



MINUTES OF BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 17th June 2019 at 7.00pm at Carnegie House Council Chamber

Present:	Cllr. A Wathan (Mayor) Cllr. Stuart Baldwin Cllr Freya Bletsoe Cllr. Steven Bletsoe Cllr. Nicole Burnett Cllr. Stuart Charles Cllr. Ceri Evans	Cllr. Angela Morelli Cllr Rebecca Porter Cllr. Robbie Thomas Cllr. David Unwin Cllr Lyn Walters Cllr. Carolyn Webster Cllr. Tim Wood
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In Attendance: Mrs L Edwards (Town Clerk), Mrs D Jones (Deputy Town Clerk & RFO) & Miss J Brown (Democratic Services Officer).

Pre Meeting Business:

- 6:30pm - Update on CF31 BID and Q&A with Justin Jenkins CF31 BID Manager.

1. To receive apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from: Cllr. Kate Boucher and Cllr. Roger Marsh, Cllr Matthew Voisey & Cllr Gary Sassoon-Hales.

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

Declarations of Interest were declared by the following Members and recorded in the register:

- Cllr N Burnett – Prejudicial interest in Item 13, BCBC Planning Matters
- Cllr C Webster - Prejudicial interest in Item 13, BCBC Planning Matters
- Cllr C Webster – Personal interest in item 15 Evergreen Hall as a BCBC Member
- Cllr R Porter – Personal interest in item 16.10; Father is President of Bridgend Male Voice Choir
- Cllr F Bletsoe – Personal interest in item 13; Planning (Mural)
- Cllr F Bletsoe – Prejudicial interest in item 14.2; Finance (Town Twinning)
- Cllr S Bletsoe – Personal interest in item 13; Planning (Mural)
- Cllr S Bletsoe – Prejudicial interest in item 14.2; Finance (Town Twinning)

3. To receive questions or comments from Members of the Public (Standing Order 3(e) refers)

- There were no questions from members of the public.

4. To Confirm and Sign Minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 20th May 2019.

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 20th May 2019 were confirmed as a true record and were signed accordingly.

5. To Consider Matters Arising from the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 20th May 2019.

- Cllr S Bletsoe enquired why the vacancies on BTC Committees were not included on the agenda for tonight's meeting. Town Clerk advised they will be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

6. To Confirm and Sign Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on 20th May 2019

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on 20th May 2019 were confirmed as a true record and were signed accordingly.

7. To Consider Matters Arising from the Ordinary Town Council Meeting on 20th May 2019

- Cllr C Webster referred to works being undertaken to create a new cycle path to the north of the town and enquired what the impact would be on the 'Welcome to Bridgend' sign currently situated in the proposed location of the cycle route. Cllr Webster offered to write to BCBC on behalf of the Council to raise this question. This was seconded by Members.

8. To Confirm and Sign Minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on 4th June 2019

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on 4th June 2019 were confirmed as a true record and were signed accordingly.

9. To Consider Matters Arising from the Extraordinary Town Council Meeting on 4th June 2019

- There were no matters arising from the minutes.

10. To note for information Mayoral Announcements and Engagements:

Mayor's Engagements:

- Thursday 6th June – D-day 75th Anniversary Flag Raising and Service at War Memorial
- Saturday 15th June – BTC Wartime Bridgend official duties

Deputy Mayor's Engagements:

- Sunday 2nd June – Pencoed Town Council Civic Service (attended by Outgoing Deputy Mayor, Cllr A Morelli)
- Thursday 6th June – D-day 75th Anniversary Flag Raising and Service at War Memorial
- Friday 7th June – Mayor of Maesteg Charity Engagement
- Saturday 15th June – BTC Wartime Bridgend official duties
- Saturday 15th June – Mayor of Maesteg Charity Engagement

11. Town Council Vacancy:

- A resignation letter from former Councillor Paul Warren was read out by the Mayor.
- Town Clerk advised that an election had been called for the Councillor vacancy in the Newcastle ward.

12. Town Clerk's Report

Town Clerk explained that due to current workload she had been unable to prepare a report. She referred to a confidential letter she had sent to all Councillors on Friday 14th June 2019 outlining her concerns about current staff workloads, Council expectations and staff welfare.

The letter was not discussed however it was suggested that a Personnel Committee meeting is called as soon as possible to consider the concerns.

Town Clerk spoke of the success of the Wartime Bridgend event that had taken place on Saturday 15th June. She explained that members of the public had provided fantastic feedback of the event and that some traders had noted that it had been their busiest day of the year to date. Town Clerk thanked all members of staff and Councillors for their work for the event.

Members acknowledged and congratulated the staff for all the hard work in the lead up to the event.

13. To consider draft minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of 12th June 2019

Cllr C Webster & Cllr N Burnett declared a prejudicial interest in Item 13, BCBC Planning Matters and left the Chamber for this item.

- Chair of Planning Committee commended the minutes to Council.
- Cllr L Walters raised a concern about the declaration of personal and prejudicial interests and referred to correspondence submitted by Cllr Unwin that had been discussed at the Planning Committee meeting.
- Members briefly discussed the declaration of interests.
- Cllr Unwin explained that he had raised this as a matter of interest because it had been in the press and he had highlighted that there are many advertisements in the area without planning consent however, only the particular situation in the press had been singled out by BCBC.

RESOLVED: To receive and note the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 12th June 2019.

Cllr C Webster & Cllr N Burnett returned to the Council Chamber and re-joined the meeting.

14. Finance:

1) To receive a balance of accounts as at 17th June 2019 and payments since last meeting

Members reviewed the balance of accounts and payments since last meeting.

RESOLVED: Accounts paid, read and approved by Members.

2) To consider draft minutes of the Extraordinary Finance Committee Meeting of 10th June 2019

Cllr F Bletsoe & Cllr S Bletsoe declared a prejudicial interest in Item 14.2 and left the Chamber for this item.

- Chair of Finance Committee referred to the minutes and explained that Members had spent time discussing the items on the agenda before coming to a conclusion and he commended the minutes to Council.
- Cllr S Baldwin enquired why the Finance Committee had decided on the official delegates attending the event. He suggested that the Finance Committee should only consider the cost of the visit and highlighted he didn't agree with the decision.
- Chair of Finance Committee explained that in this instance the cost had been provided by the Deputy Mayor therefore the Committee had a specific figure to discuss and make a decision on.
- Cllr S Baldwin suggested that if the Deputy Mayor had taken the allowance he is entitled to he could use the money to attend the event and there would be no need to claim the cost of travel.
- Cllr S Baldwin challenged the decision taken at the meeting and asked for clarification regarding procedure.
- Town Clerk explained that this situation is not specified in law and therefore it is a grey area.

- Cllr L Walters noted that there is disquiet among some Councillors on this matter. She highlighted that Council committees need to understand what they can or cannot do however in the spirit of goodwill she suggested that Council should now move forward with the decision.
- Mayor sought clarification that Members were satisfied to move forward with the decision that had been made at the Finance Committee meeting whilst taking forward a lesson for the future. This was seconded and approved by Members.

Cllr F Bletsoe & Cllr S Bletsoe returned to the Council Chamber and re-joined the meeting.

- Mayor informed Cllr F Bletsoe and Cllr S Bletsoe of the outcome of the discussion.

RESOLVED: To receive and note the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Finance Committee meeting held on 10th June 2019.

3) To approve the Annual Accounts for 2018-19 and Annual Governance Statement for 2018-19 and sign the Annual Return for the Year Ended 31st March 2019

- The Mayor read out a letter from the Internal Auditor.
- The Chair of the Finance Committee commended the RFO for the meticulous records and for all her efforts in preparing for the Annual Audit.
- The RFO presented the Annual Governance Statement to Council for approval.
- The Mayor and RFO signed the Annual Governance Statement in the presence of the Town Council.

15. To consider requested legal advice from NALC Solicitors regarding a proposal from BCBC regarding the Evergreen Hall Lease

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 9 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

RESOLVED: The public and representatives of the press were permitted to re-join the meeting.

16. Correspondence:

- 1) Email from BCBC Re: Temporary Road Closure (Angel Street, Bridgend). **NOTED**
- 2) Email from BCBC; RE: BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES). **NOTED**
- 3) Email from BCBC Re: Angus Irvine Playing Fields Fund. **NOTED**
- 4) Email from BCBC Re: ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14 Wildmill Lane. **NOTED**
- 5) Email from Bruno Peek, Pageantmaster VE Day 75 Re: WALES & VE DAY 75 - 8TH MAY 2020
 - Cllr D Unwin spoke in favour of the Town Council supporting the event.
 - Town Clerk highlighted that it is a bank holiday and therefore staff would not be in work on that day.
 - Town Clerk advised that there is a BCBC flag raising ceremony for Armed Forces Day taking place on 18th June outside the Civic Offices. It was agreed that the Mayor would attend.
- 6) Email from BCBC Re: Coychurch Road, Bridgend - Advance Notification of Temporary Road Closure. **NOTED**
- 7) Email from One Voice Wales Re: One Voice Wales' Innovative Practice Conference - 10 July 2019. **NOTED**
- 8) Email from One Voice Wales Re: BASIC ON-LINE LEARNING MODULES. **NOTED**
- 9) Email from One Voice Wales Re: Our Future Wales: Come to an event in your area. **NOTED**
- 10) BRIDGEND MALE CHOIR - NEWSLETTER - MAY/JUNE 2019. **NOTED**
- 11) Email from Bridgend Youth Justice Service (enclosed)
 - Chair of Finance welcomed the correspondence and proposed that the Finance Committee liaise with the Bridgend Youth Justice Service to discuss work that could be undertaken. He suggested that the representative is invited to attend the next meeting.
 - Cllr L Walters questioned why this should be delegated to the Finance Committee had dealt with such works.
 - Cllr D Unwin explained that historically the Finance Committee
 - It was proposed that it could fall under the remit of the Community Engagement and Well-being Committee.
 - Members voted 9 in favour of referring the matter to the Community Engagement and Well-being Committee.

RESOLVED: To refer the correspondence from the Bridgend Youth Justice Service to the Community Engagement and Well-being Committee for further consideration.

17. Town and Community Forum.

1. **To consider items for inclusion on the Town and Community Council Forum agenda.**
 - Members did not discuss this item.
2. **To consider feedback from meetings of the Town and Community Council Forum.**
 - Members did not discuss this item.
3. **To identify proposals for inclusion on the TCC Charter Action Plan which would aid the development of the Charter.**
 - Members did not discuss this item.

Meeting closed 7:55pm.

Signed

Mayor

Date