



MINUTES OF BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 20th February 2017 at 6.30pm at Carnegie House Council Chamber

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr R Morgan (Mayor) Cllr C Webster Cllr E Hughes Cllr O Byrne Cllr M Lewis Cllr H Morgan	Cllr S Baldwin Cllr R Burns Cllr D Burns Cllr C Lewis Cllr B Parish Cllr D Unwin
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Absent: Cllr R Marsh

Pre Meeting Business:

Presentation by Reg Darnley, Manager of Bridgend Y.M.C.A. (See Appendix 1)

1. To receive apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllr F Sykes, Cllr M Voisey, Cllr A John, Cllr M John, Cllr R Thomas.

2. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest in respect of the business to be transacted:

- Cllr D Unwin declared a personal interest in matters relating to Merthyr Mawr Community Council and Brynteg Comprehensive School.
- Declarations recorded in "Declaration of Interest" Register.

3. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 16th January 2017:

Resolved: To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 16th January 2017 as a true and accurate record.

4. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th January 2017:

Resolved: There were no matters arising.

5. To note for information Mayoral Announcements and Engagements:

Mayor's Engagements:

- Friday 20th January: Holocaust Day, Sony Theatre, Bridgend College

Deputy Mayor's Engagements:

- Sunday 5th February: Sandville Self Help Foundation 34th Annual Thanksgiving Service.

Resolved: Member moved that the protocols for the wearing of Chains be referred to the Clerk for review.

6. Correspondence:

Section A

To consider the following items of Correspondence:

6.1. Charter for Trees, Woods & People: Survey for Local Councils

Resolved: Members to complete surveys as individual Members of Council if they so wish

6.2. Letter from A. Thomas, Group Manager, BCBC, re- Request to consider funding to support RNLI.

Resolved: No action to be taken

6.3. BCBC: Temporary Road Closure; Heol-y-Felin, Wildmill from its junction with St Francis Road. **Noted**

6.4. Welsh Government: Appointment of 3 Commissioners; Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historical Monuments of Wales. **Noted**

6.5. BCBC Temporary Traffic Order to suspend parking in the disabled parking bays on Angel Street 13/02/17 – 24/02/17. **Noted**

Section B

To consider items of correspondence e-mailed to Members:

6.6. O.V.W Larger Councils committee meeting agenda for Wednesday 15th February 2017, Llandrindod Wells. **Noted**

6.7. W.A.G. Appointment of independent members (Community and Trade Union) to Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. **Noted**

6.8. Presentation Notes from Sheila Davies Programme Director of "Cardiff Capital Region City Deal". **Noted**

6.9. Notification that the Ombudsman's Casebook – Issue 27 is available online. **Noted**

- 6.10. W.A.G Consultation on the reform of school governance entitled “Reform of school governance: regulatory framework”, is available online. **Noted**

Section C)

Additional Correspondence:

- 6.11. Letter from “CF31” BID Board (Business Improvement District).
Resolved: Clerk to write to write to the BID Manager, Mr Justin Jenkins, to invite him to speak to the Town Council at the March meeting.
- 6.12. E-Mail from Haydn Bradley-Davies, “Wales Remembers”.
Resolved: No action to be taken
- 6.13. Welsh Assembly Government: Appointment of Chairs to NHS Wales Health Boards & Trusts. **Noted**
- 6.14. BCBC: “Well Being Assessment” Consultation (Closes 19th. March 2017). **Noted**
- 6.15. Email from Emma Boylan Penarth Town Clerk, Re: Invitation to attend Welsh Govt. Workshop on research project being undertaken by the Social Research and Information Division (SRID). **Noted**
- 6.16. Email from PCSO Craig Spanswick Re: funding for installation of temporary security camera at Heol Y Nant.
Resolved: BTC cannot support the request. Clerk to write to write to PCSO Spanwick to explain that the situation.
- 6.17. Email from Tom Jenkins, Boundary Commission for Wales, Welsh Assembly Govt. Re: How to access responses from the consultation on proposed changes to parliamentary constituencies in Wales. **Noted**

7. Town-Twinning:

Mayor announced that due to the sensitive nature of the formal complaint (item 7.5) Member could consider a motion to exclude members of the press and public to discuss this item.

Member moved that all matters pertaining to Town Twinning should be discussed in open Council. The motion was seconded.

Mayor requested a vote on this motion. A vote was taken. Members unanimously agreed to the motion.

7.1 To Consider Town-Twinning Report from Town-Twinning Member

Cllr R Burns disputed the accuracy of the wording in the report.

Resolved: The report was accepted with an amendment to the wording

7.2 To Consider Report from BTC Representative on the Town-Twinning Committee

- Cllr R Burns referred to points in his report regarding correspondence with Joel Raynaud.
- Cllr B Parish responded to item 6 of the report regarding safeguarding and stated that teachers from Brynteg and Bryntirion Schools are in contact with teachers in Villenave d'Ornon and highlighted that the schools take responsibility for the safeguarding of children.
- Cllr C Lewis stated that BTC and the Town Twinning Committee still have duty of care and suggested that Villenave d'Ornon should provide written evidence of their risk assessments at the very least.
- Cllr B Parish stated that the matter would be put on the agenda for discussion with Villenave during the trip in March.

Resolved: The Town Twinning Committee should be requested to write to Villenave d'Ornon to request:

- Protocols for the safeguarding of children are put in writing.
- Written risk assessments for student visits to be submitted in writing prior to visit.
- Timetables and schedules of activities for children visiting Villenave d'Ornon are sent to the Town Twinning Committee and approved well in advance of any student exchange visits.
- Once an itinerary has been approved by Bridgend Town Twinning Committee, Villenave d'Ornon will not be permitted to deviate from the approved itinerary.

7.3 To Consider Town-Twinning Draft Constitution.

Resolved: Town Clerk will arrange a joint meeting with the Town Twinning Committee to discuss the Draft Constitution in further detail. The meeting should comprise six representatives from BTC and six representatives from the Town Twinning Committee. Proposed date of meeting: Friday 10th March, 3pm.

BTC representatives: Cllr R Morgan (Mayor), Cllr S Baldwin (Deputy Mayor), Cllr B Burns, Cllr D Burns, Cllr H Morgan, Cllr B Parish.

7.4 Additional Town Twinning Representative Report

This item was discussed with item 7.2

7.5 Correspondence:

a) Formal complaint: Letter to BTC from Chair of Town-Twinning Committee

- Cllr R Burns left the room whilst the matter was discussed.
- Members discussed the content of the letter.
- Members agreed that documents produced by Cllr R Burns regarding Town Twinning had been prepared with the approval of Bridgend Town Council.

- It was acknowledged that Cllr R Burns had been very frustrated at the last Town Twinning meeting.
- Members agreed that their understanding was that Town Councillors are elected to the Town Twinning Committee to represent the views of the Town Council however this should be discussed further at the joint meeting with the Town Twinning Committee.
- Members discussed the statements in the letter regarding Town Twinning finances. It was noted that Cllr R Burns had not cast doubt on TT finances, nor the competency of the Treasurer but had been requesting statements of accounts as per normal practise for BTC when issuing grant funding for organisations.
- Cllr S Baldwin noted that whilst the complaint contains many personal and emotive references, Members should focus on the facts.
- Chair of Finance & Personnel Committee stated that times have changed since Town Twinning was established. He suggested that Town Twinning has less relevance in today's society and stated that the work created for BTC staff having to deal with Town Twinning issues is not justified. He then expressed an opinion regarding the future partnership between BTC and the Town Twinning Committee which he would action if he is re-elected after the May elections.
- Members felt it was difficult for Council to take a view on the letter.
- Mayor asked Members to consider whether Cllr R Burns had been speaking of his own accord or acting on behalf of Bridgend Town Council.

Resolved: There is no requirement for Cllr R Burns to apologise for the reports or questions he asked on behalf of BTC and that a meeting be convened between BTC and Town Twinning representatives to discuss Town Twinning Constitution.

- Clerk to liaise with the secretary of the Town Twinning Committee to arrange the meeting.
- Cllr B Burns returned to the meeting. Mayor provided an explanation of the outcome of the discussions regarding the complaint.
- Town Clerk to respond to the letter of complaint.

b) E-mail from Secretary of Town-Twinning Committee re- Correspondence to Villenave d'Ornon

Resolved: To discuss this matter at the meeting with Villenave in June.

7.6 Minutes of the Bridgend Town Twinning Committee held on 19th January 2017

- Cllr R Burns noted that several amendments had been proposed.

Resolved: To defer this agenda item until amendments had been actioned.

8.0 Finance:

8.1 To Approve Payments of Expenditure.

Resolved: Accounts paid, read and approved by Members.

- 8.2 To Consider Renewal of Membership of One Voice Wales for 2017-2018 for the sum of £2040.

Resolved: Members agreed to renew annual Membership of One Voice Wales for 2017-2018.

- 8.3 To consider the quotation for works to the exterior elevation of Carnegie House
- Clerk reported that estimate of work had been received from BCBC for exterior works to rear elevation of Carnegie House at the cost of £16,899.56; however this quotation includes contingency monies for any unforeseen extra work which may not have to be accessed; therefore the amount for payment could be considerably less than this sum.
 - BCBC had sought three tenders for the work; the quotation being presented being the lowest tender.
 - Clerk advised that there might be a possibility of grant monies being available towards the cost of the works but this has to be verified. Clerk to write to BCBC regarding the Town & community grant.
 - The work, if approved by Members, would proceed in the new Financial Year.

Resolved: Members approved the work in principle to commence in the next Financial Year; Clerk to explore availability of grant funding and to report to Finance Committee at the next meeting on 14th March.

9. To Consider Verbal update on Capital Asset Transfer Projects.
- Clerk provided an update from a meeting with BCBC officers regarding the status of the proposed BTC CAT projects for 11 bus shelters and Derwen Road toilets:
 - There have been some delays with the CAT for the 11 bus shelters due to land ownership issues however BCBC officers are hopeful that this transfer can be completed in the coming months.
 - BCBC officers had raised concerns regarding the proposed use of the Derwen Road building in the BTC business plan. It was felt that the proposed use of the building did not satisfy the 'community use' criteria as set out in the Welsh Office CAT guidelines. The usage needs to be quite specific and include community engagement; whereas BTC's proposal for usage, post local government re-organisation, is not specific enough.
 - Member requested that the Clerk contact the BCBC CAT Officer to request a definition of 'Community Use' and added that with the current situation of BTC resources his view would be to withdraw from the Derwen Road CAT project.

Resolved: The matter was deferred to the Finance & Personnel Committee for further consideration.

10. To consider Verbal Report re- the Carnegie House Management Board.
- Deputy Clerk reported that classes and room hire bookings at Carnegie House are continuing to increase and the Arts Project Officer is working closely with the Awen Trust to develop a new programme of events funded by the Arts Council of Wales. The new programme will launch in April 2017.

11. To Consider the Report and the Recommendations contained therein from the Standing Orders Working Group to adopt the One Voice Wales Standing Orders
- Deputy Clerk reported that the Standing Orders Working Group had made significant progress and referred Members to a report from the group.

Resolved: Due to the importance of the matter it was felt that this agenda item should be deferred to the next Town Council meeting and placed high on the agenda.

12. To Confirm the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of 15th. February 2017

Resolved: The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of 15th February 2017 had been circulated and were commended to Council and approved.

13. To Confirm the Minutes of the Allotments Committee Meeting of 30th. January 2017

Resolved: The Minutes of the Allotments Committee Meeting of 30th January 2017 had been circulated and were commended to Council and approved.

The meeting concluded at 9:45pm

Signed

Mayor

Date