

PORTHCAWL TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD (ELECTRONICALLY) ON MONDAY 30th MAY 2022

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: M Chegwen (Mayor)

B Davies	B Jones
M Emmet-Lewis	M Jones
N Farr	J Monks
T Hill	J Pratt
E Jones	S Maitland Thomas

TOWN CLERK: K Grabham
IN ATTENDANCE: C John, S Watkins, K Sutton

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor's: - M Rock and J Strong

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

Town Clerk	Item 6a	Personal Interest
Cllr J Pratt	Item 3	BCBC Member
Cllr N Farr	Item 6	Personal Interest

3. To consider item – Statement of Case Sandy Bay CPO

The Locum Town Clerk advised that a completed Statement of Case for Sandy Bay CPO needs to be submitted to PEDW by their required extended deadline of 31st May 2022 and asked Members for their comments.

Cllr B Jones advised that there was a covenant put on the land in 1936 and that the Physical Training Act should be placed in the statement of case to reflect this information.

Concerns were raised by a number of Councillors regarding the proposed minimal allocated parking for the housing development. It was stated that one parking space should be made available for each bedroom in the property in line with planning regulations.

Cllr E Jones suggested that a reference to the Future Generations Act and Cultural Wellbeing should be included in the statement of Case.

Resolved: That the Clerk amends the Statement of Case to reflect the above recommendations and to submit the document to PEDW by the required deadline of 31st May 2022.

4. To consider item – Revised Standing Orders

The Clerk advised that the Standing Orders had been updated by One Voice Wales of which reflects public consultation and emergency meetings.

Resolved: To approve the revised Standing Orders as presented.

5. To consider item – Co-option Policy

Resolved: To approve the Co-option Policy as presented.

6. To consider item – Social Media

The Mayor advised that he had been made aware of some unacceptable and insulting comments published on social media platforms during the last few weeks. Members were informed that this serious matter had already been reported to the Monitoring Officer at BCBC who had in turn advised that it should be taken further in terms of reporting it directly to the Ombudsman to investigate.

The Clerk advised that she was extremely disappointed and upset to learn of the comments made on social media especially as she was not in any way aware of any problems in the working relationship between herself and Councillors.

Several Councillors shared their concerns relating to the dis-respectful posts placed on social media. Councillors agreed that they have been elected to represent constituents in the town and should be privileged and honoured to represent Porthcawl Town Council.

It was an expectation by the vast majority of Members that an apology should be placed on social media sites and also provided to Full Council for the comments made. Cllr B Jones advised on two occasions that no apology would be forthcoming.

Resolved: That individual Councillors & the Town Clerk forwards their own complaints relating to the defamatory social media posts directly to the Ombudsman for them to investigate.

Members agreed to go into a closed session. (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, in view of the confidential nature of the about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public are excluded from the next agenda item.

6a. For information – Correspondence from J Jaafar, Clerks Room, London & Supporting Documents

Appendixes A-K

The Town Clerk advised that this agenda item was extremely private and confidential and that the documents circulated would be collected at the end of the meeting.

The Town Clerk advised that the Council had acted legally by not providing the papers under the confidential item at the last Full Council meeting as it falls under the LGA Government Act 1972.

The Town Clerk ran through all the appendixes as presented in order for all Councillors to understand all the facts.

The Town Clerk, Kerry-Leigh Grabham left the meeting whilst this item was being discussed.

Following discussion:-

Cllr M Chegwen evoked standing order 3y to extend the meeting by 30 minutes.

Members were informed that any correspondence received relating to this matter would be brought to Full Council or alternatively via a special meeting of Council if necessary.

Meeting concluded at 9.01pm