

BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes of Full Council meeting held at 6:00pm on Thursday, 15th February 2024

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

Location – The Boardroom, Oak Tree Surgery, Whitethorn Drive, Brackla CF31 2PQ

Members Present

Cllr S Griffiths (Chairman)
Cllr E Caparros
Cllr K Hughes
Cllr L Lewis
Cllr J Spanswick
Cllr W Kendall
Cllr J Llewellyn-Hopkins

Others Present

Mr M Evans – Clerk to the Council
Mr P Ley – Responsible Financial Officer
Miss H May – Administrative Officer

131. To receive Apologies for absence

Cllr C Cadogan
Cllr R Smith

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

Cllr S Griffiths declared a personal interest as a BCBC Councillor and as a member of its Development Control Committee.

Cllr J Spanswick declared a prejudicial interest in relation to item 142, Planning, as he is a Cabinet Member responsible for Environment and Climate Change. He also declared a prejudicial interest in item 137, Clerk's Report (tree planting scheme/grant funding application), due to his position as a BCBC cabinet member who sits on the panel assessing the applications.

Cllr E Caparros declared a personal interest as a BCBC Councillor.

Cllr W Kendall declared a personal interest as a BCBC Councillor and as a member of its Development Control Committee.

Cllr J Llewellyn-Hopkins declared a personal interest as a BCBC Councillor.

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

There were no questions raised.

134. Update from PCSOs Holly Tomlinson & Andrew Osborne.

PSCO Andrew Osborne introduced himself to Council as the new replacement for PCSO Holly Tomlinson who will be leaving the role in March 2024.

An update was received regarding the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) reports in the triangle carpark. It was noted that most offences are committed when cars are leaving the carpark and therefore no cameras are able to pick up registrations of any offending vehicles.

Officers were asked about issues regarding parking outside of schools during drop off/pick up times. Members were advised that PSCOs are monitoring the issues but they can only advise drivers of the risks of parking on zig zag areas and around the schools. It was suggested that it may be of benefit to request a parking enforcer to attend the sites.

Cllr K Hughes asked if there was a possibility of requesting that the police are involved in large planning applications particularly in Brackla but also in the Borough. PSCO Holly Tomlinson agreed and suggested that she will email her bosses for them to put a request in for future applications.

135. To agree Minutes of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Committee meetings held on 30th January 2024 and 8th February 2024 (NOT QUORATE).

Resolved:

The minutes were approved unanimously.

136. To agree Minutes of the Full Council Meeting dated 18th January 2024.

Resolved:

The minutes were approved unanimously.

137. To note Matters arising not addressed elsewhere on the agenda – Clerk’s Report.

Heating at the Community Centre

The boiler has now been replaced, is working well and groups have returned. It was advised that a recently completed Legionella Risk Assessment at the Community Centre will need to be undertaken again due to the change and this will be booked as soon as possible.

It was suggested by Cllr K Hughes to look into supplementary heating which will be covered under the Councils insurance just in case this happened again.

Update regarding application to Community Council Fund 2024/25

Work has commenced on the application by the Clerk and he and Cllr Hughes had recently met with Stuart Baldwin (Climate Change Response Officer) and Jess Hartley of BCBC to discuss the proposal. It was emphasised that this is very much a collaborative proposal that is meant to complement BCBC’s ongoing tree-planting schemes. Cllr Baldwin was in principle supportive of the application and kindly offered to review BCC’s draft submission. Brackla Community Council remains on course to submit the final application by 29th February 2024.

Attendance at Council Meetings

A recent meeting of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (WFG) Committee was inquorate, for the third time since October 2023. It was suggested that the 6pm start may be proving difficult for Members who currently work full-time. It was agreed that the next meeting of the WFG Committee will be held on Wednesday 28th February at the later time of 7pm via zoom.

Resolved:

It was agreed to hold future meetings at 6:30pm in an effort to increase Councillor attendance. This will be monitored and adjusted if necessary. It was also agreed to review committee structures in readiness for the Annual General Meeting in May 2024.

Benches

The Council have taken delivery of the 11 benches requested and licences have been received from BCBC. Two quotes have been received for the installation of the benches one for £1,100 by MS Property and the other for £1,200 from Mr Wayne Clark. Both are currently without any concrete slabs though these are estimated to cost around. Mr Clarke, did mention that if we wanted 8 x slabs (as he had previously used when installing the benches outside the Community Centre) the cost would be significantly higher.

Resolved:

Members unanimously agreed to go proceed with the quote received by MS Property for £1,100. The amount of slabs needed will be confirmed after visits to the sites.

Energy Efficiency Survey

BCBC have secured funding to enable 20 EESs to be undertaken over the next few months. They have agreed to include the Community Centre as one of the participants in the scheme at no cost to the Community Council. Further updates will be provided in due course.

Renovation of Community Centre Playground

Following the awarding of the contract to Sutcliffe Play South West Limited, work will commence in late March / early April 2024. Members asked if it was possible to request a schedule as to when work will be completed and if the park could remain open during the Easter Holidays whilst the schools are off.

Acknowledgement of recent s.137 Donation

The Council have received a letter of thanks from the Welsh Air Ambulance following their recent donation of £250.

138. Matters pertaining to Finance, Governance and Administration.

a. To receive YTD Financial Accounts as at 31st January 2024.

Resolved: The accounts were unanimously approved.

b. To note Bank reconciliation as at 31st January 2024.

Resolved: The bank reconciliation was unanimously approved.

c. To note Payments made during the previous month.

Resolved: The payments were unanimously approved

d. To approve Payment schedule as presented.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Cq No</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>
1.2.24	205325	235.74	Fire Safety Direct Ltd	Fire Equipment
1.2.24	326	65.00	Gunn Deliveries	1,000 leaflets
1.2.24	327	9,204.72	Centregreat Ltd	Christmas Lights Installation
1.2.24	328	4,914.32	Marmax Products	11 Benches
1.2.24	329	201.00	MS Property	Waste Removal
1.2.24	330	362.40	JRB Enterprises Ltd	20,000 x poop scoop bags
1.2.24	331	86.89	Konica Minolta	Photocopier
1.2.24	332	1,167.00	BCBC	Installation of Signs
1.2.24	333	6,152.21	CS Boxall Ltd	New Gas Boiler Centre
1.2.24	334	274.18	NWS Ltd	Excess Waste
1.2.24	335	907.07	NWS Ltd	Waste Collection
1.2.24	336	35.00	E Howard	Hall Hire Refund Bolier Broken
15.2.24	337	1,005.99	Admin Officer	Wages
15.2.24	338	353.86	Centre Caretaker	Wages
15.2.24	339	867.65	HMRC	Tax/NI
15.2.24	340	1,340.13	RCT	Pension
15.2.24	SO	1,154.84	RFO	Wages
15.2.24	SO	442.26	Centre Cleaner	Wages
15.2.24	SO	1,878.33	Clerk	Wages
15.1.24	341	1,708.83	MS Property	Grounds Maintenance

Resolved: The payments were unanimously approved

139. To receive an update regarding the Council's current waste collection contract and new commercial recycling obligations from April 2024.

The Clerk received a complaint regarding the bins at the bottom of the community centre carpark as they had not been emptied by the waste company on our scheduled collection date. There have been multiple issues with the company currently being used which have resulted in a number of complaints. A BCBC Environmental Health Officer was sent to the site following reports of rats, but they have since confirmed that there are no rats within the locality of the BCC bins and this will be reported back to the complainant.

The Clerk recently met with a representative from Plan B (the BCBC Contractor who are taking over from Kier) to discuss new legislation being introduced from 1st April 2024 which means that the Community Centre will now need to sort its waste for recycling. It was confirmed that waste from Council litter bins will not need to be sorted, however, any waste generated at Council events e.g. the Funday or Fireworks Display, will need to be sorted for recycling purposes.

The plan is to have clearly labelled bins inside the Centre which will be emptied into containers at the bottom of the Community Centre car park.

Quotes were sought for the following bins after a meeting with Plan B:

- 2 x 1,100 litre general-waste containers
- a 660 litre plastics & cans container
- a 660 litre paper & cardboard container
- a 35 litre glass caddy
- a 35 litre food bin

The following monthly quotes were received:

- £384.19 (59KG weight limit per bin; no excess per excess KG, but weights are monitored)
- £453.47 (60KG weight limit per bin, 35p per excess KG),
- £563
- £331.68 (80KG weight limit; 18p per excess KG)

Resolved:

It was unanimously agreed to go ahead with the quote of £331.68 (80KG weight limit; 18p per excess KG) that had been provided by Veolia. It was also agreed to seek quotes for a new bin storage unit in the Community Centre Centre car park.

140. A discussion regarding the repainting of the bus shelters on Brackla way by the crematorium roundabout – Cllr Caparros

Cllr E Caparros advised Members that he has requested a quote from BCBC to renovate the existing bus shelters on Church Acre. BCBC have asked if the Community Council are willing to make a contribution of around £1500-£1700 per shelter.

Resolved:

It was agreed that the shelters are BCBC's responsibility and that BCC will not contribute at the moment. It was agreed to look into other funding that might be available.

141. To receive Members' reports.

Cllr K Hughes advised that signs have appeared near the Haywain suggesting that the road will be closed for maintenance. Cllr J Spanswick confirmed that work will be done on the potholes around the Haywain roundabout and adjacent roads, on 3 consecutive Sundays starting on 25th February 2024. This is part of a list of work being carried out by BCBC in a number of locations. Cllr K Hughes asked Cllr J Spanswick if he could email Members further locations of works planned.

Cllr K Hughes also advised that the BCBC Planning Portal was once again not up to date and that the expiry date for applications was no longer included. He asked if BCBC Members could request that this is added back onto the website. It was suggested that following an email sent from the Clerk regarding the BCBC Feasibility Fund that this should be looked at by the Wellbeing of Future Generations Committee to see if the Council could apply for any further funding, possibly to help with ideas such as the renovation of the bus shelters referred to above.

Cllr L Lewis shared that all the daffodils that were planted have now started to bloom and suggested a map be created with all the locations of planting in the area.

Cllr J Spanswick advised that he recently met with BCBC officers who run the local youth club which meets every Friday at Brackla Community Centre. The session is the most popular in the whole of Bridgend and the group is keen to add a further session during the week. The Clerk advised that there are currently no other evenings available but that he has an ongoing dialogue with BCBC who will be advised if and when a slot becomes available. Cllr Spanswick also shared that funding was being sought to potentially start other youth clubs in the area for younger children.

Cllr E Caparros advised that communication should by now have been issued to residents with information regarding proposed tree cutting plans from BCBC.

142. To consider Planning Applications received since the last meeting:

a) SF21.08 - Raised Junction Plateau at Wyndham Close junction with Church Acre.

Resolved:

This application was noted

**b) P/23/762/FUL 30 Maes Dewi Pritchard, Brackla, CF31 2ET
Proposal: Single storey rear extension**

Resolved:

There were no objections to this application

**c) T/23/37/TPO 16 St Nons Close, Brackla, CF31 2BX
Coppice two Ash and two Thorn trees**

Resolved:

The report was very basic and there is insufficient information on the application currently. This should be investigated by the BCBC over and more evidence collected. It was agreed to note make any comments until further investigated, and that an extension should be requested to allow discussion at our next full Council meeting.

Date of the next meeting – Thursday, 21st March 2024