



City and County of Swansea

## Minutes of the Council

Remotely via Microsoft Teams

Thursday, 2 December 2021 at 5.00 pm

**Present:** Councillor D W W Thomas (Chair) Presided

### Councillor(s)

C Anderson  
P M Black  
J E Burtonshaw  
M C Child  
J P Curtice  
N J Davies  
A M Day  
P Downing  
C R Doyle  
M Durke  
C R Evans  
V M Evans  
W Evans  
E W Fitzgerald  
R Francis-Davies  
S J Gallagher  
L S Gibbard  
F M Gordon  
K M Griffiths  
D W Helliwell  
T J Hennegan  
C A Holley

### Councillor(s)

P R Hood-Williams  
B Hopkins  
D H Hopkins  
L James  
O G James  
Y V Jardine  
L R Jones  
M H Jones  
M Jones  
P K Jones  
S M Jones  
E T Kirchner  
M A Langstone  
H Lawson  
A S Lewis  
M B Lewis  
R D Lewis  
W G Lewis  
C E Lloyd  
P Lloyd  
I E Mann  
P M Matthews

### Councillor(s)

P N May  
H M Morris  
D Phillips  
C L Philpott  
S Pritchard  
J A Raynor  
C Richards  
K M Roberts  
B J Rowlands  
M Sherwood  
R V Smith  
A H Stevens  
R C Stewart  
D G Sullivan  
M Thomas  
L G Thomas  
L J Tyler-Lloyd  
G D Walker  
L V Walton  
T M White

### Officer(s)

Huw Evans	Head of Democratic Services
Adam Hill	Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Resources
Tracey Meredith	Chief Legal Officer / Monitoring Officer
Phil Roberts	Chief Executive
Ben Smith	Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer

### Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): J A Hale, J W Jones, E J King, A Pugh, G J Tanner and W G Thomas

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## 76. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

The Chief Legal Officer gave advice regarding the potential personal and prejudicial interests that Councillors and / Officers may have on the agenda.

The Head of Democratic Services reminded Councillors and Officers that the "Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests" sheet should only be completed if the Councillor / Officer actually had an interest to declare. Nil returns were not required. Councillors and Officers were also informed that any declarable interest must be made orally and in writing on the sheet.

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea the following interests were declared:

- 1) Councillors C Anderson, P M Black, J E Burtonshaw, M C Child, J P Curtice, N J Davies, A M Day, P Downing, C R Doyle, M Durke, C R Evans, V M Evans, W Evans, E W Fitzgerald, R Francis-Davies, S J Gallagher, L S Gibbard, F M Gordon, K M Griffiths, D W Helliwell, T J Hennegan, C A Holley, P R Hood-Williams, B Hopkins, D H Hopkins, O G James, L James, Y V Jardine, L R Jones, M H Jones, M Jones, P K Jones, S M Jones, E T Kirchner, M A Langstone, H Lawson, A S Lewis, M B Lewis, R D Lewis, W G Lewis, C E Lloyd, P Lloyd, I E Mann, P M Matthews, P N May, H M Morris, D Phillips, C L Philpott, S Pritchard, J A Raynor, C Richards, K M Roberts, B J Rowlands, M Sherwood, R V Smith, A H Stevens, R C Stewart, D G Sullivan, D W W Thomas, L G Thomas, M Thomas, L J Tyler-Lloyd, G D Walker, L V Walton and T M White declared a Personal Interest in Minute 86 "Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) Draft Annual Report 2022-2023 – Consultation".
- 2) Councillors C Anderson, P M Black, J E Burtonshaw, M C Child, J P Curtice, N J Davies, A M Day, P Downing, C R Doyle, M Durke, C R Evans, V M Evans, W Evans, E W Fitzgerald, R Francis-Davies, S J Gallagher, L S Gibbard, F M Gordon, K M Griffiths, D W Helliwell, T J Hennegan, C A Holley, P R Hood-Williams, B Hopkins, D H Hopkins, O G James, L James, Y V Jardine, L R Jones, M H Jones, M Jones, P K Jones, S M Jones, E T Kirchner, M A Langstone, H Lawson, A S Lewis, M B Lewis, R D Lewis, W G Lewis, C E Lloyd, P Lloyd, I E Mann, P M Matthews, P N May, H M Morris, D Phillips, C L Philpott, S Pritchard, J A Raynor, C Richards, K M Roberts, B J Rowlands, M Sherwood, R V Smith, A H Stevens, R C Stewart, D G Sullivan, D W W Thomas, L G Thomas, M Thomas, L J Tyler-Lloyd, G D Walker, L V Walton and T M White declared a Personal Interest in Minute 87 "Councillors Safety & Support".

**77. Minutes.**

**Resolved** that the following Minutes be approved and signed as a correct record:

- 1) Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 4 November 2021.

**78. Written Responses to Questions asked at the Last Ordinary Meeting of Council.**

The Chief Legal Officer submitted an information report setting out the written responses to questions asked at the last Ordinary Meeting of Council.

**79. Announcements of the Presiding Member.**

**a) Condolences**

**i) Michaela Robins, Sister of Councillor Elliott King**

The Presiding Member referred with sadness to the recent death of Michaela Robins, sister of Councillor Elliott King.

**ii) Former Councillor Judith Irvin**

The Presiding Member referred with sadness to the recent death of former Councillor Judith Irvin (now Hinds). Judith represented the Castle Ward for a period until 1973 on Swansea Borough Council.

All present sat silently as a mark as sympathy and respect.

**80. Announcements of the Leader of the Council.**

**a) Always a Bed Pledge**

The Leader of Council stated that the Authority had reiterated the Always a Bed Pledge. This pledge gave a guarantee that a bed was always available for homeless people in Swansea. He thanked Councillor A S Lewis, Councillor A Pugh and relevant Officers for their work with homeless people stating that over 400 people had been helped off the street into permanent homes.

Councillor A S Lewis echoed the words of the Leader of Council and thanked the Officers and Agencies involved in helping the homeless.

**b) Right Wing Organisation – Videos**

The Leader of Council stated that the video information being circulated by a Right Wing Organisation in Swansea about the use of a hotel in the City Centre for Refugees is incorrect.

Swansea Council has sought to support refugees i.e. those that are fleeing war, conflict or are in need. We do not believe that the use of hotels is the appropriate way to provide sanctuary. He stated that Swansea was proud to be a City of Sanctuary.

This Leader of the Largest Opposition Group and the Leader of the Conservative Group supported the Leader of the Council's comments.

**c) Association of Jewish Refugees - Tree Planting**

The Leader of the Council stated that an oak tree had been planted in the grounds of the Guildhall to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Association of Jewish Refugees. The Association of Jewish Refugees is a charity that

supports Holocaust refugees and survivors across Britain. He thanked Norma Glass for her work with the Association.

**d) Human Rights Day – 10 December 2021**

The Leader of the Council referred to the Human Rights Day to be held on 10 December 2021. He stated that the day would also be used to launch Swansea's bid to become a Human Rights City. The intention being to send out a clear message that Swansea is a safe and welcoming place to live.

**e) Mumbles Skate Park. Transfer of Land**

The Leader of the Council stated that Cabinet on 18 November 2021 had approved the transfer of land to Mumbles Community Council for the development of the Mumbles Skate Park. He stated that he was delighted at this at this decision.

**f) Storm Arwen**

The Leader of the Council thanked the relevant Cabinet Member and Officers that had worked tirelessly to clean up the aftermath of Storm Arwen.

**g) Christmas Parade**

The Leader of the Council thanked the relevant Cabinet Member and Officers for delivering an excellent Christmas Parade.

**h) Deferral of Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15**

The Leader of the Council welcomed the decision of the Welsh Government for the 18-month deferral of TAN 15. He stated that the time would be used to work closely on flood defences with Welsh Government and National Resources Wales.

**i) Covid-19 Omicron Variant**

The Leader of the Council referred to the Covid-19 Omicron Variant and reminded all to follow the rules and regulation set down to keep everyone safe in order to control the spread of the virus.

He thanked the Enforcement Officers and other Officers that were working to keep Swansea safe. The Council only ever takes appropriate action with regard to Covid-19.

**81. Public Questions.**

No questions were submitted.

**82. Standards Committee Annual Report 2020-2021.**

The Chair of the Standards Committee, Jill Burgess submitted for information the Standards Committee Annual Report 2020-2021. The report set out the work of the Standards Committee during that period.

**83. Council Tax Base Calculation – 2022/2023.**

The Economy, Finance & Strategy Cabinet Member submitted a report detailing the calculation of the Council Tax Base for the City and County of Swansea, its Community / Town Councils and the Swansea Bay Port Health Authority for 2022/2023. The Council is required to determine the Council Tax Bases by 31 December 2021.

**Resolved** that:

- 1) The calculation of the Council Tax Bases for 2022/2023 be approved.
- 2) In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995, as amended, the calculation by the City and County of Swansea Council for the Year 2022/2023 shall be:

**For the whole area** 93,114

**For the area of Community / Town Councils:**

Bishopston	2,024
Clydach	2,639
Gorseinon	3,288
Gowerton	2,008
Grovesend & Waungron	441
Ilston	351
Killay	2,144
Llangennith, Llanmadoc and Cheriton	527
Llangyfelach	965
Llanrhidian Higher	1,606
Llanrhidian Lower	340
Llwchwr	3,477
Mawr	758
Mumbles	10,089
Penllergaer	1,434
Pennard	1,563
Penrice	485
Pontarddulais	2,327
Pontlliw and Tircoed	1,034
Port Eynon	478
Reynoldston	324
Rhossili	212
Three Crosses	712
Upper Killay	603

**For the area of the Swansea Bay Port Health Authority** 64,857

**84. Review of the Gambling Policy.**

The Cabinet Member for Delivery & Operations submitted a report that sought consideration and approval to the proposed amendments to the Gambling Policy.

**Resolved** that:

1. The proposed amendments to the Gambling Policy be approved and the revised Policy attached at Appendix B to the report be adopted.

**85. Diversity in Democracy - Action Plan.**

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report that had been recommended for adoption by the Democratic Services Committee held on 8 November 2021. The report presented an Action Plan setting out how Council could support the Diversity in Democracy Programme.

**Resolved** that:

- 1) The Diversity in Democracy Action Plan be adopted.

**86. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) Draft Annual Report 2022-2023 – Consultation.**

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report informing Council of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) Draft Annual Report 2022-2023 and outlined the determinations proposed by the IRPW. The report also contained the recommended draft response of the Democratic Services Committee of 8 November 2021 to the consultation.

**Resolved** that:

- 1) The draft IRPW Annual Report 2022-2023 be noted.
- 2) The comments and observations as set out in Appendix A of the report be adopted as the Authority's formal response to the IRPW.

**87. Councillor Safety & Support.**

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report seeking to provide support to all Councillors in discharging their role by agreeing in principle to the Council funding appropriate security measures where Councillors are at personal risk of significant threat.

**Resolved** that:

- 3) Where a Councillor is at personal risk or significant threat of harm in carrying out their role that consideration be given to funding appropriate security measures.

- 4) Authority be delegated to the Head of Democratic Services and the Chief Finance Officer to consider and determine any request for such funding.
- 5) A document relating to the Personal Safety of Councillors be included in the Local Government Elections 2022 Candidate Packs.

**88. Councillors' Questions.**

**1) Part A 'Supplementary Questions'**

Seven (7) Part A 'Supplementary Questions' were submitted. The relevant Cabinet Member(s) responded by way of written answers contained in the Council Summons.

No supplementary questions required a written response.

**2) Part B 'Questions not requiring Supplementary Questions'**

Four (4) Part B 'Questions not requiring Supplementary Questions' were submitted.

The meeting ended at 6.23 pm

**Chair**