

Minutes of the meeting of Bangor City Council held at Penrhyn Hall on **11<sup>th</sup> September 2023** at 6.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** - Her Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Elin Walker Jones; Cllr. Gareth Parry (Deputy Mayor), Cllr. Steve Bell, Cllr. Dylan Fernley, Cllr. Medwyn Hughes, Cllr. Huw Wyn Jones, Cllr. Shane Parsons, Cllr. Meic Pattison, Cllr. Eirian Williams Roberts, Cllr. Gwynant Roberts, Cllr. Mark Roberts, Cllr. L. Toth.

Officers:- Martin Hanks (City Director), Carwyn (Council Administrator), Sioned Jones (Translator) and one Member of the Public.

**44/23 APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Salamatu Fada, Cllr. John Wynn Jones, Cllr. Nigel Pickavance, Cllr. Delyth Russell, Cllr Gareth Roberts & Cllr John Wyn Williams.

#### **45/23 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION**

Cllr Eirian Williams Roberts declared an interest in item 9(i), as she is a Member of the organisation. She took no part in the debate or voting.

Cllr Michael Pattinson and Cllr Elin Walker Jones declared an interest in item 9(ii) as they are Members of the organisation applying. Neither took any part in the debate or the vote on the item.

#### **46/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Council received a presentation on Climate Emergency by local representatives. The presentation detailed the current deteriorating global situation and proposed actions that could be taken locally that would begin to address the situation. The Council was encouraged to engage with the Race to Zero.

Following a short question and answer session the representatives were thanked by the Mayor for the presentation.

#### **47/23 CITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*Report circulated before the meeting.*

The City Director's report had been pre-circulated in advance of the meeting. The Report updated the Council on current initiatives and events. It highlighted the success of the Mayor's Clean-up Day and the Summer Festival and reported that a financial report for the Summer Festival will be prepared and presented at the next meeting. It was highlighted that the Human Bridges Art Exhibition opened in connection with the arrival of the delegation from Soest at the end of the month, is now open in Storiell. The Director highlighted the long-standing hard work of one particular Soest official to the Twinning project. The City Director announced that the Cathedral was hosting the annual Battle of Britain commemoration service on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> September and all Councillors were invited to attend. As neither the Mayor nor Deputy Mayor were available it was requested that any Councillor who was willing to host the visiting dignitaries on behalf of the Council to please advise the Director. Finally, the Council was reminded that a Councillor training course had been arranged for Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30 pm.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To accept the City Director's Report and to award Petra Menke Koerner with a Civic Award.

**48/23 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the Council Meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

**49/23 TO APPROVE THE INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT.**

*The Internal Audit Report had been pre-distributed in advance of the meeting.*

The City Director presented the Internal Audit Report of the Council and discussed the minor issues raised and how these issues were to be addressed.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to accept the Internal Audit Report.

**50/23 TO APPROVE COUNCIL DOCUMENTS**

*The five Council documents had been pre-circulated.*

It was reported that the Press and Media Policy and the Social Media Policy were updates of previous policies while the remaining documents were newly prepared.

The documents presented were:

- 1) 2023-2024 Annual Report
- 2) Press & Media Policy
- 3) Social Media Policy
- 4) Training and Development Policy
- 5) Training and Development Plan

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the documents as presented.

**51/23 TO APPROVE THE RE-ORGANISATION OF THE COUNCIL STRUCTURE AND TO ESTABLISH SUB-COMMITTEES.**

The Council was advised that, due to an amendment in the initial proposal, there was no great change envisaged for the Council Committees as suggested in the Agenda heading. It was proposed that the Council would benefit from the establishment of a Finance and Oversight Committee. Such a committee would meet quarterly (or as required) and consist of former Mayors. Its primary function would be to scrutinise the Council's payments and financial reports. A detailed discussion ensued.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the establishment of a Finance and Oversight Committee, as a concept, subject to acceptance of the Terms of Reference, which would be presented to the Council at the next meeting.

**52/23 TO APPROVE A GRANT TO SUPPORT.**

Request for grant funding for St David's Day 2024 and Showzone was presented to the Council.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:**

- i) To award Showzone a grant of £500 to cover costs for transportation to and from the children to events.

Cllr Eirian Williams Roberts declared an interest in item 9(i), as she is a Member of the organisation. She took no part in the debate or voting.

- ii) To award the St David's Day Parade a grant of 50% of the cost up to a maximum of £2,000.

Cllr Michael Pattinson and Cllr Elin Walker Jones declared an interest in item 9(ii) as they are Members of the organisation applying. Neither took any part in the debate or the vote on the item.

### **53/23 TO DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL THIRD CROSSING OF THE MENAI.**

While there was still some confusion as to whether this project had been postponed, it was noted that, to date, no communication had been received on the subject. It was acknowledged that the establishment of a 3<sup>rd</sup> crossing would have an impact on the City and as such, it was suggested that the Council should obtain any relevant information and it should be kept apprised of developments.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to ask the City Director to contact the Welsh Government and request that the City Council be kept apprised of any developments.

### **54/23 TO APPROVE THE FUNDING OF THE BANGOR APP**

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

### **55/23 SIGNAGE PROJECT – CONFIRM MAP OPTIONS**

The Council were again asked to discuss the five map options connected to the new Signage Project. Overall, the Council were somewhat underwhelmed by the options but eventually made its choice

#### **IT WAS RESOLVED:**

- i) to proceed with the colour scheme in map option 2 and the building representation in map option 3.
- ii) Write to the supplier and request clarification on a number of issues, including some spelling errors, colour separations etc.

### **56/23 PLANNING APPLICATION**

- i) Planning application C23/0666/11/CR To retrospectively approve the removal of internal fittings from St David's Church, Caernarfon Road.  
The Council unanimously opposed this application. It resolved to highlight the loss of these fittings to the historic heritage of the local community and Bangor as a whole and the Council were disappointed the destination of the fittings is unknown.
- ii) Planning application C23/0679/11/TC To remove existing windows and to remove and replace a section of the curtain wall in the Deiniol Building.  
There were no objections

### **57/23 To Approve Payments**

This item was deferred.

**The meeting ended at 8.55 pm**  
CYFARWYDDWR DINESIG – Martin Hanks – CITY DIRECTOR