



MINUTES OF BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 21st May 2018 at 7:00pm at Carnegie House Council Chamber

Present:	Cllr. Paul Warren (Mayor) Cllr. Stuart Baldwin Cllr. Steven Bletsoe Cllr. Kate Boucher Cllr. Nicole Burnett Cllr. Ceri Evans Cllr. Angela Morelli Cllr. Isabel Robson Cllr. Gary Sassoon-Hales Cllr. David Unwin	Cllr. Lyn Walters Cllr. Alan Wathan Cllr. Carolyn Webster Cllr. Tim Wood
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1. To receive apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from:

Cllr. Freya Bletsoe, Cllr. Stuart Charles, Cllr. Matthew Voisey & Cllr. Rebecca Porter

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

- Cllr N Burnett & Cllr C Webster declared a prejudicial interest in BCBC planning matters.
- Cllr T Wood declared a personal interest in matters related to the market.
- Cllr S Bletsoe declared a personal interest in matters related to regeneration and trading.
- Declarations of interest were recorded in the Declarations of Interests Register.

3. To Confirm and Sign Minutes of Town Council Meeting held on 16th April 2018.

The Minutes of the Town Council of 16th April were signed at the Annual Meeting which preceded this meeting.

4. To Consider Matters Arising from the Town Council Meeting held on 16th April 2018.

- Page 75. A request was made that a policy on the Mayoral Chains be developed. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had requested guidance from One Voice Wales on the preparation of such a policy.
- Page 80 Member referred to agenda Item 13 regarding BCBC's decision to contribute £1.7m to the Cardiff City Deal. He felt that the debate had been truncated and requested that the item is placed on the agenda for further discussion by Full Council. Members debated this request at some length and there was some opposition to the request from Members.
- It was highlighted that questions could be put forward to BCBC Members so that they could be raised at BCBC scrutiny meeting.

- The Mayor stated that he would like clarification on the benefit of the decision to the residents of Bridgend.
- It was noted that the four BTC members against holding a further discussion are BCBC Councillors.
- Members highlighted that the economic impact and direct benefits to the people of Bridgend are currently unknown, however it is hoped that the deal will bring employment opportunities for the people in the area.
- The Mayor suggested that a request is made to BCBC to give a presentation to the Town Council on the City Deal at a mutually convenient date in the future and that Councillors email any questions to the Town Clerk in advance of the meeting.
- It was also noted that in the interim, BTC Members have the opportunity to attend and observe the BCBC scrutiny meetings.
- Page 83. Member highlighted the increasing problem with graffiti in the area. A request is to be made to the Facilities Manager to deal with this issue.

5. To note for information Mayoral Announcements and Engagements:

Mayor's Engagements:

- Tuesday 17th April - French student exchange visit at Carnegie House
- Saturday 28th April - Town Twinning meeting with representatives from Hechtel-Eksel, Belgium
- Monday 14th May – Opening of Bridgend Railway Station refurbishment
- Monday 14th May - ACT Training Bridgend Open Day

Deputy Mayor's Engagements:

- Saturday 28th April - Town Twinning meeting with representatives from Hechtel-Eksel, Belgium
- Monday 14th May – Opening of Bridgend Railway Station refurbishment

6. To Receive Town Clerks Report for April/May.

Town Clerk presented a report detailing the projects and services delivered by Bridgend Town Council from 17th April – 21st May 2018.

- Town Clerk reported that it had been an extremely busy time at the Town Council with 7 committee meetings between the last Town Council meeting and the annual meeting. She added that during the month, two new members of staff had joined the team, quotes had been sought for the building work to relocate the staff office, preparations for the annual audit were underway and work had been undertaken to prepare for the introduction of the new General Data Protection Regulations. It was also noted that arrangements were being made for the large town centre event 'Wartime Bridgend' which is scheduled to take place on Saturday 16th June.
- Town Clerk advised that she had received conflicting information regarding the processing of payments for Councillor Remuneration in respect of whether the payments should be taxed at source or declared to HMRC by individual Councillors. She explained that she is currently seeking further advice from the Independent Remuneration Panel and HMRC regarding taxation of Councillor Payments.
- Town Clerk explained that she is preparing an annual report for Bridgend Town Council for 2017/18. The report will be completed in the new few weeks and will be presented to Council at the June meeting.
- Members were provided with an update regarding the Town Twinning visit by the Mayor of Villenave d'Ornon and the Chorale du Lac. The French visitors requested a meeting with the

Town Council and Cllr Steven Bletsoe and Cllr Alan Wathan attended the meeting and accepted a watercolour painting from the Mayor of Villenave d'Ornon on behalf of the Council.

- It was noted that a pendant purchased at the Urdd was presented to the Mayor of Villenave d'Ornon on behalf of the Town Council. Also Cllr Steven Bletsoe obtained a framed photograph of the Old Stone Bridge from Cllr Tim Wood and this was also presented. The Mayor of Villenave d'Ornon accepted the gifts on behalf of his residents and thanked the Council for the gifts and hospitality. Members thanked Cllr S Bletsoe, Cllr A Wathan and Cllr T Wood.
- Members were advised of a Community Engagement Session for the Independent Review Panel taking place at Carnegie House between 12.30pm – 2.30pm on Thursday 24th May 2018.
- An overview of current projects was provided for information.
- Members were reminded of their duty to provide written notification of personal and prejudicial interests (known as a Councillors Register of Interests) and any recent changes to these interests within 28 days of the change.
- Members were advised that a request had been received from a Local Democracy Reporter for Bridgend, Neath and Port Talbot for attendance figures for Bridgend Town Council meetings including committee meetings from May 2017 to May 2018. She explained that figures had been prepared but needed to be checked prior to publication.

7. To Consider the draft minutes of the Allotments Committee Meeting of 30th April 2018

The Town Clerk advised that due to the decision taken at the Annual Meeting, the Allotments Committee will cease meeting moving forward.

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Allotments Committee Meeting held on 30th April 2018 as a true and accurate record

- 8. RESOLVED:** That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of agenda item 8a and 8b as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

RESOLVED: That the public and representatives of the press be permitted to re-join the meeting.

9. To Consider the draft minutes of the Military Advisory Committee of 2nd May 2018

- The Town Clerk advised that due to the decision taken at the Annual Meeting, the Military Advisory Committee will not meet again in its current form.

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Military Advisory Committee held on 2nd May 2018 as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED: Town Clerk to contact the BTC Military Advisor to advise of the change to the committee structure.

- Member noted that Father David Lloyd would be pleased to assist with future events.

RESOLVED: That permission is granted for Cllr C Webster to speak to the bell ringers at Newcastle Church on behalf of the Council.

10. To Consider the draft Minutes of the Well-being Committee Meeting of 9th May 2018

- Member highlighted that page 9 of the minutes should be amended as planning permission is valid for 5 years not 7.
- Members agreed that newsletters should be issued twice per year.

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Well-being Committee Meeting held on 9th May 2018 as a true and accurate record subject to the changes above.

11. Finance:

a) To receive a balance of accounts as at 21st May 2018 and approve Payments of Expenditure

RESOLVED: Accounts paid, read and approved by Members.

b) To consider the draft minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 15th May 2018

- Clarification was provided regarding a request to apply for funding from the BCBC Community action Fund.

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 15th May 2018 as a true and accurate record.

Cllr N Burnett and Cllr C Webster left the meeting for the duration of item 12.

12. To Consider the draft minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of 16th May 2018

- It was highlighted that the meeting was not quorate so the recommendations need to be resolved at this meeting.
- Member highlighted that the meeting had closed at 12.25pm and requested that the minutes be amended accordingly.
- The Mayor advised that Jacksons Taxis had opened.
- It was reported that BCBC's planning website was not working and therefore it was not possible to check the status of the planning application for this taxi office.
- A Member raised an issue regarding mini buses at the car park and parking in Nolton Street.
- Member advised that the Planning Portal will be operational tomorrow.
- Member referred to a report regarding the Heritage Walkway Project. He highlighted that a decision had been previously taken to go to appeal regarding the outcome of the planning application. Members expressed concern that the decision was officer delegated and not a committee decision. It was felt that this was 'not democratic'.
- Town Clerk advised that grant funding from HLF could be withdrawn if the appeal goes ahead.
- Mayor permitted a member of the public to speak on this topic. The member of the public spoke, offered the support of the Civic Trust and suggested a meeting could be arranged with Senior Officers at BCBC to discuss the matter.

RESOLVED: To arrange a meeting with the BCBC Corporate Director of Communities, representatives from BTC and the Civic Trust to discuss the Heritage Walkway planning application.

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the amended minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 16th May 2018 as a true and accurate record, subject to the change above.

13. To Consider the draft minutes of the Carnegie House Board Meeting of 16th May 2018

- Cllr I Robson reported that S Lewis is now the Licence Holder for Carnegie House.
- The Autumn Programme of events has been mapped out and will link in with well-being objectives.
- Member drew attention to a decision to allow Criw Celf to run a life drawing programme for 16-18 years with conditions laid down by the Carnegie House Board.

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the amended minutes of the Carnegie House Board Meeting of 16th May 2018 as a true and accurate record.

14. To Consider an application form from CF31 Bridgend BID to become 'Members' in order to be formally admitted to the BID AGM and speak at the meeting on 24th May 2018

RESOLVED: That BTC become members of CF31 BID and that Cllr S Bletsoe and Cllr T Wood represent the Town Council at CF31 Bridgend BID AGM on 24th May 2018.

15. To Receive the Agenda and Previous Minutes for the Meeting of Bridgend Town Members on 19th April 2018, along with supplementary report on CF31 Street Market and report from the meeting from Cllr S Bletsoe

- Members received a report from Cllr S Bletsoe regarding the meeting. It was noted that the meeting had been very productive and that a new Market Manager and Town Centre Manager had been appointed.
- It was highlighted that no progress had been made as yet on 11 Nolton Street.
- Members raised concerns at the number of vacant premises at the entrance to the Rhiw shopping Centre.
- Members raised concerns that the street markets are organised and delivered by BCBC but branded as CF31 BID events.

16. Consultations.

1. Bridgend Local Development Plan (2013) – Consultation on Draft Review Report & Draft Replacement Local Development Plan Delivery Agreement. Deadline for responses – Friday 25th May 2018.

- It was agreed that there is insufficient time to provide a detailed response to this consultation.

2. Tackling avoidance of non-domestic rates in Wales. The deadline for responses to this consultation is 27th June 2018.

RESOLVED: That Councillors could send individual responses to this consultation.

17. Correspondence:

To consider the following items of Correspondence:

- 1) Email from Cllr S Bletsoe: Public Meeting at Wildmill Community Centre re Waste collection problems at the Estate. **NOTED**
- 2) Email from I Thomas: Natural Resources Wales – ‘Flood Awareness Activity’. **NOTED**
- 3) Email from BCBC – Temporary Road Traffic Order for Cowbridge Road closure **NOTED**
- 4) Email from J Jenkins: CF31 BID Ltd – Gift Card Merchant Briefing **NOTED**
- 5) Email from Cllr S Baldwin – Rhiw Car Park Free parking
 - Member expressed concern regarding this item and suggested that clarification is required on the notice.
- 6) Email from Cllr S Baldwin forwarded from BCBC re National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 885 – Local Transport Fund Phase 2 scheme **NOTED**
- 7) Email from One Voice Wales Re: Public Appointment Vacancies **NOTED**
- 8) Email from One Voice Wales Re: South Wales Fire and Rescue Services Headquarters – Strategic Plan for 2018 to 2023 **NOTED**
- 9) Email from One Voice Wales forwarded from Wales Audit Office – ‘A Picture of Primary Care in Wales’ **NOTED**
- 10) Email from One Voice Wales forwarded from Local Government Partnerships – ‘Community Asset Transfer Conference rescheduled for 17th May 2018 **NOTED**
- 11) Email from BCBC – Urgent Temporary Road Closure Notice for Angel Street on 29th April 2018
 - It was felt that slow progress is being made on the work required.
- 12) Email from One Voice Wales Re: Update on GDPR and Data Protection Bill **NOTED**
- 13) Email from BCBC – Temporary Road Closure – Roots Street Festival 2018 – 4th to 6th May 2018 **Noted**
- 14) Email from J Jenkins: CF31 BID Ltd – Road Closure and AGM Notice 4th to 6th May **NOTED**
- 15) Email from One Voice Wales Re: Wales Audit Office ‘Speak My Language’ Summary report **NOTED**
- 16) Email from One Voice Wales – Independent Review Panel – National ‘Pop-in’ sessions across Wales – Thursday 24th May 2018 **NOTED**
- 17) Email from One Voice Wales Re: Data Protection Fees **NOTED**
- 18) Email from One Voice Wales – Independent Review Panel – April Newsletter **NOTED**
- 19) Email from One Voice Wales – Innovative Practice Conference 4th July 2018
 - Town Clerk recommended that the One Voice Wales Representative/s and Officers should attend
- 20) Email from J Jenkins:CF31 BID Ltd – ‘Energie Fitness’ gym opening in Bridgend **NOTED**
- 21) Email from the Information Commissioner’s Office – GDPR **NOTED**
- 22) Email from One Voice Wales – ‘A Guide to our Services’ **NOTED**
- 23) Email from One Voice Wales - Further information on GDPR **NOTED**
- 24) Email from One Voice Wales Re: Wales Audit Office – Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 **NOTED**
- 25) Email Re: Invitation to Bridgend Traders Forum Meetings
Resolved: that Cllr D Unwin and Cllr A Wathan attend the meetings to represent the Town Council.
- 26) Email from Cllr T Wood Re: Access into Bridgend Town Centre
 - Cllr T Wood referred to an incident at the barrier. BCBC Members will investigate the issues with the barrier.

18. Town and Community Council Forum

- Town Mayor explained that this is a standing item on the agenda and information from the forum discussions will be fed back at future meetings.

Meeting closed: 8.58pm

Signed

Mayor

Date