MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM HELD REMOTELY - VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON MONDAY, 11 MARCH 2024 AT 16:00

Present

Councillor J Gebbie – Chairperson

H T Bennett	J Coles	C Davies	P Deenik
B Doughty	S Easterbrook	M J Evans	P Ford
RM Granville	J Holmes	P W Jenkins	M R John
M Jones	S Parker	J Perren	I M Spiller
JC Spanswick	Y Walton	MJ Williams	R Williams
E D Winstanley	T Wood		

Apologies for Absence

HJ David

Officers:

Climate Change Response Officer
Democratic Services Officer - Support
Democratic Services Manager
Development Planning - Team Leader
Corporate Director - Communities
Senior Strategic Planning Policy Officer
Group Manager Development
Regional Armed Forces Covenant Liaison Officer
Senior Development Planning Officer
Business Administrative Apprentice - Democratic Services
Clerk – Coychurch Lower Community Council

Declarations of Interest

Councillor M Evans declared a personal interest in Agenda item 6 as a Pencoed Town Councillor. Councillor R Williams declared a personal interest in Agenda item 6 as a Pencoed Town Councillor.

28. Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	RESOLVED: That the minutes of a meeting of the Town and Community Council Forum dated 1 September 2023, be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	11 March 2024

29. Armed Forces Covenant

Decision Made	The Regional Armed Forces Covenant Liaison Officer delivered this report outlining the details and importance of the Armed Forces Covenant, which is a scheme designed to highlight struggles veterans face in transitioning away from Forces work, and to enable organisations to meet their unique requirements. This report was delayed briefly due to IT difficulties.
	Members posed questions about:
	 Sharing the presentation for easy distribution
	Focusing on allotment allocation for ex-service personnel use
	These questions were addressed by the Chairperson and the Regional Armed Forces Covenant Liaison Officer, with the Chairperson looking forward to potential utilization of the Covenant by local Councils.
	<u>RESOLVED</u> : The Forum noted the report, acknowledging that BCBC has an excellent record of assisting former Armed Forces personnel and that there is lots to do for further accommodating ex-Forces people's transition into civilian life.
Date Decision Made	11 March 2024

30. Invasive Species

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Decision Made	The Climate Change Response Officer presented a report on the INNS (invasive non-native species) to the UK such as Japanese knotweed and Himalayan Balsam, ways of identifying and managing their spread alongside recording the effects of their presence.
	 Questions were posed on the subjects of: How to raise invasive species reports for members inside and outside BCBC Options for offline methods of communication for residents and members BCBC's record of INNS control on their own premises BCBC Contractors' understanding of Invasive Species prevention methods
	These questions were addressed by the Climate Change Response Officer and the Corporate Director for Communities, with the Corporate Director for Communities asking for records of incidents of incorrect INNS removal. RESOLVED : The Forum noted the report.
Date Decision Made	11 March 2024

31. Replacement Local Development Plan Update

Decision Made	The Senior Strategic Planning Policy Officer delivered this report covering the updated Local Development Plan which covers placement, preparation and support for large-scale planning projects from a Borough level and serves as a strategic land use plan going forward.
	 Members had questions about: Matters relating to the Pencoed level crossing amid increased track usage to Maesteg A change in material used for street lighting columns, which was clarified to be an operational matter and not relating to the item.
	These queries were answered by the Group Manager Development and the Corporate Director for Communities.
	RESOLVED: The Forum noted the report.

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Date Decision Made	11 March 2024

32. Urgent Items

Decision Made	None.
Date Decision Made	11 March 2024

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this link

The meeting closed at 17:15.