

BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL



THE NEXT MEETING OF BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL

Tuesday 18th August 2020

6.30pm via Video Link

Members of Brackla Community Council are summoned to attend this meeting

Members Present

Cllr T Giffard - Chairperson

Cllr D Aston

Cllr I Hibble

Cllr K Hughes

Cllr J Spanswick

Cllr T Walsh

Mrs R Keepins – Clerk of the Council

Mr P Ley – Assistant Clerk/Responsible Finance Office

Miss H May – Admin Officer

41 Apologies for Absence

Cllr E Capparos

Cllr C Jackson

Cllr K Rowlands

42 Declarations of Interest

Cllr I Hibble, declared a personal interest as a Civil Servant working for Welsh Government.

Cllr J Spanswick, declared a personal interest in relation to Item 44 'Re-opening of Brackla Community Centre and Playpark' as his Grandson attends Banana Moon Nursery.

Clerk, R Keepins declared a personal interest in relation to Item 44, 'Re-opening of Brackla Community Centre and Playpark' as her Daughter will be attending Banana Moon Nursery.

43 Annual Audit 2019-20

The RFO presented the Annual Audit Return for 2019-20, highlighting that the Community Council started the year with £41,282 and ended with £71,184. He informed the Council; that the VAT return had been undertaken and claimed; there were numerous debtors listed due to many user groups of the centre owing their last bill in March 2020 but had been unable to pay due to the Covid -19 lockdown; and the main creditor that was highlighted was Centregreat for the Christmas lights as we had not received the invoice. This, he reported, had since been paid. He advised the Council that the public notice had gone up notifying the public that the accounts would be available to view from 1 September so all was on track.

Resolved:

The Annual Audit was approved, proposed by Cllr J Spanswick and seconded by Cllr K Hughes.

44 Community Centre Committee Recommendations

The Clerk presented the recommendations of the Community Centre Committee in relation to the reopening of the Community Centre:

Resolved:

The Council approved the Community Centre Committee's recommendations as detailed below:

The Committee recommend that based on the current legislation only allowing community centres to open for essential voluntary or public services, and in the interest of public health, the Council do not open the Community Centre for normal usage for either August or September. Instead, the Committee recommend that usage by the nursery (as an essential public service) as well as consideration of the request to use the hall for the issuing of flu vaccinations, be prioritised for these months.

In relation to any future reopening, the Committee's initial observations are:

- That the kitchen should not be used as it is difficult to socially distance in this area;
- That the maximum number of users in the hall at any one time be 30;
- That a one way entry and exit system be introduced if required;
- That social distancing and all other relevant signage be placed in the building and outside;
- That a toilet procedure be introduced so that only one person leaves the hall at a time so as to maintain social distancing i.e. queuing outside the toilet would not enable social distancing;
- That the cleaning charge be met by the Community Council as it was felt it would be unfair to put this cost onto the individual user groups;
- That the Committee room and Small Office remain closed;
- That a designated room be assigned for any person(s) showing signs of symptoms so that they can self-isolate until they are picked up or leave the building.

Proposed by Cllr D Aston and seconded by Cllr I Hibble

45 Finances

The RFO presented information relating to the current financial position of the Council as a result of Covid-19 lockdown in order to assess whether there was a need to apply for financial assistance.

Covid Financial Implications			
Reserves as at 31.3.2020			
Earmarked			
Centre		25,000	
Election		3,089	
Youth Project		1,000	
		29,089	
General Reserve		44,095	
Total reserves			73184
Add Underspend			
2020-21 Budget			
Events		16,000	
Summer Playscheme		3,500	
Civic Service		850	
Total Underspend			20350
Available			93534
Less Agreed Spending from Reserves			
Hanging baskets Brackets – between £7,100.00 and £8,500.00			
Winter Bedding – they allowed up to £500.00			
Gateway Signs x 4 £3,834.84 plus installation costs			
Benches/Bins – not sure how much yet for bins but an extra bench will be approx. £500.00			
Re-setting of drain – approx. £120.00			
Car Park Street Lights - £1,150.00			
Total			14605
Remaining Funds			78929
less existing earmarked			29089
predicted general reserve 20/21			49840
Predicted Centre Costs this Year			
Salaries		8704	

GAS/Elec/water		4167	last year
Licences/Insurance		1612	last year
Misc		1278	to date i.e. month 3 end of june
Cathedral		1509	paid quarterly £503.10
Hand Sanitiser		468	3/4 of year
Roof repair		350	
Cleaning Materials		250	
Window Cleaning		450	
Fire/Electric /GasTest		1000	
PPE		?	
Total		19788	
INCOME		2500 MIN	

The RFO identified the numerous commitments that had now been agreed such as hanging basket brackets replacement and gateway signs for Brackla, and presented the recent and expected expenditure for the Centre. He informed the Council that as indicated by the balance sheet, even with a loss of income from the Centre, due to the underspends in various sectors such as events there was no real financial issue at the current time.

Members agreed that given the information provided the finances seemed in a healthy situation and even with the loss of income from the Centre, the Council would be unlikely to be able to claim for any assistance towards this due to the reserves and balances indicated.

The RFO did highlight that a Finance meeting was being organised for September where subjects such as Christmas lights and bins, as well as the reallocation of reserves was to be considered.

Resolved:

It was agreed that based on the current and predicted financial situation of the Community Council, there was no evidence to suggest that any financial assistance was required at this time.

Members did request that any future centre costs reflect the associated management costs for the Clerk and the RFO in order to present a full picture of the current and predicted situation.

46 Brackla in Bloom

The Clerk informed Members that the deadline for entry into this year's competition had now passed and that unfortunately there had not been many entries. Cllr D Aston explained that he had spoken to some local residents who have entered in previous years who had stated that due to Covid-19 and garden centres being closed they were unable to purchase many plants and hadn't had much luck with ordering online. For this reason they had decided not to enter this year's Brackla in Bloom Competition.

Resolved:

It was agreed that a certificate and £10 voucher would be given to each entry this year in recognition of their hard work and as a thank you for entering. This was proposed by Cllr D Aston and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick.