

## **PAGE 91**

Minutes of the **remote Full Council** held via Zoom video conferencing on, **Monday 26 April 2021** at 7-03pm.

**PRESENT:** - His Worship The Mayor Councillor John Wyn Williams (Chair), The Deputy Mayor Councillor Owen Hurcum

Councillors : Les Day, Luke Tugwell, Medwyn Hughes, George Turner, Enid Parry, Elin Walker Jones, John Martin, John Wynn Jones, Kieran Jones, Gwynant Roberts, Mair Rowlands

Officers:- Iwan Williams, City Director, Martin Hanks, Acting Town Clerk, Gwynfor Owen (Translator)

### **420/19 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dylan Fernley, Huw Wyn Jones, Gareth Roberts and Nigel Pickavance.

### **421/19 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION** None.

### **422/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** None.

### **423/19 ANNOUNCEMENTS/URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair informed the Council that Colin King has resigned as a City Councillor. A notice will be made public following the Senedd elections on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

### **424/19 MINUTES**

- a) Council Meeting – 8 March 2021 – To approve as a correct record – Page, 74,75 - **Approved**
- b) Council Meeting – 15 March 2021 – To approve as a correct record – Page 76,77 – **Approved**
- c) Planning & Amenities Committee – 15 March 2021 – To approve as a correct record – Page 78,79,80 – **Approved**
- d) Finance and General Purposes Committee – 29 March 2021 – To approve as a correct record Page 84,85 – Amendment proposed to f) Frân Wen proposal to Support ‘Y Nyth’ and g) Bangor Arts Initiative to Support ‘Light Up Gwynedd’. Representatives from both invited to attend the next Finance Committee meeting to provide details on how any Council financial support will be invested, but £5,000 each not set aside. **Approved**
- e) Planning & Amenities Committee – 29 March 2021 – To approve as a correct record - Page 84,85 – **Approved**
- f) Planning & Amenities Committee – 19 April 2021 – To approve as a correct record – Page 86,87 – **Approved**
- g) Staffing Committee – 19 April 2021 – To approve as a correct record – Page 88 - **Approved**

### **425/19 ELECTION OF MAYOR ELECT FOR 2021/22**

The Chair asked for nominations for the position of Mayor for 2021/22, two names were put forward. **RESOLVED:** Cllr Hurcum was elected as the Mayor of Bangor for the municipal year 2021/22. The Council congratulated Cllr Hurcum on their appointment.

### **426/19 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2021/22**

The Chair asked for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor for 2021/22, one name was put forward.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Gwynant Roberts was elected as the Deputy Mayor of Bangor for the municipal year 2021/22. The Council congratulated Cllr Roberts on his appointment.

#### **427/19 CITY DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

- **Governance and Structure Working Group:** The City Director informed the Council that a Working Group, including six members, met on 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April to discuss the future governance of the Council and agree on a new committee structure. A proposal was shared with the Council and included two new Executive Committees: Assets, Resources and Projects (10 members) and Governance, Staffing and Finance (10 members). Council members would be divided between these committees, with at least one member from every ward on both committees.

For the Planning Committee, it was also proposed to have 10 members on the Committee. The Planning Committee would only meet to discuss strategic applications (on the same evening as another Council/Committee meeting), with the City Director emailing members for any comments/observations on procedural applications before submitting these to Gwynedd Council. Where a Council member is not a member of one of these committees, then that member could attend the meeting and speak on a particular agenda item. However that member would not have a vote. Chairs and Deputy Chairs for these three committees would be voted by Committee members at the first Committee meeting, and they would serve a maximum of two years.

It was proposed that a review of the new structure is undertaken after six months.

**RESOLVED:** The new Council governance and committee structure was approved, with 10 votes in favour.

- **Meeting schedule 2021/22:** The City Director had shared a provisional timetable with members prior to the Council meeting, and based on the new committee structure previously discussed. It was suggested that the schedule is approved at the Annual Meeting. **RESOLVED:** Meeting schedule for 2021/22 to be approved at the Annual Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May.
- **Covid-19: Future use of Penrhyn Hall:** The City Director informed the Council that Welsh Government guidelines mean that from 3<sup>rd</sup> May, organised indoor activities for adults can recommence for up to 15 people. Up to 15 people can therefore attend the Annual Meeting in Penrhyn Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> May, with others joining remotely via Zoom. From 17<sup>th</sup> May, limits on organised activities increases to 30 people indoors. In line with the work of the Governance and Structure Working Group, the City Director suggested that future Council meetings are held in Penrhyn Hall, with future Committee meetings continuing via Zoom. For Council meetings, a hybrid format was proposed i.e. some members in Penrhyn Hall with others joining via Zoom. The City Director added that discussions with the translator would be needed to work out how translation arrangements would work in a hybrid setting.
- **Return of Bangor Outdoor Market:** The City Director informed the Council that discussions are taking place with stallholders regarding the return of an outdoor market around the Tower Clock, working towards a June date.
- **CCTV agreement with Gwynedd Council:** The City Director informed the Council that a three year Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Gwynedd Council had been received, along with a request to cover the annual £8,830 costs for the CCTV network in Bangor. The Council discussed whether mobile CCTV facilities could be introduced to different parts of Bangor, reacting to any incidents of crime or anti-social behaviour in particular areas. CCTV coverage for the Pier was also suggested. **RESOLVED:** The City Director to sign the SLA on behalf of the Council, agree to cover the annual costs and to make enquiries regarding mobile CCTV facilities and coverage for the Pier.
- **Mayor Twitter Account proposal:** The City Director presented the proposal to the Council. A Twitter Account would be a new way for the Council to communicate its work with the public and promote its achievements along with positive developments taking place in Bangor. The Deputy Mayor added that the account would be fully bilingual and apolitical, and would be there for future Mayors to use. It was suggested that a Bangor City Council Twitter account could be another option, rather than solely for the Mayor. It was also suggested whether a Bangor City Council Facebook account would be an and/or option. The proposal to have Bangor City Council

Twitter and Facebook accounts was supported and accepted. There was support to trial the proposal and review it in the near future. There was also an amendment put forward to reject the proposal, on the grounds of the negativity associated with social media and questions around the added value of having such accounts.

Vote: On the amendment to reject the proposal, 2 in favour and 9 against.

Vote: On the proposal to set up Bangor City Council Twitter and Facebook accounts, 8 in favour and 2 against.

**RESOLVED:** Bangor City Council to set up Twitter and Facebook accounts following the Annual Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May.

- **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons:** The City Director informed the Council that letters had been received from the United Nations Association Menai branch and the Bangor Quakers Meeting to support the Treaty. The two requests for action were to join the international campaign and sign the 'Cities Appeal', and to call on the UK Government to sign and approve the Treaty. The Deputy Mayor and Councillors Day and Walker Jones agreed that the Council should set an example and support the Treaty. **RESOLVED:** The Council agreed to support the Treaty and accept the requests for action, with 10 votes in favour.
- **Bird of Prey Bangor visit proposal:** The City Director informed the Council that a proposal had been made to have the Bird of Prey visiting Bangor again to address the seagull problem, particularly around the High Street. It was proposed that the Bird of Prey would visit Bangor on 28/29 April and 6/7 May. It was suggested that the Bird of Prey visits different parts of the city, and it was also mentioned that seagulls are particularly problematic around the Deiniol and Menai Centres. **RESOLVED:** The Council agreed to the Bird of Prey Bangor visit proposal in April/May, with 10 votes in favour.

#### **428/19 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT**

The City Director informed the Council that the invoices had been approved for payment by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as detailed on the schedule totalling £34,125-89. The City Director explained that the invoices total was higher than usual as they included the Council Insurance policy for 2021/22 totalling £18,001.

#### **429/19 SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS**

None.

The Meeting closed at 8-31pm