



Bargoed Town Council

Minutes of the Events and Environment Committee Meeting 19th October 2023

Present: Councillors R Carroll; T Williams; P Collins; S Hamer-Thomas; D Ingram-Jones; J Bissex; R Price

Also in Attendance: CCBC Events Officers S Francis, S Ackerman;

Town Clerk: Mrs H Williams, Mr T Oliver (Deputy Clerk, Observing)

Meeting Chair: Councillor P Collins

1. To receive visitors from Caerphilly County Borough Council and consider moving forward with the Winter Fair Event Plan. Members are asked to confirm additional funding for the event. The officers spoke about the potential layout of the event and the unfortunate decision of not having a large marquee due to high costs. Members fed back they strongly feel a free Santa should be included in all winter fair events moving forward as this makes it inclusive. Private businesses charge for families to see Santa and in the current climate this is out of reach for many families, therefore it is important to keep the town council provision of Santa in the community. The stage area now has a full schedule and one school will be performing in a different area of the event plan, at their request. Members were very pleased with how the event has been managed so far and thanked both officers for their attendance. RESOLVED £14,000 grant funding for the Winter Fair and £5,000 additional funding for the new lantern and lights parade.

2. To receive Apologies for Absence

Councillor D Ingram-Jones (Covid); Councillor D Price continued absence was approved by full council. RESOLVED to appoint Councillor R Carroll as deputy committee chair for the time being.

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

No declarations received.

3. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Events & Environment Committee 21st September 2023 and the Special Meeting 27th September 2023.

RESOLVED to approved the minutes of both meetings, councillors Carroll and Williams moved.

4. Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received.

5. To receive items from the clerk and provide resolutions/instruction on:

5.1 Arrangements for the switch on of the festive lights 24th November 2023 – RESOLVED £100 donation to the silver band in recognition of their support at the event. Members were advised the crafty legs event will run 1pm-6pm Friday 24th November, with the band present from 4.30pm-6pm. The lights will be switched on at 5pm.

5.2 Confirmation of members laying wreaths and RSVPs to Bargoed Royal British Legion for the memorial concert Friday November 10th 2023.

Mayor to be present at both Giffach memorial garden on Friday 10th November and also at Bargoed cenotaph. The deputy mayor will lay the wreath at Aberbargoed service.

5.3 Two living Christmas Trees on the Park estate, quotations to be considered and expenditure authorised.

The clerk provided feedback about both trees advising the new proposed tree at Ty Clyd would not be possible due to costs. There is still doubt that the tree at the community centre is viable. The

clerk was instructed to liaise with CCBC to get the power supply checked, and await feedback on the tree. The clerk advised that quotations have been secured for tree lights, clerk to secure lights as soon as possible.

5.4 St David's Day afternoon tea event venues and specific requirements.

Members discussed community venues that may accommodate over 100 people and instructed the clerk to approach the following for a quotation: Bargoed Labour Club, Bargoed Golf club, St Gwladys Church Hall.

5.5 Correspondence regarding Japanese Knotweed and invasive species.

Information noted.

5.6 Statistics from CCBC Sports Development Team on the Community Sport Scheme.

254 participants attended Aberbargoed Community Scheme which was the best scheme yet in terms of numbers and positive feedback. Skateboarding also a huge success. Heolddu Leisure Centre scheme not fully booked for the first time, so increased marketing planned for next year. Members thanked all the officers involved for their support and they look forward to working with them next year.

6. To consider quotations for the barrier basket liners, consider floral displays for the winter and authorise any expenditure as necessary.

Members spoke about the plan to move towards all year round floral displays but chose to wait until later in the year to commit funds for replacement liners, dependent on the budget monitoring at end of quarter three. The clerk was instructed to liaise with the existing contractor regarding removal of the summer baskets, whisky barrels and tiered planters without delay as festive lighting installation will shortly be underway.

Quotations to be sought for alternative replacement containers for the blue boxes on Hanbury square. Members to revisit at next meeting.

Councillor Williams temporarily stepped out of the meeting

7. To consider a request from a member in respect of shrubs for two beds at Bargoed Urban park.

The chair asked the committee to consider a request for town council to purchase shrubs for two beds in Bargoed urban park. Members spoke about other requests for town council to fund items for replacement at local parks.

Councillor Williams apologised and left the meeting at this point.

Members RESOLVED not to approve expenditure for shrubs at the park at this time.

Councillor R Price temporarily left the meeting at this point.

8. To receive information from One Voice Wales on funding from Local Places for Nature. The clerk provided members with information about a capital grants programme funded by the heritage lottery fund.

Councillor R Price rejoined the meeting.

Members considered options for development of projects at Bargoed urban park and the meeting spoke about the listed building, opportunities for sensory garden development and lots of environmental projects.

The meeting was interrupted by a visitor and the chair temporarily suspended proceedings.

The meeting resumed 5 minutes later.

Councillor HamerThomas left the meeting at this point.

Members instructed the clerk to reach out to the head of parks at CCBC and to the local places for nature officer at One Voice Wales to enquire about meetings to discuss the urban park.

9. To discuss the OAP Pantomime event, decide on refundable deposit requirements and approve event notices.

Members reviewed the notices and approved the promotion of the pantomime event with immediate effect. Members were advised to remind the public of the eligibility criteria for tickets.

This completed the business of the agenda. The meeting was closed at 12.00pm