

# **BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



## **FULL COUNCIL MEETING 20 December 2018 at 7.00 pm Boardroom Oak Tree Surgery**

### **Members Present**

Cllr J Spanswick – Chairperson  
Cllr D Aston  
Cllr J Brett  
Cllr T Giffard  
Cllr I Hibble  
Cllr C Jackson  
Cllr H May – Youth Councillor  
Cllr A Pucella

Mrs A Wilkes – Clerk of the Council  
Mr P Ley – Assistant Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer

Cllr Craig Jones, Chairperson 2018/19 had been unable to attend the meeting but had sent a statement which Cllr John Spanswick read in relation to the resignations of Cllr Terry Hacking and Cllr Hailey Townsend. Cllr Jones thanked members and staff past and present for their service to Brackla Community Council.

### **114 Public Address to Council**

Mr Keith Hughes thanked the members for all the they had done over the years.

Mr Hughes had been accompanied by a neighbour, Kimberley. Both expressed their deep concerns on the resubmission of the amended outline Planning Application P/18/960/OUT Briary Wood, Briary Way dated 10 December. Mr Hughes informed members that his colleague and neighbour Sue Burton, who had presented information on the initial application earlier in the year, had been unable to attend this meeting. Mr Hughes stated that SB had given her full consent to use the pages of her document against the new application. Mr Hughes informed council that he and many neighbours would be objecting to the application.

Mr Hughes said that not all information was on the planning portal and some neighbours only received their consultation letter on 17 December, with very little time for reporting objections.

Kimberley said that she had not received a letter from Planning Department of Bridgend Council. She strongly opposed the application and had many concerns regarding ecology and preservation of the area. Tree Preservation Orders disregarded as trees had been removed.

Mr Hughes also expressed concern about the by-election on 3 January 2019 and the cost to the council. The Chair explained that the potential cost may be £12,000 and that the issue was out of the control of the Community Council.

Mrs Lisa Lewis, Badgers Brook Allotment informed council that had left Bridgend County Allotment Society and would become a Charitable I Incorporated Organisation Limited by Guarantee. Lisa said that Badgers Brook Allotment would be applying for a Green Flag Award again in 2019 and a European Flag Award.

Cllr Tom Giffard congratulated Lisa on all her achievements with the allotment and Cllr John Spanswick encouraged her to contact this council if any support is required.

#### **114A PCSO/Police Report**

PCSO Rhys Jones attended and provided a recent crime report. Cllr Tom Giffard enquired about a recent car accident near the Spar – still under investigation.

Safer Bridgend Community Safety had installed a portable CCTV camera at Brackla skate park. Rhys had approached BCBC to cut the hedges back at the school and to increase litter collections at that location so that there would be less risk of fire setting.

#### **115 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr C Jones – work commitments  
Cllr K Rowlands – unwell

#### **116 To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct (and section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992)**

Cllr I Hibble, Civil Servant, employed by Welsh Government

Cllr J Spanswick, prejudicial interest, member of Development Control, Bridgend CBC – item 131, Planning

Cllr T Giffard , prejudicial interest, member of Development Control, Bridgend CBC – item 131, Planning

**117 To receive the resignation of Cllr Hailey Townsend**

Cllr Hailey Townsend had been a member of this council for six and a half years, during in which time she had also served as a Borough Councillor. Hailey had worked hard for a community where she was born and grown up.

Cllr Tom Giffard stated that it could not be denied how hard-working Cllr Townsend had been and that he was very concerned with the present attacks of her on social media. Cllr Craig Jones said that these attacks had cost this community a great councillor.

**117a Ratification of Minutes, Full Council Meeting 15 November 2018**

**Resolved: that the minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr David Aston, seconded by Cllr Ian Hibble**

**118 Ratification of Minutes, Finance Committee Meeting 5 December 2018**

**Resolved: that the minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr David Aston, seconded by Cllr Ian Hibble**

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

The Clerk had received many complaints about the Christmas lighting and full reports had been sent to the service provider on several occasions.

The memorial benches for former Cllr David Sage and our Community Garden Mr Brian Whitlock had been installed.

**120 To consider all Correspondence received since the last meeting (no decisions to be made on correspondence)**

1. BCBC – provisional equivalent tax base for Brackla, Band D calculated as 4,178.29.
2. Information Commission's Newsletter – circulated 7.12.18
3. Cllr J Spanswick – had made a referral to BCBC on 9 December regarding the possible repairs to the youth shelter and damaged panels to the skate ramps. Brackla Environmental Support Team would assist with painting the repaired youth shelter.
4. One Voice Wales – training schedule, circulated 12.12.18

5. One Voice Wales – Connecting Communities in Wales Newsletter – circulated 12.12.18

**1 To discuss any matters concerning the Community Centre**

Following a complaint by one of the user groups, the Clerk confirmed that there had been no issues with the heating.

**122 Annual Events:**

**(a) Senior’s Christmas Tea Party Wednesday 5 December**

The event had been very well attended, approximately 90 people. Raffle for the Chair’s Charity, Porthcawl RNLI raised £117.

It was confirmed that Brackla Charity Fundraising Group would be organising a pantomime for 2019.

**123 To continue discussion on Grounds Maintenance arrangements for 2019**

**(a) To confirm an annual contribution from BCBC**

BCBC had estimated a contribution over a four-year period on a sliding scale of £20,000 year 1, £13,500 year 2, £6,500 year 3 and £0 year 4.

The Clerk to request final figures from Mr Andrew Hobbs, BCBC.

**(b) To approve the cost of registration for use of the Ordinance Survey Maps**

**Resolved: that members agreed the cost of £54.75 for the use of Ordinance Survey Maps**

**(c) To confirm plans to advertise the Tender - agreed**

**124 To consider Local Development Plan**

Cllr Tom Giffard, Cllr Aniel Pucella and Cllr John Spanswick had met on 10 December regarding the LDP and how it related to Brackla. Areas for potential development or protected green space should be identified. The views of Councillors had been requested for the January meeting.

**125 To consider the proposal of BCC/BCBC Lease for Brackla Allotments - no longer required**

## 126 Finance

- (a) **Approval of the Schedule of Payments November 2018**  
**Resolved:** that the payments were approved. Proposed by Cllr David Aston, seconded by Cllr Ian Hibble
- (b) **Bank Reconciliation as at 30 November 2018**  
**Resolved:** that the Bank Reconciliation had been approved.  
Proposed by Cllr David Aston, seconded by Cllr Ian Hibble
- (c) **To approve the Draft Budget and confirm the Precept 2019/20**  
Cllr Tom Giffard and Cllr Aniel Pucella would not support any increase in Council Tax.  
**Resolved:** that it had been proposed by Cllr Ian Hibble, seconded by Cllr June Brett approved the budget and Precept of £169,000. Vote 4 to 2 against. Cllr Ciaron Jackson abstained
- (d) **To approve pay awards for Community Centre staff**  
Mr Phil Ley informed members that the Real Living Wage had increased to £9.00 per hour as of 1 November 2018.  
**Resolved:** that members unanimously approved the pay increase of £9.00 per hour

*It had been agreed to suspend Standing Orders at 8.55 pm in order that council may proceed with business to be transacted*

## 127 To consider Section 137 Donation Applications – Brackla Community Chorus – deferred until March 2019.

## 128 To Receive Members Reports

Cllr Ian Hibble – thanked our contractor for removing the old Christmas tree near Tremains Court

Cllr John Spanswick would be unable to attend Full Council in January due to holidays.

## 129 Agenda items for 2018

Christmas Lights

## 130 Date of the next Full Council Meeting – Thursday 17 January 2019

**131 To consider any Planning Applications by the Planning Committee**

This matter had been discussed earlier at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

..... Date .....

Signed by the Chairperson, Cllr Craig Jones