

**COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 23 JULY 2025**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON WEDNESDAY, 23 JULY 2025 AT 16:00**

Present

Councillor HJ David – Chairperson

H T Bennett  
Clatworthy  
S Easterbrook  
RM Granville  
M Jones  
J E Pratt  
JH Tildesley MBE

A R Berrow  
RJ Collins  
M J Evans  
GC Haines  
W J Kendall  
JC Spanswick  
I Williams

JPD Blundell  
C Davies  
N Farr  
D M Hughes  
M Lewis  
I M Spiller  
E D Winstanley

E L P Caparros  
P Davies  
J Gebbie  
M R John  
J Llewellyn-Hopkins  
T Thomas  
T Wood

Present Virtually

S Aspey  
C L C Davies  
M L Hughes  
A Ulberini-Williams  
MJ Williams

F D Bletsoe  
P Ford  
RM James  
G Walter  
R Williams

S J Bletsoe  
S J Griffiths  
RL Penhale-Thomas  
A Wathan

N Clarke  
D T Harrison  
R J Smith  
AJ Williams

Officers:

Mark Galvin  
Laura Griffiths  
Lindsay Harvey  
Rachel Keepins  
Carys Lord  
Claire Marchant  
Jake Morgan  
Martin Morgans  
Michael Pitman

Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees  
Principal Solicitor  
Corporate Director - Education, Early Years & Young People  
Democratic Services Manager  
Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change  
Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing  
Chief Executive  
Interim Head of Operations - Community Services  
Technical Support Officer – Democratic Services

**This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg**

Kelly Watson

Chief Officer - Legal & Regulatory Services, HR & Corporate Policy

**166. Apologies for absence**

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| Decision Made      | Apologies for absence were received from Councillors WR Goode, H Griffiths, H Williams and PW Jenkins. |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025   |

**167. Declarations of Interest**

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| Decision Made | <p>The following declarations of personal interest were made by Members:-</p> <p>Councillor H Bennett – Agenda item 6, as a member of the Public Service Board on behalf of her employer.</p> <p>Councillor J Pratt – Agenda item 12, as a member of Porthcawl Town Council.</p> <p>Councillor JP Blundell – Agenda item 7, as a member of a School Governing Body that is mentioned in the report.</p> <p>Councillor E Winstanley – Agenda item 7, as her employer is in charge of the Maesteg Town Hall and the Porthcawl Grand Pavilion and due to the fact she is a Community Councillor.</p> <p>Councillor I Williams – Agenda item 7, as a school governor at Oldcastle Primary and Brynteg Comprehensive Schools. Agenda item 12, as a member of Bridgend Town Council</p> <p>The following declarations of prejudicial interest were made by Members/Officers.</p> <p>Councillor M Evans – Agenda item 7, as a Community Governor at Croesty Primary and Pencoed Comprehensive Schools.</p> <p>Councillor Amanda Williams – Agenda item 7, as Chairperson of the Board of Governors at Coety Primary School</p> <p>Chief Executive – Agenda item 9, as his position is referenced to in the report.</p> <p>Chief Officer – Legal, HR and Corporate Policy – Agenda item 9, as her position is referenced to in the report.</p> |
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|                    | All the above Members/Officers left the meeting whilst the item they had declared a prejudicial interest in was being considered. |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025  |

**168. Approval of Minutes**

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| Decision Made      | <u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of a meeting of Council dated 25 June 2025, be approved as a true and accurate record. |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025   |

**169. To receive announcements from:**

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| Decision Made      | Announcements were received from the following dignitaries (no decisions required or made):- <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mayor;</li><li>• Chief Executive</li></ul> |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025  |

**170. To receive announcements by the Leader**

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| Decision Made      | Announcements were received from the Leader (no decisions required or made). |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025   |

**171. Healthy Travel Charter**

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| Decision Made      | <u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council:<br><br>1. Noted the content of the update report.<br><br>2. Considers how to deliver the proposed activities contained within the Charter (at Appendix 1 to the report). |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025  |

**172. Capital Programme Outturn 2024-25 and Quarter 1 Update 2025-26**

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| Decision Made      | <u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council:<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Noted the Council's Capital Programme Outturn for 2024-25 (at Appendix A to the report).</li><li>• Noted the Council's Capital Programme 2025-26 Quarter 1 update to 30 June 2025 (Appendix B)</li><li>• Approved the revised Capital Programme, noting the slippage into 2025-26 of £25.370 million, and approves the virements between schemes and new schemes/additions of £44.485 million to the capital programme (Appendix C).</li><li>• Noted the actual Prudential and Other Indicators for 2024-25 and the projected indicators for 2025-26 (Appendix D).</li></ul> |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025   |

**173. Treasury Management Outturn Report 2024-25**

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| Decision Made | <u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council:<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Noted the treasury management activities for 2024-25 for the year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.</li><li>• Noted the Treasury Management Indicators for the period year ending 31 March 2025 against those approved in the Treasury Management Strategy 2024-25.</li></ul> |
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| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025 |
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**174. Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer**

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| Decision Made      | <b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b> That Council:<br><br>(1) Approved the appointment of the Chief Executive as the Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer.<br><br>(2) Approved the appointment of the Chief Officer – Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy as the Deputy Electoral Registration Officer. |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025  |

**175. Appointments to the Standards Committee**

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| Decision Made      | <b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b> That Council approved the appointments of Janet Evans and Martyn Daley to the Standards Committee. |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025   |

**176. To receive the following Question from:**

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| Decision Made      | Councillor Colin Davies to the Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services (response circulated previously to Members).<br><br>A supplementary question was asked by Councillor Davies which was responded to at the meeting. |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025  |

**177. Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor Martin Williams**

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| Decision Made      | <p>The Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Williams as detailed at item 12 on the meeting Agenda, subject to his proposed amendment given verbally at the meeting, which was duly seconded and supported by Council was agreed.</p> <p>The amended Motion was as follows:-</p> <p>‘That this Council recognises the challenges that we faced in recruiting operatives to cut grass following the decision to bring it in house and the impact that had on our communities.</p> <p>Under the ethos of working collaboratively we therefore resolve to ask the Cabinet to consider contacting all town and community councils at the earliest opportunity and offer to pay them to carry out the service in their area to support this Authority if they are willing and able, should future challenges to the service be encountered again.’</p> |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025  |

**178. Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor Ian Spiller**

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| Decision Made      | That the Notice of Motion as proposed by Councillor Spiller as detailed at item 13 on the meeting Agenda, was agreed unanimously by Council. |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025   |

**179. Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor Tim Thomas**

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| Decision Made | <p>A Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Thomas, as detailed as item 14 on the meeting Agenda.</p> <p>An amendment to the Notice of Motion was proposed, duly seconded and following some debate, finally agreed by Council.</p> |
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|                    | <p>The Notice of Motion therefore, as amended, was agreed as follows:-</p> <p>‘That this Council,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Supports the UK Government in listening to the public and reversing the proposed welfare reforms that would have adversely affected disabled residents across the country, including within Bridgend County Borough.</li><li>2. Recognises the significant and disproportionate negative impact these welfare changes would have had on the wellbeing, financial security, and dignity of local disabled people and their families.</li><li>3. Welcomes the Government’s decision to reverse these welfare reforms as a positive step in protecting the rights and livelihoods of disabled residents in Bridgend.</li><li>4. Acknowledges the hard work of disability advocacy groups, campaigners, and residents who have voiced their concerns and influenced this decision.</li><li>5. ‘Calls on the Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council to write to the PM, the First Minister, and to continue lobbying our local MP’s and MS’s to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure the continued importance of welfare considerations in future UK government and Welsh Government policies</li><li>• Emphasise the importance of continued support and protection for disabled residents.</li><li>• Urge both Governments to continue to engage closely with local Councils, disability organisations, and communities in developing future welfare policies.</li></ul></li><li>6. Reaffirms the Council’s commitment to supporting disabled residents by ensuring local services are accessible, inclusive, and adequately resourced.’</li></ol> |
| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025  |

**180. Urgent Items**

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| Decision Made | There were no urgent items. |
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| Date Decision Made | 23 July 2025 |

The meeting closed at 18:23.