



Bargoed Town Council

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Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting 27th March 2024

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

Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Town Clerk

Meeting Chairman: Councillor Reg Carroll (Deputy Mayor)

1. Apologies for Absence: Councillor Andrews (CCBC), Councillor Collins (family).
2. To receive Declaration of Interests or dispensations on any item(s) on this Agenda, if appropriate.
No declarations made.
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 28th February 2024: RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true record of proceedings, Councillor Bissex moved and Councillor Davies seconded. The chairman signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.
5. To review and approve bank reconciliation and payment lists.
The clerk reviewed the bank statement and payments list with members drawing attention to the geocache expenditure previously authorised in September 2023 noting that the nature prescribing team at ABHB will now be managing the woodland park geocache and therefore town council will be purchasing the supplies rather than the organisation receiving funds each year. Members reviewed and approved both the payments list and the bank reconciliation.
6. To review and update the Bargoed Town Council Asset list in accordance with insurance requirements and approve the insurance policy renewal.
Members worked through the asset list as annotated by the committee chairs working group and approved all recommendations for removal to the surplus list. Members reviewed the insurance policy renewal documents and RESOLVED to approve both renewals £2,004.52 for the comprehensive general policy and £367.36 for the cyber insurance policy.
7. To conduct a review of projected net year end in the 2023-24 accounts, receive recommendations from the RFO and provide instruction in respect of reserves.
Members considered the anticipated net year-end figures alongside the draft 2024-25 budget prediction for free reserves. The committee spoke about the need for a strategic planning away day for members to continue their work on the strategic plan resolving to earmark £1,000 of the remaining members training budget to support this work. Members instructed the Clerk: £1,100 of festive lighting budget to be earmarked for the repairs to the power supply on Hanbury square, remaining contingency funds to move to the growth fund reserves. Members to recommend this strategy to full council as a policy decision for growth fund accrual along with any additional unspent free reserves over that predicted in the draft budget calculations each year. In addition to invoices not yet received, earmarked reserves to be designated at year end for all planned project and business activities such as tree and shrub planting, annual report printing & translation, survey activity, festive tree lights, community orchard.

8. To receive items from the Clerk as follows:
- 8.1 Application to Lloyds Bank for a debit card for use by the deputy clerk/deputy RFO. Members RESOLVED to approve the application and completed the form during the meeting.
 - 8.2 Thank You Letter – the chair read a thank you letter from Hope Rescue dogs charity for the recent donation.
 - 8.3 One Voice Wales Membership renewal letter with invoice – the chair read the membership renewal letter. Members resolved to renew the Bargoed Town Council membership and approved the invoice payment as listed on the payments list.
 - 8.4 A request for financial support from Eisteddfod Rhondda Cynon Taf 2024 – Members noted that Eisteddfod Y Cymoedd received financial support 1st August 2023 and therefore are not eligible for small grants funding until July 2024. The chair noted the correspondence did not specify a date for the event. Cllr Davies to follow up and advise the clerk, to ensure the request is considered later in the year.
9. To consider if there are any amendments needed to the following:
- 9.1 Safeguarding Policy
 - 9.2 Social Media Policy
 - 9.3 Volunteering Policy
- Members reviewed and updated all three policies. The clerk was instructed to upload the revised policies to the town council website without delay.
10. To receive confirmation of the feedback provide to the local planning authority in respect of planning applications:
- 24/0174/HH – convert attic with minor internal alterations 33 Bedwellty Rd, Aberbargoed
 - 24/0165/HH – demolish existing integral garage and erect a two storey side and rear extension 5 Pen-y-Waun Cottages Bedwellty
 - 24/0178/HH – Erect rear garage Holly House Bedwellty Road Aberbargoed
 - 24/0139/FULL – Erect detached dwelling on land at grid ref 315412 200360 Bedwellty Rd, Aberbargoed
 - 24/0161/HH – Erect single storey front porch 178 Commercial Street Aberbargoed
- The clerk confirmed that no objections or comments were received from Members.
This concluded business of the meeting. The meeting closed at 18.27pm