

Wednesday, 2 April 2025

Notice of meeting

County Council

**Thursday, 10th April, 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.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
3.	Chair's Announcement	1 - 2
4.	To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 6 March 2025	3 - 18
5.	Public Questions	
5.1.	<p>Question submitted by Anne Lynch</p> <p><i>'Voice and control - which puts the individual and their needs at the centre of their care and gives them a voice in, and control over reaching the outcomes that help them achieve well-being - is one of the principles of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014.</i></p> <p><i>Given the number of people - service users, their families and their carers - who have signed our petition, requesting that care in South Monmouthshire remain with excellent, known, local providers, would Monmouthshire County Council please acknowledge the voice of these signatories and enable service users to continue receiving care from the known, local carers that they trust?'</i></p>	
5.2.	<p>Question submitted by Jane Moore</p> <p><i>93% of the Lougher workforce have opted out of the TUPE process in favour of retiring or seeking alternative employment away from care if unable to stay in their current position with a company that invests in local staff, local service</i></p>	

	<p><i>users and the local community.</i></p> <p><i>Has the council evaluated the consequence of this loss to the care workforce and the community and what measures is the council implementing to lessen the negative impact of this decision on the vulnerable local community?</i></p>	
5.3.	<p>Question submitted by Joseph Taplin</p> <p><i>Has the Council undertaken a full impact assessment - social, environmental, and economic - on what the loss of the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal would mean for our communities, and if not, when will it commit to doing so?</i></p>	
6.	Reports to Council	
6.1.	Constitution Review	19 - 364
6.2.	Senior Leadership Pay Review	365 - 434
7.	Councillor Motions:	
7.1.	<p>Submitted by County Councillor Jan Butler</p> <p>That this council recognises the valuable contribution that the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal brings to the economy of Monmouthshire.</p> <p>Recognises that the continued health and operation of the canal is essential to the well-being of our residents and securing its future is vital to the communities who thrive along its route.</p> <p>Requires the Leader of the Council to urgently convene a meeting of all key organisations to discuss a resolution and ensures all councillors including the affected ward members are briefed on developments.</p>	
7.2.	<p>Submitted by County Councillor Lisa Dymock</p> <p>This Council:</p> <p>Notes the administration's commitment in the Community and Corporate Plan to a socially responsible procurement strategy to promote locally sourced goods and services.</p> <p>Calls on the administration to undertake a full and transparent review of its procurement processes to ensure a level playing field for small and local businesses.</p>	
8.	Members' Questions:	
8.1.	From County Councillor Tomos Davies to County Councillor Sarah Burch, Cabinet Member for Rural Affairs, Housing and Tourism	

For an update on the authority's Active Travel Plan, including the development of the Llanfoist pedestrian bridge.

8.2. From County Councillor Tomos Davies to County Councillor Angela Sandles, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Engagement

To confirm the number of cases of reported anti-social behaviour recorded across Monmouthshire in the past twelve months, including cases of vehicle off roading.

8.3. From County Councillor Tomos Davies to County Councillor Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment

To confirm the number of fixed penalty notices issued for littering and fly tipping offences for the financial year 2024/25.

8.4. From County Councillor Jackie Strong to County Councillor Sarah Burch, Cabinet Member for Rural Affairs, Housing and Tourism

Can the Cabinet member give an update on progress towards the development of a Cultural Strategy for Monmouthshire?

8.5. From County Councillor Jayne McKenna to County Councillor Angela Sandles, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Engagement

How is the council working with Gwent Police and Wye Valley National Landscape to prevent damage to tracks and trails?

8.6. From County Councillor Jayne McKenna to County Councillor Sarah Burch, Cabinet Member for Rural Affairs, Housing and Tourism

How is the council ensuring value for taxpayers in the effective delivery of policies to tackle homelessness?

8.7. From County Councillor Tudor Thomas to County Councillor Sarah Burch, Cabinet Member for Rural Affairs, Housing and Tourism

The Canal and River Trust has expressed concern that new limits placed on its ability to extract water from the River Usk will mean that the Monmouthshire and Brecon canal may be closed during the summer months, which are of course the peak months for Welsh tourism. The Canal is a major tourism attraction for visitors as well as its value for residents and for wildlife. What steps will the administration take to support the tourism and leisure businesses which could be affected?

8.8. From County Councillor Rachel Buckler to County Councillor Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment

Monmouthshire Council are getting regular reports of bridges needing repair from residents and community councillors, but bridges are left damaged and decaying, with many bridges in a precarious state. These bridges are vital to the connectivity of communities in rural Monmouthshire in areas like Llangwm and the surrounding area. What

<p>8.9.</p>	<p>can the cabinet member do to ensure these vital road networks are kept open and these historically significant structures are not in danger of disappearing for good?</p> <p>From County Councillor Rachel Buckler to County Councillor Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment</p> <p>The state of road repairs in Monmouthshire seems to be at a crisis point. Regular reports from community councillors and residents in the Devauden Ward rarely seem to lead to pot holes being filled, culverts being cleared and gullies kept open. If potholes are filled they last for a couple of weeks and then the roads are back to square one. The road from Nantygelli Crossroads to Llansoy in the Devauden ward I represent is a case in point. Soon even a pony and trap will not be able to navigate it. What will the Cabinet Member do to change this depressing trajectory?</p>	
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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

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Watch this meeting online

This meeting can be viewed online either live or following the meeting by visiting 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.

