

**BARGOED TOWN COUNCIL      CYNGOR TREF BARGOD**  
**DRAFT MINUTES of Policy & Resources Committee Meeting**  
**8<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

PRESENT                      Councillors H Llewellyn, Mayor R Carroll, A Collis, J Halvey, J. Bissex, D.Morgan.

Also in attendance – Town Council Clerk

Meeting Chairman – Cllr H LLewellyn (Deputy Mayor)

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

Councillor S Horton.

Councillor Price temporarily connected to the meeting and subsequently experienced significant technical difficulties which prevented her from taking part in the meeting. Councillor Price gave her apologies.

**2. Declaration of Interest or dispensations on any items(s).**

None.

**3. To approve and sign the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020.**

RESOLVED to approve the Minutes. They were signed by the chairman at the meeting.

**4. To receive verbal confirmation of scrutiny of town council accounting records April to September 2020 from the delegated Member.**

Councillor Halvey confirmed scrutiny of the six months accounting records, and that he was happy everything was in order.

**5. To conduct a review of the Town Council budget as at the end of quarter two.**

Members reviewed the budget and discussed the impact of covid-19 regarding planned activities in the community. Members RESOLVED to support the Events & Environment committee work in prioritising the well-being initiatives of expanding the floral displays and improving the festive lighting project, and of earmarking the unspent floral display budget to support the 2021 displays. Members spoke about the grants budget and RESOLVED to promote the grants in the local community.

**6. To consider the DRAFT Reserves Policy and discuss recommendations to Full Council in respect of preparation of 2021/22 budget calculations.**

RESOLVED to approve the Reserves Policy. The committee RESOLVED to

ensure there is an ongoing commitment to building and maintaining both running costs reserves and earmarked reserves, particularly in relation to large scale planned projects. The committee discussed the potential rise in inflation and the need to ensure budget calculations reflected the need for flexibility. RESOLVED to recommend a 5% inflationary uplift on running costs; earmarked reserves for care costs be increased by £1,000 annually to a ceiling of £10,000; earmarked reserves of £5,000 per annum for new/replacement festive lighting; a growth fund of £2,500 earmarked for new projects throughout the year. Members discussed the potential for new projects and concern was expressed about low footfall. The committee RESOLVED to recommend full council request a meeting with CCBC officers regarding town centre management activity. Members RESOLVED to recommend the council budget for 2021 include £5,000 earmarked to support the costs of town council elections in 2022.

7. **To consider the DRAFT Statement of Intent in respect of Annual Donations.**

The Committee RESOLVED to adopt the DRAFT Statement of Intent.

8. **To review the Town Council Data Protection Policy.**

Members reviewed the policy and RESOLVED to approve it.

The chairman thanked everyone for their patience with the technology and for their input during the meeting. The Meeting closed at 6.40pm

**Date of next meeting confirmed as 5.30pm Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020**