



BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting Held in the Boardroom, Oak Tree Surgery Thursday 17 March at 7.00 pm

Members Present
Cllr J Brett – Chairman
Cllr D Aston
Cllr T Hacking
Cllr C Jones
Cllr M Quick
Cllr J Spanswick
Cllr H Townsend
Cllr G Williams

Clerk - Mrs A Wilkes
Assistant Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer – Mr P Ley

329 Public Address to Council- no public address

330 Mr J Udraufski and Mr K Henson – Update on Brackla Live Club

Brackla Live Club is for 5 – 12 year olds and they have been meeting at the community centre for over a year on a Friday evening from 6 – 8pm. Mr Udraufski informed members that the group had been totally self-funded for the past six months with approximately 40 children attending recent sessions. In recent weeks there had been an increase in attendance from the wider Brackla community as well as the regular children from Brackla Meadows. They have six dedicated teenage volunteers to help at the group. Mr Udraufski asked if the council would consider any financial assistance to support the group – the Chairman advised that a formal application for a donation would be the appropriate method.

Mr Udraufski, being a member of Brackla Events Committee at the Meadows informed members that a new Over Fifties Group had been organised at Arosfa, Madoc Close, together with a weekly Food Coop. Both would take place on a Thursday. The Hafod Housing Scheme Manager had given permission for both groups to run, free of charge. If the Food Coop is successful, the Events Committee would consider running a second weekly session at the community centre.

331 Community Police Report

Steve Bowen, PCSO had provided the crime figures for Brackla, covering an 8 week period from 1 February. There had been a total of 226 crimes and the PCSO provided extra information at the request of councillors.

Cllr H Townsend expressed concern at the number of crimes and asked the Clerk to write to South Wales Police, to enquire whether an extra, third PCSO may be assigned to Brackla.

Cllr T Hacking commented that a few years ago crime figures were much lower but appreciated that the current figures may be as a result of an increase in reporting.

Steve Bowen confirmed that there had been an increase in crime reports, especially since the '101' service had been introduced.

The next PACT Meeting would take place at Brackla Primary School, Thursday 24 March at 6.30.

332 Apologies for Absence

Cllr P Hacking – ill
Cllr I Hibble – family commitment
Cllr K Jones - away

333 Declaration of Interest in Accordance with Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2000

Cllr C Jones - Borough Councillor, Bridgend CBC – prejudicial interest on Planning Applications and related issues

Cllr J Spanswick – Borough Councillor, Bridgend CBC – prejudicial interest on Planning Applications and related issues

Cllr H Townsend - Borough Councillor, Bridgend CBC – prejudicial interest on Planning Applications and related issues. Also a personal interest on item 330 Cllr Townsend is a relative of Mr K Henson.

334 Ratification of Minutes, Full Council Meeting 18 February 2016

Resolved: that the minutes were proposed as an accurate record of proceedings by Cllr H Townsend, seconded by Cllr T Hacking and accepted by council as a true record. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

335 Matters of Report by the Clerk of the Council - none

336 To consider all Correspondence received by this Council since the last meeting

1. Tower Mint Limited – HM Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday commemorative medal. £1.99 plus £7.50 carriage, plus VAT. Members suggested that medals may be given to members of the Senior Citizen Group, Brackla in Bloom prize winners or at the Funday for stall holders.
Resolved: that a total of 50 medals would be purchased. Unanimously agreed
2. Complaint from a Wales & West Housing tenancy complaint – Cllr J Spanswick had volunteered to help. Cllr Spanswick confirmed that the problem was ongoing.
3. Bridgend CBC, Community Asset Transfer Officer – introduction of the newly appointed community Asset Transfer Officer, Carly McCreesh and the Wales Cooperative Centre's survey and assistance in developing a toolkit/resources to help groups through their CAT journey. The Clerk had completed an online survey which would be utilised to develop a toolkit.
4. One Voice Wales – Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales 2018 – noted.
5. Welsh Government – Shared Future/Statutory Guidance for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Clerk informed members that this new power would enable members to make an appropriate donation to an individual - noted
6. Welsh Government & One Voice Wales – two statutory instruments which come into force on 1 April 2016. (a) The Local Government (Standards Committees, Investigations, Dispensations and Referral) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 and (b) The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016 - noted
7. The Planning Inspectorate – The Planning Wales Act 2015, introduced a new type of development, Developments of National Significance (DNS) – decisions on planning applications for DNS will be made by the Welsh Government and not the local planning authority – noted
8. Resident/Hunters Ridge – recycled rubbish problem
The resident had thanked the Clerk for the quick response in resolving the issue. Bridgend CBC, Clean up the County Department had removed the rubbish, which had blown out of the blue bag along the grass verge. This had been done on the day of the complaint.
9. Resident/Fair Oak Chase – fly tipping, unadopted lane
The resident was very pleased with the quick response to the complaint. Brackla Community Council grounds maintenance contractor, Mr M Punter had been thanked.

10. BAVO – list of Easter Events by Communities First. The Clerk had pointed out two events at Brackla Community Centre, 1st and 8th April for young children. Friday 1 April 12 – 2.30 Mad Science show and workshop and Friday 8th Organised Kaos, circus workshop from 10 – 12. Free to all those living in Bridgend Communities First areas, advanced booking required.

337 Brackla Community Centre

(a) General update from the Clerk

On Friday 11 March someone had accessed the community centre after the Brackla Live session, which finished at 8.30pm. No damage had been done but doors to three rooms were unlocked and left ajar. There were also lights left on in the rooms. The Clerk had had the lock changed on the main entrance door.

Members discussed security problems and requested that the Clerk obtain quotations for a CCTV camera system and security alarm to be installed. The Clerk would also check the insurance cover for the centre.

(b) To consider the Service Level Agreement with Bridgend CBC

Members had received a copy of the document which stated the annual charge would be £638.00 which is the provision of a Building Maintenance Service to support the centre.

Members requested a meeting with Mr D Robson, Principal Building Surveyor to discuss the agreement.

(c) To consider information provided by the architect - no plans received to date.

(d) To consider the Town & Community Council Grant application to upgrade the heating system

Three quotations had been received:

Ian Morgan Gas Heating & Plumbing Services - £17,000

C J Heating Services - £23,500

Sparta Gas Limited - £23,450

Resolved: that members unanimously agreed to submit the quotation of £23,500 for the Town & Community Council Grant

338 Annual Events – Funday, Saturday 2 July 2016

The Clerk had no further information to date and would provide members with the full itinerary on 21 April 2016.

339 Litter

The Clerk would contact Bridgend CBC regarding the request by this council to change the current litter bins for a larger capacity bins.

340 To consider information provided by Bridgend CBC on grounds maintenance 2016/18

The Clerk had requested information from Mr M Shephard, Corporate Director, Communities Directorate, identifying the grass cutting locations to be carried out by their contractors in the Brackla Ward. It was noted that Bridgend CBC had already awarded the contract to Total Ground Care Limited for 2016/18. Councillors requested a letter of complaint is sent to Mr Shephard to ask why this council had not been consulted before the contract had been advertised, as we had expressed an interest in providing this service in a meeting with officers during spring 2015.

It was suggested by some members that this issue is put forward as an agenda item for the next Town & Community Council Forum.

Cllr T Hacking expressed concern at the cost of such a service by Brackla Community Council and stated that if each Town & Community Councils took up this work, it would probably be at an increased cost to our residents.

341 Finance

(a) Schedule of Payments February 2016

Resolved: that payments were unanimously approved and signed proposed by Cllr H Townsend and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick in compliance with audit regulations

(b) Mr Ley had provided members with a copy of the bank reconciliation as at 29 February 2016 for approval

Resolved: that payments were unanimously approved and signed in compliance with audit regulations

(c) **To advise members to review the Financial Regulations of this council**

The Clerk had received recommendations from One Voice Wales together with a template for the regulations. This would be disseminated to members at the beginning of April for consideration on 21 April 2016.

(e) **Quarterly Budget 2015/16 Review**

P Ley provided detailed income and expenditure to end of Feb i.e. month 11. As at 31.3.2015 Earmarked Reserves were £115570 and General Reserve £8731.

The breakdown of over and underspend per category (overspend in brackets):

	Budget £	Spend £	Over/under Reason
Staffing	65550	53500	Gardener retired
Administration	14050	13000	Newsletter
Civic	2300	1250	No Civic Service or councillor expenses
Events	13000	(16999)	£3700 overspend on Firework Show
Grants	10500	10500	On spend
Environment	29100	(48000)	Floral Displays & grounds maintenance
Safety	500	0	underspend
TOTAL	135000	143249	

The predicted overspend of £8249 will be met from General Reserve, which would result in General Reserve remaining at predicted £482.

Note that Environment figure detailed above excludes the overspend of £6017 for festive lighting and the match funding project spend of £7834 both of which are coming from earmarked reserves for these categories.

Any underspend on grants at tonight's meeting will come be added back to General Reserve.

Community Centre

Overspend of £8155 as at Month 11.

Funds of £2133 (up to end the of February) to be paid in from parties and room hire leaving overspend of £6022.

One off Decorating £2400 and blinds £1300 included in the figures to month 11.

Therefore, general overspend of £2322.

Any overspend will be met from the earmarked reserve (sinking fund) of £75,000.

Cllr H Townsend requested a breakdown of environmental costs to assess value for money.

The Chairman thanked Mr Ley for providing the information.

Resolved: that Cllr J Spanswick proposed approval of the Quarterly Budget Review 2015/16, seconded by Cllr H Townsend and unanimously approved by all member's present

Cllr H Townsend moved Standing Orders at 8.55pm in order that members may continue to consider the business of this council, seconded by Cllr D Aston

342 To consider Donation Requests under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 2000

The following organisation had requested a donation:

- (a) Wales Air Ambulance – raising funds to build a new airbase and offices in Carmarthenshire.
- (b) Cancer Information & Support Services – works closely with Y Bwythyn Newydd Princess of Wales Hospital to ensure all cancer patients receive the support they need.
- (c) Teenage Cancer Trust – Based at the University Hospital of Wales, provision of Expert Care Programme in addition to NHS work.
- (d) Bridgend Samaritans – annual request.
- (e) Brackla Chorus – to purchase new music and upgrade uniforms.
- (f) Golden Oldies – additional uniforms.
- (g) Urdd Gobaith – for the National Eisteddfod at Pencoed 2017.
- (h) Badgers Brook Allotment Association – towards the installation of raised beds, tools, equipment, car park and toilets. A sensory garden with tables/benches, plants and bushes.
- (i) Tremains Primary School – contribution towards their Gardening Club for Year 5 & 6).

A request for audited accounts for a, b & c had been requested to support the applications and would be considered in June 2016.

Bridgend Samaritans application would be considered in the next financial year, June 2016.

Resolved: that following due consideration the organisations were awarded: £200 each for Brackla Chorus, Golden Oldies, Urdd Gobaith, Badgers Brook Allotment Association and Tremains Primary School, under Section 137 of the LGA, total of £1000. Proposed by Cllr T Hacking and seconded by Cllr D Aston

343 To Receive the Clerk's Report

The Clerk informed council of the CILCA professional qualification for Clerk's and Assistant Clerks. Highly recommended by Welsh Government, the Society of Local Clerks and Voice Wales. Town or Community Councils with a CILCA qualified Clerk/Assistant Clerk would be a 'competent' council, as proposed in the introduction of competency standards to improve governance and financial accountability (Local Democracy & Boundary Commission for Wales review of Town and Community Councils). The duty of the commission would commence in 2017 to allow a comprehensive review implementation by 2023.

Registration for CILCA would be £250 each, payable to the SLCC and training provided by One Voice Wales. Completion of the qualification would be 6 – 12 months.

Resolved: that Cllr T Hacking proposed, seconded by Cllr H Townsend that this council pay for the registration for both employees for the CILCA qualification. The total fund of £500 would be deducted from the Training Budget.

344 To Receive Reports from Members

Cllr H Townsend reported two roundabout sponsorship signs that had been previously displayed on our Brackla roundabouts, were at the Woodlands and also at Broadlands.

Cllr M Quick mentioned the number of potholes on the main roads in Brackla. The Borough Council members had already made referrals.

345 Agenda items for May 2016 Full Council Meeting

346 Date of the next Full Council Meeting – Thursday 21 April 2016 at 7pm in the Boardroom of Oak Tree Surgery.

347 To consider Brackla Planning Applications by the Planning Committee Members of this Council - none

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signature of the Chairman: Date:
Councillor June Brett

Matters of Report by the Clerk of the previous Full Council Meeting

None

Correspondence Received from 17 March 2016

1. Kidney Wales Cymru, Walk for Life Sunday 24 April – Kidney Wales encouraging people to organise a local walk. Kidney Wales Foundation office 02920343940 or email lowri@kidneywales.cymru
2. Bridgend County Borough Council – Town & Community Council Forum agenda for Monday 21 March together with draft minutes of 11 January.
3. Nationwide Waste Services Limited – advising of the increase of cost from 1 April 2016. General waste would be £1.78 per m3.
4. Pencoed Town Council – invitation for the Chairman and consort to attend the Civic Service on Sunday 8 May at Salem Chapel, Coychurch Road, Pencoed.
5. Bridgend Carers Centre – information of their services and donation request.
6. Volunteering in the Arts – Carnegie House, Tuesday 19 April 11 – 3pm. An invitation to the informal gathering, including lunch to explore how volunteers can get involved in the organisation side of creative groups. Emailed to all members 29.3.16. Posters on display at the community centre.
7. Y Bont Bridgend – donation request
8. Menter Bro Ogwr – donation request
9. One Voice Wales – Consideration of the consultation on the Draft Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Bill – emailed to all 31.3.16
10. Mr A Jolly, Assistant Chief Executive Legal & Regulatory Services & Monitoring Officer, Bridgend CBC – a reminder that the Model Code of Conduct has been subject to revision and would be implemented on 1 April 2016. A copy of the changed at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/swi/2016/84/article/2/made>. As defined in the Local Government (Wales) Bill, Mr Jolly has offered to provide training. Members should inform the Clerk if they wish to attend together with suitable timing. Emailed to all 1.4.16
11. Sue Bailey, District Secretary, Bridgend Scouts – open invitation for all to attend the St Georges Day service, Sunday 24 April, Brackla Tabernacle at 2.30pm. Please inform the Clerk if you wish to attend.
12. One Voice Wales – Agenda for the next Bridgend/Vale/Cardiff Area Committee meeting 7pm Monday 25 April in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge Town Hall.

13. One Voice Wales – Agenda for the Larger Local Council Committee meeting, Wednesday 13 April at Newton.
14. Bridgend County Civic Charity Appeals Standing Committee/The Mayor of the County Borough – Gala Dinner Saturday 23 April at the Heronston, Annual Charity Golf tournament Friday 6 May at Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club.

Planning Issues - none