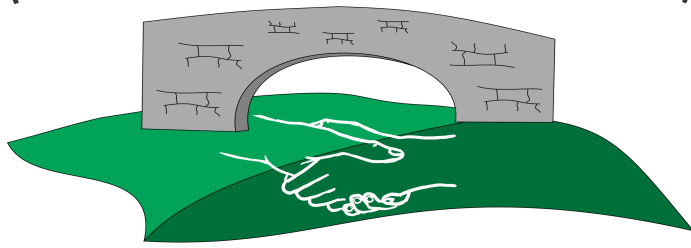


# Risca East Community Council



...working with you

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Minutes of the meeting of Risca East Community Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

452. To sign the register and to receive apologies.

452.1. Community Councillors present: Arianna Leonard, John Blackburn, Rob Derraven, Mary Coles, Matthew Farrell and Shirley Hobbs.

452.2. Apologies were received from Cliff Edwards, Nigel George and Maureen Jenkins

453. To receive a report from the Police.

453.1. No Police officer was present.

454. To receive a representation from the public

454.1. Two ladies from Elm Drive, who had previously attended Council meetings, were asking for an update on the "No Ball Games" signs. The Clerk read out a letter from Caerphilly County Borough Council explaining that because the signs were un-enforceable, then they would not provide a quotation for the installation of the signs.

454.2. Clerk to speak to Julie Reynolds and send Matthew Farrell a copy of the letter.

455. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were **agreed**.

456. Matters Arising

456.1. Minute 446.1 – It was confirmed that the timer for the Christmas lights had been re-set.

457. To receive the Clerk's Report

457.1. The Clerk provided the financial statement as at 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017 which showed a total spend of £24,007.50 with income of £24,742.50. The bank balance was £36,556.29

457.2. The financial statement included budget monitoring information which showed projected variations on the following items:-

- Christmas Decorations – estimate increased to £6,190.80

- The Council noted the Clerk's report and **agreed** the variations to the original budget.

457.3. To agree the Precept for 2017/18

- The Clerk informed the meeting that Caerphilly County Borough Council had advised that the number of Band D equivalent dwellings had increased slightly to 2046.46. The existing precept of £12 per dwelling would result in an estimated income of £24,558.

It was **agreed** that the Precept for 2017/18 be set at £12.00 per dwelling.

- The Clerk had produced a draft budget for 2017/18 based on the income of £24,558. This would result in a deficit of £3,960. The Clerk suggested that the budget on certain items be increased because of the following reasons:-
  - \* Clerk's Salary – 1% increase due to NALCC agreement.
  - \* Audit Fee – increased to £500 – due to additional interim internal audit work
  - \* Room Use – increased to £340 – due to extra meetings with Risca Town Council
  - \* Christmas Decorations £6,000 – to allow for expansion of existing lighting provision
  - \* Ty Sign Skateboard Park - £5,000 – additional commitment to commencement of project
  - \* Pantomime – increased to £2,500 – additional production costs
  - \* Park Toilets – £350 – no budget included in 2016/17
  - \* RBL Insurance - £200 – no budget included in 2016/17
 The deficit budget would leave the Council with a projected working balance which represented approximately 50% of its income.
- The Council **agreed** to accept the Clerk's report showing the deficit budget and increased budget provision on the items detailed previously.

458. The Clerk's schedule of correspondence was received and the actions **agreed**.  
 Item 458.7 – Caerphilly County Borough Council Community Cleansing Team – it was agreed that the Canal Bank needed cleansing together with the lane from Holly Road to Fairview to Birchgrove

459. To receive a report from Councillor Nigel George.  
 459.1. Councillor George had previously apologised for not being able to attend the meeting.

460. Local Issues

460.1. Ty Sign Ward – Cllr Shirley Hobbs said that residents had appreciated the Christmas lights provided by the Community Council.

460.2. Pontymister Upper Ward – Cllr Matthew Farrell reported that youngsters were congregating on the canal behind the Masala Junction at the lower end of Manor Way. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Police about this matter.

Cllr John Blackburn reported that he had heard that a private company had been engaged to clean up area of Abertillery and that the company were also allowed to impose fines. It was agreed that the Clerk should make enquiries with Abertillery Town Council to find out if this was true.

460.3. Trenewydd Ward – The Chairman reported that there was a problem with dog fouling on the pavements.

461. To consider Planning Applications - none

Signed.....Chairman 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017