

PlaCE – Planning, Commerce and the Environment Committee Terms of Reference

As Amended & Agreed 20/05/2026 Minute No. 24

To support the responsible development and maintenance of the built and natural environment within the Community Council area.

To support the development and maintenance of conditions favourable to retail, commercial and business activities within the Community Council area through the provision of, and support for, events, projects and initiatives.

The Committee should be nine voting Members – and, in any case, shall be no fewer than five – appointed by Full Council. The Committee may appoint additional Members as non-voting members of the Committee.

The Chair of the Committee shall convene an ordinary meeting of the Committee at least once every quarter.

The Committee shall have the authority to establish sub-committees and/or working groups from within the membership of the Committee and to appoint other Members of the Council to the sub-committees and/or working groups for which it is responsible.

The Committee shall have the authority to appoint members of the Committee (or of a sub-committee or working group) who are not Members of the Council. The Committee is advised to actively seek to appoint non-Council Members with specialist knowledge of matters that fall within the remit of the Committee, and these shall for all purposes be treated as non-voting members of that committee, sub-committee or working group.

The Committee's duties shall be:

To appoint, from within the membership of the Committee, members of the following joint committees and external bodies:

- Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum (two members)

To consider and respond to public consultations and to express the views of the Council in regard to planning applications and other development control matters within, or that have a direct impact on, the Community Council area.

To consider, and respond on behalf of the Council to the Planning Authority on, matters regarding statutory structural and local plans.

To engage on behalf of the Council in informal and formal public consultation and public examination of the Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan and relevant Place Plans.

To consider, and respond on behalf of the Council to the relevant bodies on, matters regarding:

- Highways, transport and vehicle parking
- Listed buildings
- Conservation orders and other environmental matters
- Licensing applications
- Tree preservation orders

To appoint, from within the membership of the Committee, the members of, set the terms of reference for, and manage the meetings and activities of any sub-committees

and Working Groups (including any associated delegated budget) whose management is delegated to the Committee by the Full Council and to appoint other Members of the Council to those sub- committees and/or working groups:

To manage on behalf of the Community Council the following projects, initiatives and public events and to authorise expenditure within the associated budget lines that shall be delegated to the Committee by the Full Council:

- Town in Bloom (£12,467)
- Town in Bloom maintenance (£800)
- Town in Bloom community involvement (£3,000)
- Wales in Bloom (£8000)
- Allotments (£800)
- Provision of two new community defibrillators (£3,100)
- Maintenance of community defibrillators (£1,300)
- Community transport (£1,500)
- Subway Mural Maintenance (£1,600)

To manage on behalf of the Community Council any other public events, projects and initiatives and the associated budget lines that shall be delegated to the Committee by the Full Council.

To work with external agencies and grant-giving bodies, managing applications, as appropriate, by the Council for funding for events, projects and initiatives that fall within the remit of the Committee.

To scrutinise applications from external organisations for grant funding from the Council for public events, projects and initiatives that fall within the remit of the Committee, and to make recommendations to the Full Council.

To scope and cost proposals for Council support for projects, initiatives and public events in the subsequent financial year that fall within the remit of the Committee and to prepare a budget for these in accordance with the Council's budget-setting procedures.

On request, to provide reports and/or presentations to the Finance and Governance Committee in regards to project planning and expenditure.

To consider the needs of the Community Council area and the opportunities for the Council in regards to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the Blaenau Gwent Public Services Board Well-being Plan and the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental Well-being under the Local Government Act 2000, and to make recommendations to the Full Council.