

# BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL



## THE NEXT MEETING OF BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### **FULL COUNCIL MEETING Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm Via Video Link**

Members present

Cllr T Giffard – Chairperson  
Cllr D Aston  
Cllr E Caparros  
Cllr I Hibble  
Cllr K Hughes  
Cllr C Jackson  
Cllr A Pucella  
Cllr K Rowlands  
Cllr J Spanswick

Mrs R Keepins – Clerk of the Council  
Mr P Ley – Assistant Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer  
Miss H May – Admin Officer

#### **180 Public Address to Council (10 minutes only)**

Mr Mike Quick addressed the Council regarding the basketball court adjacent to Brackla Primary School. He spoke about lights in the area being replaced and asked Members a series of questions including whether the Community Council were aware the lights were being replaced, how the project was funded and whether Bridgend County Borough Council would be re-imbursed for the project?

He suggested that the gates to the basketball court should be locked at a certain time to reduce the noise for residents in the street next to the court and asked if something could be done about switching the lights off at a reasonable time.

Mr Quick referred to previous contact a local resident had made with the Community Council regarding a padlock for the facility. The Clerk had brought this to the attention of Bridgend County Borough Council who said they could not purchase a padlock but suggested that residents could do so if they wished.

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Cllr J Spanswick advised Mr Quick that the floodlights for the facility when it was initially created were agreed to be on until 9 or 10pm but had not been working for some time. Complaints had been received by the Community Council and subsequently forwarded onto the County Council regarding the need for maintenance and repair of the site. BCBC had now fixed the lights so that they work on a push button system but would not go on after 9.30pm. He clarified that the site had been designed with landscape to try and provide a screen for most of the residents however the facility was designed as an open public facility.

The Chair responded recalling the request over padlocks and clarified that a response had been provided via the Clerk. The Chair proposed that the Community Council would provide a response to Mr Quick in writing.

## **181 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr J Chohan  
Cllr T Walsh

## **182 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 declared a personal interest throughout, as he is a Civil Servant working for Welsh Government.

Cllr T Giffard declared a personal interest in relation to item 207, Planning, as he is a Member of Bridgend County Borough Council and to Item 195 Donation Requests, as he knows the applicant for one of the organisations applying for a donation.

Cllr A Pucella declared a personal interest in relation to Item 207, Planning, as he is a Member of Bridgend County Borough Council.

Cllr K Rowlands declared a personal interest in relation to Item 207, Planning, as she is a Member of Bridgend County Borough Council.

Cllr J Spanswick declared a prejudicial interest in relation to Item 207, Planning, as he is a Member of Bridgend County Borough Council and of Bridgend BCB Development Control Committee. He agreed to leave the meeting for this item. And a personal interest in relation to item 194, Brackla Community Council Storage Containers, as he was a past volunteer of Brackla Environmental Support Team and item 195, Donation Requests, as he knows the applicant for one of the organisations applying for a donation.

Cllr C Jackson declared a personal interest in relation to item 194, Brackla Community Council Storage Containers, as he was the past chairperson for Brackla Environmental Support Team.

Miss H May declared a personal interest in relation to item 196, Admin Assistant Contract.

**183 Ratification of Minutes of the HR/Personnel Committee 10 February 2021**

**Resolved:**

The minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr T Giffard and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick

**184 Ratification of Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Full Council 11 February 2021**

**Resolved:**

The minutes were approved, proposed Cllr D Aston and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick

**185 Ratification of Minutes of the Planning Committee 15 February 2021**

**Resolved:**

The minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr E Caparros and seconded by Cllr I Hibble

**186 Ratification of Minutes of the Full Council 18 February 2021**

**Resolved:**

The minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr A Pucella and seconded by Cllr D Aston

**187 Ratification of Minutes of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Committee 3 March 2021**

Deferred until April 2021

**188 Clerks Report including matters relating to the Council's previous meeting**

The Clerk provided the following updates to Members:

- The Town and Community Fund application had been sent off and we were now awaiting a response from Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC).
- All Schools and Community Centre hirers had been contacted to ask for if they would like to be involved in the Rainbow Memorial Display in the Community Centre. It has also been advertised on our website and social Media. It was proposed that the Bryn-y-Cae Care home be approached regarding the display to see if they wanted to participate.
- In regard to speeding complaints within Brackla, BCBC have advised that no funds were available for traffic surveys at this given time and therefore the Community Council would have to fund any themselves. Cllr D Aston asked the Clerk if she knew what happened to the speed camera the Community Council bought a few years ago. It was agreed that the Chair would report back once the Cabinet Member had confirmed the situation of whether there is BCBC funding available or not for traffic surveys. The Clerk would also get in touch with South Wales Police to locate the speed camera that the Community Council previously purchased.

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

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The Clerk informed Members that the new caretakers had started their roles and are both eager to get involved as much as possible. All Community Centre checks are being carried out regularly and the noticeboards are also being cleaned and updated.

It was unanimously agreed that the Community Centre be reopened should there be any announcement by Welsh Government to allow for this before the next Full Council meeting. This was agreed with the provision that there are no major differences to the processes and procedures that were in place before the most recent lockdown. Should there be significant variation in legislation and guidance, it was agreed that an Extraordinary meeting of Council be arranged.

**190 Covid-19 Update**

No update at this time.

**191 Finance:**

**Resolved:**

Mr Simon Lewis was appointed as the Internal Auditor, proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr D Aston.

**(a) Approval of the Schedule of Payments February 2021**

**Resolved:**

The Payments for February were approved, proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr D Aston

**(b) Bank Reconciliation as at 28 February 2021**

**Resolved:**

The bank statement was approved as correct, proposed by Cllr D Aston and seconded by Cllr K Hughes

**(c) Monthly Budget Review February 2021**

**Resolved:**

The budget review was approved, proposed by Cllr C Jackson and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick

**(d) Payments for Authorisation**

**Resolved:**

The payments were approved as detailed below, proposed by Cllr C Jackson and seconded by Cllr D Aston

Date	Cq No	Amount	Payee	Details
19.2.2021	204662	16432.80	Centregreat	Christmas lights
22.2.2021	663	65.00	C Mitchell	Party Refund
1.3.2021	664	464.40	RBS Ltd	Accounts Software Maintenance
1.3.2021	665	301.20	JRB Enterprises	Poop scoop bags x 20,000
1.3.2021	666	572.71	NWS Ltd	Waste Collection
1.3.2021	667	21.53	NWS Ltd	Excess Waste
5.3.2021	668	4668.00	Glasdon	Jubilee Bins x 10
10.3.2021	669	144.00	Lorne Stewart	Fan Heater Service
10.3.2021	670	42.00	Lorne Stewart	Service of Heating Plant
15.3.2021	671	34.65	Clerk	Part Wages
15.3.2021	672	32.77	Asst Clerk	Part Wages
15.3.2021	673	19.50	Centre Cleaner	Part Wages
15.3.2021	674	81.13	Centre Caretaker	Wages
15.3.2021	675	76.75	Centre Caretaker	Wages
15.3.2021	676	537.26	Admin Asst	Wages
15.3.2021	677	940.42	RCT	Pension February
15.3.2021	678	737.75	HMRC	Paye and NI February
17.3.2021	679	1361.27	MS Property	Grounds Maintenance

## 192 Brackla 'Love it, Don't Trash it' Update

John Rees, Operations Officer, Cleaner Street Scene Section of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) attended the meeting and provided Members with an update on the 'Brackla, Love it, Don't Trash it' project. He shared with Members that posters have been placed around Brackla and advertising for the project would be placed in the 'Around Town' leaflet and on Bridgend Radio.

He reported that a bin mapping exercise would now be taking place in the County Borough, using the What3Words App to locate and number each bin which would be easier for monitoring and reporting any problems. He also advised that dog fouling posters had been created and will be placed in streets and dog walking areas along with two new Tispak dispensers. The Operations Officer, Cleaner Street Scene Section asked Members for possible locations to place both items as well as locations for new Community Council bins that have been delivered and awaiting installation.

He also explained to Members that a Community Engagement team was being set up which would monitor and gather feedback on this project which could then be used when setting up the Community Hub and any other projects in the future.

Members thanked the Officer and his team for the hard work on this project and expressed an excitement to continue working alongside BCBC to continue and grow the 'Brackla, Love it, Don't Trash it' project.

**Resolved:**

It was proposed that a further meeting be held later in the year so that the Community Council could receive an update from the new Community Engagement Team once it had had time to properly get established.

Members were asked to provide suggestions for the locations of any new dog fouling signs as well as for 2 new Tikspak dispensers.

The Operations Officer, Cleaner Street Scene Section agreed to commence work with Cllr K Hughes and other Members of Brackla Community Council to locate and install the 10 new Community Council bins in Brackla.

**193 Correspondence – Purchase of Bench for Pebble Pathway**

The clerk referred to an email which had been sent to the Community Council by Tremains Woodlands Rangers which asked whether the Community Council would like to split the cost of a bench that would be placed next to the Pebble Pathway. Members discussed the bench that had been chosen and suggested that a Member should liaise with the Rangers to discuss other options possibly.

Tremains Woodlands Rangers also invited the Chair and all Members of the Council to an open day where the bench and a plaque will be revealed, the date for which had not been confirmed at this time.

**Resolved:**

It was agreed that the Chair would get in touch with Tremains Woodland Rangers to discuss the options for the bench, for consideration at the next Full Council meeting.

**194 Brackla Community Council Storage Containers**

The Clerk referred to pictures taken of the storage containers that show some of the flooring has rotted and the ceiling in one was leaking. It was reported that many of the items within the container would have to be sorted to see what was salvageable and what needed to be thrown away including some chemicals which needed to be disposed of correctly. Members discussed that there was possibly not a need for the large generator given the fact that the smaller one was usually suitable for the needs of the Council.

An email was read to Members from Brackla Environmental Support Group stating that they wished to donate all their equipment to the Community Council. Members thanked the group and suggested that some of the equipment can be used for the Local Hub that will be set up in relation to the 'Brackla, Love it, Don't Trash it' project. There was question, however over whether there was a need for the trailer.

Members discussed the need for replacement containers and a suggestion was made to store the equipment in the Community Centre.

**Resolved:**

It was agreed that the Clerk would get quotes for the costs of replacing the containers as well as costs for converting the shelter at the back of the Community Centre to make it suitable for secure storage. Timeframes would also be sought for the latter.

***It was requested by the Chair and unanimously agreed by the Council to move item 198, Grass Cutting and Grounds Maintenance Contract further up the agenda as the item was also confidential.***

***It was resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in Paragraphs 12 of Part 4 and Paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 following the application of the public interest test.***

***This was proposed by Cllr C Jackson and seconded by Cllr E Caparros***

**195 Donation Requests**

**Resolved:**

It was agreed that the Clerk would seek further information in relation to the donation requests from the NSPCC and 'Follow your Dreams' – particularly in relation to how local residents in Brackla have directly benefited from these organisations.

Members also agreed to seek further information regarding the Spar Application and the actual cost of the defibrillator as well as how much has been fundraised so far.

**198 Grass Cutting and Grounds Maintenance Contract**

**Resolved:**

Following the Council's consideration of the above, it was proposed by Cllr J Spanswick to award the 12 months Grass-Cutting and Grounds Maintenance contract for 2021-22 to MS Property Management. This was seconded by Cllr D Aston

***It was unanimously agreed to return to open session.***

**196 Admin Assistant Contract**

**Resolved:**

The contract for the Admin Assistant was approved subject to the removal of the name of the Clerk and add in Community Council, proposed by Cllr D Aston and seconded by Cllr K Hughes.

**197 Recording of Meetings**

The Clerk informed Members that One Voice Wales do not provide training on recording of meetings and is awaiting a response from BCBC. Some Members felt recording of meetings should only be on a case by case basis however it was suggested it would be difficult to judge what should or should not be recorded. It was proposed that maybe the Council need to advertise more regarding the provision for the public to attend meetings, particularly at this time when meetings are via video link, and that they can get details of the how to join from the Clerk.

**Resolved:**

Due to a number of Members objecting to the recording of meetings, and the need for a unanimous decision, it was agreed that the council would not look into recording any future meetings at this time.

**199 Bridgend County Borough Council Summer Activity Programme 2021**

Members agreed to again support the BCBC Summer Activity Scheme 2021 but asked that they make reference to Brackla Community Council's contribution in their associated literature and reports etc.

**200 Wales in Bloom Entry**

**Resolved:**

It was agreed to enter the Wales in Bloom Competition 2021 under the Urban Community Category, proposed by Cllr A Pucella and seconded by Cllr K Hughes.

**201 Community Council Events**

It was agreed to defer the item until April when more may be known regarding restrictions following the latest Welsh Government announcement.

**202 Brackla Community Council 5 Year Plan**

The Clerk reported that the Wellbeing and Future Generations Committee held their first meeting to discuss their Terms of Reference which will include developing the Council's 5 Year Plan.

**203 Crime Statistics for Brackla**



The crime statistics were noted, and Members received contact details for the new PCSO for Brackla. It was mentioned that PCSOs would not be able to attend a meeting via Zoom due to them only be allowed to use the Microsoft Teams platform. A written statement could therefore be made instead if requested until we are able to meet in person.

#### **204 To Receive Reports from Members**

None

#### **205 Forward Work Programme**

The draft Forward Work Programme was considered and the following items added for next month's meeting:

- Donation Requests
- Bench for Pebble Pathway
- Storage Containers

#### **206 Date of the next Full Council Meeting –Thursday 15 April 2021**

#### **207 Planning**

##### **Resolved:**

P/20/1011/Ful - Members of Brackla Community Council wished to express their continued support for this updated application.

T/21/8/TPO – The Community Council has no objection to any necessary reduction or pollarding of any TPO trees but not to any full removal. They also wish to request that no work on these trees be undertaken between the months of April and November as this is bird nesting season.

P/21/162/FUL – No objections

T/21/13/TPO – The Community Council wish to object to the application subject to a specialist report from the Local Authority to confirm that the tree is actually diseased.

T/21/17/TPO – The Community Council wish to object to the dismantle and removal of the tree unless it is proven to be unsafe by the Local Authority.

It was agreed that an extraordinary meeting would be organised to discuss the pre-application consultation relating to the proposed development of Land off Waunscil Avenue, Brackla, for

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the erection of 70 dwellings. In addition, the proposal from the Ministry of Justice to establish a new Wales Residential Women's Centre in Bridgend would also be considered at this meeting.

***It was resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as set out in Paragraphs 12 of Part 4 and Paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 following the application of the public interest test.***

***This was proposed by Cllr C Jackson and seconded by Cllr E Caparros***

**Resolved:**

A suitable response to the applicant was agreed.

*Meeting closed at 10pm*