfle i gymryd rhan mewn penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio arnynt, dweud beth sy'n bwysig iddynt a gwneud pethau drostynt eu hunain/eu cymunedau. Os na allwn wneud rhywbeth i helpu, byddwn yn dweud hynny; os bydd yn cymryd peth amser i gael yr ateb, byddwn yn esbonio pam; os na allwn ateb yn syth, byddwn yn ceisio eich cysylltu gyda'r bobl a all helpu - mae adeiladu ymddiriedaeth ac ymgysylltu yn sylfaen allweddol.

Tegwch. Darparwn gyfleoedd teg, i helpu pobl a chymunedau i ffynnu. Os nad yw rhywbeth yn ymddangos yn deg, byddwn yn gwranddo ac yn esbonio pam. Byddwn bob amser yn ceisio trin pawb yn deg ac yn gyson. Ni allwn wneud pawb yn hapus bob amser, ond byddwn yn ymrwymo i wrando ac esbonio pam y gwnaethom weithredu fel y gwnaethom.

Hyblygrwydd. Byddwn yn parhau i newid a bod yn hyblyg i alluogi cyflwyno'r gwasanaethau mwyaf effeithlon ac effeithiol. Mae hyn yn golygu ymrwymiad gwirioneddol i weithio gyda phawb i groesawu ffyrdd newydd o weithio.

Gwaith Tim. Byddwn yn gweithio gyda chi a'n partneriaid i gefnogi ac ysbrydoli pawb i gymryd rhan fel y gallwn gyflawni pethau gwych gyda'n gilydd. Nid ydym yn gweld ein hunain fel 'trefnwyr' neu ddatrysyr problemau, ond gwnawn y gorau o syniadau, asedau ac adnoddau sydd ar gael i wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn gwneud y pethau sy'n cael yr effaith mwyaf cadarnhaol ar ein pobl a lleoedd.

Caredigrwydd – Byddwn yn dangos caredigrwydd i bawb yr ydym yn gweithio gyda nhw, gan roi pwysigrwydd perthnasoedd a'r cysylltiadau sydd gennym â'n gilydd wrth wraidd pob rhyngweithio.

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 2

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of County Council held
at Council Chamber - Council Chamber on Thursday, 23rd June, 2022 at 2.00 pm**

PRESENT: County Councillor Laura Wright (Chair)
County Councillor Ann Webb (Vice Chair)

County Councillors: Tony Kear, Catrin Maby, Jan Butler, Ian Chandler, Sara Burch, Alistair Neill, Su McConnel, Mary Ann Brocklesby, Fay Bromfield, Jane Lucas, Emma Bryn, Peter Strong, Meirion Howells, Paul Griffiths, Jackie Strong, Rachel Garrick, Steven Garratt, Angela Sandles, Ben Callard, John Crook, Tomos Davies, Dale Rooke, Catherine Fookes, Sue Riley, Jayne McKenna, Jill Bond, Louise Brown, Lisa Dymock, Tony Easson, Christopher Edwards, Bob Greenland, Martyn Groucutt, Simon Howarth, Richard John, David Jones, Penny Jones, Malcolm Lane, Paul Pavia, Maureen Powell, Frances Taylor, Tudor Thomas and Armand Watts

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Matt Phillips	Chief Officer People and Governance and Monitoring Officer
Paul Matthews	Chief Executive
Peter Davies	Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Officer, Resources
Jane Rodgers	Chief Officer for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health
Will McLean	Chief Officer for Children and Young People
Nicola Perry	Senior Democracy Officer
Frances O'Brien	Chief Officer, Communities and Place
Matthew Gatehouse	Head of Policy and Governance
Adam Fall	Local Democracy and Digital Apprentice

APOLOGIES:

County Councillors Maria Stevens and Phil Murphy

1. To approve the minutes of the following meetings:

2. 17th May 2022

The minutes of the meeting of County Council held on 17th May 2022 were approved as an accurate record.

3. 19th May 2022

The minutes of the meeting of County Council held on 19th May 2022 were approved as an accurate record.

4. Declarations of interest

None.

5. Public Questions

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of County Council held at Council Chamber - Council Chamber on Thursday, 23rd June, 2022 at 2.00 pm

None.

6. Chair's announcement and receipt of petitions

No petitions presented.

County Councillor Simon Howarth highlighted it being International Women in Engineering Day and felt it was important that Council promote the gender setting for engineering.

7. Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus for Religion Values and Ethics (RVE)

County Councillor Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education presented the report in order for Council receive and consider the proposed Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics. In doing so the Cabinet Member congratulated the members of SACRE committee on putting the new document together.

It was noted that any confusion around the format of the syllabus had been addressed for the final version of the document.

The Cabinet Member agreed to review the EQIA to ensure clarification between RSE and RVE.

Upon being put to a vote Council resolved to accept the recommendation:

That Council adopt the Monmouthshire Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values, and Ethics.

8. Sustainable Learning Communities Programme Abergavenny 3-19 School

County Councillor Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education presented the report to seek Council's approval to include the construction of a new 3-19 school on the King Henry VIII School site in the Council's Capital Funding Programme. The new 3-19 school will be established through the closure of King Henry VIII and Deri View Schools, as agreed at the Monmouthshire County Council Cabinet meeting on 19th January 2022. The funding will enable the relocation of Ysgol Y Fenni to the current Deri View site.

Many Members were keen to support the recommendations and commend the project.

Assurance was sought that robust active travel initiatives be developed and targets set from the planning stage, promoting active and sustainable travel options to ensure that school related congestion does not result in a rise in poor air quality in the local area.

The following suggestions were made in support of the development:

- Engagement with residents of all ages.
- Pop-up site in the town at various phases of completion to maximise engagement, maybe a permanent base within the market.
- Competition to create an artwork or sculpture to be located at the school.
- Extend safe cycling routes to a drop off site at the edge of town where bicycle racks could be installed.

On behalf of the Conservative Group, the Leader of the Opposition commended all officers involved in the project and commended Ms. Lewis for her leadership. He questioned if officers were confident that the cladding being used will be sustainable.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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The Leader of the Council thanked Welsh Government for the investment, therefore allowing the development of this third 21st Century School.

A question was raised regarding the socio-economic aspect of the EQIA, and the impact on those in receipt free school meals. The Cabinet Member for Education stood by the EQIA and explained that he believed the needs of the primary aged children on site would be met far more effectively than it had been possible in the past.

Officers had previously assured County Councillor Tony Eason that the cladding panels used would produce little or no smoke and would not produce flaming droplets.

Upon being put to a vote Council resolved to accept the recommendations:

That Council note that Ministerial approval has been achieved on the Full Business Case confirming Welsh Government (WG) commitment and their contribution of £47,024,335 (67%) towards the total cost of building a new 3-19 school in Abergavenny of £69,292,62

That Council approve an increase the approved budget within the Council's Capital Programme from £43,000,000 to £69,792,623, reflecting the revised build cost of £69,292,623 and an additional £500,000 required for associated highways improvements.

That Council note that the increase in budget will require a further commitment of Council borrowing of £7,718,288 and that there are consequential revenue budget costs of servicing this borrowing as outlined in the resources section of this report.

That Council note the appointment of Morgan Sindall Construction to build the new 3-19 school.

To declare Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni Primary School surplus to requirements, to be disposed of by the Estates Development Team on terms to be agreed in consultation with the Chief Officer for Resources.

9. Appointments to Outside Bodies - vacancies

The Chief Officer for People and Governance presented the report to address the remaining vacancies on the Outside Bodies report discussed at the meeting of County Council on 19th May 2022.

It was noted that 2 vacancies remain on the report.

Upon being put to a vote Council resolved to accept the recommendation:

That Council make appointments to the outside bodies set out in the attached schedule.

10. Motions to Council:

11. Submitted by County Councillor Frances Taylor

That this Council agrees to write to the Minister for Finance and Local Government in order to request that there is a review of the formula which underpins the un-hypothecated funding of Local Authorities through the Local Government settlement. In particular, that the elements of the formula related to delivering services in a largely rural county are reconsidered.

County Councillor Ian Chandler seconded the motion.

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The Cabinet Member for Resources recognised that the Barnett Formula has resulted in poor allocations to Wales over the years and has been publicly criticised by many for its failure to understand the composition of the Welsh population. She agreed that Council could write to WG on the motion but highlighted that the formula is reviewed on an annual basis.

We heard that poverty and inequality are a key focus for the administration and is the number one priority on the manifesto. Clearer targets in term of the poverty action plan and social justice strategy are to be implemented.

Upon being put to the vote Council unanimously resolved to accept the motion.

12. Submitted by County Councillor Richard John

This Council records its enormous admiration and heartfelt thanks to Her Majesty the Queen for a lifetime of dedicated public service and welcomes the successful community celebrations across Monmouthshire to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

Agrees that all group leaders will sign a joint letter to Her Majesty on behalf of the people of Monmouthshire offering our warm congratulations and gratitude for all that Her Majesty and the Royal Family do for our residents.

County Councillor Lisa Dymock seconded the motion and highlighted the events held across the County for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

We heard of a commemorative book to be issued to all primary school children across Wales.

Group leaders welcomed the proposal and upon being put to a vote Council resolved to accept the motion.

13. Submitted by County Councillor Tony Kear

This Council:

Notes the decision of full council in March to become the first in Wales to declare a water quality emergency and commission a strategy to improve our waterways.

Has grave concerns about the declining state of the Wye and Usk rivers in Monmouthshire and particularly the excessive and unlicensed raw sewage discharges into the Usk which are threatening biodiversity and wildlife as well as fish numbers.

Commits the Leader and Cabinet Member to work with opposition parties and relevant authorities to ensure action is being taken to improve the health of our rivers before it's too late.

County Councillor Jane Lucas seconded the motion.

County Councillor Simon Howarth left the meeting at 16:09pm

The Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment welcomed and fully endorsed the motion. She explained that she has already reached out to Powys and Herefordshire Councils, as well as community groups concerned with the well-being of our rivers. Councillor Maby has also been invited to a meeting with the MP for Hereford and has met with Welsh Water along with Council staff.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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In supporting the motion, the Cabinet Member expressed that the ecological disaster we are witnessing in our rivers is caused not only by sewage discharge but also by agricultural land management practices, in particular high intensity poultry farming and overly intensive cattle farming.

County Councillor Ian Chandler proposed an amendment to the motion, seconded by County Councillor Frances Taylor:

This Council:

Notes the decision of full council in March to become the first in Wales to declare a water quality emergency and commission a strategy to improve our waterways.

*Has grave concerns about the declining state of the Wye and Usk rivers in Monmouthshire and **the multiple sources of phosphate and other pollutants including those originating upstream outside of Monmouthshire**, which are threatening biodiversity and wildlife as well as fish numbers.*

*Commits the Leader and Cabinet Member to work with opposition **groups** and relevant authorities including **Powys County Council and Herefordshire County Council** to ensure action is being taken to improve the health of our rivers before it's too late.*

Following discussion Council resolved to accept the amendment, which became the substantive motion.

Upon being put to a vote Council resolved to accept the motion.

14. Submitted by County Councillor Louise Brown

This Council:

Notes the Welsh Government has decided not to progress the WelTAG 2 study on the options for improvement of the High Beech roundabout in Chepstow this year.

Calls on the Welsh Government to urgently commit and financially support all five stages of this study and implement High Beech roundabout studies and improvements as a priority, as the well-known daily traffic congestion and travel delays at this pinch point are having a detrimental impact on the lives of local residents in all areas of life including travelling for school, work, shopping and leisure purposes.

County Councillor Ann Webb seconded the motion.

The was recognised as a passionate topic for those living in Chepstow.

It was suggested that the semi-pedestrianised town centre contributed to the traffic issues.

It was expressed that residents of the ward of Mount Pleasant suffer from some of the worst pollution levels, not only in Wales, but in the UK and they deserve to have something done to alleviate their plight.

The Deputy Leader urged Council to support the motion, highlighting that the case for improvement on the roundabout is very strong. He agreed that the impact is not only on drivers but also the success and vitality of Chepstow as a town centre. Agreeing the motion would allow Cabinet to contact the Transport Minister to say that funding for the WelTag study is urgent.

Upon being put to a vote the motion was carried.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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15. Members Questions:

15.1. From County Councillor Paul Pavia to County Councillor Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education

Can the Cabinet Member for Education make a statement regarding the steps the Council is taking to provide mental health support for Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form pupils in Monmouthshire?

County Councillors Tony Easson and Richard John left the meeting at 17:38pm

The Cabinet Member thanked the member for the question which had come at an opportune time to reflect on the experiences of learners who will have just sat the first set of formal examinations since 2019. The added layers of the covid experience has disrupted learning and heightened anxieties. There is a myriad of approaches to support learners and a wide range of support accessible from partners both within and outside MCC. At the broadest level a universal approach to emotional well-being and mental health is being established. All schools are working towards embedding a whole school approach to mental health and well-being, this encompasses mental health support. In this approach King Henry VIII and Chepstow Schools have taken part in phase 1 of the Public Health Wales pilot which has gone well. Caldicot and the Pupil Referral Service will be phase 2 starting in September 2022.

MCC have developed a well-being sub-group action plan from the secondary school health research network data. This survey addresses a number of health and well-being related issues and helps to determine areas of focus. As needs increase pupils can also access broader offers such as the Educational Literacy Support Assistance or school-based counselling. These services offer more intense support with individuals. All secondary schools have a link educational psychologist who can provide support as well as training and raising awareness around specific issues.

This year schools have received training including Youth Mental First Aid in Schools, Trauma Informed Schools, and Suicide and Self Harm Prevention. A training package has also been developed to support learners with emotionally based school avoidance. Other offers of support are via Monmouthshire Early Help Panel and agencies such as the Youth Service and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service.

Beyond Schools Monmouthshire Youth Service provides the Shift Project which offers non-clinical one-to-one support to young people aged 11-25. Mind Monmouthshire have been commissioned to support young people with emerging mental health concerns.

As a supplementary County Councillor Pavia asked if the Authority is putting any additional support in place around the key dates in August for both A-Level and GCSEs.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that every year officers work hard around the results period and he would talk to senior officers to ensure sufficient and adequate support is made available.

16. Date of next meeting - Thursday 21st July 2022

Noted.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of County Council held
at Council Chamber - Council Chamber on Thursday, 23rd June, 2022 at 2.00 pm**

The meeting ended at 5.50 pm

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Chair's Report 18th June – 10th July 2022

Saturday 18 th June	Rhondda Cynon Taff – Armed Forces Day Ynysangharad War Memorial Park in Pontypridd
Saturday 18 th June	Abergavenny Arts Festival 2022 Abergavenny
Sunday 26 th June	Abergavenny Wellbeing Festival Bailey Park, Abergavenny
Sunday 26 th June 3 p.m.	Newport Civic Service Newport Cathedral, Stow Hill, Newport
Friday 1st July 7 p.m.	VU Chamber Choir from Amsterdam St Mary's Church, Abergavenny
Sunday 10 th July 11 – 3 p.m.	Wye – July Monmouth

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REPORT

SUBJECT:	TIMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS
MEETING:	FULL COUNCIL
DATE:	21st July 2022
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	N/A

1. PURPOSE:

To consider the recommendation from Democratic Services Committee, in line with the Local Government Wales Measure, to review the timing of Full Council meetings for the current term of Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That meetings of Full Council remain at 14:00 to allow newly elected councillors time to understand the role and impact of being a councillor fully. Democratic Services Committee may review the arrangements again and report back to Council following a minimum period of 12 months.

That individual committees are free to set the timing of their meetings that suit the committee and members of it.

3. REASONS:

Each local authority is required to review the times at which council meetings are held at least once in every term of the Council.

Guidance from the Welsh Government state that as a rule of thumb meetings will be held at times, intervals and locations that are convenient to the majority of members and that the Council should be willing to make changes to their pattern of working in order to retain new councillors with outside responsibility. Councils should also consider rotating meeting times due to the impossibility of pleasing all of their members all of the time.

4. KEY ISSUES / OPTIONS APPRAISAL:

The requirement to review the timing of council meetings was introduced as part of the Local Government Wales Measure in 2012 and requires Local Authorities to review and determine appropriate times for committees to meet.

Democratic Services Committee considered the item at its meeting on the 27 June 2022 and was presented with information and feedback from the review under the previous term of Council which consulted on holding meetings at 10:00, 14:00, 16:00 and 19:00. Further information from that meeting is available on the following link: [Agenda for Democratic Services Committee on Monday, 27th June, 2022, 2.00 pm \(monmouthshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/agenda-for-democratic-services-committee-on-monday-27th-june-2022-2.00-pm)

The committee was happy to confirm that individual committees set the time of their meetings but would like the dates to remain as they are in the current diary as agreed for this year to assist with planning and organising councillor diaries. Committee chairs will be consulted during the preparation of the council diary for 2022/23 as part of its preparations.

The committee discussed the start time for full council meetings but felt that they were not yet experienced enough to make an informed decision on the timing of meetings, particularly with such a high turnover of councillors at the recent election. Overall members supported a morning or afternoon start time for full council meetings for a wide range of reasons but were also mindful of the need to be as inclusive as possible.

Given the legislative requirement for Council to determine the start time of Council meetings, the recommendation is being brought forward to retain the status quo at this stage but Democratic Services Committee will review the issue going forward and report back to Council with another recommendation when it feels informed enough to do so.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

No resource implications

6. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

There are no sustainability implications of the timing of meetings. However working members may be adversely affected by a council meeting start time between the normal office working hours of 9 am to 5 pm.

7. SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

Where members have governor responsibilities meetings which start at 5pm or later may interfere with their ability to attend meetings of their governing body.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Local Government Wales Measure 2011 and supplementary Welsh Government statutory guidance.

9. CONSULTEES:

Democratic Services Committee
Elected councillors in the previous term

10. AUTHOR:

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