



## MINUTES OF MEETING OF BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL

### PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tuesday 01<sup>st</sup> August 2022 at 11.30am

The meeting was held as a hybrid meeting at both at Carnegie House and remotely via Microsoft Teams for Business under the Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021

#### Present:

Cllr D Unwin (Chair) In person  
Cllr A Wathan In person  
Cllr S Easterbrook In Person  
Cllr C Webster In person  
Cllr N Deere In person  
Cllr T Wood (Mayor) Remote

**In Attendance:** Mrs D Jones (Deputy Town Clerk), Ms J Brown (Democratic Services Officer).

#### 1. To receive apologies for absence

- Cllr A Morelli

#### 2. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interest

- Cllr A Wathan declared a personal interest as a BCBC Councillor.
- Cllr T Wood declared an interest as a BCBC Councillor

#### 3. To receive and confirm the Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

- The Chair commended the minutes to the meeting. Chair asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were received and confirmed as a true record and duly signed.

- The Chair asked if there were any matters arising.
- Agenda item 8- c. The Chair reported that the building opposite Carnegie House on Wyndham Street had now been let. Watts and Morgan reported one empty property and another (the old Coral betting shop), now under letting. The Chair further reported that the Old Co-op premises on Adare Street were not for letting but would be cleaned.

- Agenda item 8 – d. The Deputy Town Clerk reported that she had not received an updated reply regarding CCTV.

**4. That the Chairperson accepts the Committee addendum sheet (if any) in order to allow for Committee to consider necessary modifications to the Committee report, so as to take account of late representations and revisions that need to be accommodated**

- The Chair accepted the addendum sheet.

**5. Planning Applications – see attached applications report**

- Please refer to Planning Applications Spreadsheet attached at the end of the minutes. The Planning Committee’s Recommendations appear in the end column in bold type.

**6. Pre-Planning Application Consultations (if any)**

- There were no pre-planning applications.

**7. Planning Appeal:**

- There were no planning appeals

**8. Planning Reports/Correspondence:**

**a) Survey of BT Kiosk provision in Bridgend Town (Cllr D Unwin)**

- Cllr D Unwin referred to his report which had been previously circulated.
- After discussion Members recommended that a letter be sent to BT (composed by The Chair), itemising current kiosks, the cleaning of the 8 kiosks and a review of current facilities in order to move forward.

**RESOLVED:** that a letter be sent to BT (composed by The Chair), itemising current kiosks, the cleaning of the 8 kiosks and a review of current facilities in order to move forward.

**b) Anchor Site for National Contemporary Art Gallery**

- The Chair referred Members to an email requesting for potential sites which had been previously circulated and noted that the deadline was the 31<sup>st</sup> of August.
- The Chair suggested that the Ruhamah Baptist Chapel had been empty for 10 years. The Chair advised Members that The Chapel was built in the Lombardic/Italian style in 1891 and was remarkable, with a gable-entry plan and a gallery to three sides with timber panelled front.
- The Chair advised that the owner also owned the business units to the right and left of The Chapel, and prior to the purchase of the New Town Hall, Council had discussed extending to the right to create an art gallery centre.
- The Chair suggested that he speak to the landowner to initially discuss and gauge interest.
- Members fully supported the fact that The Chapel fitted the criteria required – and could regenerate Wyndham Street.

**RESOLVED:** That The Chair move forward and gauge interest with the landowner reference Ruhamah Chapel becoming an anchor site for a National Contemporary Art Gallery for Wales.

**c) Bridgend Town Centre Masterplan (Cllr D Unwin)**

- The Chair outlined his report (which had been previously circulated).
- After discussion Members fully supported that a Member of the BCBC Masterplan Team be invited to update the committee on progress at the next meeting which would be Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September.

**RESOLVED:** That a letter (composed by Cllr D Unwin), be sent to the Chief Executive of BCBC requesting that the appropriate BCBC Officer attend.

**d) Request to BCBC for update on Planning & Highways Departments depedestrianisation of Town Centre (Cllr D Unwin)**

- Cllr S Easterbrook declared an interest in this item as a Town Trader.
- The Chair outlined his reason for requesting an update from BCBC.
- After discussion Councillors agreed that the matter proved a serious issue and proposed that The Committee move forward and request an update from BCBC Planning & Highways Departments depedestrianisation of Town Centre.

**RESOLVED:** That a letter (prepared by Cllr D Unwin), be sent to the Chief Executive of BCBC requesting a full update.

**e) Request to BCBC Planning Department for details of annual inspections undertaken covering the three designated Conservation Areas within the BTC area (Cllr D Unwin)**

- Cllr D Unwin advised Members that with the advent of the 10-year Bridgend Town Masterplan, he was concerned that the three current designated conservation areas in the town could put restrictions on the plans proposed. The areas were designated around 2005 and it was possible that some, or all areas are now relevant and need further scrutiny.
- After discussion Members agreed that a detailed update be requested from the Chief Executive of BCBC. (Prepared by Cllr D Unwin).

**RESOLVED:** That a letter (prepared by Cllr D Unwin), be sent to the Chief Executive of BCBC requesting a full update.

**f) Progress update of derelict domestic properties within BTC area (Cllr D Unwin)**

- The Chair outlined his report which had been previously circulated. The Chair noted to Members that the Planning Committee had submitted reports on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 and 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 regarding empty derelict properties in our area for attention by the BCBC Environmental Health Officer for Neighbourhood Services and to date, have not received a reply and would now be grateful for a full report on the progress made over the past two years together with any further action to be enacted.

**RESOLVED:** That a letter (prepared by Cllr D Unwin), be sent to the Chief Executive of BCBC requesting a full update.

The Chair thanked Members and Staff for attending and advised that the next meeting would take place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Meeting closed at 12.15

**Signed:**

**(Chair of Planning Committee)**

**Date:**