



**Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting Thursday 19th December 2024**

Present: Councillors R Carroll; C Andrews; J Bissex(online); J Davies; P Collins

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Clerk.

Meeting Chair: R Carroll (Deputy Mayor)

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.

No apologies received by the clerk.

2. To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate. No declarations received

3. Press and Public Participation Session. No enquiries received by the clerk.

4. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the last Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Bissex seconded. The meeting resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of proceedings and the chair signed the minutes in the presence of the committee.

5. To review and approve bank reconciliation of 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and payment list to date. Members reviewed the bank reconciliation on screen, moved on to review the payments list with the clerk verbally reporting on each item of expenditure. Members resolved to approve both the bank reconciliation and payments list instructing two signatories to sign the payments list.

6. To consider the draft budget for 2025-26 and review Earmarked Reserves.

The meeting reviewed the reserves position noting the running costs reserves and earmarked reserves speaking about both the youth budget and the music festival budget use; members spoke about the potential of a gaming truck in the community and instructed the clerk to liaise with officers at CCBC to research opportunities. The committee then moved on to look at the draft budget taking account of the forecasted expenditure for the remaining three months of the year noting a projected surplus of £38,000 including the contingency funds which the committee felt should be carried in reserves at the level of £15,000. A £25,000 surplus is possible to offset the 2025 budgeted expenditure. Members are keen to ensure adequate reserves are in place to continue future delivery of large town centre events and therefore feel the precept should be maintained at least at the same rate as 2024-25. The clerk presented a draft expenditure budget of £229,555 but this is subject to full council resolutions on items penciled into the budget. The committee talked about the resilience needed within council budgets, and also the unknown costs of improving technology in the office.

7. To receive confirmation of responses to the local planning authority in respect of planning applications:

24/0834/HH 46 Pantyfid Road Aberbargoed

24/0857/HH Milton Close, Aberbargoed

No objections/comments made by members.

In accordance with standing orders, the next item on the agenda is confidential, therefore the press Meeting Minutes

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

and the public are excluded from this item.

8. To note the content of the CONFIDENTIAL Draft Unapproved Minutes of the HR & Staffing Committee meeting 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024.  
Meeting minutes were noted by members.

This concluded business of the agenda and the chair closed the meeting at 14.38pm