

PORTHCAWL TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS: N Clarke (Mayor)

M Clarke	B Lewis	T Hill
C Smart	G Walter	S Maitland-Thomas
M Emmet-Lewis	L Tallon-Morris	R Leonard-Davies
A Harris	R Lee	C Wintle
B Jones	A Thomas	S Aspey

CLERK: Mrs A Thomas

75. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Chegwen (Work Commitment), P Winstanley (Personal) and L Desmond-Williams (Health).

76. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest in respect of the business to be transacted

Cllr B Jones	Items 11, 14	Personal, BCBC Member
Cllr M Emmet-Lewis	Item 3	Personal, Member of Chamber Trade
Cllr R Lee	Item 3	Personal, Member of Chamber Trade
Cllr L Tallon-Morris	Item 3	Personal, Member of Chamber Trade
Cllr C Smart	Item 3 Item 13	Personal, Member of Chamber Trade Personal, Member of Civic Trust
Cllr S Maitland-Thomas	Item 13	Personal Member of Civic Trust
Cllr B Lewis	Item 3	Personal, Member of Chamber Trade
Cllr M Clarke	Items 11, 14	Personal, BCBC Member
Cllr N Clarke	Items 11, 14	Personal, BCBC Member

77. To consider item presentation Porthcawl Chamber of Trade – Christmas Trees (Financial Assistance Application attached for information)

Members were advised that this item would be dealt with later in the agenda as the person doing the presentation had been slightly delayed.

78. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 12th July 2018

Resolved: To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 12th July 2018 as a true and accurate record

79. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on Thursday 16th August 2018

Cllr L Tallon-Morris advised that he had emailed his apologies to the Clerk. The Clerk advised that she was on Annual Leave at this time and therefore the apologies had not been passed on to Council.

Resolved: To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 16th August 2018 as a true and accurate record

80. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th July 2018 (for information purposes only)

Page 3, Minute 58

The Clerk confirmed that Mr Swidenbank had been contacted to advise about the decision of Council.

81. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 16th August 2018

No matters arising.

82. To adjourn, if necessary, to take Public Question Time

No questions received.

83. To note for information Mayoral Announcements and Engagements

Resolved: To note for information only

84. To note for information One Voice Wales Bridgend/Cardiff/Vale Area Committee Meeting (Cllr A Harris)

Cllr Harris advised Members that during the meeting Barry Town Council advised of the very high costs that had been encountered as part of a recent

by-election. Members advised that possible by-election costs need to be considered when looking at the Town Council budget.

85. To consider item presentation Porthcawl Chamber of Trade – Christmas Trees (Financial Assistance Application attached for information)

Members welcomed the Chamber of Trade representatives to the meeting. Mr Paul Whittaker provided a brief presentation to Members about the proposed Christmas Trees.

Members were informed that 50 businesses had agreed to get involved with the project and have trees on the outside of their premises. These businesses are located in John Street, Well Street and Station Hill. Members were advised that all the necessary permissions had been obtained to erect the brackets outside the premises.

The brackets that are going to be used are multifunctional. They can also accommodate for hanging baskets and flagpoles during the year. Mr Whittaker confirmed the lifespan of the brackets was approx. 15-20 years. Approx 40 of the brackets are likely to be placed on John Street. Members expressed their concern that this project should also be extended down New Road.

The Towns Centre Manager, Mari-Wyn Elias-Jones expressed her support for the project and advised that she would be utilising some of her budget to support the project.

Members thanked the Chamber of Trade representatives for attending the meeting.

Concern was expressed about a letter which the Chamber of Trade had circulated in June indicating the Town Council's financial support, when this item had not yet been agreed.

Members discussed the proposed switch-on event that was being planned by the Chamber of Trade alongside this project. The Clerk expressed her concern at the 'switch-on' indicating to Members that the festive lighting paid for by the Town Council in the town would already be illuminated.

It was agreed that next year there would be a more co-ordinated approach to Christmas 2019.

Following discussion

Resolved: Porthcawl Town Council to grant up to £2250 towards the Christmas Tree Project. The grant money to be drawn down upon receipt of invoices pertaining to the project with specifically identified costs

86. To consider item correspondence Z.Shell, Head of Neighbourhood Services, Bridgend CBC – Public Conveniences Porthcawl

Members were in dismay at the decision taken by Bridgend CBC to close public conveniences in Porthcawl – specifically in relation to John Street toilets.

Members acknowledged that Rest Bay would be reopened as part of the development taking place at the site. Griffin Park were currently in the process of consideration for CAT to the Town Council.

Members expressed their concerns that the results from the public consultation event have been ignored. The demographic of Porthcawl is such that toilets within the main shopping area are paramount to the people using the area.

Members noted that Bridgend CBC have failed to produce a toilet strategy in line with Welsh Government Policy.

Members expressed their concern at the costs produced by Bridgend CBC in relation to the toilets and questioned if they were accurate.

Members agreed that there needs to be action taken by the Town Council to clearly endorse the opposition to the closure of the toilets in John Street.

Following discussion

Resolved: To notify Bridgend CBC that Porthcawl Town Council unanimously object to the closure of toilets in Porthcawl. Porthcawl Town Council request an urgent meeting with Zak Shell, Bridgend CBC to explore *all* alternative options.

Members nominated to attend were: Cllrs N Clarke, B Jones, B Lewis, R Lee and S Aspey.

87. To consider item Generic Letter to deter rubbish in lanes (Cllr S Aspey)

Cllr Aspey outlined the problem identified to Members. Quite often lanes behind houses are not adopted therefore, no litter enforcement action can be taken directly against the culprits of tipping rubbish. It was suggested that when a problem area is identified a generic letter is sent from the Ward Members of

that area highlighting the issues raised by dumping rubbish in lanes – including public safety, vermin and access for an emergency.

Members were keen to support this item and discourage rubbish tipping in lanes in Porthcawl.

Resolved: To draft a letter which can be accessed by ward members when a problem area is identified with rubbish. The letter to be delivered by Members directly to residents as appropriate

88. To consider item correspondence Porthcawl Civic Trust Society – Porthcawl Regeneration

Members advised that there would be little point in discussing this item further with the Porthcawl Civic Trust Society until firms plans were published by Bridgend CBC on Regeneration in Porthcawl.

Resolved: To respond to the Civic Trust Society indicating Porthcawl Town Council have noted the letter at this time and would further consider when firm proposals are published by Bridgend CBC

89. To consider item correspondence K.Power, Traffic Management Officer, Bridgend CBC – Proposed Traffic Order Newton Nottage Road, Parking Restrictions

Cllr Walter informed Members that he had met Keith Power on site. The Traffic Order is a sensible approach to possible problems with traffic generated by the new Health Centre on Newton Nottage Road. Members clarified why there were breaks in the yellow lines – to accommodate for users of the lake.

Members informed that if there were a number of complaints about traffic generated by the new Health Centre, the Health Authority would be under a duty to respond and act accordingly. However, Members did not know the number of complaints that would trigger a response.

Resolved: To note for information

90. To note for information Porthcawl Patient Practice Forum (Cllr N Clarke)

Members were advised that from September the practice would be operating at full complement.

Resolved: To note with thanks

91. To consider item Minutes of the Finance & Governance Meeting held on Wednesday 5th September 2018

The Chairperson, Cllr M Clarke, went through the minutes and recommendations of the meeting.

Resolved: To accept all recommendations of the Finance & Governance Meeting held on Wednesday 5th September 2018

92. Clerk's Report

The Clerk advised Members that she had received correspondence from the External Auditor indicating at the audit for the year end 31st March 2018 had not been qualified. The report and certificate of audit would be presented to the next meeting. Members thanked the Clerk for her work on this year's audit.

The meeting concluded at 8.40pm.

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