



Draft Unapproved Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting 26th September 2024

Present: Councillors R Carroll; P Collins; H Llewellyn; J Davies
Also in Attendance: Mrs H Williams, Clerk; Mr T Oliver, Deputy Clerk.
Meeting Chair: Councillor R Carroll (Deputy Mayor)

1. To receive Apologies for Absence

Councillor C Andrews (CCBC event).

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

Councillor R Carroll declared an interest in agenda items 12(i) in respect of Margaret Street Allotment and item 16 regarding the Park estate.

3. Press and Public Participation Session.

No enquiries received by the Clerk.

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

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

5. To review and approve bank reconciliation of 31st July 2024 and 31st August 2024 and payment list to date.

RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation and approved the payments list.

6. To note the interest rate and bank charges changes to Lloyds Bank Accounts.

Members noted the interest rate and bank charge changes received in the correspondence from Lloyds Bank.

7. To receive a report regarding CCLA investment funds and provide instruction to the Clerk on the creation of an investment policy.

The Clerk and Deputy Clerk gave a verbal report that outlined the CCLA investment funds available for Town Councils. They also highlighted the fixed term business bonds available from other institutions. The Committee explored developing an investment policy and decided to adopt a cautious, risk-averse approach. They RESOLVED to seek the advice of an independent advisor and instructed the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements. While developing the policy the Committee RESOLVED to maximise use of higher interest rates with existing banking providers through opening two notice accounts at Lloyds Bank depositing:

- up to £50,000 in the Lloyds 32-day notice account
- up to £50,000 in the Lloyds 95-day notice account

and actively managing current accounts through the Unity Trust Instant Access Account and Lloyds Bank Instant Access Account.

Councillor J Davies left the meeting. Members noted that the meeting remained quorate.

8. To review quotations and approve expenditure for Town Council photography.

The Committee reviewed quotations for Town Council photography and RESOLVED to spend a maximum of £150.

9. To review funding question from Target Ovarian Cancer and provide instruction to the Clerk.

Members RESOLVED to allow Target Ovarian Cancer to allocate the remainder of the grant which was not used for the fundraising fashion show (£117.06) to general funds.

10. Review the following policies:

- I. **Operation London Bridge**
- II. **Member Officer Protocol**

The Committee reviewed, edited and RESOLVED to approve the aforementioned policies. Members noted that Buckingham Palace may be revising the arrangements of 'Operation London Bridge'.

11. To receive further information on the grant proposal from Gilfach Barged Community Centre, Taraggan Educational Gardens and Nursery, and Plattform for Thursday Fruit & Veg Co Op and provide instruction to the Clerk.

The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal update on the grant proposal from Gilfach Barged Community Centre, working collaboratively with Taraggan Educational Gardens and Nursery, and Plattform along with feedback from officers on the outcomes of similar local projects that have been funded. The Committee expressed that they were willing to consider match funding an element of the food project once support is in place from Caerphilly County Borough Council. The deputy clerk was instructed to present the item for further consideration after receiving confirmation from the Caerphilly Cares team.

12. To consider grant aid application from:

- I. **Oaklands Hall Allotments, Bargoed**
- II. **Margaret Street Allotment Association**
- III. **YYFM Cymru**

Councillor R Carroll left the room for point 1 of this agenda item due to a declaration of interest and Councillor H Llewellyn chaired the meeting. The committee was no longer quorate but in principle approved a £250 grant to Oaklands Hall Allotments. The application will be deferred to the Full Council meeting where it will be presented for ratification.

Councillor R Carroll returned to the room and chairs the meeting. The meeting is now quorate.

The committee RESOLVED to approved grants of £250 to:

- Margaret Street Allotment Association
- YYFM Cymru – the hospital radio project

13. To review and approve the use of the library budget.

Members reviewed and RESOLVED to approve the use of the library budget for the following activities:

- Evening poetry reading/talk: December 6th, 2024 (£50)
- Make a mini scarecrow: October 26th, 2024 (£200)
- Owl sanctuary: W/C October 28th, 2024 (279.90)

14. To review and authorise the risk assessment for The Courthouse (Bargoed Town Hall).

The Committee reviewed and authorised the updated risk assessment for the Courthouse (Bargoed Town Hall)

15. To note the content of 'Gwent Employer News, July 2024'

Members noted the content of the July 2024 edition of 'Gwent Employer News'.

16. To note the content of the 'CONSULTATION BEFORE APPLY FOR PLANNING PERMISSION' document for the proposed development at Park Estate, Bargoed, CF81 8LR.

Councillor R Carroll left the room due to a declaration of interest in this item. Councillor H Llewellyn chaired the meeting. The committee noted the content of the aforementioned document.

Councillor R Carroll returned to the room and chaired the meeting.

17.To receive confirmation of the local planning authority in respect of planning applications:

- I. 24/0516/TPO – Replanting schedule for 23 trees, 4 hedges and mixed woodland species, protecting existing trees T3, T4, T11 and G1 prior to commencement. Land at grid ref 314836(E) 198731(N) Western Drive Bargoed.
- II. 24/0572/HH – Erect single storey rear extension 9 Upper Wood Street Bargoed, CF81 8PF. Grid reference – 314870(E) 199469(N).
- III. 24/0646/TPO – Crown lift T1 silver birth tree to 2.5 metres above ground level over neighbouring garden (Tree Preservation Order 91/21/CCBC). 60 Park Road Bargoed CF81 8SR. Grid reference – 314756(E) 199596(N)
- IV. 24/0577/HH – Erect first floor extension to create two bedrooms. 11 West Street Bargoed CF81 8RZ. Grid reference 315020(E) 199565(N)

Members received confirmation of the local planning authority being notified that there were no comments or objections made aforementioned planning applications.

The Chairperson thanked Members and staff, closing the meeting at 11:52am