

## ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 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 M Brocklesby  
Cllr S Burch  
Cllr B Callard  
Cllr D English  
Cllr J George  
Cllr M Groucott  
Cllr C Holland  
Cllr M Powell  
Cllr D Simcock  
Cllr A Wilde  
Cllr G Wilde

**In attendance:** Jay Shipley – Deputy Principal Officer / Deputy RFO

<b>PR 86/24</b>	<b>Receive and approve apologies for absence.</b> Apologies were received from Cllr K Eldridge, Cllr G Jones, Cllr B Nicholson, Cllr L Wright. It was resolved to accept the reasons for absence.
<b>PR 87/24</b>	<b>Receive Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda.</b> Cllr Burch – Planning and Finance – Gateway Credit Union Cllr Powell - Planning
<b>PR 88/24</b>	<b>To approve the minutes from 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b> Cllr Simcock proposed the minutes from the meeting on 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2024, be accepted as a true and accurate record seconded by Cllr A Wilde. Resolved by all Councillors to accept this proposal.
<b>PR 89/24</b>	<b>Finance:</b> Reports received and noted. (a) To receive Month 4 & 5 Reconciliation Report (b) To receive Month 4 & 5 cashbook report (c) To receive Month 4 & 5 bank statements Proposal from Cllr Burch, seconded by Cllr Holland to accept accounts. Resolved by all Cllrs to accept the proposal.

	<p>(d) To receive an update from the Deputy Principal Officer on the changing of banks to other providers. Unity Trust Bank has ethical credentials however not the credit risk rating of longer established banks. Given the number of High Street banks that are closing, and the uncertainty of future banking offers, which may become available it is proposed that (i) ATC remain with their current provider (ii) a recommendation that additional signatories (Cllr A Wilde, Cllr Holland, ATC Office Staff) be added to the account in order that if and when the accounts are transferred, the switch will be simpler. Proposed by Cllr Burch point (i) be accepted and point (ii) be actioned as soon as possible. Seconded Cllr Holland. All Cllrs in agreement to accept recommendations.</p> <p>(e) To consider a report on investments with CCLA after presentation received 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024. (i) The recommendation is that £200k funds be moved to the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund. The fund is designed for capital security and a competitive yield for short-term investments. Proposal by Cllr English seconded by Cllr Barnes that Council accept the recommendation. All Cllrs in agreement.</p> <p>(ii) Recommendation that the £20k funds currently with Gateway Credit Union be withdrawn to avoid bank charges and to put these funds into the Current Account. Proposed by Cllr Barnes seconded by Cllr A Wilde. All Cllrs in agreement that funds be withdrawn.</p> <p>(f) To consider a report on Earmarked Reserve Projects. Oral report noted. Further that the funds currently with Gateway Credit Union be transferred to CCLA Local Authorities' Property Fund. Cllr A Wilde requested a breakdown of figures be presented at the next Policy and Resources Committee prior to agreeing where to place these funds. Proposed by Cllr Barnes seconded by Cllr A Wilde. All Cllrs in agreement.</p> <p>(g) to consider a first draft of the proposed budget for 2025/26 – deferred to next Policy and Resources meeting.</p>
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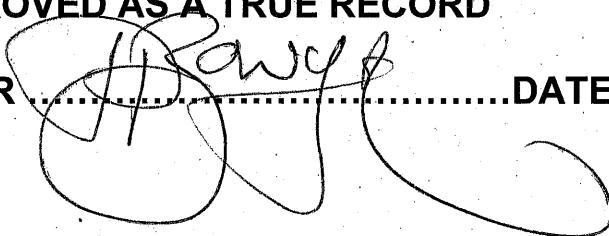
PR90/24	<p><b>To consider a report on Social Media representation:</b></p> <p>Received and noted. The posts on social media and our constantly updated website have gained traction. The Media Agency are in discussion with MCC Communications team. Part of this is big cause of the project with 3D presentation. The next major events will be covering Wales in Bloom; the Food Festival and Wall to Wall jazz. The Food Festival welcome packs are ready and the media agency have once again done outstanding work of presenting Abergavenny so positively.</p>
PR 91/24	<p><b>To receive a report on the War Memorial renovations:</b></p> <p>currently no further change. Still awaiting tenders; grant applications and agreement to start works. Currently this is further complicated by the proposed works to repair the damaged sets/flooding, Baker Street and Frogmore Street.</p>
PR 92/24	<p><b>To receive an update from the Place Making steering committee:</b></p> <p>Cllr Bowyer: little to report. The Steering Committee to meet next week 18<sup>th</sup> September. Councillors are invited to a presentation by consultants at 10am on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Update to be given at next Policy and Resources Committee meeting.</p>
PR 93/24	<p><b>To receive and approve the updated Strategy and Action Plan.</b></p> <p>Nothing to note</p>
PR 94/24	<p><b>To receive a report from the Principal Officer.</b></p> <p>Already given by Deputy Principal Officer.</p>
PR 95/24	<p><b>To receive reports from Councillors attendance at external bodies which are relevant to this Committee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borough Theatre MCC / ATC Collaboration – Cllr Groucott and Cllr Nicholson - No report.</li> <li>• Melville CftA CIC Board – Cllrs Barnes and Cllr Burch: report presented. Request from Cllr G Wilde for sight of the MCC extended survey of works to be considered.</li> <li>• One Voice Wales: Cllrs Simcock and Bowyer. Attended AGM at Usk – new chair appointed.</li> </ul>

	<p>Presentation on the state of Rivers Usk and Wye. Next meeting at Royal Welsh Showground.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abergavenny Citizens Advice Bureau – Cllr A Wilde and Cllr L Wright – no meeting</li> </ul> <p>Cllr G Wilde proposed to accept reports, seconded by Cllr Simcock. Approved by all Cllrs.</p>
<b>PR 96/24</b>	<p><b>To receive reports from County Councillors on matters affecting Abergavenny relevant to Policy and Resources Committee.</b></p> <p>August a quiet month. Nothing to report.</p>
<b>PR 97/24</b>	<p><b>To consider items for the next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024.</b></p> <p>(i) Deputy Principal Officer to present reports on financial recommendations and proposals for ATC engagement with CCLA.  (ii) Progress with placemaking.  (iii) To consider a first draft of the proposed budget for 2025/26</p>

**Meeting ended 20:33 pm**

**APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD**

**CHAIR**



**DATE**

9/10/24