



## **SPECIAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY 2021 AT 5.00PM**

PRESENT:

Councillor C. Andrews - Mayor

Councillors:

M. Adams, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, A.P. Angel, P.J. Bevan, C. Bezzina, L.J. Binding, A. Collis, S. Cook, D. Cushing, C. Cuss, W. David, D.T. Davies, M. Davies, K. Dawson, N. Dix, C. Elsbury, K. Etheridge, M. Evans, A. Farina-Childs, J.E. Fussell, A. Gair, N. George, C. Gordon, R.W. Gough, D.T. Hardacre, L. Harding, A.G. Higgs, A. Hussey, M.P. James, V. James, L. Jeremiah, G. Johnston, Mrs B.A. Jones, S. Kent, G. Kirby, Mrs A. Leonard, Ms P. Leonard, C.P. Mann, P. Marsden, B. Miles, S. Morgan, Mrs G.D. Oliver (by telephone), B. Owen, Mrs T. Parry, Mrs L. Phipps, D.W.R. Preece, Mrs D. Price, J. Pritchard, J. Ridgewell, R. Saralis, Mrs M.E. Sargent, J. Scriven, G. Simmonds, J. Simmonds, S. Skivens, Mrs E. Stenner, J. Taylor, C. Thomas, A. Whitcombe, R. Whiting, L G. Whittle, T.J. Williams, W. Williams, B. Zaplatynski

Together with: -

C. Harry (Chief Executive), R. Edmunds (Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services), D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services & Housing), M.S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director – Communities), S. Harris (Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer), R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer), R. Kyte (Head of Regeneration and Planning), R. Thomas (Planning Services Manager), S. Pugh (Communications Manager), A. Southcombe (Finance Manager - Corporate Finance), R. Williams (Group Accountant-Treasury and Capital), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer), R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

#### **WEB-CASTING FILMING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Chief Executive reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed but would not be live streamed, however a recording would be available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here to View](#). She advised that decisions would be made by Microsoft Forms.

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Bevan, Mrs C. Forehead, Miss E. Forehead, J. Gale (Deputy Mayor), D. Harse, D. Havard, D.V. Poole and J. Roberts.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors D.T. Davies, C. Elsbury and A. Hussey declared a personal interest in Agenda Item No. 5 as members of the South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority. Details are minuted with the respective item

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

Consideration was given to the following reports.

## **3. CAPITAL STRATEGY REPORT 2021/2022**

Consideration was given to the report, which outlined details of the Capital Strategy for 2021/22 in accordance with the Prudential Code that was introduced by the Local Government Act 2003, and sought Council approval on its contents. The report had been presented to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 12th January 2021 who recommended approval of the Capital Strategy to Council.

Council were advised that the Capital Strategy gives a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and Treasury Management activity contributes to the provision of services, along with an overview of how associated risk is managed and what the implications might be for future financial sustainability. The report included overarching details of the core capital budgets for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account. Further details of the 2021/22 – 2023/24 core capital programme and the funding of the programme can be found in the Budget Report

In addition to the core capital budgets, the wider capital programme also includes a range of schemes funded from external sources, and the Capital Strategy also includes details of what can be classed as capital expenditure and the decision-making framework for the capital investment proposals. This is underpinned by the Prudential Code for Local Authority Investment, which ensures that capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable, that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice, and that local strategic planning, management and proper option appraisals are supported.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting that there were 59 for, 1 against and 1 abstention, this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the annual Capital Strategy Report 2021/2022 be approved.

## **4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL STRATEGY, CAPITAL FINANCE PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS AND MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY FOR 2021/2022.**

Consideration was given to the report, which sought Council approval of the Authority's Annual Strategy for Treasury Management and a dataset of Prudential Indicators relevant to Treasury Management and Capital Finance. The report cross-references the report by the Corporate Director of Education and Corporate Services on Revenue and Capital Budgets ["the budget report"] also considered in this meeting. The report also sought approval of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy to be adopted by the Authority for 2021/2022.

It was noted that the report had been presented to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 12th January 2021 for their comment, who following due debate, supported the recommendations to Council.

Members were pleased to note the level of return on investments made by the Authority and it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting that there were 62 for, 0 against and 0 abstentions, this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that: -

- (i) the Annual Strategy for Treasury Management 2021/22 be approved;
- (ii) the strategy be reviewed quarterly within the Treasury Management monitoring reports presented to Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee and any changes recommended be referred to Cabinet, in the first instance, and to Council for a decision. The Authority will also prepare a half-yearly report on Treasury Management activities;
- (iii) the Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management be approved as per Appendix 5 of the report;
- (iv) the Prudential Indicators for Capital Financing be approved as per Appendices 6 & 7 of the report;
- (v) Members adopt the MRP policy as set out in Appendix 8 of the report;
- (vi) The continuation of the 2020/21 investment strategy and the lending to financial institutions and Corporates in accordance with the minimum credit rating criteria disclosed within the report be approved;
- (vii) the Authority borrows £37.2m for the General Fund to support the 2021/22 capital programme and £52.0m for the HRA WHQS and Affordable Homes programme;
- (viii) the Authority continues to adopt the investment grade scale as a minimum credit rating criterion to assess the credit worthiness of suitable counterparties when placing investments;
- (ix) the Authority adopts the monetary and investment duration limits as set out in Appendix 3 of the report.

## **5. BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2021/22 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL OUTLOOK.**

Councillors D.T. Davies, C. Elsbury and A. Hussey declared a personal interest as members of the South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority and remained in the meeting during consideration of the item.

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Customer Service presented the report, which had been supported by Cabinet at its meeting on 17th February 2021 and sought Council's endorsement of the budget proposals for 2021/22. The report also provided an update on the Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

Council were informed that the proposals place the Authority in a position to continue to protect its key services, and the 3.1% uplift in the Provisional Financial Settlement along

with the proposed increase in Council Tax of 3.9% will mean that there will be no requirement for any new savings to be identified to balance the budget for the 2021/22 financial year. Council were asked to note that the proposed Council Tax increase is likely to be lower than many other local authorities across Wales and will ensure that the Council remains financially resilient whilst doing its best to protect its residents.

Furthermore, the proposals in the report will also maintain service provision across the Council, fund increasing demand and service pressures in key areas such as Social Services and Education, enable new community focussed investments in areas such as Caerphilly Cares and the proposed Community Empowerment Fund, provide the capacity and resilience required to drive forward the Team Caerphilly Transformation Programme and Place Shaping Plan, and address legacy issues in respect of income shortfalls in a number of service areas. The Council is on a journey of recovery, improvement and transformation and the proposals set out in the report will provide a sound platform to move forward with its ambitious plans.

It was noted that details of the 2021/22 Final Local Government Financial Settlement will not be announced until 2nd March 2021, however it is anticipated that this will not vary significantly from the position set out in the Provisional Settlement. It was also explained that the budget proposals do not cover the ongoing financial implications arising from the Covid-19 pandemic and these will continue to be funded through WG grants.

Council were provided with details of the projected movement on the General Fund balance and it was noted that the updated projected balance is £11.232m, which represents 3.05% of the proposed 2021/22 Net Revenue Budget. This is marginally above the minimum level of 3% that is recommended by the Section 151 Officer.

It was acknowledged that the proposed Council Tax increase of 3.9% had resulted in some concerns from residents and the submission of a petition in this regard, but it was emphasised that the proposed increase will result in no new cuts to crucial services for the forthcoming financial year, whilst enabling the Council to continue to support residents through the most challenging times for a generation. Members were reminded that the proposals in the report will help the Council's onward journey to transformation and the implementation of the Wellbeing and Place Shaping Framework, offering hope, strength and purpose, with a focus on delivery, improvement and financial resilience in these challenging times.

Members expressed their thanks to Steve Harris and his staff for the preparation of the detailed report and thanked all Council staff for their dedication in continuing to deliver services throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved.

Members welcomed the absence of service cuts for the 2021/22 financial year but expressed concerns around the impact of the proposed increase in Council Tax, particularly in view of the financial hardships already experienced by many residents as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Council discussed this proposal at length and several Members expressed the need for the budget proposals to be universally supported in order to provide the best opportunities for residents of the borough. Other Members emphasised that they were not against the ethos of the budget proposals but felt that a lower increase in Council Tax could be achieved whilst still maintaining a balanced budget.

One Member declared that he would be moving an amendment later in the debate to reduce the proposed Council Tax increase to 2.4%. He expressed concerns that the amount budgeted for employee pay increases is more than what is realistically needed,

suggested a need to bring industrial property rentals back on track, and also had concerns around the level of staffing costs in relation to the Transformation Team.

Steve Harris (Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer) responded to these comments and explained that reducing the Council Tax uplift to 2.4% would result in a shortfall of £849k in the 2021/22 revenue budget and that this would require savings to be found. Furthermore, the £849k additional revenue would not be available in future years resulting in a higher MTFP savings requirement. Clarification was provided on the current position in respect of the pay uplift and the UK Chancellor's announcement of a pay freeze for the majority of Local Government employees. It was explained that the pay award is a matter for Local Authorities, the Trade Unions and the Independent Welsh Pay Review Body on Teachers Pay and that the budget proposals only allow for a modest increase of 1% for all staff alongside the £250 payment for those earning below £24k. It was further explained that this funding will be held centrally until the 2021/22 pay award is agreed and will then either be released to services or retained as a saving in advance depending on the outcome of negotiations. It was also explained that any pay award in excess of the levels budgeted for will require additional funding to be identified. With regards to the proposed investments in the Transformation Team, Members were reminded of the aspirations of the Council in terms of transformation and the Place Shaping Plan and it was emphasised that this investment is required to move these plans forward.

During the course of the debate, a query was received around the cost pressures faced by Social Services as a result of the pandemic, and these were outlined to Members, with it noted that the budget requires growth of £2.5m to meet the full-year costs of placements.

In response to other queries from Members, Officers gave assurances that the Council is striving to protect and maintain the quality of services at pre-Covid levels, and provided clarification on the number of households receiving support through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. Queries were also received on the renewable energy investment proposal for an electricity line between Gelliargwellt Farm and Tredomen, and the costs for the proposed expansion of Trinity Fields School. It was confirmed that these proposals did not form part of the budget report and would be the subject of separate consultation processes and further reports prepared for Members' consideration.

A Member sought confirmation of the costs relating to the senior officer pay investigation and costs of settlement agreements and Mr Harris explained that these details have been previously circulated to Members through a number of reports and are also set out in the Council's Annual Financial Statements. A Member also asked for the total number of reductions in posts since 2017 together with the percentage of posts held as vacancies during the same period, and it was confirmed that this information would be circulated to Members following the meeting

During debate on the proposed Council Tax increase, an amendment was moved and seconded in respect of Recommendation 1.6 (v) for a 0% increase in Council Tax for this financial year only in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. Another Member suggested that a proportion of the budget for the Transformation Agenda could be diverted to offset this 0% uplift. The Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer explained that a 0% increase would lead to a gap of around £2.2m in the budget.

A Member asked if there was a surplus from additional WG funding made available to local authorities to support the Council Tax Reduction Scheme which could be used to offset an increase in Council Tax. Mr Harris confirmed that Caerphilly's share of the funding was just over £300k and that it had been made available to support additional costs relating to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme in the 2020/21 financial year only. It was explained that this could not be used to lower the level of Council Tax year-on-year as the funding is not available for future years.

During the course of debate on the proposed amendment, Councillor S. Morgan quoted comments made by Councillor J. Fussell at the Joint Scrutiny Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021, in relation to Place Shaping investment proposals for a hotel development at Park Lane in Caerphilly. Councillor Fussell stated that Councillor Morgan had misinterpreted his comments and requested a retraction, and in clarifying, explained that he had quoted an external source but did not share their views. Councillor Morgan apologised for any misinterpretation and retracted his statement.

The mover of the amendment for a 0% increase in Council Tax was reminded that the amendment would need to include alternative funding to meet the net impact of a £2.206m shortfall. The Member stated that he had already supplied an alternative budget to Officers two years ago but had received no response, and that he was waiting to receive the Council's service directory in order to determine where updated savings could be made. Mr Harris explained that the service directory is in the process of being finalised but that other priorities have taken over since the Covid-19 pandemic.

Voting took place on the amendment in respect of Recommendation 1.6 (v) for a 0% increase in Council Tax, and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting there were 5 for, 52 against and 2 abstentions, the amendment was declared lost.

A further amendment to report recommendation 1.6 (v) was then moved and seconded, in that the level of Council Tax increase be reduced to 2.4% and that the £849k shortfall be met by reducing the amount allowed for future pay rises, reconfiguration of the Transformation Team, addressing the shortfall on industrial property rents, and considering the use of excess funds held in the General Fund.

In accordance with Rule of Procedure 15.4(1) a request was made for a recorded vote which was supported by 10 Members.

**For the Amendment:**

A.P. Angel, P.J. Bevan, L.J. Binding, D. Cushing, M. Davies, C. Elsbury, R.W. Gough, M.P. James, S. Kent, C.P. Mann, Mrs T. Parry, Mrs M.E. Sargent, J. Scriven, G. Simmonds, S. Skivens, J. Taylor, L.G. Whittle **(17)**

**Against the Amendment:**

M. Adams, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, C. Andrews, A. Collis, S. Cook, C. Cuss, D.T. Davies, K. Dawson, K. Etheridge, M. Evans, A. Farina-Childs, N. George, C. Gordon, D.T. Hardacre, L. Harding, A.G. Higgs, A. Hussey, V. James, L. Jeremiah, G. Johnston, Mrs B.A. Jones, G. Kirby, Mrs A. Leonard, Ms P. Leonard, P. Marsden, S. Morgan, Mrs G.D. Oliver, Mrs L. Phipps, D.W.R. Preece, Mrs D. Price, J. Pritchard, J. Ridgewell, R. Saralis, J. Simmonds, Mrs E. Stenner, C. Thomas, A. Whitcombe, R. Whiting, T.J. Williams, W. Williams, B. Zaplatynski **(41)**

**Abstentions:**

N. Dix, B. Owen **(2)**

Councillor B. Miles declined to take part in the vote as she had experienced technical difficulties and had been unable to hear the whole debate on the amendment.

The amendment was declared lost.

Following further debate and having already moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved, voting then took place on the substantive motion.

A request was made for a recorded vote in accordance with Rule of Procedure 15.4(1), which was not supported.

By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting that there were 39 for, 17 against and 1 abstention, the recommendations were agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The revenue budget proposals for 2021/22 of £368.227m be agreed as detailed throughout the report and summarised in Appendix 1;
- (ii) The proposal to appoint four fixed-term Project Managers be approved for an initial period of 2 years to support the delivery of the Council's Transformation Programme and Place Shaping Plan, with the total costs of £368k being funded from the £1.8m reserve previously approved by Council to support the delivery of the MTFP (paragraph 5.3.37);
- (iii) The movements on the General Fund in Appendix 2 be noted and the proposal that for one year only £1.050m of the General Fund balance be used to support the 2021/22 budget be agreed due to there being no assumed Council Tax surplus in the 2020/21 financial year;
- (iv) The proposed Capital Programme for the period 2021/22 to 2023/24 as set out in Appendix 3 be agreed;
- (v) The proposal to increase Council Tax by 3.9% for the 2021/22 year be agreed to ensure that a balanced budget is achieved (Council Tax Band D being set at £1,230.57);
- (vi) The updated MTFP be noted as set out in Appendix 4 showing an indicative potential savings requirement of £21.1m for the four-year period 2022/23 to 2025/26.

## 6. COUNCIL TAX SETTING RESOLUTION 2021/22

Consideration was given to the report which provided details of the Authority's Council Tax for the 2021/22 financial year, prior to passing the necessary statutory resolutions.

It was moved and seconded that the resolutions contained in the Officer's report be approved and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting that there were 40 for, 15 against and 1 abstention, this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED: -

1. That it be noted that at its meeting on the 9th December 2020 the Cabinet calculated the following amounts for the year 2021/2022 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of The Local Government Finance Act 1992 and powers granted under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Functions and Responsibilities) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (as amended).
  - (a) **60,793.26** Being the amount calculated by the Cabinet, in accordance with Regulation (3) of The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995 (as amended), as its council tax base for the year.

(b) Part of Council's Area:

	<u>Tax Base</u>
	<u>No. of D Band</u>
	<u>Equivalent Properties</u>
Aber Valley	2,021.25
Argoed	857.68
Bargoed	3,689.61
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	3,878.38
Blackwood	2,952.00
Caerphilly	6,281.05
Darren Valley	718.70
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	615.41
Gelligaer	6,279.57
	<u>Tax Base</u>
	<u>No. of D Band</u>
	<u>Equivalent Properties</u>
Llanbradach & Pwllypant	1,486.17
Maesycwmmmer	897.09
Nelson	1,591.05
New Tredegar	1,347.84
Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn	4,468.28
Rhymney	2,566.71
Risca East	2,043.13
Risca West	1,819.97
Van	1,639.61
Remainder	15,639.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,793.26</b>

*being the amounts calculated by the cabinet, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.*

2. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2021/2022 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992: -

- (a) **£368,227,794** *being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (d) of the Act;*
- (b) **£1,050,000** *being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3) (a) to (c) of the Act;*
- (c) **£368,076,546** *being the amount by which the aggregate at (2)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (2)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;*
- (d) **£292,367,432** *being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its council fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant, an authority's council tax reduction scheme or additional grant;*



- (e) **£1,245.36** *being the amount at (2)(c) above less the amount at (2)(d) above, all be divided by the amount at (1)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year;*
- (f) **£898,752** *being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in section 34(1) of the Act;*
- (g) **£1,230.57** *being the amount at (2)(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (2)(f) above by the amount at (1)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates;*

(h) Part of the Council's Area	County		Total County
	Local Precept	Borough Levy	Borough & Community Council Band D Charge
	£	£	£
Aber Valley	19.79	1,230.57	1,250.36
Argoed	15.00	1,230.57	1,245.57
Bargoed	33.85	1,230.57	1,264.42
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	25.77	1,230.57	1,256.34
Blackwood	20.00	1,230.57	1,250.57
Caerphilly	15.50	1,230.57	1,246.07
Darren Valley	18.06	1,230.57	1,248.63
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	32.50	1,230.57	1,263.07
Gelligaer	21.13	1,230.57	1,251.70
Llanbradach & Pwllypant	22.89	1,230.57	1,253.46
Maesycwmmmer	20.40	1,230.57	1,250.97
Nelson	18.18	1,230.57	1,248.75
New Tredegar	12.56	1,230.57	1,243.13
Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn	14.22	1,230.57	1,244.79
Rhymney	13.64	1,230.57	1,244.21
Risca East	12.00	1,230.57	1,242.57
Risca West	27.70	1,230.57	1,258.27
Van	16.68	1,230.57	1,247.25
Remainder	0.00	1,230.57	1,230.57

*being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (2)(g) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at (1)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts, of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate;*

(i)

<b><u>Valuation Bands</u></b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>County Borough Council</b>	820.38	957.11	1,093.84	1,230.57	1,504.03	1,777.49	2,050.95	2,461.14	2,871.33
<b><u>Community Councils</u></b>									
Aber Valley	13.19	15.39	17.59	19.79	24.19	28.59	32.98	39.58	46.18
Argoed	10.00	11.67	13.33	15.00	18.33	21.67	25.00	30.00	35.00
Bargoed	22.57	26.33	30.09	33.85	41.37	48.89	56.42	67.70	78.98
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	17.18	20.04	22.91	25.77	31.50	37.22	42.95	51.54	60.13
Blackwood	13.33	15.56	17.78	20.00	24.44	28.89	33.33	40.00	46.67
Caerphilly	10.33	12.06	13.78	15.50	18.94	22.39	25.83	31.00	36.17
Darren Valley	12.04	14.05	16.05	18.06	22.07	26.09	30.10	36.12	42.14
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	21.67	25.28	28.89	32.50	39.72	46.94	54.17	65.00	75.83
Gelligaer	14.09	16.43	18.78	21.13	25.83	30.52	35.22	42.26	49.30
Llanbradach & Pwllpant	15.26	17.80	20.35	22.89	27.98	33.06	38.15	45.78	53.41
Maesycwmmmer	13.60	15.87	18.13	20.40	24.93	29.47	34.00	40.80	47.60
Nelson	12.12	14.14	16.16	18.18	22.22	26.26	30.30	36.36	42.42
New Tredegar	8.37	9.77	11.16	12.56	15.35	18.14	20.93	25.12	29.31
Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn	9.48	11.06	12.64	14.22	17.38	20.54	23.70	28.44	33.18
Rhymney	9.09	10.61	12.12	13.64	16.67	19.70	22.73	27.28	31.83
Risca East	8.00	9.33	10.67	12.00	14.67	17.33	20.00	24.00	28.00
Risca West	18.47	21.54	24.62	27.70	33.86	40.01	46.17	55.40	64.63
Van	11.12	12.97	14.83	16.68	20.39	24.09	27.80	33.36	38.92
Remainder	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

<b><u>Valuation Bands</u></b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b><u>Totals For Community Council Areas</u></b>									
Aber Valley	833.57	972.50	1,111.43	1,250.36	1,528.22	1,806.08	2,083.93	2,500.72	2,917.51
Argoed	830.38	968.78	1,107.17	1,245.57	1,522.36	1,799.16	2,075.95	2,491.14	2,906.33
Bargoed	842.95	983.44	1,123.93	1,264.42	1,545.40	1,826.38	2,107.37	2,528.84	2,950.31
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	837.56	977.15	1,116.75	1,256.34	1,535.53	1,814.71	2,093.90	2,512.68	2,931.46
Blackwood	833.71	972.67	1,111.62	1,250.57	1,528.47	1,806.38	2,084.28	2,501.14	2,918.00
Caerphilly	830.71	969.17	1,107.62	1,246.07	1,522.97	1,799.88	2,076.78	2,492.14	2,907.50
Darren Valley	832.42	971.16	1,109.89	1,248.63	1,526.10	1,803.58	2,081.05	2,497.26	2,913.47
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	842.05	982.39	1,122.73	1,263.07	1,543.75	1,824.43	2,105.12	2,526.14	2,947.16
Gelligaer	834.47	973.54	1,112.62	1,251.70	1,529.86	1,808.01	2,086.17	2,503.40	2,920.63
Llanbradach & Pwllpant	835.64	974.91	1,114.19	1,253.46	1,532.01	1,810.55	2,089.10	2,506.92	2,924.74
Maesycwmmmer	833.98	972.98	1,111.97	1,250.97	1,528.96	1,806.96	2,084.95	2,501.94	2,918.93
Nelson	832.50	971.25	1,110.00	1,248.75	1,526.25	1,803.75	2,081.25	2,497.50	2,913.75
New Tredegar	828.75	966.88	1,105.00	1,243.13	1,519.38	1,795.63	2,071.88	2,486.26	2,900.64
Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn	829.86	968.17	1,106.48	1,244.79	1,521.41	1,798.03	2,074.65	2,489.58	2,904.51
Rhymney	829.47	967.72	1,105.96	1,244.21	1,520.70	1,797.19	2,073.68	2,488.42	2,903.16
Risca East	828.38	966.44	1,104.51	1,242.57	1,518.70	1,794.82	2,070.95	2,485.14	2,899.33
Risca West	838.85	978.65	1,118.46	1,258.27	1,537.89	1,817.50	2,097.12	2,516.54	2,935.96
Van	831.50	970.08	1,108.67	1,247.25	1,524.42	1,801.58	2,078.75	2,494.50	2,910.25
Remainder	820.38	957.11	1,093.84	1,230.57	1,504.03	1,777.49	2,050.95	2,461.14	2,871.33

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (2)(g) and (2)(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in a

particular valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

3. That it be noted that for the year 2021/2022 the major precepting authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

<u>Valuation Bands</u>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Precepting Authority</u>									
Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent	191.97	223.97	255.96	287.96	351.95	415.94	479.93	575.92	671.91

4. That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (2)(i) and (3) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts of Council Tax for the year 2021/2022 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

<u>Valuation Bands</u>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aber Valley	1,025.54	1,196.47	1,367.39	1,538.32	1,880.17	2,222.02	2,563.86	3,076.64	3,589.42
Argoed	1,022.35	1,192.75	1,363.13	1,533.53	1,874.31	2,215.10	2,555.88	3,067.06	3,578.24
Bargoed	1,034.92	1,207.41	1,379.89	1,552.38	1,897.35	2,242.32	2,587.30	3,104.76	3,622.22
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	1,029.53	1,201.12	1,372.71	1,544.30	1,887.48	2,230.65	2,573.83	3,088.60	3,603.37
Blackwood	1,025.68	1,196.64	1,367.58	1,538.53	1,880.42	2,222.32	2,564.21	3,077.06	3,589.91
Caerphilly	1,022.68	1,193.14	1,363.58	1,534.03	1,874.92	2,215.82	2,556.71	3,068.06	3,579.41
Darren Valley	1,024.39	1,195.13	1,365.85	1,536.59	1,878.05	2,219.52	2,560.98	3,073.18	3,585.38
Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry	1,034.02	1,206.36	1,378.69	1,551.03	1,895.70	2,240.37	2,585.05	3,102.06	3,619.07
Gelligaer	1,026.44	1,197.51	1,368.58	1,539.66	1,881.81	2,223.95	2,566.10	3,079.32	3,592.54
Llanbradach & Pwllpant	1,027.61	1,198.88	1,370.15	1,541.42	1,883.96	2,226.49	2,569.03	3,082.84	3,596.65
Maesycwmmmer	1,025.95	1,196.95	1,367.93	1,538.93	1,880.91	2,222.90	2,564.88	3,077.86	3,590.84
Nelson	1,024.47	1,195.22	1,365.96	1,536.71	1,878.20	2,219.69	2,561.18	3,073.42	3,585.66
New Tredegar	1,020.72	1,190.85	1,360.96	1,531.09	1,871.33	2,211.57	2,551.81	3,062.18	3,572.55
Penyrheol, Treceenydd & Energlyn	1,021.83	1,192.14	1,362.44	1,532.75	1,873.36	2,213.97	2,554.58	3,065.50	3,576.42
Rhymney	1,021.44	1,191.69	1,361.92	1,532.17	1,872.65	2,213.13	2,553.61	3,064.34	3,575.07
Risca East	1,020.35	1,190.41	1,360.47	1,530.53	1,870.65	2,210.76	2,550.88	3,061.06	3,571.24
Risca West	1,030.82	1,202.62	1,374.42	1,546.23	1,889.84	2,233.44	2,577.05	3,092.46	3,607.87
Van	1,023.47	1,194.05	1,364.63	1,535.21	1,876.37	2,217.52	2,558.68	3,070.42	3,582.16
Remainder	1,012.35	1,181.08	1,349.80	1,518.53	1,855.98	2,193.43	2,530.88	3,037.06	3,543.24

## 7. **BUS EMERGENCY SCHEME (BES) - REQUEST TO ALL COUNCILS TO SIGN UP TO BES 2 SCHEME - URGENT ITEM CONSIDERED BY CABINET**

The Mayor confirmed that the report was considered as an urgent item by Cabinet on 27th January 2021 and under the requirements of the Constitution any decision taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of Council, giving the reasons for its urgency. Therefore, Council was asked to note the reasons for the report's urgency and the Cabinet Decision.

Council noted the report and the decision of Cabinet.

The meeting closed at 7.19 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2021.

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MAYOR