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Our Ref./Ein Cyf.  
Your Ref./Eich Cyf.  
Contact:/Cysylltwch â: Democratic Services

**THIS IS A MEETING WHICH THE PUBLIC ARE ENTITLED TO ATTEND**

14th March 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

**ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

A meeting of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held Remotely via Microsoft Teams (if you would like to view this meeting please contact [committee.services@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](mailto:committee.services@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)) on Thursday, 21st March, 2024 at 10.00 am.

Yours faithfully



Damien McCann  
Interim Chief Executive

**AGENDA**

**Pages**

**1. SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION**

You are welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, a minimum notice period of 3 working days is required should you wish to do so. A simultaneous translation will be provided if requested.

**2. APOLOGIES**

To receive.

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg a byddwn yn cyfathrebu gyda chi yn eich dewis iaith, dim ond i chi rhoi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn creu unrhyw oedi.

The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh and English and we will communicate with you in the language of your choice, as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to any delay.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

To consider any declarations of interest and dispensations made.

**4. MARA MORUZ - OUTGOING YOUTH MAYOR**

To receive an overview from Mara Moruz, outgoing Youth Mayor on her democracy journey.

**5. PRESIDING MEMBER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive.

**6. ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL 7 - 16**

To consider and if thought fit, approve the decisions of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.

**7. SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL 17 - 26**

To consider and if thought fit, approve the decisions of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

**8. SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL 27 - 34**

To consider and if thought fit, approve the decisions of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.

**9. GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE 35 - 38**

To confirm the decisions of the General Licensing Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.

**10. STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE 39 - 40**

To confirm the decisions of the Statutory Licensing Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.

**11. PLANNING COMMITTEE 41 - 44**

To confirm the decisions of the Planning Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

- 12. PLANNING COMMITTEE** 45 - 48
- To confirm the decisions of the Planning Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.
- 13. CABINET** 49 - 58
- To confirm the decisions of the Cabinet held on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2024.
- 14. DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE** 59 - 62
- To confirm the decisions of the Democratic Services Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.
- 15. GOVERNANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE** 63 - 68
- To confirm the decisions of the Governance & Audit Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.
- 16. CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 69 - 72
- To confirm the decisions of the Corporate & Performance Scrutiny Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.
- 17. PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 73 - 76
- To confirm the decisions of the People Scrutiny Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 (10.00 am).
- 18. PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 77 - 80
- To confirm the decisions of the People Scrutiny Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 (12.15 pm).
- 19. SPECIAL CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 81 - 86
- To confirm the decisions of the Special Corporate & Performance Scrutiny Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

- 20. PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 87 - 90
- To confirm the decisions of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024.
- 21. SPECIAL CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 91 - 92
- To confirm the decisions of the Special Corporate & Performance Scrutiny Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.
- 22. MEMBERS QUESTIONS**
- To receive questions, if any, from Members.
- 23. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**
- To receive questions, if any, from the public.
- 24. TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REVIEW - SEPTEMBER 2023 & QUARTER 3 UPDATE** 93 - 134
- To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.
- 25. TREASURY MANAGEMENT - TREASURY STRATEGY STATEMENT, INVESTMENT STRATEGY & MRP POLICY STATEMENT 2024/2025 (INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS)** 135 - 176
- To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.
- 26. CAPITAL STRATEGY 2024/2025** 177 - 192
- To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.
- 27. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2024/25** 193 - 280
- To consider the report of the Head of Organisational Development.
- 28. FOSTERING FRIENDLY POLICY** 281 - 294
- To consider the report of the Head of Organisational Development.

- 29. REVIEW OF AGILE WORKING, AGILE WORKING AND FLEXIBLE WORKING POLICIES** 295 - 374
- Due to the need to consider the following item as a matter of urgency, the Presiding Member has confirmed that the following matter can be considered under the Provisions of Paragraph 4(b), Section 100(b) of the Local Government Act, 1972.
- Reason for Urgency**  
To seek endorsement of the Agile Working and Flexible Working Policies in order that both policies can be implemented corporately.
- To consider the report of the Head of Organisational Development.
- 30. RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER** 375 - 378
- To consider the report of the Interim Chief Executive.
- 31. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ETHICS & STANDARDS COMMITTEE** 379 - 390
- To consider the report of the Head of Legal & Corporate Compliance/Monitoring Officer.
- 32. COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN 2022/27 REVIEW** 391 - 424
- To consider the joint report of the Interim Chief Executive and Service Manager Performance and Democratic.
- 33. STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2024-28** 425 - 556
- To consider the report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships.
- 34. MULTI LOCATION MEETING POLICY AND COUNCIL CHAMBER OPTIONS MOVING FORWARD** 557 - 576
- To consider the report of the Service Manager Performance and Democratic.

**35. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES 577 - 584**

To consider the report of the Statutory Head of Democratic Services.

**36. PRESIDING MEMBER'S ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT: APRIL 2023 - MARCH 2024 585 - 588**

To consider the attached report.

**37. MEMBERSHIPS REPORT 589 - 590**

To consider the attached report.

To: Councillor C. Smith (Presiding Member)  
Councillor P. Baldwin  
Councillor S. Behr  
Councillor D. Bevan  
Councillor K. Chaplin  
Councillor M. Cross  
Councillor H. Cunningham  
Councillor D. Davies  
Councillor G. A. Davies  
Councillor M. Day  
Councillor S. Edmunds  
Councillor J. Gardner  
Councillor J. Hill  
Councillor W. Hodgins  
Councillor J. Holt  
Councillor G. Humphreys  
Councillor R. Leadbeater  
Councillor J. Millard  
Councillor E. Jones  
Councillor J. Morgan, J.P.  
Councillor J. C. Morgan  
Councillor J. P. Morgan  
Councillor L. Parsons  
Councillor D. Rowberry  
Councillor T. Smith  
Councillor G. Thomas  
Councillor J. Thomas  
Councillor S. Thomas  
Councillor H. Trollope  
Councillor J. Wilkins  
Councillor D. Wilkshire  
Councillor L. Winnett  
Councillor D. Woods

All other Members (for information)  
Interim Chief Executive  
Chief Officers