



MINUTES OF REGENERATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 27th January 2020 at 6.30 pm at Carnegie

Present:	Cllr S Bletsoe (Chair) Cllr F Bletsoe Cllr S Easterbrook Cllr C Evans	Cllr D Unwin Cllr A Wathan Cllr T Wood
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In attendance: Mrs L Edwards (Town Clerk) and one member of the public.

Chair provided an explanation from the Town Clerk regarding the pre-meeting business and advised that the discussion would not take place.

1. To receive apologies for absence:

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest (if any) of Members

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

- Cllr T Wood declared a personal interest in all matters as a town trader
- Cllr S Easterbrook declared a personal interest in all matters as a town trader

3. To confirm and Sign Minutes of the Regeneration Meeting held on 7th October 2019

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Regeneration Meeting held on 7th October 2019 as a true and accurate record.

4. To Consider Matters Arising from the Regeneration Meeting held on 7th October 2019

Page 2 – Town Centre Map

- Cllr F Bletsoe advised Members that she had been working on the development of a new Town Centre Map however had experienced difficulty obtaining a clear and up to date digital map to use. She explained that the maps she had found contained out of date information. She suggested that she might need to re-draw the map.
- Cllr D Unwin proposed purchasing an updated street map from Stanbrooks to use as a template.
- Cllr F Bletsoe was asked to identify a map to purchase and advise the Town Clerk so that a digital copy could be purchased.

Page 2 – Business Awards Scheme

- The Town Clerk advised that this work had been delegated to a member of staff and explained that information to launch the 2020 BTC Business Awards would be made public very soon.

Page 2 – Bridgend Bus Station

- Cllr D Unwin advised that the situation regarding the bus station was ongoing and that he would continue to monitor and advise members accordingly.

Page 3 – Tourism Signs

- Cllr D Unwin reported that he had met with the BCBC Destination Management Officer to undertake a ‘walk about’ and identified 15 areas that require improved signage within the BTC wards. The BCBC Officer will now consider what is feasible for BTC and BCBC to do and will advise on any signage that cannot be delivered by either Council.
- The Mayor and Cllr D Unwin explained that they had identified a potential location for a Town Twinning Finger Post sign that will provide the distances from Bridgend to each of the Twinned Towns. They suggested that the sign could be erected at the junction of Boulevard Villenave d’Ornon with Langenau Strasse, opposite the Ex-Servicemen’s Club. This location has been suggested to the BCBC Officer for comment.
- Members agreed that the sign should include the towns of Villenave d’Ornon and Langenau to mark the official twinning relationship between the towns. It was noted that the relationship with Hechtel Eksel is a friendship link not an official twinning. It was therefore agreed that Hechtel Eksel would not feature on the sign.
- Cllr D Unwin explained that he had discussed two different options for tourist information signs with the BCBC Officer. He explained that brown tourist signs are typically used to promote facilities that are open to the public most of the time.
- It was agreed that a full report on tourism signs would be presented at the March meeting.

Page 3 – Maintenance and Regeneration work in BTC wards.

- Cllr D Unwin referred to discussions at the last Town and Community Council Forum and explained that he was seeking clarification from BCBC regarding the possibility of BTC using their scrubbing machine.
- The Town Clerk reported that the ‘Welcome to Bridgend’ signs had been cleaned and planted with daffodil bulbs.

Page 4 – CF31 Bid Ballot

- Cllr D Unwin advised that he had submitted a Freedom of Information request to BCBC regarding the dispersal of the financial balance of CF31 Bid. No reply had been received to date.

Page 5 – Blue Plaque for 500th anniversary of the Bridgend Market Charter

- Chair provided a brief update on the project and Members were shown the blue plaques.
- Members discussed using the moulds for the plaques for art projects but concerns were raised about damaging the moulds.

Page 5 – The Indoor Market Play Area

- Cllr D Unwin explained that the initial project had been for a children’s play area and expressed concern that the finished project was a seating area of tables and chairs with no play equipment for children.
- Cllr T Wood raised a concern about food debris that could build up during the day and the frequency of cleaning that may be required to keep the area tidy.
- Members discussed their disappointment with the delays experienced for this project and the change to the original plan without consultation from BCBC.
- Chair highlighted that the area can be booked for events however, more clarity is needed about how people can make a booking.
- It was noted that a children’s play area could have attracted more footfall to the Indoor Market and that this had been a missed opportunity.

Page 6 – Derwyn Road

- The Chair reported that BCBC were supportive of his proposals however, he is awaiting a further response.
- The Town Clerk advised that she had been contacted by BCBC about the auction of the Derwyn Road Toilets. Members discussed previous interest in a Capital Asset Transfer of this toilet block and the clause for retaining a toilet in the facility.

Page 6 – Banners

- Town Clerk provided Members with details of banners that had been previously created and installed by the Town Council.
- Cllr D Unwin suggested arranging a ‘walk around’ to identify relevant sites for future banners.
- Cllr F Bletsoe suggested that the Committee could develop a calendar of banners throughout the year to coincide with events such as St David’s Day, Wartime Bridgend etc.
- Members discussed the possibility of arranging banners for St David’s Day. It was proposed that 12 or 14 banners could be erected if it is feasible within the timescales.
- It was suggested that the wording of the banner could read ‘Happy St David’s Day’ in English and Welsh.
- Members arranged to meet outside Carnegie House at 10am on Saturday 8th February in order to decide the locations for up to 14 St David’s Day banners.
- The Town Clerk was requested to establish the exact size of the banners and seek quotes for vibrant banners with bilingual wording.
- It was proposed that the Mayor is given authority to sign off the design.
- The Chair advised Members that he had spoken to the BTC Artist in Residence regarding the feasibility of creating displays to hang on catenary wiring in the Town Centre. He explained that the Artist in Residence is investigating. He will report back when he has further information.
- Cllr T Wood referred to the red telephone kiosks owned by Bridgend Town Council. He explained that he had recently seen similar telephone boxes with red curtains hanging inside the boxes with adverts displayed in the glass.

Page 7 – Budget

- The Town Clerk advised Members that at the December Town Council meeting, the budget for the Regeneration Committee had been reduced by £500 to £7,000 for financial year 2020/21.

5. Blue Plaque Scheme

a. To receive an update on Blue Plaque Project for 2018/19:

- The Town Clerk reported that an unveiling ceremony for the plaques for Sir Morien Bedford Morgan and The Countess of Dunraven had been arranged for Thursday 13th February at 11am. The Blue Plaque for St Johns is currently in production and listed building consent is being sought for the siting of the plaque as advised by BCBC Conservation Department.
- The Chair advised Members that Mr Graham Walter had been invited to attend the unveiling as a Concorde enthusiast and that he will bring other Concorde enthusiasts to the event.
- Cllr D Unwin suggested that a representative from British Airways should also be invited.
- The Chair suggested that he liaise with the Democratic Services Officer regarding press details. Cllr F Bletsoe offered to post the press release on a press release distribution service.
- Cllr D Unwin suggested that the unveiling of the St John’s Plaque should be co-ordinated on a day that the house is open to the public.
- Mayor referred to the plaque that had been presented to the Town Council by the Civic Trust and enquired whether the Town Clerk would need to apply for Listed Building Consent for this plaque to be erected on the front of Carnegie House. The Town Clerk confirmed that Listed Building Consent would be required.

- Members discussed the possibility of installing commemorative plaques in the pavements.

b. To discuss recipients for the Blue Plaque Project for financial year 2019/20:

- The Chair suggested that the Committee could either discuss recipients of blue plaques in 2020 and make a decision at the meeting or this item could be deferred to the next meeting.
- Cllr T Wood suggested that Ray Williams could be considered for a blue plaque.
- The Town Clerk clarified that to be eligible for a Blue Plaque at least ten years should normally have passed since the nominee's death, so that sufficient time has elapsed for an objective evaluation to be made of their local or national significance.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to defer this agenda item to the next meeting and invite representatives from the Bridgend Civic Trust and Bridgend History Society to meet with the Committee to discuss recipients for the Blue Plaque Project for financial year 2019/20.

6. To receive an update from Cllr D Unwin to consider signage for the new toilets in the indoor market:

- Cllr D Unwin advised Members that there are three entrances, which required signage: Caroline Street, Nolton Street and The Rhiw. Cllr D Unwin proposed that the signs should be directional with the words 'Public Toilets Supported by Bridgend Town Council' included.
- Members discussed the proposal and agreed that the signs should only include the wording 'public toilets' and that the wording 'supported by Bridgend Town Council' should be located at the toilet facility.
- Members discussed whether the signage at the toilet facility should be a sign created by a sign writer or a canvas banner.
- It was agreed that the sign should be a wooden sign with the wording 'Public Toilets provided by Bridgend Market Traders in association with Bridgend Town Council'. It was agreed that the sign should include the new BTC logo.

RESOLVED: that The Town Clerk put together a brief for toilet signage and obtain quotes from two local sign writers.

7. To consider a proposal to develop stickers to advertise the 'Fix my Street' website (Cllr F Bletsoe):

- Cllr F Bletsoe advised that she had emailed to enquire about waterproof stickers for the Fix My Street website however they only provide posters or dog waste flags.
- Cllr F Bletsoe proposed that yellow stickers could be created and suggested a supplier that could be used.
- The Mayor queried if planning permission was needed from BCBC to use stickers. Cllr D Unwin suggested that it is unlawful to put a sticker on someone else's property.
- The Chair advised that the stickers are to raise awareness of the 'Fix my Street' website.
- It was suggested that instead of creating stickers, a Facebook post about the 'Fix My Street' website could be posted on the Bridgend Town Council Facebook page.

RESOLVED: That The Town Clerk posts a link to the Fix my Street website on the BTC Facebook page.

8. To discuss the Business Awards Scheme, judging process and awards ceremony for 2020.

- The Chair clarified that the awards would be presented at the April Town Council Meeting and that the process would be identical to the format of last year.
- It was agreed that the judging panel would consist of Chair of Regeneration Committee, The Mayor, Cllr C Evans and Cllr F Bletsoe plus the Chair of the Bridgend Coalition for Disabled People, The Youth Mayor and the Head Teacher of Heronsbridge School.
- Cllr F Bletsoe suggested that a representative from Ford or INIOS be invited to sit on the judging panel.
- Cllr C Evans suggested that an open invitation to the event is sent to past winners.

- Cllr F Bletsoe proposed that a new 'Ecommerce' Award be included for 2020. Members discussed the criteria for this award.
- The Town Clerk clarified the criteria for the existing awards and highlighted that a contribution to community life is part of the award scheme.
- Members agreed that a 6th Award is added for 2020 to 'Recognise businesses that have successfully integrated e-commerce expertise, social media platforms and new technology in order to promote Bridgend and its future prospects'.

RESOLVED: That a new Ecommerce award is included in the Business Awards Scheme 2020 to 'Recognise businesses that have successfully integrated ecommerce expertise, social media platforms and new technology in order to promote Bridgend and its future prospects'.

RESOLVED: That the closing date for the award nominations will be 31st March 2020, that the judging panel will meet on 6th April 2020 and the awards will be presented on Monday 20th April 2020.

- Cllr F Bletsoe requested an agenda item for the next Regeneration Committee meeting to present a report on Reverse Vending Machines.
- Cllr T Wood requested that the Committee consider discussing the provision of another toilet facility at the next meeting. Members discussed a budget for this proposal. It was suggested that grant-funding opportunities from Ford, Ineos or Suncredit could be investigated.
- It was agreed that these items should be included as agenda items for the next Regeneration Committee meeting for further discussion.

The meeting concluded at 8.24 pm

Signed
Chair of Regeneration Committee

Date