

Wednesday, 25 February 2026

Notice of meeting

County Council

**Thursday, 5th March, 2026 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 22nd January 2026	3 - 6
5.	Reports to Council:	
5.1.	Corporate Parenting Strategy 2025 - 2028	7 - 62
5.2.	Council Tax Resolution and Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2026/27	63 - 80
5.3.	2026/27 Capital Strategy and 2026/27 Treasury Management Strategy	81 - 134
6.	Motions to Council:	
6.1.	Submitted by County Councillor Frances Taylor That this Council join with me, in congratulating Magor Action Group on Rail on the confirmation that Magor & Undy Walkway Station will be built first, with construction currently planned for 2029; for their unwavering commitment, passion and persistence over 14 years in their campaign for a Walkway station to serve Magor with Undy. This is their Victory.	

Additionally, that this council formally lobby Transport for Wales and Network Rail for Magor & Undy Walkway station to be known as such, and for construction to commence now in line with the original Magor Action Group on Rail proposals in respect of design/layout and connection to the Hub.

Furthermore, that this council commits to the urgent work required to develop appropriate traffic management plans to support the station's success and ensure Magor with Undy retains its unique sense of place.

6.2. Submitted by County Councillor Tony Kear

This Council:

Notes the growing frustration of residents across Monmouthshire at the deteriorating state of our roads and the persistence of potholes.

Recognises the financial strain placed on families and businesses through vehicle damage and unsafe road conditions.

Recognises the ongoing decline in the condition of the county's roads and the authority's continued failure to effectively address hazardous and recurring potholes.

Considers that the administration's short-term practice of repeatedly patching and re-patching potholes delivers poor value for money and does not provide a sustainable solution

Calls for a revised proactive, preventative and more sustainable approach to road repairs

Resolves to commission an urgent and transparent review of alternative methods of road repairs including a full cost analysis.

Requests that the administration brings forward a clear action plan within six months with proposals to repair the county's highways in a more sustainable and cost-effective way.

Calls for the publication of clear and transparent performance data on highways maintenance spending and outcomes.

7. Member Questions:

7.1. From County Councillor Rachel Buckler to County Councillor Ben Callard, Cabinet Member for Resources

Following three consecutive years of substantial council tax increases, will the Cabinet Member state the total annual cost of operating County Hall, its current directorate-level utilisation and occupancy levels, and identify which departments have the lowest occupancy of County Hall?

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

A few years ago, the Council resurfaced the A48 from Parkwall roundabout to the Mathern junction and repainted the double white central hazard lines. When does the Council expect to resurface the rest of the A48 road from

	Mathern junction to the High Beech roundabout?	
7.3.	From County Councillor Lisa Dymock to County Councillor Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment	
	Could the Cabinet Member for Highways please provide an update on the timetable for resurfacing the remaining section of Crick Road to the B4245?	
7.4.	From County Councillor Christopher Edwards to County Councillor Laura Wright, Cabinet Member for Education	
	Can the Cabinet Member for Education inform council of progress made to the future plans for Chepstow School and the Chepstow cluster of schools since holding a meeting with Chepstow councillors in July last year.	
7.5.	From County Councillor Christopher Edwards to County Councillor Angela Sandles, Cabinet Member Equalities and Engagement	
	Can the cabinet member explain why Monmouthshire residents and swimming clubs in the South of the county (Chepstow & Caldicot) are being treated unfairly with regard to pool hire rates being the same for all Monmouthshire swimming pools when their pools are 5m shorter in length.	
7.6.	County Councillor Martin Newell to County Councillor Catrin Maby, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment	
	Please could you provide an update my residents in Monmouth regarding the progress being made and when they can expect to see the Section 19 report in relation to the floods in November 2025.	
7.7.	From County Councillor Richard John to County Councillor Ben Callard, Cabinet Member for Resources	
	Could the cabinet member provide an update on the council's investment portfolio.	
8.	Report to Council:	
8.1.	Publication of Pay Policy Statement	135 - 160

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	Llanelly 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 &	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jackie Strong	Larkfield;	
County Councillor Rachel Garrick	Caldicot Cross;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Maria Stevens	Caldicot Castle;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Steven Garratt	Severn;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Angela Sandles	Overmonnow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Ben Callard	Magor East with Undy;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor John Crook	Llanfoist & Govilon;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Tomos Dafydd Davies	Magor East with Undy;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Dale Rooke	Llanfoist & Govilon;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Sue Riley	Chepstow Castle &	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jayne McKenna	Larkfield;	
County Councillor Jill Bond	Bulwark and Thornwell;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Louise Brown	Mitchel Troy and Trellech	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Lisa Dymock	United;	
County Councillor Tony Easson	West End;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Christopher Edwards	Shirenewton;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Martyn Groucutt	Portskewett;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Simon Howarth	Dewstow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Richard John	St. Kingsmark;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor David Jones	Lansdown;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Penny Jones	Llanelly Hill;	Independent Group
County Councillor Malcolm Lane	Mitchel Troy and Trellech	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Phil Murphy	United;	
County Councillor Martin Newell	Crucorney;	Independent Group
County Councillor Paul Pavia	Raglan;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Maureen Powell	Mardy;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Frances Taylor	Caerwent;	Welsh Conservative Party
	Town;	Welsh Conservative Party
	Mount Pleasant;	Welsh Conservative Party
	Pen Y Fal;	Welsh Conservative Party
	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

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Watch this meeting online

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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.

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.

