

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 10TH JULY 2024 AT 7:00PM ON MS TEAMS & IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM, TOWN HALL, ABERGAVENNY.

Present: Cllr P Bowyer (Chair)
Cllr M Barnes (Vice Chair)
Cllr S Burch
Cllr B Callard
Cllr D English
Cllr J George
Cllr M Groucutt
Cllr C Holland
Cllr G Jones
Cllr A Wilde
Cllr G Wilde
Cllr L Wright

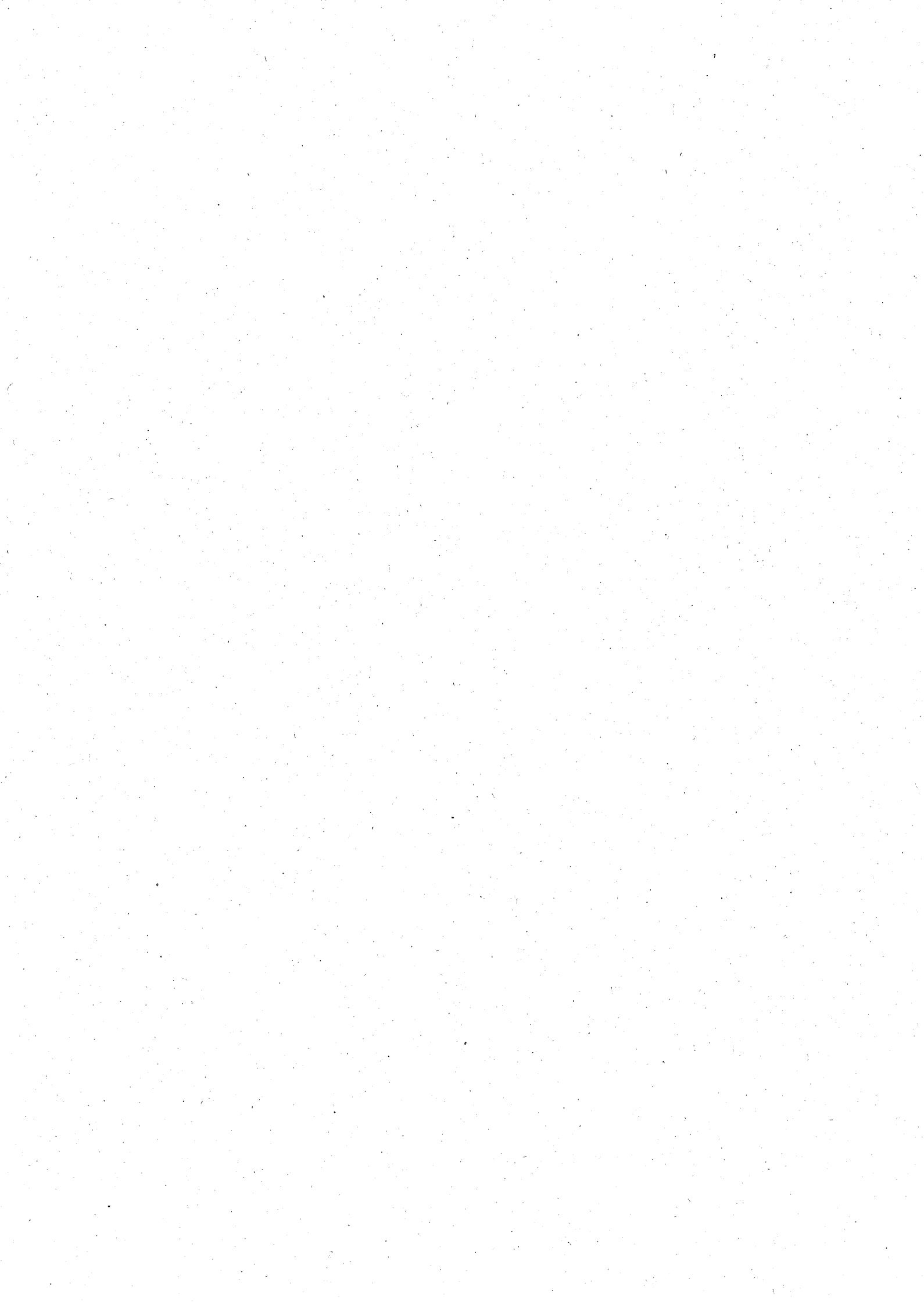
In attendance: Sandra Rosser – Principal Officer / RFO
Jay Shipley – Deputy Principal Officer / Deputy RFO

Owen Lewis and Angela Bramman-Lewis

Public Presentation prior to meeting	To present a report with a petition against the closing of banks in the town which is felt to be detrimental to businesses and residents/visitors. Keen to maintain 'a healthy, buzzing high street' Mr Lewis outlined his concerns, shared by residents who have signed the petition, that with bank closures there is no consultation; the process appears undemocratic; the elderly and vulnerable seek in person advice not on-line banking which is being denied them. Mr Lewis is passionate to stop further closures and wishes to take these concerns further. The notion of a banking hub is interesting; however, a hub is no substitute. Abergavenny Town Council are sympathetic to the issue and would endorse taking the concerns further to the local MP.
PR 72/24	Receive and approve apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Cllr Brocklesby, Cllr K Eldridge, Cllr D Simcock, Cllr B Nicholson and Cllr M Powell. It was resolved to accept their reasons for absence.
PR 73/24	Receive Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda.

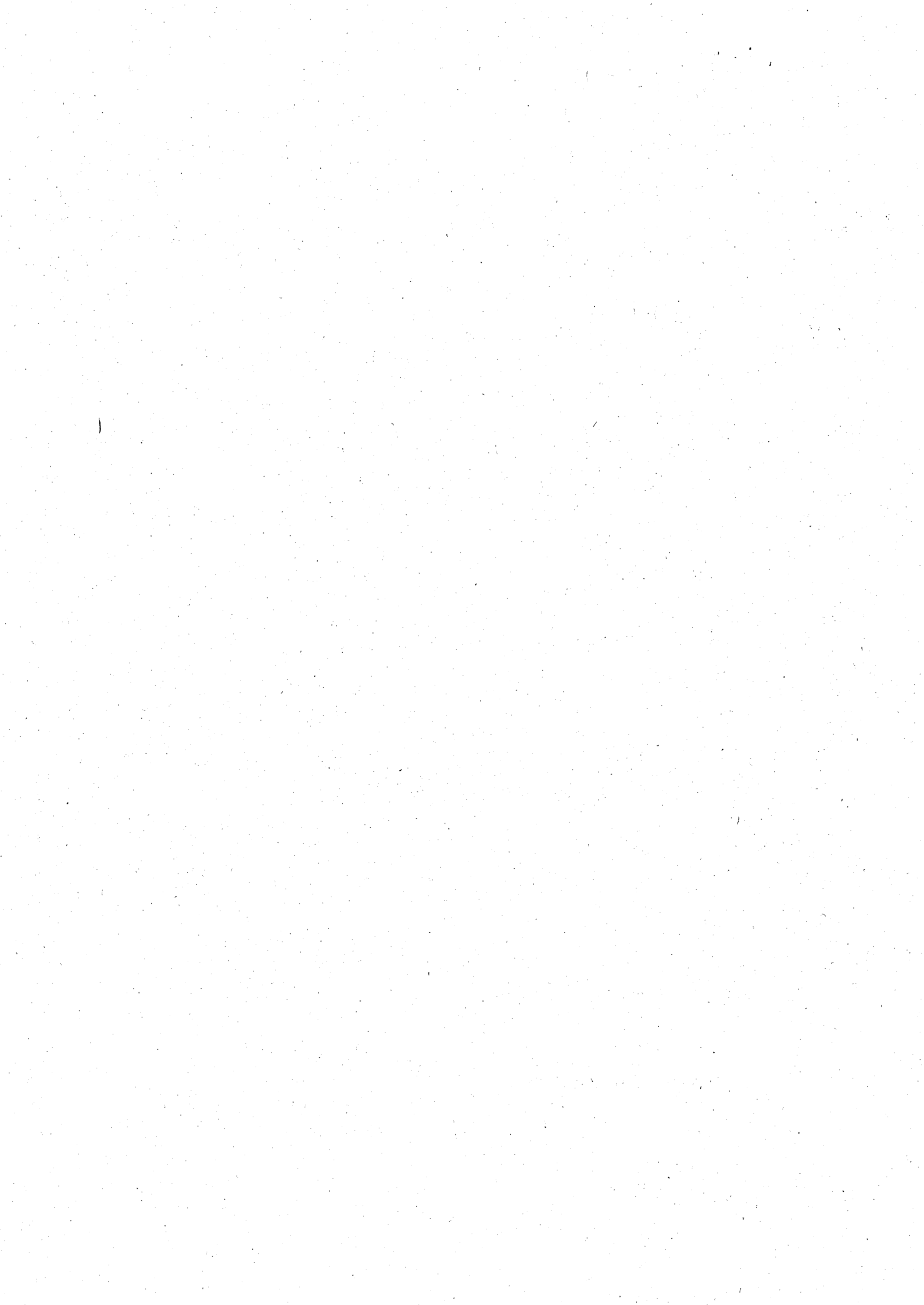


	Cllr Burch – Planning
PR 74/24	<p>To approve the minutes from 12th JUNE 2024.</p> <p>Cllr G Wilde proposed the minutes from the meeting on 12th June 2024, with amendment of typographical error, be accepted as a true and accurate record seconded by Cllr Jones. Resolved by all Councillors to accept this proposal.</p>
PR 75/24	<p>Finance:</p> <p>Reports received and noted.</p> <p>Proposal from Cllr Jones, Seconded by Cllr Holland to accept accounts. Resolved by all Cllrs to accept the proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To receive Month 2 & 3 Reconciliation Report (b) To receive Month 2 & 3 cashbook report (c) To receive Month 2 & 3 bank statements (d) To approve the VAT claim for Qtr1 (e) Update from the Deputy Principal Officer on the changing of banks to other providers. With the closing of High Street Banks it is proposed that Council continue to wait. Away day opportunity to discuss ear-marked reserves for Abergavenny Town Council projects. There had been expenditure on materials to improve the town's appearance – paint, brushes, new map case panel to replace one damaged. New maps with QR codes to replace outdated maps. Principal Officer advised that whilst expenditure appeared large, year 3 payments to co-operative agreements had been paid. Council should expect renewal agreements to be presented in September 2024. (f) To receive a virement report for Qtr1
PR76/24	<p>To receive a report on the War Memorial renovations.</p> <p>Received and noted. Renovation (and subsidence) an ongoing issue since 2010. Two tenders issued to MCC (sought at request of ATC), both companies are reputable and approved; memorial stone masons are skilled in cleaning and repair; work will be done in situ with no need for road closures. MCC permission, time and expertise contributed. War Graves commission will be approached to assist with costs. Cllr Barnes requested the roadworks – sets and drainage in Baker Street/Frogmore Street be completed first to avoid more damage to War Memorial before renovations carried out. Cllr A Wilde proposed no cleaning work to the bronze be carried out and acceptance of quotation 2. Cllr Bowyer proposed carrying</p>



	over further debate to the Away day. Cllrs agreed to suspend further discussion.
PR 77/24	<p>To consider a report on the renovation of the twinning monument at Gabb Square.</p> <p>Report noted and accepted. A local artist has offered to paint in representations of the missing illustrations. Proposed by Cllr Jones to accept the offer, seconded Cllr A Wilde. All Cllrs in agreement to accept.</p>
PR 78/24	<p>To consider a report on the 3D mapping of the Town Hall as part of improving the accessibility of the building.</p> <p>Report and ensuing debate noted. The opportunity to 3D map the Town Hall is an exciting opportunity to add to the credibility of Abergavenny as a town embracing assistive technology to improve access for all residents and visitors. The project has potential to extend to the whole town being mapped. 3D model will allow the site to be visited remotely prior to in person visit. (Facilities available, including those for hire can be advertised). Sight Cymru have approved the project – with audio capacity – as beneficial to those with sight impairment. Promobility will have a presentation and opportunity for consultation. Cllr Bowyer proposed that the project go ahead provided it met with approval from both Sight Cymru and Promobility. Seconded by Cllr Wright. Cllrs voted 10 in favour of the proposal, 1 against.</p>
PR 79/24	<p>To receive a report on the 125th year Anniversary of the Council. (1st November)</p> <p>'Picnic in the Park 26th August 2024' is the first of the events. Abergavenny Carnival have requested Cllrs attend. Cllr Jones suggested Cllrs and Mace bearer walk with the parade; are robed and a proclamation be issued to mark the occasion. Further suggestion that 'People and Communities Committee' further consider events to mark the 125th Year. Cllr Barnes requested event orientated to North Abergavenny be considered. Events could stretch to May 2025.</p>
PR 80/24	<p>To receive an update on, and consider the representation for, the Place Making steering committee.</p> <p>Cllr Bowyer to chair the Steering Committee to be held 18th July 2024 6:30-8pm in the Market Hall (to accommodate mobility</p>

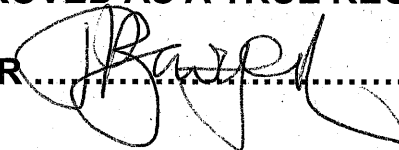
	<p>scooter users who cannot easily access the meeting rooms upstairs). ATC to be properly represented by Town Centre (Grofield Ward) Cllrs. Steering Committee to be small for an efficient meeting, the meetings at the next round open to all for consultation on proposals. Report to be given to next Policy and Resources Committee meeting. Cllr Barnes proposed acceptance seconded by Cllr Holland. With 1 abstention, all Cllrs agreed to the proposed make-up of the steering committee.</p>
PR 81/24	<p>To receive and approve the updated Strategy and Action Plan. Nothing to note</p>
PR 82/24	<p>To receive reports from Councillors attendance at external bodies which are relevant to this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borough Theatre MCC / ATC Collaboration – Cllr Groucutt - No report. • Melville CftA CIC Board – Cllrs Barnes and Cllr Burch no report • One Voice Wales: Cllrs Simcock and Bowyer. No report. • Abergavenny Citizens Advice Bureau – Cllr A Wilde and Cllr L Wright - no meeting to report. <p>Letter received outlining request for a Cllr to sit on the board of Miss Rachel's Alms Houses (by Trinity Church a revitalised Charity). Cllr Bowyer volunteered to be appointed. Cllr G Wilde proposed to accept, seconded by Cllr Jones. Approved by all Cllrs.</p>
PR 83/24	<p>To receive reports from County Councillors on matters affecting Abergavenny relevant to Policy and Resources Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Groucutt offered information that Cantref School Governors would like the school students to be engaged in the 'Smartphone free Childhood' initiative from September 2024. This received a positive reception from Councillors.
PR 84/24	<p>To consider the following planning applications: DM/2024/00815 DM/2024/00832</p>



	Proposed Cllr G Wilde seconded Cllr Jones to approve. There being no material considerations both Planning Applications were approved by Councillors.
PR 85/24	To consider items for the next meeting on 11th September 2024. Greener Abergavenny event 20 th October 2024

Meeting ended 20:39 pm

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR  DATE 11/9/24



- (f) To consider a report on Earmarked Reserve Projects
- (g) to consider a first draft of the proposed budget for 2025/26

PR90/24: To consider a report on Social Media representation.

PR91/24: To receive a report on the War Memorial renovations.

PR92/24: To receive an update from the Place Making steering committee.

PR93/24: To receive updates from Councillors on the Strategy and Action Plan.

PR94/24: To receive a report from the Principal Officer.

PR95/24: To receive reports from Councillors attendance at external bodies which are relevant to this Committee:

- Borough Theatre MCC / ATC Collaboration – Cllr Groucutt and Nicholson
- Melville CftA CIC Board – Cllrs Barnes and Burch
- One Voice Wales: Cllrs Bowyer and G Wilde
- Abergavenny Citizens Advice Bureau – Cllrs A Wilde and Wright

PR96/24: To receive reports from County Councillors on matters affecting Abergavenny relevant to Policy and Resources Committee.

PR97/24: To consider items for the next meeting on 9th October 2024.



ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Cross Street, Abergavenny, NP7 5HD

Telephone: 01873 735820

Email: clerk@abergavennytowncouncil.gov.uk

Notice of a Meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS ARE INVITED
TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS**

5th September 2024

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to the Policy & Resources Committee Meeting on Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 7pm, both online and in person at the Community Room, Town Hall. A Microsoft Teams invitation can be shared for remote access.

Signed

Sandra Rosser - Principal Officer / RFO

The public are permitted to address the meeting for up to 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. Maximum 5 minutes for each speaker. No decision can be taken during this session, but the Chair may decide to refer any matters raised for further consideration. Any members of the public or press who wish to join the meeting remotely can contact the Clerk and a link will be sent to you.

AGENDA

PR86/24: To receive and approve apologies for absence.

PR87/24: To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

PR88/24: To approve the minutes from 10th July 2024.

PR89/24: Finance: (a) To receive Month 4 & 5 Reconciliation Report

(b) To receive Month 4 & 5 cashbook report

(c) To receive Month 4 & 5 bank statements

(d) To receive an update from the Deputy Principal Officer on the changing of banks to other providers.

(e) To consider a report on investments with CCLA after presentation received 17th July 2024.