



## **Bargoed Town Council**

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## **Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Present: Councillors R Carroll; P Collins; J Bissex; J Davies.

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk.

Meeting Chairman: Councillor Reg Carroll (Deputy Mayor)

1. Apologies for Absence  
Councillor Andrews (CCBC); Councillor Llewellyn (school governors)
2. To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate.  
No declarations received.
3. Press and Public Participation Session.  
No enquiries received by the clerk.
4. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023.  
RESOLVED, Councillor Davies moved, Councillor Bissex seconded.
5. To review and approve bank reconciliation and payment lists and consider an instruction to the Clerk in respect of investment funds.  
RESOLVED to approve the July 2023 and August 2023 Bank Reconciliations and the Payments list for August 2023. Members considered options for bank accounts with interest RESOLVING to instruct the clerk to open an instant access account at Lloyds Bank with a deposit of £80,000. The committee will research options for investing reserves. Clerk to revisit on a future meeting agenda.
6. To approve a review and update of banking mandates including the addition of the Deputy RFO to the accounts.  
RESOLVED to instruct the clerk to review banking mandates; Deputy Clerk to be revisited in January 2024.
7. To consider correspondence from the community cleaning team.  
Members fed back that the whole town centre is dirty and is a priority for cleansing as are the back lanes. Bargoed Town Council should be getting notification of the cleansing schedule for all its wards, with sufficient notice to add the item to meeting agenda. Clerk to communicate this to relevant officers.
8. To consider an application for grant funding from an organisation wishing to deliver an October half term activity for children.  
RESOLVED to award a grant of £243 for the Halloween lantern activity.
9. To receive a verbal update from the clerk in respect of geocaching maintenance and consider an annual maintenance budget for the Scout association.  
Members recorded their thanks to the Scout association for taking over the woodland park geocache RESOLVING to make available a £150 maintenance grant to the Gilfach Scouts. The urban park will remain with members for maintenance for the time being. The clerk to source additional supplies up to £150 expenditure.

10. To provide feedback on behalf of Bargoed Town Council to the Audit Wales consultation on Fee Scales 2024-25.

Members appreciate the difficulties of staff costs, recruitment and retention and acknowledge the need to move towards addressing this. We are pleased to see the proposed increase on fee scales for 2024-25 of 6.4% is not over-excessive given the current rates of inflation.

11. To review the town council grants policy.

RESOLVED to approve and adopt the grants policy. The clerk was instructed to circulate the document to all members.

12. To receive confidential draft unapproved minutes of the HR & Staffing Committee meeting 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Noted.

This concluded business of the agenda. The meeting closed at 18.45pm