

## **Bargoed Town Council**

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## Minutes of the Full Council Special Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Present: Councillors H Llewellyn; R Carroll; P Collins; J Davies; D Ingram-Jones; S Hamer-Thomas; DT Williams; R Price; J Bissex; C Andrews.

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk; Mr T Oliver (Deputy Clerk) Meeting Chairman: Councillor H Llewellyn (Mayor)

The mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. To receive Apologies for Absence

Councillor D Price (Health); Councillor M IngramJones (work)

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

Councillor R Price, Cartref Community Hall

Councillor R Carroll, Cartref Community Hall

3. Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received

4. To receive notification from the clerk of a casual vacancy at Bargoed Town Council.

The clerk provided members with confirmation of Councillor Harry having stepped down from his role and the dates on which the notice of casual vacancy were processed. Members considered the vacancy advising the clerk that in the event a by-election is not requested by members of the local electorate, the town council will accept expressions of interest for consideration for co-option until 10<sup>th</sup> November, and the vacancy will be filled by co-option at the November meeting of council.

Councillor Davies joined the meeting at this point.

5. To review the forward work plan, approve content for budget planning purposes and consider action to be taken to confirm longer term items on the plan.

Members reviewed and updated the forward work plan with their short term planned activities. The clerk was instructed to liaise with CCBC regarding the flower beds surrounding the Miners heads on Hanbury Square.

Members moved on to discuss the longer term plans and acknowledged the need for greater engagement with the local electorate. Members RESOLVED to instruct the Community Engagement Committee to look at drawing up an engagement plan with a questionnaire that will encourage input from the community on what are felt to be the most popular long term initiatives for town council to consider adding to the forward work plan.

Members RESOLVED to instruct the Policy and Resources Committee to look at available funds and consider a specific one off grant offering for cost of living services throughout the Winter & Spring months 2023/24.

6. To provide the clerk with feedback to be submitted on behalf of Bargoed Town Council to the Active Travel Network Proposals Consultation.

Members views varied on the proposals and the clerk encouraged all members to provide individual feedback to the consultation.

Bargoed Town Council feedback was to raise concern about the potential disruption that will be caused in the community during the development and installation phase of the proposed changes.

Section 1 Feedback: Members expressed concern that the width of the shared pedestrian and cycle track of 3.5metres is considered too wide, but they were supportive of the switch to a toucan crossing.

Councillor D IngramJones left the meeting at this point.

Section 2: Members generally supported Option 1 however expressed reservations about the uncontrolled crossing plans and the puffin and pedx crossing on the roundabout at the bottom of the fire station incline. Members advised that traffic approaching from the Gilfach end of the carriageway would have no notice of the crossing being in use, and this would pose a risk to users of the shared track. Councillor Williams and Councillor R Price left the meeting at this point.

Section 3: members supported option 1 advising they felt the shared pedestrian cycle lane to be the safer option.

Section 4: Option 2 with the one way system around the streets leading to Ysgol Bro Sannan in Aberbargoed was the preferred option. Members expressed concern that the width of the carriageway along Pengam road may pose a potential problem to the proposal for a cycle track.

Section 5: Option 2 with the quiet street status was the preferred option.

This concluded the business of this meeting. The mayor closed the meeting at 13.50pm