



## Minutes of Ponthir Community Council Full Council

Monday 08/09 2025 at 7:00 PM

1. **Present Councillors:** M Leighton, R Morgan, A Lang, P Matthews, I Danaher

**Also Present:** 2 Members of the Solar Farm Protest Group, and 2 Members of the public

2. **Apologies:** Cllr P Buffery & Cllr L Ryan-Scales

3. **Members Declarations of Interest:** No declarations of interest were heard

4. **To Consider Matters Raised by the Public:** No matters were raised

5. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Proposed by PM and seconded by ID

6. **Solar Farm Protest Group:** Members were given a presentation on the opposition to the proposed Court Farm Solar Farm. Concerns were raised by members of the group over transparency of the project and double talk from consultants and reps from the energy company, concerns were also voiced over damage to local infrastructure during the construction phase, especially with regards site access from HGV's, road safety and more practical issues such as gas mains and sewage pipes were also mentioned. Members of the public asked questions relating to WHO standards for safe distances from such developments, and questions relating to the protest groups communication channels were also raised

[Action: Members to meet with power company and Welsh Water 17/09 & Clerk to invite protest group to November Meeting](#)

7. **Welcome New Clerk:** Members welcomed the new clerk of the council Mr Anthony Bird and all paid tribute to the hard work and dedication to the role shown by outgoing clerk Clare Danaher

8. **Matters Arising:**

- a. **Planters:** members discussed planters in the village, noting the performance of some during the summer months, noting those that may need extra attention. Going forward members requested new bulbs for next year to go in october/november time.

[Action: Clerk to cost up new planters to possibly replace current batch.](#)

- b. Police Report:** Members Noted the submitted report from Gwent police. Report detailed 22 calls and 5 reported crimes.
- c. Chairs Jewel (Chain of Office):** Members noted the exchange between the clerk and Fattorini's regarding the replacement of the emblem on the chairs chain of office, Clerk to liaise with Fattorini's regarding the replacement
- d. Christmas Lights:** Members agreed a budget of £250 for the purchase of a power supply for testing Christmas lights  
[Action: Cllr Matthews to source necessary equipment and test lights](#)
- e. Council Regalia:** members noted the decoration of the council chamber including portrait of King Charles, Map of the PCC area, OVW certificates
- f. OVW Constitution and Governance Framework:** no update, (however should be noted that this will not form part of the OVW AGM happening in October)

**9. To Consider and Discuss Items:**

- a. Vacancy TVA:** members noted that two vacancies for community council board members of TVA had become available, and interested parties should submit an expression of interest via the clerk.
- b. Vacancy TCBC Ethics and Standards Committee:** members noted the vacancy for one community council member of the TCBC Ethics and Standards Committee had become available, and interested parties should submit an expression of interest via the clerk.
- c. Christmas Event:** members received short update on village christmas event from the chair. Questions were asked if it would be a joint event between village hall and sports club  
[Action: Chair to update at next meeting](#)
- d. Grants:** 1 Grant application received from Ponthir Village Hall Indoor Bowls Section: Grant decision deferred until next meeting at request of applicant.

- e. **Poppies:** Members agreed to pay £400 for lamppost poppies with £200 being paid upfront, and £200 being paid later in the year via Caerleon British Legions justgiving page.  
[Action: Clerk to arrange payment to Mr Guy Davies of £200 via cheque ASAP](#)

- f. **Christmas Trees:** members agreed to budget £1900 (unchanged from 2024/2025 financial year) for trees.  
[Action: Clerk to email lenovio regarding instillation of christmas lights](#)

**10. Finance and Accounts:** Members Noted the itemised schedule of receipts and payments

**11. Planning:** Members heard details of planning application Ref: SPRI/25/P/0487/FUL- proposed- Demolish old barn and buildings and construct new agricultural barn for storage of hay and sheep. At the field opposite 4 twin cottages, Ponthir, NP18 1PJ.- No objections were submitted by councillors

**12. Committee Reports**

- a. **Ponthir CIW Primary School-** No report given
- b. **Torfaen Community Transport-** Members noted that ongoing core funding and a one of grant of £10,000 had been received from Cwmbran Community Council
- c. **Gwent Valleys Partnership-** No Update
- d. **Ponthir Village Hall-** No Update
- e. **PSCC-** Members noted that improvements are ongoing, the club emblem is set to go up in the entryway, members also noted that there was no update with regards to ongoing planning concerns
- f. **Mick Morris Trust-** No Update
- g. **Torfaen LCP-** Issues surrounding the late publication of minutes was noted by members also it was noted that members were not being directly notified of meetings, only clerks
- h. **Chairs Report-** Members noted the chairs visit to Ponthir CIW Primary School to attend prize giving and also noted chairs attendance at Cwmbran Community Council's Crowfest music festival in July and the chair reported back on best practice gleaned that could be applied to local events.

**Meeting Closed 20:30**