

BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes of Full Council meeting held at 7:00pm on Thursday, 23rd March 2023

This meeting was held on a remote basis in accordance with the provisions of The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

<i>Members Present</i>	Cllr S Griffiths (Chairperson) Cllr E Caparros Cllr K Hughes Cllr K Hoy Cllr W Kendall Cllr L Lewis Cllr J Llewellyn-Hopkins Cllr J Nuth Cllr M Payn Cllr R Smith Cllr J Spanswick
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<i>Others Present</i>	Miss H May – Acting Clerk
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163. To receive Apologies for absence

Mr P Ley – Responsible Finance Officer

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

Cllr S Griffiths declared a prejudicial interest in relation to item 179, Planning, as he is a Member of Bridgend CBC Development Control Committee. He agreed to leave the meeting for this item.

Cllr W Kendall declared a prejudicial interest in relation to item 179, Planning, as he is a Member of Bridgend CBC Development Control Committee. He agreed to leave the meeting for this item.

Cllr J Spanswick declared a prejudicial interest in relation to item 179, Planning, as he is a Cabinet Member responsible for Communities. He agreed to leave the meeting for this item.

165. Public Questions (limited to 10 minutes – S/O 3g)

There were no questions raised

166. To agree Minutes of the Full Council Meeting – 16th February 2023

Resolved:

The minutes were approved, this was proposed by Cllr E Caparros and seconded by Cllr W Kendall.

167. To agree Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting – 16th February 2023

Resolved:

The minutes were approved, this was proposed by Cllr S Griffiths and seconded by Cllr K Hughes

168. To agree Minutes of the HR/Personnel Committee Meeting – 8th March 2023

Resolved:

The minutes were approved, this was proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr E Caparros.

169. To agree Minutes of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Committee – 9th March 2023

Resolved:

The minutes were approved, this was proposed by Cllr M Payn and seconded by Cllr S Griffiths

170. To note Matters arising not addressed elsewhere on the agenda – *Clerk's report*

The Acting Clerk provided the following updates to Members;

- A quote of £3000 had been received for inflatables for the Brackla Funday. Members were asked to give approval of going ahead with the booking or allowing the Acting Clerk to use the Funday budget to purchase items without going back to Council. It was agreed that the Acting Clerk bring a list of all activities and entertainment contacted to the next meeting for full approval.
- It was also asked if groups would be able to borrow the Council's generator to operate equipment at the event. It was suggested that a service on the 2 Council generators be carried out before use and to check who would be liable and if insurance is needed before hire.
- An email had been received in regards to entering the Wales in Bloom competition again this year. Entries close on Friday 31st March and the fee for entering is £100. Members agreed to go ahead with entering the Competition again this year and will await further information

171. Matters pertaining to Community Centre

The Community Centre refurbishment would start at the beginning of May and the building will be closed to groups for 4 weeks, re-opening for Half term. It was agreed to call a meeting of the Community Centre Committee in the coming weeks.

172. Matters pertaining to Finance, Governance and Administration

a. To receive YTD Financial Accounts as at 28 February 2023

Resolved:

The Council's Accounts were approved, this was proposed by Cllr J Spanswick and seconded by Cllr K Hughes

b. To note Bank reconciliation as at 28 February 2023

Resolved:

The bank reconciliation was approved, this was proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick.

c. To note Payments made during the previous month

Resolved:

The list of payments were approved, this was proposed by Cllr M Payn and seconded by Cllr K Hughes

d. To approve Payment schedule as presented

The following schedule of cheque payments for authorisation were presented;

Date	Cheque Number	Amount	Payee	Details
1.3.23	205107	376.50	D Thomas	Repair Triangle Bed
1.3.23	108	15063.00	D Thomas	Summer Bedding/Baskets
1.3.23	109	343.44	Jennifer Griffiths	Temporary Staff
1.3.23	110	38.16	Eureka	Burns Gel/Dressings/Scissors
1.3.23	111	84.00	MPH Plumbing	Repair Damaged Toilet Centre
1.3.23	112	69.85	Viking	Cleaning Materials
1.3.23	113	51.00	Wilko	Toilet Seats x 3 for Centre
1.3.23	114	343.44	Jennifer Griffiths	Temporary Staff
1.3.23	115	285.00	W Clark	Locate and fit Cllr Hacking Bench
1.3.23	116	44.22	HVW Ltd	Hi Vis Vests
1.3.23	117	179.80	Viking	Cleaning Materials
1.3.23	118	208.13	NWS Ltd	Excess Waste
1.3.23	119	777.00	NWS Ltd	Waste Collection
2.3.23	120	324.36	Jennifer Griffiths	Temporary Staff
9.3.23	121	343.44	Jennifer Griffiths	Temporary Staff
15.3.23	122	204.00	TPS Plumbing	Repair Mixer Tap in Disable Toilet
Staff List	123 - 127			
16.3.23	128	343.44	Jennifer Griffiths	Temporary Staff
19.3.23	129	616.80	Switch Contractor Services Ltd	EICR Testing Centre
23.3.23	130	1708.83	MS Property	Grounds Maintenance

Resolved:

The schedule of cheque payments were approved, this was proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr R Smith

173. To consider recommendations of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Committee

The following recommendations were made to the Full Council following a recent Wellbeing of Future Generations Committee:

1. Brackla Circular Woodland Walk

To include; Historic signs, Path clearing, Signposting, Making safe, Ground clearing

2. Lark Rise Steps

Steps/path Top Brackla Hill field down to Lark Rise

3. Seats/benches

Around the area (Brackla Hill/Spar Field), possibly working with community groups in the area to share locations and quantity.

4. Litter picking hub

To link back to the Bridgend County Borough Council 'Love it don't trash-it scheme' and look to create a hub for Members of the public to collect equipment needed to litter pick in the area.

5. Refurb Community Centre play area (Eugene)

Main council to decide following from quotes

Outreach

To link with Save our Fields and Lads and Dads and any other groups in the area

Longer term : Fields Behind Tremains School

Football/rugby field - ownership/fencing/upkeep etc

Rangers proposed picnic/wild meadow

Issues with Safe-guarding/ behaviour

Resolved:

It was agreed to support the recommendations and to give £1500 from General Reserves to the Committee to allow them to start on any projects. This was proposed by Cllr M Payn and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick.

174. To agree the final draft of the Council Newsletter

Resolved:

The draft newsletter was agreed, with the idea that colour would be added as well as Cllr Nuth's details following the recent election.

20:55pm – it was agreed to suspend Standing Order 3w to allow the meeting to continue beyond 2 hours. This was proposed by Cllr M Payn and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick and agreed by all.

175. To agree the recommendations of the HR interview panel regarding the selection of a new Clerk

Resolved:

It was agreed to appoint Mr Mark Evans as Clerk to the Council, starting as soon as possible. It was agreed to offer the appointment of 30 hours per week. This was proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick.

176. To accept Cllr M Phelan's apologies for her absence

Members discussed Cllr M Phelan's apologies for her absence due to illness. It was advised that One Voice Wales had been contacted to ask for advice in the matter and the query had been passed onto a solicitor for their expertise. Cllr L Lewis stated that Cllr Phelan was letting the Community of Brackla down by not attending meetings. The acting Chairman proposed that the Council should officially accept Cllr Phelan's apologies that she had given for all previous meetings.

Cllr K Hughes submitted an amendment to the motion which was as follows;

Since Cllr Margaret Phelan has not attended a qualifying meeting for six consecutive months from her last attendance on 22 September 2022 up to 22 March 2023 under Section 85 of the LGA 1972 Cllr Phelan has now ceased to be a member of Brackla Community Council. Furthermore and forthwith we should declare the office that Cllr Phelan held to be vacant and the process to replace her should be commenced with immediate effect.

Resolved:

Following a vote which was 5 for and 6 against, it was agreed to accept the apologies from Mrs Phelan and to wait for the legal advice to be received from the solicitor and One Voice Wales. This was proposed by Cllr J Spanswick and seconded by Cllr E Caparros.

177. To accept the Council Code of Conduct

Resolved:

The Code of Conduct was adopted by the Community Council, this was proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick and agreed by all.

178. To receive Members' reports

Cllr K Hughes suggested that meeting should return to face to face from April. It was agreed to look into the legislation and report back to sort as soon as possible.

Cllr L Lewis advised she had attended a meeting with Wales and West regarding Community Gardens. Another meeting will be held in the near future to discuss more following further information.

Cllr J Spanswick advised that the probation service are keen to be involved with community projects and suggested the possibility of painting the Community Centre after work has been completed. He also shared that the Container had been cleaned and trailer returned. It was agreed that the assets need to be sorted and recorded.

Cllr M Payn shared that Keep Wales Tidy and residents were organising a Litter Pick in Longacre, he would pass further information on to the Acting Clerk and Members.

21:30pm - Cllr S Griffiths, Cllr W Kendall and Cllr J Spanswick left the meeting

179. To consider Planning Applications received

**a. P/23/143/FUL - 51 The Woodlands Brackla CF31 2JG
Single storey side extension**

Resolved:

The following comments were made:

1. The Location plan attached to the Application does not highlight where this property is located specifically and the size of print on the house numbers is difficult to discern.
2. The single storey extension is between the house and the garage and consequently we have no objections to these proposals .

b. P/22/609/FUL - 4 Tremains Court Brackla

Erection of fence along front boundary

Resolved:

The following comments were made:

We are conscious that the Restrictive Covenant (MGCC/OGWR Acts) preventing the erection of boundary fences to the front of properties in BRACKLA are still included in any existing/ new property purchase in Brackla. However, we are unclear as to the enforcement/preventative action of such breaches taken by BCBC Planning and this application will provide the opportunity to perhaps clarify this matter;

- The applicant has in fairness followed the correct route in seeking your consent to erect this fence and the merits of the request i.e preventing their children from running into the road is commendable although no ages of the children are evident;
- The amended Location Plan does not show a true footprint of the property as there is a large well established car -port adjoining the left of the main property (viewed from road side) allowing unhindered access to the drive from the roadway as does the drive to the garage. The erection of gates over these access points will change this although the Highways Department appear to have no issue with this;
- The amended Location plan does not show whether the intended gates open inwards towards the house and we feel this need to be clarified in any conditions laid down should you accept this application.
- Finally, the adjoining property already has a similar set up involving a picket fence which is long established but we are not aware if planning was ever sought for this addition.

Because of the foregoing points we feel the decision on this Application is clearly down to BCBC Planning interpretation of the law and relevant planning guidance.

180. Date of next Meeting – Thursday, 20th April 2023

Meeting closed at 9:40pm

Signed by: _____

Acting Chairperson of Brackla Community Council