



MINUTES OF BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Details:

Date: Tuesday 22nd November 2022

Time: 6.30 pm

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

Chairperson: The Mayor (Cllr Tim Wood)

Staff: Mrs L Edwards (Town Clerk), Mrs D Jones (Deputy Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer), Ms J Brown (Democratic Services Officer), Mrs D Elliott (Acting Community Engagement and Events Manager)

In Attendance:

Cllr Steven Bletsoe – In person

Cllr Michelle Blundell-Humphreys - In Person

Cllr Nathan Deere – In Person

Cllr Steven Easterbrook – Remote

Cllr C Webster – In Person

Cllr A Wathan – In Person

Cllr D Brown – In Person

Cllr Ann Lloyd – In Person

Cllr Ian Spiller – In Person

Cllr Freya Bletsoe – In Person

Cllr David Unwin – In Person

Cllr I Williams – In Person

Cllr A Fenton – Remote

The Mayor acknowledged that former Councillor and past Mayor, Roger Marsh had sadly passed away and requested that a minute's silence be observed in his honour.

Cllr D Unwin spoke of the great privilege it had been to know Roger and spoke of his work for and dedication to the community in Wildmill.

Cllr F Bletsoe spoke of Roger with great fondness, describing how he had taken her under his wing and shared many wise words when she was first elected. She commented that he was an astute gentleman, a wise counsel and dear friend.

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

- Cllr D Evans, Cllr A Morelli and Cllr B Johnston

2. To Receive Declarations of Interests (if any) of Members in respect of the business to be transacted

- Cllr S Easterbrook made a declaration of personal interest as a Bridgend Town Trader in matters pertaining to Town Centre business and any discussions relating to BCBC as a BCBC Councillor
- Cllr T Wood made a declaration of personal interest as a Bridgend Town Trader in matters pertaining to Town Centre business and any discussions relating to BCBC as a BCBC Councillor
- Cllr I Spiller made a declaration of personal interest in any discussions relating to BCBC as a BCBC Councillor
- Cllr A Wathan made a declaration of personal interest in any discussions relating to BCBC as a BCBC Councillor
- Cllr I Williams made a declaration of personal interest in any discussions relating to BCBC as a BCBC Councillor
- Cllr F Bletsoe made a declaration of personal interest in any discussions relating to BCBC as a BCBC Councillor

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

- There were no questions or comments from Members of the Public.

4. To confirm and sign minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 26th September 2022

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 26th September 2022 be confirmed and signed.

5. To consider matters arising from the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 26th September 2022.

- Page 320 – 10 (2) Planning
Cllr D Unwin confirmed that an email had been received concerning the proposed bid for the New Welsh Contemporary Art Gallery and that applications were still being considered.
- Page 320 – 10 (2). Bridgend College
Cllr D Unwin confirmed that Bridgend College had welcomed the opportunity to host a public exhibition at Carnegie House.
- Page 324 – 17. Approach to South Wales Police
Cllr D Unwin suggested that South Wales Police be invited to the January Full Council Meeting and reminded Councillors that questions for the Police should be submitted in advance of the meeting.

RESOLVED: To extend an invitation to South Wales Police to attend the Town Council meeting in January 2023

The Mayor suggested that the BCBC Town Centre Manager be invited to speak at the February Town Council meeting, or at a later meeting that suits him.

RESOLVED: To extend an invitation to the BCBC Town Centre Manager to attend the Town Council meeting in February 2023 or a later meeting that suits him.

6. To note for information Mayoral Announcements and Engagements:

- The Mayor announced that it had been a pleasure to meet the families of HMS Urge and thanked Councillors Steve and Freya Bletsoe for organising an excellent weekend. Cllr D Unwin added thanks to all the staff for their work on arranging the Remembrance events.

- Sunday 23rd October Mayor's Civic Service
- 7th November – At RBL Poppy Stand
- 11th November – Poppy Train wreath handover
- 11th November – Armistice Day Silence at the War Memorial
- 12th November – Children & Family Remembrance Service
- 13th November – Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service
- 15th November – Civic Trust AGM
- 15th November – Cllr S Easterbrook as Mayor's representative at Brynteg art and photography student's exhibition of work in their Art in the Community exhibition at Bauhaus Cafe bar

7. To fill vacancies on the following committees:

1. 1 x Regeneration Committee

RESOLVED: That Cllr N Deere be elected to the Regeneration Committee for 2022/23

2. 1 x Community Engagement & Well-being Committee

RESOLVED: That Cllr C Webster be elected to the Community Engagement & Well-being Committee for 2022/23

3. 1 x Personnel Committee

RESOLVED: That Cllr C Webster be elected to the Personnel Committee for 2022/23

4. 2 x Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That Cllr M Blundell-Humphreys be elected to the Planning Committee for 2022/23 and that the remaining vacancy be include on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

8. Planning

1. To consider draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 14th November 2022

- Cllr S Easterbrook declared an interest in this agenda item as a Member of the BCBC Development Control Committee.
- The Chair presented the minutes to Council and asked Members if they had any questions.
- Cllr F Bletsoe enquired about comments for the appeal for a planning application regarding land at Wicks Car Park. It was noted that the Council had not made any additional comments.

RESOLVED: To receive and note the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 14th November 2022.

- Cllr A Wathan referred to an email received from a BCBC Officer regarding the closure of the river pathway at Craig Y Parcau Local Nature Reserve, which had been received this evening. Cllr I Spiller confirmed that as a Councillor for Laleston, he had also received the same email at short notice.
- The Chair of Planning advised that as Craig Y Parcau Local Nature Reserve was in BCBC ownership then the matter could be discussed in the future and not at this meeting.

2. To consider an item deferred from Planning Committee – Air Quality Action Plan for Park Street – consultation 15th November

- The Chair of Planning Committee explained that BTC had taken a great interest in discussions regarding the air pollution on Park Street and was disappointed that the consultation notice came through with one days' notice, therefore preventing further BTC comment.
- Cllr T Wood and Cllr S Bletsoe confirmed that they had attended the consultation and that 63 people had participated in total.
- Cllr S Bletsoe gave an outline of the consultation and matters discussed. He noted that this is of great concern and is the most polluted area of the borough. He explained that there are a number of proposals on the matter, however even if all proposals were implemented, it would not bring the emissions down to the required level.
- It was noted that the 900 homes planned for the circus field, Laleston and the 65 apartments at Sunnyside House had not been considered in the modelling.
- Cllr S Bletsoe explained that Shared Regulatory Services (SRS) had objected to the Sunnyside development and if BCBC do not meet the Air Quality Standards, then Welsh Government will take legal action.
- Members commented that there are a number of housing developments in the area that will contribute additional traffic in the Park Street area.
- After a thorough discussion, Cllr I Spiller proposed that BTC write to BCBC asking for an extension to the consultation date to the end of February 2023 outlining the following:
 - a. That BCBC had launched the plan on the 5th September and did not include a consultation date of the 15th November and that residents were not notified.
 - b. That there are insufficient monitoring stations.
 - c. That all new developments in the area that will contribute to additional traffic in Park Street should be considered.

RESOLVED: That Council write to BCBC outlining the points above and requesting an extension of the consultation period to the end of February 2023.

9. Finance

1. To receive a balance of accounts and payments since last meeting

- The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO apologised that the documents were not ready and would be available at the next meeting. This was accepted by Members.

2. To receive draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 25th October 2022

- The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO referred to the minutes which had been previously circulated. The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO made Members aware that the addition of a name to the War Memorial had been delayed. However, the dedication had not taken place in November as the family were away, and that a new date for a Dedication would be made on agreement with the family.

10. Governance

1. To receive and discuss The Finance & Governance Toolkit for Community and Town Councils

- The Town Clerk referred Members to the document which had been circulated. The Town Clerk asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

2. To consider the BTC Statutory Risk Policy & Strategy and Corporate Risk Assessment

- The Town Clerk explained that prior to the pandemic, the Town Council set-up a working group to review risk management however work on this was delayed in 2020/21. She explained that the Council had a number of documents in place in relation to risk management which identified some risks but did not provide enough detail about the risks, risk levels and how they can be managed and that the Council did not have a Statutory Risk Policy & Strategy in place.
- The Town Clerk explained that she had prepared a new Risk Management Policy & Strategy based on a model document from the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and that the three original Risk documents have been amalgamated and additional risks have also been identified. She presented one comprehensive Risk Assessment Schedule for Bridgend Town Council for consideration and discussion by Council.
- Cllr I Spiller thanked the Town Clerk for an outstanding piece of work.
- Cllr A Wathan queried items 44 and 45 in relation to HR. The Town Clerk confirmed that these were still a risk. It was agreed that the word 'HR Officer' should be replaced with 'an Officer' for items 44 and 45.
- Cllr F Bletsoe suggested that the Council could consider a HR company such as Peninsula for HR issues. It was agreed to refer this suggestion to the Personnel Committee for further consideration.

RESOLVED: To refer a suggestion from Cllr F Bletsoe to the BTC Personnel Committee, that the Council consider a HR company such as Peninsula for HR issues.

- Cllr I Spiller referred to item 49 and queried if Councillors should undergo Code of Conduct Training. The Town Clerk confirmed that Code of Conduct training was not a mandatory requirement at this level of local government.
- After discussion Cllr I Spiller proposed that The Town Clerk add Code of Conduct Training to the BTC training plan, and in the case of BCBC/BTC Councillors it would be noted that Code of Conduct Training had been completed with BCBC.
- The Town Clerk confirmed that Code of Conduct training is included in the Statutory Training Plan that was approved by Council in the October meeting.

RESOLVED: To approve the BTC Statutory Risk Policy & Strategy and Corporate Risk Assessment for 2022/23

11. Town Hall Project

1. To receive an update on the Town Hall Refurbishment Project and information from the Quantity Surveyor and Architect regarding variations and timescales

- The Town Clerk provided an update and drew Members attention to the priority actions requiring decisions as follows:
- There is a hole in the roof above the attic hatch in the main chamber. Daylight can be seen from inside the attic. Urgent works required to repair roof damage.
- The gutters are leaking badly in the area of the external CCTV cameras which may cause problems with the camera equipment. Urgent work is required to resolve guttering issue.
- The Town Clerk asked Council for instruction. After a thorough discussion Council proposed that Manning Construction undertake the guttering work and urgent quotes are sought to repair the roof damage.

RESOLVED: That Manning Construction undertake the guttering work and urgent quotes are sought to repair the roof damage.

- The Town Clerk explained that Manning Construction are up to date with works onsite; Windows are currently being fitted and final carpentry work is being undertaken. Apart from electrical work, which is dependent on the installation of the isolation switch, next steps are final painting, carpets and snagging list.
- The Town Clerk explained that there is no room to locate the isolation switch in the internal electrical cupboard therefore an external GRP unit is required. This will be fitted outside the building and will require excavation works at an additional cost of approximately £5,000.
- National Grid have advised that they will begin work on site on 12th December.
- Councillors discussed the issue of the building being sold to BTC without an isolation switch. The Chair of the Facilities Committee advised that the matter had been raised in October and was being challenged by staff and the architects regarding costs. The Chair of the Facilities Committee advised Members that Council would need to act quickly to install the GRP unit so that works could progress, but that he was aware of the £5,000 cost to the public and that the matter should be pursued with BCBC.
- The Town Clerk explained that Manning Construction provided two options for the next stage of the project:
 - They could partially hand the site back to BTC on 11th November as it is and leave site until after the electrical works have been completed by National Grid. They will then resume works in the new year to complete the project by the end of Jan/early Feb.
 - They continue works to finish the paint work and complete the carpeting, however as the electrical work is not finished, there is a risk that this could be damaged during the electrical works and may need to be rectified afterwards.
- The Town Clerk advised that in discussions with the Facilities Manager, Chair of Finance Committee and Chair of Facilities Committee, it was agreed that it would be more cost effective for Manning Construction to partially hand the site back to BTC on 11th November and for the BTC Outdoor Team to have access to the Maintenance Depot and provide weekly checks of the building.
- Cllr I Spiller queried the security of the site during this time and questioned if additional security measures would be required. The Town Clerk clarified that Manning Construction had agreed for the BTC Outdoor Maintenance Team to have access to one room and that the PCSOs were making regular visits.
- After discussion, the Chair of Personnel Committee advised that in his experience, issues of security could happen at any time – and that staff would not be expected to visit the Town Hall alone at any time.
- Cllr F Bletsoe queried if Council had a lone working policy? The Town Clerk advised that a policy had been drawn up but had been subject to discussion at a previous meeting and that this had not been resolved.
- After discussion, Cllr S Bletsoe proposed that a Working Group be set up to review personnel policies and to then forward them to the Personnel Committee. The Town Clerk suggested that a member of staff be included in the Working Group and that the role of the Front of House worker be considered in relation to the Lone Working policy.

RESOLVED: That a Personnel Working Group be set up to review policies and forward to the Personnel Committee. Nominated Members of the working group were confirmed as: Cllr I Spiller, Cllr N Deere, Cllr M Blundell-Humphreys, Cllr C Webster, Cllr A Lloyd plus one Member of Staff.

- The Town Clerk reported that there was a problem with the heating system and referred to an email that she had received that afternoon from the Project Manager/architect which provided a short term and long term proposal.
- Members were provided with an explanation of the scope of the works and a quote from Manning Construction for the a short term solution to replace pumps and valves at a cost of £6,879.15.
- Members discussed and the cost of the short term solution and the cost of investing in new boilers in the longer term.
- Councillors discussed in careful detail the serious nature of the situation and considered all options, including looking at a more sustainable system, with a view to moving forward.
- The Town Clerk advised that the cost of new gas boilers could be in the region of £30,000 which would have to go to tender due to the Council's Financial Regulations. The Town Clerk explained that she would need to find out costings for alternative types of heating systems.
- Cllr A Wathan proposed that given the time required for a tender process, the boiler should be repaired on the basis that winter is approaching and there is a risk of frost and burst pipes. This was seconded by Cllr I Williams.
- Cllr A Felton suggested that the Council should consider green energy going forward and try to avoid new gas boilers.
- The Town Clerk explained that she had received an enquiry from Cllr I Williams and had contacted BCBC to enquire about the Bridgend Heat Scheme.
- Cllr I Spiller supported the comments from Cllr Felton and highlighted that BTC should be looking for a more sustainable heating system.
- Cllr F Bletsoe referred to a past resolution of Council to consider more eco-friendly solutions even if they are more expensive.

RESOLVED: That the boiler pumps and valves for the Town Hall be replaced as a matter of urgency and that the quote for a short-term solution at a cost of £6,879.15 be approved.

The Town Clerk was asked to investigate grants available for a replacement heating system and contact the BCBC Climate Change Response Manager to enquire what is funding may be available.

- The Town Clerk explained that the Mayoral Board will not fit on any walls in the new Town Hall Council Chamber, reception or hallway, due to the position of doors, radiators and trunking. The Town Clerk requested that Councillors consider whether to leave the Mayoral Board in Carnegie House, or move the board to the Community Room in The Town Hall.

RESOLVED: To relocate the Mayoral Board to the Community Room at the Town Hall.

- The Town Clerk reported that the Quantity Surveyor had presented a report of additional items required and additional costs to be considered by Council. A further meeting was held with the QS and Architect and attended by Cllr Unwin and Cllr Wathan as Chair and

Vice Chair of Finance. It was noted that there will be variations to the project costs and that the QS was meeting with Manning this afternoon and will provide further details.

- It was noted that due to the ongoing works, it will not be possible for BTC to use the office or chamber areas in January. The office move is now likely to take place in February 2023.

9.35 pm - The Mayor proposed a 10-minute recess.

9.45 pm – Meeting reconvened.

2. To discuss Room Names submitted by Councillors and Internal and External Signage

- The Town Clerk confirmed that she had received three submissions:
 - Cllr D Unwin – Elizabethan, Dunraven and Ogmore
 - Cllr D Unwin – Morfa, Oldcastle & Newcastle
 - Cllr T Wood – St Marys, Pen y Bont, Oldcastle
 - Mayor’s Chaplain – Pen y Bont, Y Bont, Heronsbridge
- Cllr S Bletsoe added the suggestions – Tomkinson, Brian Lloyd, Bernard Gray
- After discussion Council proposed to name the rooms after the local schools: St Marys, Pen y Bont and Oldcastle.

RESOLVED: That the new Room Names for the Town Hall be confirmed as: St Mary’s, Pen y Bont, Oldcastle.

- The Town Clerk advised Members that some temporary signage was needed to direct traffic past the Wellness Village development. It was agreed that this should be a temporary banner until the Wellness Village development works are complete.

12. Remembrance Events

1. To consider feedback from Council on Remembrance events for 2022

- The following feedback was given by Members:
- Cllr F Bletsoe congratulated staff on an excellent job and extended thanks to Air Cadet Sgt Cody Evans for his diligence which was exceptional. The Democratic Services Officer advised that thank you letters are always extended from The Mayor and that she would prepare an additional thank you letter to Cadet Sgt Evans from Cllr F Bletsoe as Deputy Mayor.
- Cllr F Bletsoe expressed concern that the open area on Market Street, behind where the Councillors stand for the service is still a security concern. The Town Clerk advised that she had walked the route with the Police and they had confirmed that a Police Officer would be stationed at the bottom of Market Street. The Town Clerk added that Market Street is one of the emergency exits detailed on the Evacuation Plan and cannot be cordoned off. The Deputy Clerk highlighted that she had seen PCSO’s in the area.
- Cllr S Bletsoe reported that The Deputy Lord Lieutenant was very impressed and very proud of the respectful Service.
- Cllr F Bletsoe suggested that Military Advisor John Harris be forwarded for a commendation for his work.
- Cllr A Wathan suggested that a specific area for wheelchair users would be useful if this could be accommodated at future events.
- Cllr I Spiller commented that it was an honour to be part of the parade, both as a Town Councillor, and The Chair of Laleston Community Council and would like to send a personal

vote of thanks to the Community Events & Engagement Manager as well as to all staff for going 'over and above'.

- Cllr I Spiller commented that the sound quality of the event was poor and expressed concern about trailing wires. He suggested that the Council should consider an alternative solution, which could involve the Council purchasing its own sound system. After discussion Cllr D Unwin supported Cllr I Spiller.
 - Cllr S Bletsoe highlighted that Reverend Wheeler was outstanding in her delivery of both the Children & Family Service on the Saturday and the Sunday Remembrance Service. Cllr M Blundell- Humphreys agreed.
 - The Mayor thanked the Staff on behalf of all Councillors and added that he was extremely proud of the professional delivery of the events that took place on Remembrance Weekend.
- 2. To consider a request from Bridgend Quakers to come and speak to the Council about how different types of remembrance might be incorporated into Remembrance Sunday in the future**
- The Mayor reported that both the BTC Military Advisor and Rev Wheeler had raised concerns about allowing individual organisations to influence the Remembrance Sunday service. It was noted that if the Council permitted the Bridgend Quakers to be involved in the arrangements for the event, it would set a precedence for other organisations. Members were reminded that the service is a traditional service that follows the service typically held in London.
 - After discussion Cllr S Bletsoe proposed that Council no action be taken regarding this request or for any others of a similar nature, and added that The Quakers continue to receive an invitation to lay a wreath.

RESOLVED: That The Town Clerk respond to decline the request from Bridgend Quakers to come and speak to the Council about how different types of remembrance might be incorporated into Remembrance Sunday in the future.

13. To receive an update from Cllr D Unwin regarding antisocial behaviour at the Bowls Hall Car Park

- Cllr D Unwin advised that he had received a reply from BCBC by letter and read the contents to Members.
 - The letter stated that a multi-agency approach is being taken to tackle the Anti-social use of vehicles within the Bowls Hall Car park. The matter is regularly discussed at Anti social behaviour (ASB) Management and Problem Solving Groups attended by several BCBC departments, South Wales Police and other partners. Police regularly patrol the area.
 - It was noted that an additional set of flow plates were installed at the exit to the Bowls Hall Car Park in March 2022 to prevent access after the entrance barrier is locked. The Parking team regularly attend to maintain the flow plates due to occasional damage. BCBC are awaiting installation of additional CCTV cameras for this location, which can be monitored in real time by the CCTV unit.
 - There is currently a mobile CCTV camera temporarily located on Angel Street overlooking the Bowls hall car park. This isn't monitored 24/7 and does not record noise. The camera can be viewed post event when reports are made to South Wales Police detailing the time and date.

- The letter explained that the option of a lockable exit barrier was explored, but due to the majority of car park users being legitimate users, this was not deemed appropriate/feasible.
- Vehicle Anti-social behaviour should be reported to South Wales Police at the time the incidents are occurring so the matter can be dealt with in a prompt and appropriate manner. In order for Police enforcement to be taken, they have to witness the anti-social / dangerous driving. Police resources are allocated based on reporting and demand. In order for us to take appropriate actions as a multi-agency group we need to have an accurate picture of dates, times and what is occurring. Police and partners rely on this information to co-ordinate the best course of action.
- Councillors discussed the contents of the letter and disputed some of the accuracy. They highlighted the frustration felt by themselves and residents over the continuing antisocial behaviour.
- Cllr D Unwin proposed that he liaise with the Town Clerk, Cllr S Bletsoe and Cllr N Deere to compose a reply. This was agreed by Members.

RESOLVED: That Cllr D Unwin, Cllr S Bletsoe and Cllr N Deere work with the Town Clerk to prepare a reply to BCBC regarding antisocial behaviour at the Bowls Hall car park.

- Cllr N Deere proposed that he also contact the Municipal Bowls Hall for a supporting letter. This was agreed by Members.

14. To consider a motion from Cllr Ian Spiller for a Rolling programme of Christmas lighting throughout the wards of Bridgend Town Council

- Cllr I Spiller presented his motion to Council and proposed that Bridgend Town Council invest in rolling programme of illuminating wards for Christmas lighting, to match over a period time, the investment of community councils on the BTC periphery.
- He highlighted that there are numerous budgets which have not been utilised due to the events of the last few years, and would like council to consider a significant rolling programme of purchasing lighting commencing January 2023 when the manufacturers offer buy one get one free incentives to purchase out of season.
- He explained that whilst the cost-of-living crisis continues to bite, it is absolutely essential that Bridgend Town Council invests in the well-being of the wider community illuminating the darkness of our communities and spreading Christmas joy as shown in the outreaching communities of Bridgend county borough.
- Cllr D Unwin thanked Cllr I Spiller for his motion and noted that although it was a lovely idea, he could not support it. Cllr D Unwin explained that as Chair of Finance Committee, he had calculated that the Town Council had invested £600,000 in the Christmas lighting scheme since 1984. He explained that all Christmas lighting equipment is owned by the Town Council and must be stored.
- Cllr Unwin highlighted that the Council does not have a spare pot of money and that unspent funds would go back to general reserves and can be used to offset next years budget to keep the precept at its lowest possible level. He added that the Council did not yet know the proposed expenditure for next year and as far as he was aware, there had been no direct request from wards for additional Christmas lights.
- Cllr Unwin noted that Christmas lights are focussed on the Town Centre and commercial areas of Cefn Glas and Wildmill.

- The Deputy Town Clerk/RFO advised Members that Council had budgeted £20,000 and that given the current financial climate, this is likely to increase to £24,000 to sustain the present Christmas lights display.
- It was noted that the cost of the electricity for Christmas 2022 is unknown.
- Cllr I Spiller reiterated his motion and explained that the Council should have LED lights. He explained that Laleston Community Council currently spend £16,000 on Christmas lights.
- It was noted that residents in Oaklands Road have enquired why the Christmas lights don't extend down Park Street.
- Cllr Unwin highlighted that there are 7 feeder roads in the BTC area; 2 in Morfa ward, 2 in Oldcastle ward and 3 in Newcastle ward.
- Members discussed comments on social media, the possibility of solar powered lights and Christmas lights provided by Coity Higher Community Council.
- Cllr A Wathan proposed that a fully costed plan be produced that could be proposed to Council for the precept which will be discussed by Council in December 2023.
- Cllr S Bletsoe suggested that he work with Cllr I Spiller to put together a fully costed proposal for next year's precept meeting.
- Cllr I Spiller thanked Members for their assistance and proposed an amendment to the motion: 'To endeavour, subject to myself and Cllr S Bletsoe presenting a fully costed plan, to identifying priorities, for consideration at the precept meeting for 2024. This was seconded and agreed by Members.

RESOLVED: To endeavour to consider a fully costed rolling program for Bridgend Town Council to invest in rolling programme of illuminating wards for Christmas lighting, for consideration at the precept meeting for 2024.

15. Consultations:

1. **To receive the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report February 2023. This document includes consultation questions and the Panel is inviting responses by 1st December 2022.**
 - Noted by Members
2. **Electoral reform consultation. Further information can be found at <https://gov.wales/electoral-administration-and-reform-white-paper> Deadline for responses: by 10 January 2023**
 - Noted by Members

16. Personnel (In Confidence)

1. **To consider draft minutes of the Extraordinary Personnel Committee meeting held on 27th October 2022**

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

RESOLVED: That the Democratic Services Officer and the Acting Community Engagement and Events Manager remain to take minutes and advise respectively.

- Chair of Personnel Committee, Cllr A Wathan provided an update to Council regarding agenda item 16.
- Discussions took place in confidence.

Meeting closed at 9.58 pm.

Signed

Date

Mayor