

ABERGAVENTNY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 14TH DECEMBER 2022 AT 8:11PM VIA MS TEAMS & IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM, TOWN HALL, ABERGAVENTNY.

Present: Cllr P Bowyer (Chair)
Cllr M Barnes (Vice Chair)
Cllr S Burch
Cllr B Callard
Cllr K Eldridge
Cllr C Holland
Cllr G Jones
Cllr T Konieczny
Cllr B Nicholson
Cllr M Powell
Cllr D Simcock
Cllr A Wilde
Cllr L Wright

Absent without apologies

Cllr M Strong

In attendance:

S Rosser (Town Clerk)

No public session.

No public in attendance.

PR119/22	Receive and approve apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Cllrs Brocklesby, George, and Groucutt, and their apologies were resolved to be accepted by all Councillors present.
PR120/22	Receive Declarations of Interest None received.
PR121/22	To receive and approve the minutes from 9th November 2022. Minutes proposed as a true record by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Simcock. All Councillors resolved to accept these as a true and accurate record.
PR122/22	To consider the draft budget for 2023/24 Cllr Bowyer explained the Chairs of committees and the Town Clerk had met to create the document in front of Councillors.

	<p>Cllr Callard asked about the Environment Committee Budget can be used to buy land for allotments from this budget. Cllr Konieczny explained that Social Housing would attract WG funding and ATC could prudentially borrow to contribute to something like this.</p> <p>Cllr Wilde asked why the Town Team/Crew is such a large amount. Town Clerk explained this covers three staff plus a budget for equipment and sundries for ad hoc projects.</p> <p>Cllr Jones said the People and Communities Committee have increased some funds to better target projects.</p> <p>Cllr Bowyer asked about the reduction on Sponsorship to be reduced to £13k. Cllr Callard asked if we can allocate first £5k to small grants and then leave sponsorship to £15k? Cllr Barnes agreed with this suggestion.</p> <p>Proposal from Cllr Callard to amend these amounts accordingly, seconded by Cllr Barnes, and resolved to be accepted by all Councillors present.</p> <p>Cllr Bowyer submitted the Draft Budget be approved in principle after this amendment, proposed by Cllr Callard, seconded by Cllr Powell, and resolved to be accepted by all Councillors present.</p>
PR123/22	<p>Finance: To approve month 8 reports</p> <p>Cllr Bowyer asked for any questions or queries on Month 8 reports in full. None received. Proposed by Cllr Konieczny as a true and accurate record of all approved transactions, seconded by Cllr Jones. All Councillors resolved to accept the Finance report as a true and accurate record.</p>
PR124/22	<p>To receive a second draft Strategy and Action Plan for discussion.</p> <p>Cllr Bowyer explained the background work to integrate the Away Day notes and the previous S&A plan points. Lots of blanks to fill in with details of Councillors to take responsibility for items. The introduction has been reworded.</p> <p>Cllr Simcock asked about the ‘mission’ and why there is no end goal? Can we include one? Cllr Bowyer said if any Councillors have suggestions for this to please bring them forward.</p> <p>Headings have been taken from the new WG Wellbeing Goals.</p> <p>Cllr Barnes commented that Environment areas are not doing enough to advocate environmentally friendly policies and issues on Climate Change which is affecting the world. We need to promote and work with all to behave in an environmentally friendly way, like adopting and promoting the Simple Steps from Friends of the Earth. Cllr Bowyer said he was under the impression lots of actions are already included so asked Cllr Barnes to email his suggestions through so Councillors can see how to integrate these, possibly under the Globally responsible Wales heading, to promote environmentally responsible behaviour.</p> <p>Cllr Burch said Belgrave Park had fallen off the plan and requested it be included. Twinning and Town of Sanctuary support – Mayor is already a Honorary member on these boards where they are active.</p> <p>Sugarloaf – Cllr Holland said local residents don’t want any more visitors up there due to the bad access. Cllr Burch said there could be up to 300+ visitors and there is no facilities. Possible to include other areas to promote – Penyfal and the foothills, etc.</p>

	<p>Prosperous Wales: amalgamate 3 points NHH links – Cllr Burch is looking into a ‘growing’ project but not necessarily at engaging with them as an employer. Cllr Jones to lead on this engagement. Healthier Wales:</p> <p>Abandoned Standing Orders at 9pm, all other business to be reviewed and moved to next meeting of Policy and Resources Committee Meeting on Wednesday 18th January 2023.</p>
--	---

Meeting ended at 9:00pm.

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR **DATE**