BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL FINANCE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th of JUNE 2026 AT 6.30 PM.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 47 of the Local Government and Elections Wales) Act 2021, the meeting was held on a hybrid basis in the Council Chamber at 101, High Street Blaenavon and remotely.

In attendance:

Councillors in attendance: J. Davies (Chair), S. Maslen, L. Cowles, L. Evans, N. Matthews, Porter, A. Beavan, M. Wheeler, A. Lewis.

Absent: J. Hunt.

Youth Representatives: B. Paynter, D. Morse.

Officers: K. Warren (Chief Officer, CO), K. Jones (Assistant Chief Officer, ACO).

Visitors: None present.

Members of public: None present.

The finance meeting was opened at 6:30pm by the Deputy Mayor Councillor Davies who welcomed everyone and expressed thanks for attendance.

1. To receive any questions from the public.

None received.

2. To receive and accept apologies.

The Chief Officer informed the chairperson that the following apologies had been received.

- Cllr Griffin
- Cllr Parfitt

It was proposed by Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr Evans that the apologies be accepted.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Apologies accepted.

3. Declarations of Interest.

None declared.

4. Council Meetings: To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 13th of May 2026.

Minutes were read for accuracy with no amendments.

It was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Wheeler that the minutes be accepted.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Minutes approved as a true and accurate record.

5. Responsible Finance Officer's Update: To receive and consider the May 2026 financial updates.

Mr Warren (RFO) forwarded to members the 2026 financial reports electronically in advance of the meeting which detailed the following areas:

- Income and Expenditure
- Credit Card Payments
- Cheque Payments
- Bacs Payments
- Cash Book Transactions
- Bank Reconciliation (Bank Statements 200)
- Project Expenditure
- Budget
- VAT
- Petty Cash

Mr Warren presented to members each of the above areas of finance for May 2026 and highlighted any relevant information.

The was no income this month.

The monies from the Befriending Film Club and Bristol coach trip are still to be banked.

Members were invited to ask any questions in relation to the information presented.

Members were happy with the presentation.

It was proposed by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr Beavan that the financial report for May 2026 be accepted.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Financial update for May 2026 accepted by members.

6. To receive and make any relevant determination regarding an update relating to funding for a proposed Heritage Day event.

An email from Rebecca Hartley had been circulated to all Members prior to the meeting.

Members noted that no funding allocation had yet been confirmed by Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) and discussed the limited timescale associated with the proposed funding.

Cllr Matthews provided an update following attendance at a World Heritage Site Steering Group meeting. Members were advised that funding approval had been delayed due to the pre-election period, with formal sign-off expected to take place the following week.

A grant of up to £11,000 had been discussed, subject to certain conditions, including the delivery of a town centre event by the end of 2026. It was also noted that the funding would be provided on a one-off basis only.

Members were informed that a meeting had been arranged for the 11th of June 2026 between Rebecca Hartley, Council Officers and the Events Working Group to discuss the funding proposal and associated conditions in further detail.

Members considered previous determinations made by the Council and discussed the capacity of the Council to successfully deliver an event within the required time limit.

The Chief Officer shared Officers' annual leave arrangements for June, July and August, highlighting current staffing capacity and resource implications.

Following further discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Cowles to await the outcome of the meeting with Rebecca Hartley before making any further determinations.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Members to await outcome of meeting with Rebecca Hartley.

7. To discuss and make any relevant determinations regarding the setting of a suitable date for a second round of grant application requests.

Following the determination made in the May Finance meeting a brief discussion took place amongst members regarding dates for a second round of grant applications.

It was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Beavan that the grant applications be launched as soon as practicable for discussion and determinations to be made in the July Full Council meeting.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Grant applications to be launched as soon as practicable for discussion and determinations to be made in the July Full Council meeting.

8. To discuss and make any relevant determinations regarding the final arrangements for the Youth Representative Family Quiz night.

Dan and Boyd thanked the Officers for their help and support in organising their first event.

They also expressed their gratitude to Butterflies Steak House, and Munchies for their generous donations of raffle prizes.

The PowerPoint presentation has been completed, and all arrangements have been finalised.

Facebook engagement has been positive, and members were encouraged to attend and support the event on the evening.

Resolved: Members noted update.

9. To discuss and make any relevant determinations regarding the purchase of an inflatable marquee.

The ACO, at the request of Members, had forwarded a link received from Forgeside Community Garden regarding inflatable marquees for Members' consideration.

Members discussed the potential purchase of an inflatable marquee and considered its suitability and value to the Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Wheeler, seconded by Cllr Maslen not to proceed with the purchase of an inflatable marquee at this time.

Thew ACO will update Forgeside Community Garden.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Not to purchase an inflatable marquee.

10. Appointment of one representative as the Minor Authority Governor at Blaenavon World Heritage School.

A discussion took place amongst members.

Cllr Porter agreed to continue as the council's representative as school Governor.

It was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Beavan.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Cllr Porter to remain as school governor for Blaenavon Heritage School.

11. To discuss and make any relevant determinations regarding correspondence received from One Voice Wales relating to Councillor attendance at Gwent Valleys Area Committee meetings.

An email from One Voice Wales had been circulated to all Members prior to the meeting.

The email highlighted concerns regarding poor attendance by council representatives at Gwent Valleys Area Committee meetings, as identified in a 2025 report.

Members discussed the matter and the importance of maintaining representation at Area Committee meetings.

It was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Evans that where the Council's appointed representatives, currently Cllr Evans and Cllr Lewis, are unable to attend a Gwent Valleys Area Committee meeting, all Members shall be notified and an alternative Cllr representative to attend on behalf of the Council.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: When the appointed representatives are unable to attend a Gwent Valleys Area Committee meeting, all Members shall be notified and an alternative Cllr representative to attend on behalf of the Council.

12. To discuss and make any relevant determinations regarding the civic flag-raising ceremony on Monday 22 June 2026 to mark the start of Armed Forces Week.

Members discussed arrangements for the proposed civic flag-raising ceremony to mark the start of Armed Forces Week.

It was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Matthews to contact Blaenavon Branch Royal British Legion (RBL) to request access to the Cenotaph and to coordinate the flag-raising ceremony in conjunction with the RBL and a service led by Father Chris Walters.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Chief Officer to contact RBL to request access to the Cenotaph and to coordinate the flag-raising ceremony in conjunction with the RBL.

13. To discuss and make a determination regarding potential Town Council projects for allocation into the Project Action Plan 2026/27. Relevant updates or new projects as notified.

The proposed refurbishment of the flower boxes on Cwmavon Road roundabout project was displayed on screen.

A brief discussion took place amongst members.

It was proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Cowles.

All members in agreement

Resolved: Refurbishment of the flower boxes on Cwmavon Roundabout project supported.

All members in agreement.

Meeting ended at 19:19 hrs.

Chairman Signed: A. Lou **Date: 8/07/2026.**

Financial Summary - Cashbook

Summary of receipts and payments between 01/06/26 and 30/06/26 inclusive. This may include transactions with ledger dates outside this period.

Balances at the start of the year

Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£68,657.93
Petty Cash	£4.73
Total	£68,662.66

PAYMENTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Council	£15,209.86	£47.73	£15,257.59
Total Payments	£15,209.86	£47.73	£15,257.59

Closing Balances a 30/06/26

Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£88,320.94
Petty Cash	£4.73
	£88,325.67
Total	£88,325.67

Uncleared and Unpresented effects

Statement Closing Balance 30/06/26

Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£88,320.94
Petty Cash	£4.73
Total	£88,325.67

Signed

Chair

Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer