



Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting 25th July 2024

Present: Councillors R Carroll; P Collins; H Llewellyn; J Davies; C Andrews.

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Clerk.

Meeting Chair: Councillor R Carroll (Deputy Mayor)

1. To receive Apologies for Absence

Councillor J Bissex (Health).

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

Councillor Carroll declared an interest in agenda item 9 in respect of both Margaret Street Allotment Association and East View Allotment Association.

Councillor Andrews declared an interest in Item 9 in respect of Bargoed Community Choir and Platform; and in item 10 in respect of Platform.

Councillor Llewellyn declared an interest in item 9 in respect of the Knit and Natter Club at Cartref Community Hall.

3. Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received by the clerk.

4. To receive, approve and sign Minutes of the last Meeting 20th June 2024.

Councillor Collins moved, Councillor Andrews seconded. Members RESOLVED to accept the minutes as a true record of proceedings.

5. To review and approve bank reconciliation of 30th June 2024 and payment list to date.

RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation and approved the payments list including authorisation of the £1,930 pirate picnic invoice payment.

6. To receive confirmation from the delegated Member of internal scrutiny of accounting records for quarter one April – June 2024.

Councillor Collins reported having read only access to the new Scribe accounting software, and that having reviewed the town council records he can confirm quarter one to be accurate. Councillor Collins explained to the committee that he felt this to be the right way forward and that once confidence and experience has been gained by the RFOs the system will prove very useful to town council simplifying reporting and forecasting functions.

7. To conduct a review of expenditure against the budget at the end of quarter one, April to June 2024.

The clerk presented a statement of the earmarked reserves along with the net position as at the end of quarter one, and drew attention to the two items of expenditure on the All Risks Contingency budget line in respect of unexpected expenditure. Members reviewed all expenditure to date.

8. To consider appeals for a financial contribution in respect of:

RESOLVED to donate £250 to each of a) Eisteddfod Y Cymoedd and b) Cerebral Palsy Cymru.

9. To consider applications to the Bargoed Town Council Small Grants Programme in respect of:

- i) **Platform** – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250
- ii) **East View Allotment Association** – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250
- iii) **Bargoed Male Voice Choir** – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250
- iv) **Margaret Street Allotment Association** – Members resolved not to award a grant at this time and to invite the association to reapply when internal administrative issues have been resolved.
- v) **ACAT -Aberbargoed Community Action Team** – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250
- vi) **Knit and Natter Club at Cartref Bargoed** – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250
- vii) **Taraggan Educational Gardens and Nursery** – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250
- viii) **Aberbargoed Ladies Choir** – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250
- ix) **Bargoed Community Choir** – RESOLVED to award a grant of £250

10. To consider a proposal from Gilfach Bargoed Community Centre working in partnership with Platform and Taraggan Educational Gardens and Nursery to establish a Thursday Fruit and Vegetable Co Op.

Councillor Andrews withdrew from discussion of this item.

The committee resolved to seek information from the Caerphilly Cares team at CCBC prior to considering committing funds to this initiative. Members will revisit the item at their next meeting.

11. To receive items from the clerk as follows:

a) Feedback on the Mayor's meeting with stakeholders involved in the anti-social behaviour at Bargoed Rugby Club. Members are requested to consider any financial support available for the required CCTV if appropriate.

Members received verbal feedback from the mayor and deputy mayor on the stakeholder meeting, and the committee spoke about ongoing anti-social behaviour and the seriousness of the community safety issue that needs to be addressed. The committee RESOLVED to recommend that Bargoed Town Council instructs the clerk to support partner organisations to explore opportunities for collaborative working and secure grant funding to install and maintain two CCTV cameras at the grandstand area in Bargoed Urban Park. The recommendation is that Bargoed Town Council commits, as a one-off exception to its grants policy on the grounds of public safety, match funding of up to five thousand pounds to support this initiative. The clerk was instructed to ensure this item is addressed at the September 2024 meeting of full council. A member drew attention to the 30th September closing date for the final round of the Community Empowerment Fund at Caerphilly County Borough Council.

b) A request for instruction regarding the barrier baskets still being stored at the CCBC Islwyn depot.

Members of the biodiversity working group will collect the containers and arrange temporary storage in the community until such time as the town council has confirmed the location for their use.

12. To receive confirmation of the feedback provide to the local planning authority in respect of planning applications:

No objections were made by Bargoed Town Council on the following applications:

24/0428/HH ; 24/0434/COU ; 24/0443/COU ; 24/0410/FULL

Members expressed concern about traffic congestion in the area of the following application:

24/0409/HH

The Chair thanked the Committee for their work and closed the meeting at 12.10pm