

PORTHCAWL TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 25th MARCH 2019

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS: N Clarke (Mayor)

M Clarke	B Lewis
L Desmond-Williams	S Maitland-Thomas
M Emment-Lewis	R Smith
T Hill	L Tallon-Morris
B Jones	G Walter
R Lee	C Wintle

CLERK: A Thomas

In Attendance: P Bowen (DSO)

213. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr M Chegwen	(Personal)
Cllr A Harris	(Personal)
Cllr R Leonard-Davies	(Personal)
Cllr P Winstanley	(Personal)

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

Cllr M Clarke	Agenda Item 3	BCBC Member
Cllr N Clarke	Agenda Item 3	BCBC Member
Cllr B Jones	Agenda Item 3	BCBC Member

215. To consider item comments made by Cllr Stuart Baldwin, Bridgend CBC Councillor, concerning Porthcawl at a recent meeting of Bridgend Council

The Mayor opened the meeting by explaining to Members' and members of the public why the meeting had been called.

Councillor Stuart Baldwin a councillor on Bridgend Town Council and who is also Deputy Mayor of the County Borough of Bridgend made a highly inflammatory comment regarding Porthcawl residents at a recent meeting of Bridgend Town Council whilst discussing county boundary changes that the only issue that Porthcawl has is "being rich".

Members discussed their concerns regarding the comment made. Public perception of such a comment showed Cllr. Baldwin's bias against Porthcawl, also his remarks were improper and showed a considerable lack of experience and judgment.

Serious concerns were raised by members with the future of Porthcawl and on-going projects such as Salt Lake and Sandy Bay. These projects require the support of BCBC members without prejudice or bias. Members were concerned that Cllr. Stuart Baldwin would not be able to make such decisions without prejudice or bias given his recent comments. Members also noted that Cllr. Stuart Baldwin when in the position of Borough Mayor would have a vote and casting vote if and when any decisions are taken regarding Porthcawl.

Council unanimously concluded that whilst Cllr. Stuart Baldwin allegedly apologised for his comment he did not in any way disassociate himself from his prejudiced view. Council therefore concluded that a reasonable person would see him as having a serious prejudice when in a position of considering any investment. etc in Porthcawl.

Members strongly objected to Cllr. Baldwin's comments and requested that a strong letter be sent to Kelly Watson, (Legal & Monitoring Officer) objecting to Cllr. Stuart Baldwin becoming the next Mayor of the County Borough of Bridgend. Also stating that an apology be made to the residents of Porthcawl and if an when Cllr. Stuart Baldwin became Mayor of the County Borough of Bridgend that he would not be welcome at any civic function/event in Porthcawl.

**Resolved: A letter be sent to Kelly Watson BCBC's Legal/Monitoring Officer strongly objecting to Cllr. Stuart Baldwin becoming the next Borough Mayor due to his recent comments and perceived prejudice against Porthcawl Town. A copy of such letter be sent to Cllr. Huw David, (Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council) and Bridgend Town Council.
That an apology was forthcoming from Cllr. Stuart Baldwin to the residents of Porthcawl.
Councils also resolved that if Cllr. Stuart Baldwin were to become Mayor of the County Borough of Bridgend then he will not be invited to any civic event/function that takes place in Porthcawl.**

The meeting concluded at 7.20pm