



**MINUTES OF REGENERATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7:00pm at Evergreen Hall, Angel Street**

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| <b>Present:</b> | Cllr S Bletsoe (Chair)<br>Cllr A Wathan<br>Cllr T Wood | Cllr P Warren |
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**In attendance:** Mrs L Edwards (Town Clerk) and two members of the public.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Evans, Cllr K Boucher  
Absent: Cllr R Thomas

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

- Declarations of Interest were declared by the following Members and recorded in the register:
  - Cllr S Bletsoe declared a personal interest as a town trader
  - Cllr T Wood declared a personal interest as a town trader

**3. To confirm and Sign Minutes of the Regeneration Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**RESOLVED:** To confirm and sign the minutes of the Regeneration Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 as a true and accurate record.

**4. To Consider Matters Arising from the Regeneration Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

- Page 1. Cllr T Wood enquired about the status of the Town Map. Town Clerk advised that the Community Engagement and Events Manager had provided the design company with a detailed wireframe for the project and is now awaiting a new design concept from the designer.
- Page 2. Chair praised the success of the new BTC Business Award Scheme and noted that a structure is now in place for future years. It was highlighted that some of the winners are proudly displaying their certificates in their shop fronts.
- Chair suggested that an item is included on the agenda of the first Regeneration Committee meeting in 2020 to consider the awards for next year.
- Page 3. Members discussed the lack of progress with the de-pedestrianisation project. Town Clerk advised that the letters had been sent to the five Assembly Members but no responses had been received.
- Page 4. Members commented on the lack of information regarding the future of Bridgend Bus Station and it was suggested that further information should be made available when BCBC consider their budgets for 2020 later in the year.

- Page 4. Cllr T Wood enquired about a follow-up to a tourism meeting he had attended in Brackla. Town Clerk will investigate. It was suggested that an item should be included on the agenda for the next Regeneration Advisory Committee meeting in July to discuss tourism.

**5. To consider quotes and agree the amended wording of the blue plaques for 2018/2019**

- Chair explained that Bridgend Civic Trust and Bridgend History Society had been sent the proposed wording for the blue plaques for 2018/19 and had responded with comments.
- Members considered a proposed change to the wording of the blue plaque for Sir Morien Bedford Morgan to alter the wording to 'Born here at 22 Caroline St' and to consider locating the plaque inside the Rhiw Shopping Centre near the Indoor Market.
- Members decided not to agree to these suggestions and to remain with the original proposed wording and location for this plaque.
- Members considered a proposed change to the wording of the blue plaque for Caroline Wyndham to remove the title 'Dowager' and include 'c.' for circa in front of the dates 1789 – 1870. This amendment was agreed by Members.
- Members considered a proposed change to the wording of the blue plaque for St John's House to alter the wording to St John's Hospice. Members discussed this suggestion in detail and agreed to reach a compromise and amend the wording to read 'St John's House/Hospice'.

**RESOLVED:** Further to the previous resolution of full Council, to approve the final wording for the blue plaque scheme for 2018/19 as:

- Sir Morien Bedford Morgan  
1912 – 1978  
'Father of Concorde' – Lived here  
Bridgend Town Council 2019
- Caroline Wyndham  
Countess of Dunraven  
c. 1789 – 1870  
Bridgend Philanthropist  
Bridgend Town Council 2019
- St John's House/ Hospice  
Oldest residential building in Bridgend Town  
Circ. 15th century  
Bridgend Town Council 2019
- Chair suggested that an agenda item should be included for the next Regeneration Advisory Committee meeting in July to consider the next three recipients of blue plaques for the next financial year.
- Town Clerk presented three quotes from different suppliers of blue plaques along with photographs and information regarding materials used by each of the suppliers, for consideration by the Committee.
- Members discussed the benefits of a metal plaque rather than a plaque made from polyurethane.
- It was noted that the cost difference between suppliers was small.
- Members discussed the potential weight of a metal plaque.
- It was suggested that the Town Clerk conduct further research regarding the materials used for the plaques, the weight of a plaque and the installation requirements for plaques from each of the suppliers.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To delegate authority to the Town Clerk to select a supplier for the provision of blue plaques with a preference for a metal plaque rather than a plaque made from polyurethane.

**6. To discuss Town Centre issues and Regeneration Initiatives for 2019/20:**

**a) Urban Centre Property Enhancement Fund (UCPEF)**

Town Clerk provided an overview of the scheme and explained that it is a Property Enhancement Project that can provide funding to improve properties within Bridgend Town Centre.

Members discussed the opportunity to help promote the scheme via the Town Council Facebook page. It was also suggested that the Town Clerk pass the information to the Town Traders Forum. Mayor enquired whether there would be an opportunity to apply for the funding for Carnegie House and spoke of the potential project to renew the current lift and improve the toilet facilities on the ground floor.

**RECOMMEDATION:** Town Clerk to make enquires to find out if BTC is eligible to apply to the Urban Centre Property Enhancement Fund for a project in Carnegie House.

**b) Maintenance and Regeneration works in BTC wards**

Town Clerk explained that the Town Council have a new Outdoor Maintenance Team and asked Members if there is any specific regeneration work that they would like the team to focus on in the coming months.

Members discussed pavement cleaning and gum busting and suggested that the team should be asked to focus on cleaning the 'Welcome to Bridgend' signs and road/street signs within the BTC wards in order to improve the general appearance of the area.

Town Clerk advised that the paint is peeling of the BTC crest on some of the 'Welcome to Bridgend' signs. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should obtain costs for replacing the crests where necessary.

**RECOMMENDTAION:** Town Clerk to obtain costs for replacement crests for 'Welcome to Bridgend' signs.

It was suggested that the Town Council could encourage residents to report small problems within the wards on social media so that the Town Council Maintenance Team could address small issues.

Cllr T Wood highlighted that there are no signs promoting Bridgend Town Centre when approaching the town from Waterton. The Town Clerk was asked to enquire about the process for requesting new signage.

Mayor noted that in Cardiff, railway bridges are used for advertising purposes and it was suggested that the bridge near Mcdonalds could be used to promote the town centre.

Cllr T Wood highlighted that he would like the opportunity to discuss the possibility of re-naming the railway bridge.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That an agenda item is included for the next Regeneration Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the possibility of re-naming the railway bridge.

Members discussed the importance of branding the work wear for the Bridgend Town Council Maintenance Team. It was suggested that their PPE should be a different colour to the hi-vis PPE worn by BCBC employees.

**c) Timing of CF31 BID re-ballot**

Chair noted that BTC is a BID levy payer and will be eligible to vote in the re-ballot.

Town Clerk advised that the re-ballot will take place in mid-September and that papers will be made available 28 days prior to this, however the Council will be on Summer Recess.

Town Clerk advised that she had included it on the agenda for this meeting so that Members could consider any regeneration questions that they may want to ask prior to a full debate on the BID re-ballot at the July Council meeting.

Chair enquired whether a BID manifesto would be available prior to the July meeting. Members suggested that the BID Manager should be asked when a detailed written plan for the future of the BID will be available.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Town Clerk to enquire if a detailed written plan for the future of the BID will be available prior to the July meeting of full Council.

Members suggested that the BID should be asked to provide evidence of what it has achieved in the past three years and how their activities have contributed to the regeneration of Bridgend Town Centre.

Chair noted that there are businesses outside of the BID boundary participating in the BID gift card scheme and since the BID had allocated funds towards the scheme, businesses not contributing a BID levy are gaining financial benefit.

**7. To consider and discuss correspondence from BCBC regarding the provision of new toilets in the Indoor Market**

- Chair explained that an email had been received from BCBC proposing that CF31 BID take a lead on the delivery of the new toilets in the Indoor Market.
- Members highlighted that Bridgend Town Council had spent two years working on the project to improve the provision of toilets within Bridgend Town Centre and had agreed to provide financial assistance for the new toilets. Members expressed concern at the suggestion that this project is now handed over to CF31 BID.
- It was highlighted that the future of the BID is uncertain and will be determined at a re-ballot in four months' time. It was therefore noted that CF31 BID may not be in a position to take the project forward.
- Members expressed concern that this proposal could be a tactic to improve the possibility of a successful re-ballot for the BID and questioned why the BID had not attempted to introduce toilet facilities sooner.
- Members were not happy that a BCBC Officer had taken the liberty of discussing this proposal at a BID meeting without prior communication with BTC.
- Mayor advised that BTC would need to be absolutely sure it could deliver the toilet facilities without assistance from the BID before it refuses their involvement.
- Members discussed the original concept of providing an individual trader with funding to set-up the new toilet facilities himself.
- Mayor enquired whether the Market Traders Association is a constituted group and suggested that if they are, the funds could be given directly to the Market Traders Association to establish and run the toilets and share the associated risks between them.
- Chair permitted a member of the public to speak on this matter.
- The member of the public spoke of the need to progress this project without further delay and urged the Council to work with the traders to find a suitable solution. He added that the market trader that initially proposed the development of the toilet in the indoor market is also able to provide the toilets himself.

- Chair expressed a personal view that BTC should try to push the project forward on its own and suggested that full Council consider making an official complaint about the actions of the BCBC officer.
- Members discussed this view and although they agreed with the sentiment they expressed caution about how to proceed.
- Chair suggested that the Committee should seek approval from full Council to meet with the market traders and the BCBC Senior Portfolio Surveyor to progress this project.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To reject the proposal from the BCBC Officer to allow CF31 BID to lead on the delivery of the new toilet facility in the Indoor Market and to agree that BTC take ownership of the project and work directly with market traders and the BCBC Senior Portfolio Surveyor to deliver the new toilet facilities.

The meeting concluded at 8.34pm

Signed .....  
Chair of Regeneration Advisory Committee

Date .....