

Bargoed Town Council
Full Council Meeting Wednesday 26th February 2020

Minutes

PRESENT COUNCILLORS Councillors J Bissex, H Llewellyn, R Carroll, D Price,
S Hamer-Thomas, V Stephens, A Collis, A Higgs, J Halvey, L
Harding, D Morgan.

IN ATTENDANCE:- Mrs Helen Williams, Town Clerk

CHAIRMAN:- Mayor R Carroll

Also present: One member of the public.

1 Apologies for Absence

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Clerk.

Councillor S Horton.

2. Declaration of interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Clerk.

Councillor A Higgs declared an interest in Any Planning issues and also GAVO.

Councillor R Carroll declared an interest in all allotments in the Greater Bargoed area, Cartref community hall, Bargoed Bowls Club.

Councillor S Hamer-Thomas declared an interest in Greater Bargoed Partnership.

Councillor D Morgan declared an interest in RV Young @ Hearts, Taraggan, Gilfach Community Centre, Gilfach OAP Hall, Greater Bargoed Partnership.

Councillor V Stephens declared an interest in St Gwladys.

Councillor D Price declared an interest in Cartref and Tarragan.

3. Police Report.

There was no police presence.

RESOLVED the clerk to write to the police requesting attendance at full council meetings.

4. To approve and sign the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting 29th January 2020.

Minutes were accepted, approved and signed by the Mayor.

5. Mayor's Report [to also include feedback from the Deputy Mayor regarding Information Technology provision at Town Council]

Mayor advised of his attendance at a recent meeting of the taxi association and that there are still ongoing issues. He attended a 100th birthday and made a presentation of a bouquet of flowers from the town council. The Mayor asked Members to confirm the appointment of Katherine O'Halloran to the vacancy in Bargoed Ward.

RESOLVED to confirm the appointment. The Mayor invited Katherine to join the meeting.

The co-opted new Member signed a declaration of acceptance of office in the presence of the clerk and formally joined the meeting.

The deputy Mayor provided a brief synopsis of the work he and the Mayor had carried out in respect of direction by Members. The meeting was asked to approve expenditure of £1,000 from contingency funds in 2020/21 for upgrade to the IT equipment. RESOLVED £1,000 expenditure approved. Clerk to liaise with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor regarding installation of new equipment.

6. **Leader's Report** [to include a verbal update to Council from the Festive Lighting working group]
The Leader advised of confirmation of the CCBC Ice Rink for 2020 and the updated information received regarding proposals for location and cost implications.
RESOLVED clerk to feedback Members displeasure and also town council budget availability for this event;
RESOLVED clerk to arrange a special meeting with the officers from CCBC Events Team to discuss the proposals.
The Leader also briefed Members on recent communication from a local resident. Members noted the correspondence.
7. **Items from the Clerk:**
 - 7.1 **To approve the bank reconciliation and payments list (to be signed by the Mayor)**
Approved and signed at the meeting.
 - 7.2 **To consider items of correspondence.**
Correspondence noted. Clerk instructed to refer member of the public to local historical groups for information. Town Council representative updated Members on the ABHB Wellbeing network activity. Clerk instructed to communicate no comment from Town Council on the enquiry from the press. The Clerk encouraged Members to attend the consultation 29th February on the Heads of the Valleys Masterplan.
 - 7.3 **To consider planning applications.**
Cllr Higgs left the room.
Neighbours views
 - 7.4 **To receive feedback from the Clerk on the visit from the Council's insurers.**
Clerk provided verbal update on the insurance policy. RESOLVED the asset register to be reviewed regarding depreciation and brought to the next meeting for consideration.
 - 7.5 **To receive a verbal report on the recent TCCLC Meeting.**
Clerk updated Members on the TCCLC Meeting advising of the new chair and the guidance that two Member representatives should be attending these meetings with the clerk. The committee will be bringing one additional item to the CCBC liaison committee meeting – requesting an update from CCBC regarding any plans to declare a climate emergency.
 - 7.6 **To consider quotations for the provision of Fireworks display 2020.**
Members considered options for the provision of the Fireworks display and discussed the current position at some length. RESOLVED Members voted unanimously to engage the services of the existing provider.

Councillor S Hamer-Thomas left the meeting at 7.10pm.
 - 7.7 **To receive CCBC Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024**
Received and noted
 - 7.8 **To receive CCBC Schools Capital Programme 2020/21**
Received and noted
8. **To discuss the Town Centre Management Group.**
Members discussed proposals to approach CCBC service manager regarding town centre projects. County Members will follow this up at CCBC. RESOLVED Clerk to enquire at CCBC regarding the next meeting of the town centre management group and also the process of how to apply for CIL funds.

9. **To receive the Independent Remuneration Panel Report and discuss its implications.**

Received and noted.

RESOLVED – Members to take individual personal responsibility for tax implications of Members Allowances should they opt to take the allowance. RESOLVED £1,000 Mayors allowance and £200 for presentations as per budget confirmation. No other senior officer allowances for 2020/21.

10. **To receive feedback from Members on recent Code of Conduct Training.**

As County Members had already recently undertaken this training and were not encouraged to repeat it, the Clerk thanked the 6 non-county Members for attending the recent Code training. As per the advice of the monitoring officer, the clerk circulated the WLGA Social Media guidance to Members.

Date of next meeting 25th March 2020

Signed: