



Bargoed Town Council

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Minutes of the Events & Environment Committee Meeting 1st February 2024.

Present: Councillors P Collins; R Carrol; R Price; D Ingram-Jones; S Hamer-Thomas; J Bissex; Y Price, D Williams

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Clerk; Mr T Oliver, Deputy Clerk; S Francis (CCBC); S Ackerman (CCBC)

Meeting Chairperson: Councillor P Collins

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the Events & Environment Committee Meeting.

1. To welcome visitors from the Events Team at Caerphilly County Borough Council and discuss Members requirements for the new summer event in Bargoed town centre being funded by Bargoed Town Council.
 - S Francis and S Ackerman gave a verbal update on the new summer event in Bargoed Town Centre. Applications for stalls went out last week and a full road closure is being planned.
 - The event will be aimed at children and young people.
 - The Committee discussed plans for funfair rides, sports activities and games which would appeal to a wide audience including children and families.
 - Members decided to include a stage area on Lowry Plaza where local bands can perform and to have areas allocated throughout town where buskers can play music.
 - Members also explored the possibility of a midday parade with the involvement of community groups and a jazz band.
 - The need for plenty of seating for picnics throughout the Town was discussed.
 - The Committee also talked about plans for an evening music event with local artists which would appeal to young people.
 - Members emphasised that they would like this event to boost the local economy by encouraging visitors to shop and dine locally.
 - The committee expressed their desire for community groups, and local businesses to be involved in delivering the event.
 - The Chairperson thanked S Francis and S Ackerman and they left the meeting.
2. To receive 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.]
 - No apologies were tendered.

3. To receive 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.]
 - There were no declarations of interest or dispensations on any item(s).
4. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the Events & Environment Committee 14th December 2023.
 - Councillors D Ingram-Jones, R Price and Y Price abstained due to not being present on December 14th 2023.
 - Minutes of the Events & Environment Committee 14th December 2023 were received, approved, and signed. The motion was moved by Councillor P Collins and Seconded by Councillor D Williams and carried with unanimous votes.
5. Press and Public Participation Session.
 - There was no press or public participation.
6. To evaluate 2023 festive lighting, receive feedback from the clerk on repairs and upgrade requirements and view options for replacement figurines. Members are required to authorise expenditure and provide instruction to the clerk.
 - The Clerk gave verbal feedback on the repairs and upgrades needed for festive lighting. Members evaluated the 2023 festive lighting and viewed options for replacement figurines.
 - The committee RESOLVED to purchase 6 new figurines at £200 each (a grand total of £1200).
 - Members decided that the Christmas tree on the Park Estate is fit for purpose.
 - The committee RESOLVED to purchase 3 sets of lights for Christmas trees costing £450.
 - Members decided to upgrade the power supply for Hanbury Square and source a 22-24 foot tree for which would be more aesthetic for the town centre.
7. To receive a verbal report from the Deputy Clerk on the St David's Day Over 60s afternoon tea event and confirm Members additional requirements. Expenditure is requested to be authorised for the afternoon tea, Welsh cakes for the children and room decorations.
 - The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal report on the plans and costs of the St. David's Day Afternoon Tea. The confirmed event plan includes St. David's Day/Welsh themed performances from local schools, and bingo.
 - Members RESOLVED to spend up to £1000 for Afternoon Tea catering and £200 for Welsh Cake gifts for participating local schools.
 - The committee RESOLVED to spend £240 on bingo prizes (12 x £10 vouchers and 8 x £15 vouchers) and £75 on prize draws (5 x £15 voucher). The vouchers will be purchased from Morrisons and Iceland in Bargoed.
 - Members RESOLVED to spend £20 on Welsh flag table decorations.
8. To receive recommendations from the biodiversity working group regarding floral displays at Hanbury square and outside the courthouse. Discuss opportunities for expansion in Aberbargoed ward and consider quotations for Hanbury square services. Members are required to approve expenditure and provide instruction to the clerk.
 - Following recommendations from the biodiversity working group members decided to instruct the contractor to remove the floral displays outside the courthouse and to loan them to the George in Aberbargoed.
 - Members decided that a special meeting will be held to approve planting quotes for Hanbury Square.
 - The biodiversity working group advised that additional soil is needed for municipal planters. The committee RESOLVED to purchase 1 ton of topsoil costing £80.

Councillor R Price leaves the meeting at this point.

9. To discuss the 2023 “Bargoed in Bloom” initiative, consider craftwork displays and decide if Members wish to deliver this initiative in 2024. Members are asked to approve arrangements for the craftwork displays and authorise expenditure for the “Bargoed in Bloom” initiative if it is to go ahead.
 - Members decided to deliver the ‘Bargoed in Bloom’ initiative in 2024 and to extend it to the Greater Bargoed area so that Aberbargoed and Gilfach can also participate.
 - The committee instructed the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to promote the initiative.
 - Members RESOLVED to spend £225 on 3 prizes (£75 each).
10. To receive the 2024 calendar of events and activities in the community.
 - Members received and reviewed the 2024 calendar of events.
11. To consider the town council schedule of events and community activities in 2024 and discuss the opportunity to develop a Scarecrow trail in Bargoed town centre at October half term.
 - Members RESOLVED to include a Bargoed town centre scarecrow trail in the schedule of events and community activities.
12. To reflect on the Pantomime event delivered in December 2023 and provide instruction to the Clerk regarding Members requirements for Over 60s events in June and December 2024. The committee is required to confirm activities, venues and budget for both events.
 - The committee expressed that the Pantomime event delivered in Aberbargoed went very well and that there is scope for it to become an annual event.
 - Members instructed the Clerk to explore potential dates and to seek quotations from venues for the June and December events in 2024.
 - Budgets will be confirmed once quotations are received.
13. To receive information from the clerk on the options for purchasing silent soldier silhouettes and poppy motifs for the remembrance period, provide instruction and authorise expenditure as necessary.
 - The Clerk presented the committee with options for purchasing silent soldier silhouettes and poppy motifs for the remembrance period.
 - The Mayor and Deputy Mayor donated an Unknown Tommy (£175 each)
 - Members RESOLVED a £350 virement from the festive lights fund for the purchase of silent soldier silhouettes.
 - The committee decided to install 2 silent soldier silhouettes in Bargoed (Hanbury Square) and 2 in Aberbargoed (location to be confirmed).

Councillor Y Price left the meeting at this point.

14. To discuss ongoing maintenance and management of the geocache trail in Bargoed Urban Park, consider resources and authorise expenditure as appropriate.
 - Members instructed the Clerk to speak to Gwent Wildlife Trust for feedback on geocache in Gilfach.
 - The committee expressed that geocache in Bargoed is going well.
 - Decisions on maintenance, management and expenditure was deferred to the next meeting.

The Chairperson thanked everyone and closed the meeting at 12:09pm.