



## MINUTES OF REGENERATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Held remotely via Skype for Business on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7pm

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr S Bletsoe (Mayor) Cllr F Bletsoe Cllr S Easterbrook	Cllr D Unwin Cllr A Wathan Cllr T Wood
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**In attendance:** Mrs L Edwards (Town Clerk), Ms J Brown (Democratic Officer), Mrs Sharlene Lewis (Community Engagement and Events Manager), Mrs Dawn Elliott (Community Engagement and Events Officer)

The Mayor welcomed the committee to the meeting.

**1. To receive apologies for absence:**

- Cllr C Evans

**2. Declarations of Interest (if any) of Members**

- There were no declarations of interest

**3. To Elect Chair of Regeneration Committee for 2021- 22**

- Cllr F Bletsoe was proposed and seconded as Chair of Regeneration Committee; there being no other nomination, Cllr F Bletsoe was unanimously elected as Chair of Regeneration Committee for 2021-22

**4. To Elect Deputy Chair of Regeneration Committee for 2021 - 22**

- Cllr T Wood was proposed and seconded as Deputy Chair of Regeneration Committee; there being no other nomination, Cllr T Wood was unanimously elected as Deputy Chair of Regeneration Committee for 2021-22

**5. To confirm and Sign Minutes of the Regeneration Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the Regeneration Committee meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 were received and confirmed as a true record and duly signed.

**6. To Consider Matters Arising from the Regeneration Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

**Page 1 – Blue Plaques**

- Cllr T Wood enquired if the St Johns Plaque had been installed. The Town Clerk advised that there had been no reply from the St Johns Committee following notification that the plaque was ready to be installed.

**Page 2 – CF31 Ballot**

- Cllr D Unwin advised that further evidence had come to light which was currently under examination and conclusions on the way forward will be reached in the near future.

**7. To receive an update on the Blue Plaque Scheme and discuss next steps**

- The Town Clerk advised that the siting of The Tudor Plaque would be delayed due to current Covid restrictions. The History Society, Civic Trust and Ms Louvain Rees had been approached reference correct wording and locations for the next plaque recipients (confirmed as Dilwyn Lewis – Oldcastle Ward, Caroline Elizabeth Williams – Newcastle Ward, John Thomas – Town Centre (Elder Street) and that there had been no reply to date.

**8. To receive an update on the Blue Plaque Trail and discuss next steps**

- The Mayor reported that he had liaised with the Head of Pen y Bont School and that the Blue Plaque suggestions would be part of a weeklong project. The school welcomed input from the committee.
- After discussion the committee nominated The Chair and Cllr D Unwin to meet pupils and teachers with a proposed date and time of 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 10am to be arranged by The Mayor.
- Cllr D Unwin reported that he had approached Watts and Morgan who have agreed to donate £250 towards the project (the donation to include an exhibition of their own memorabilia).
- The Town Clerk questioned the committee regarding planning and funding for the trail, noting that £2000 had been allocated for the project. Cllr D Unwin stressed that the long-term plan would be to emulate the Monmouth Blue Plaque Trail.

**9. To discuss a project for the installation of Art and Refurbishment of two Red Telephone Boxes**

- The Town Clerk advised Members that she had spoken to the Community Engagements and Events Manager and that a brief would be put together for the artwork. However, before that stage the steel bands had to be removed, the internal mechanism removed and the steel bands put back on. The Facilities Manager is arranging for works to be carried out in one day. Members proposed that The Town Clerk also write to BT.

**RESOLVED:** That The Town Clerk write to BT regarding the removal of the internal furniture in the telephone boxes.

- The Town Clerk recommended that Members may like to suggest ideas for the artwork brief.
- A discussion took place which included schools being approached to take part and with the theme suggestions of: Historical Bridgend and Blue Plaque Scheme, 'Eyes on Bridgend from inside to outside' and 'A portal to speak to someone anywhere in the World'.

**10. To discuss a project for Finger Post signs and consider a report from Cllr D Unwin that was deferred from the Finance Committee meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

- The committee noted a detailed report by Cllr D Unwin which had been circulated.

- Cllr D Unwin outlined his report which identified 23 new fingers (9 for Carnegie House and 7 for the indoor market), together with a new Park Street Structure. Cllr D Unwin proposed that approval be granted to move forward.
- The Town Clerk advised Members that the allocated budget was £11,200 and the figure presented was £13,000.
- The Town Clerk further advised Members on the statutory procedure for quotations which was to obtain 3 quotes which were required to be addressed to The Town Council or Town Clerk.
- It was noted that three quotes had not been received and the quotes were addressed to Cllr Unwin.

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr D Unwin provide the Town Clerk with the brief that was issued to the companies, that quotes are addressed to the Town Clerk and that an additional quote be obtained.

**11. To receive an update on community noticeboards and discuss next steps**

- The Town Clerk advised that the exact location of the boards would need further consideration and requested clarification on the type of material Members would like used for the notice boards so that quotes and planning permission may be obtained.

**RESOLVED:** That The Town Clerk obtain quotes for notice boards made of metal, which were to be double sided and painted dark green with the Town Crest and gold lettering.

**12. To receive an update on Reverse Vending Machines and consider the following motion from Cllr F Bletsoe:**

*"I would like to propose a motion for full council to consider viring the sum of £7,800 for two further reverse vending machines to be placed in our communities, one in Newcastle ward and one in Oldcastle ward."*

- Cllr D Unwin advised as Chair of Finance Committee that the matter of virement is only considered at the end of the financial year. He also highlighted that this projects requires documentation to substantiate costs.
- The Town Clerk confirmed that the cost of each unit was £3,500 and that the reward mechanism had not been budgeted for.
- Cllr F Bletsoe advised that she had received an email from Valleys to Coast and that they would be happy to proceed. Cllr F Bletsoe suggested outside locations of: Shops at Wildmill, Shops at top of Waunscil Avenue and shops at Cefn Glas.
- The Town Clerk advised that the company had emphatically stated that the units must be housed indoors – usually within retail premises.
- After a detailed discussion Cllr F Bletsoe withdrew her motion and stated that she would revise her motion for the next meeting.

**13. To receive an update on Tree and wildflower planting schemes and discuss next steps**

- The Town Clerk informed Members that she had received no notes or proposals from the tree and wildflower working group.
- Cllr D Unwin reported that he had identified 12 – 15 areas where planting could take place in the autumn and was awaiting maps to assess if planning is required.
- The Town Clerk advised that she was working with the Facilities Manager to obtain maps of the correct scale which show verges.
- Cllr T Wood reported that although the Sukura Cherry Tree Project had ended he had received confirmation from the Japanese Consul that 3 trees would be provided (at no cost) for planting at: St Marys School, Bridgend Athletic Club and Pen y Bont School. It was noted that the Japanese Consul would be able to assist with planting.

- The Mayor proposed that the committee proceed with the Sukura Cherry Tree project and that confirmation be sought from the recipients.

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr Tim Wood confirm the details of the project and relevant permissions and that The Town Clerk liaise with the Facilities Manager regarding the tree planting.

**14. To consider a report from Cllr D Unwin re: signage in the Town Centre for the new toilet facilities in the Indoor Market (deferred from Town Council meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021)**

- Cllr T Wood advised Members that an A1 frame had been provided but needed artwork.
- The Mayor queried if the committee was in a position to move forward with other signposts.
- Cllr D Unwin confirmed that he had proposed new signage for The Rhiw Hill and market entrances to Council.
- Proposals to provide artwork and signage were discussed in detail.

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr S Easterbrook liaise with the Rhiw Manager regarding digital artwork for the electronic board and that Cllr F Bletsoe liaise with Cllr T Wood regarding artwork and printing for the A1 frame.

**15. To discuss an expression of interest to BCBC regarding a Capital Asset Transfer for playgrounds within the Bridgend Town Council wards and associated costs**

- Cllr F Bletsoe confirmed that she was awaiting an update from BCBC Cllr N Burnett before matters could proceed.
- The Town Clerk was asked to liaise with Cllr N Burnett.

**16. To consider feedback from the Community Survey relevant to the Regeneration Committee and discuss Regeneration projects for the future**

- Cllr D Unwin advised that only the items highlighted for the attention of the committee needed to be discussed and that action could not be taken as they were not the responsibility of BTC.
- The Mayor commented that this was an opportunity to understand and accept the findings of the survey. Cllr A Wathan commented that the survey report was very factual and that staff were acting directly on Council instruction.
- The Chair commented that moving forward committees could work together to formulate questions and promote the survey.
- After discussion The Chair proposed that the findings should be discussed by Council and that the committee noted that they were asked their opinion.

**RESOLVED:** That the findings of the Community Survey relevant to the Regeneration Committee be discussed at Council.

Meeting closed: 8.15pm

Signed .....  
Chair of Regeneration Committee

Date .....