

Ponthir Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Held on 9th February 2026 at Ponthir Village Hall at 7pm

Present: Cllr M Leighton (Chair), Cllr R Morgan, Cllr A Lang and Cllr I Danaher.

Also present: Clerk to the Council – Mrs C Danaher, and two members of the public. Councillors present welcomed Mrs Danaher to the meeting, as our temporary Clerk.

1. Apologies – Cllr L Ryan-Scales, Cllr P Matthews, Cllr P Buffery. Apologies accepted by Councillors present.

2. Declaration of Interests – None.

3. To consider matters raised by members of the public – Resident one spoke to Council about the poor drainage along Caerleon Road. Resident to provide further information. Resident two spoke about village road safety and safe route to the school. We also spoke about the dangers of right turn from Hafod Road. A mirror and a no exit sign were discussed. Residents email already sent to TCBC prior to meeting. Also, asked about litter picking with the school. As WI are purchasing litter pickers with a recent grant from the Council, **Action: - Clerk to email WI regarding possible joint litter pick with school in the village.**

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 12th January 2026 – Proposed by Cllr Morgan and seconded by Cllr Lang.

5. Resignation of Clerk to Ponthir CC – Advert for new Clerk advertised on TCBC website, Council Facebook and notice board. Closing date for applications is 23rd February, with proposed interviews in first week of March. **Action: Chair to email AB following further discussions with OVW. Email needs to be sent by 13th February. This course of action was agreed by all Councillor's present.**

6. Matters arising

Planters and benches: Cllr Leighton unable to contact AS re benches.

Action: Cllr Leighton to contact AS and bring information to next meeting.

CM has agreed to inspect the bench at Candwr Park bus stop and get back to us.

Council agreed to order plants from Nantyderry Nursery and plant them up

again, as in previous years. **Action: Clerk to ring Nursery and order plants.**

Police Report: Clerk spoke to PCSO James who has promised an update at the next meeting.

Christmas lights: For 2026, the 3 broken lights need to be returned to Festive for assessment and new clips for lamp posts need to be purchased. **Action: Clerk to email Festive regarding this.**

Solar Farm: Email received from the Protest Group regarding a public meeting in February, query with the date. **Action: Clerk to email to clarify the date and let Councillors know.**

7. To consider and discuss items

Finance update and bank account: Quarterly reconciliation of figures has not been completed by previous Clerk. Council agreed for this to be completed at next meeting. **Action: Clerk to complete analysis by March meeting.** The signed bank mandate appears to be missing. **Action: - Clerk to email Bank for this to be noted on their records.**

New Clerk progress: See item 5 above.

Caerleon Times 2026/27: Council expressed their disappointment that no articles were submitted for January and February. **Action: Cllr Leighton to submit revised article to Clerk by 15th February at the latest, so that it can meet copy date of 17th February.** Council agreed to continue our arrangement with Caerleon Times for next financial year. **Action: Clerk to email with our intentions.**

Events 2026: No progress appears to have been made on this. **Action: Clerk to put on agenda for March meeting.**

IT and website update: Our IT consultant has completed an interim assessment.

Tram Lane wall: Cllr Leighton confirmed that a resident had emailed TCBC.

Barnfield grass update: No progress appears to have been made regarding this. **Action: Clerk to email TCBC**

Audit 24/25: Clerk confirmed that Audit was qualified. Matters and recommendations appear to have not been actioned. Councillors agreed for this to be looked at in more detail at our March meeting.

8. Finance and Accounts: Balance and all transactions noted.

9. Planning: No items received.

10. Correspondence received: Noted.

11. Committee Reports

Ponthir Church in Wales Primary School: Cllr Ryan-Scales attended the governors meeting on 5th February. School is continuing to thrive, with strong progress in reading, high quality teaching and positive student behaviour. Attendance remains close to target, and a new rewards system has had a positive impact on learning attitudes and independence. There is a growing interest in the school, with new pupils joining and strong numbers applying for Reception in September.

Torfaen Community Transport: No meeting.

Gwent Valleys Partnership: Cllr Leighton confirmed she apologised for last meeting. Minutes have been circulated to all Councillors. Clerk reiterated that if Councillors are unable to attend a meeting, they are to contact the agreed reserves, so we have representation at these meetings.

Ponthir Village Hall: No report.

PSCC: We now have no representative on PSCC. **Action: Clerk to contact PSCC to discuss a new representative.**

Mick Morris Memorial Sporting Trust: Letter received from the Trust. **Action: Cllr Ryan-Scales to confirm her intentions at the March meeting.**

Local Council Partnership Committee: Minutes of January meeting have already been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Morgan was pleased to see that the minutes had come from TCBC within the 20-day window. All Councils will need to submit plans for the future at the meeting in January 2027.

Chair's Report: Cllr Leighton presented a £200 grant to Raging Bull Junior Darts at the VH. They were extremely grateful for the money received.

The date of the next meeting is Monday 9th March, Ponthir Village Hall at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 20:15

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