

Minutes of the meeting of Bangor City Council that was held at Penrhyn Hall on **12th February 2024** at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: - Deputy Mayor Cllr. Gareth Parry (Chair), Cllr. Steve Bell, Cllr. Dylan Fernley, Cllr. Medwyn Hughes, Cllr. Huw Wyn Jones, Cllr. John Wyn Jones, Cllr. Eirian Williams Roberts, Cllr. Gwynant Roberts, Cllr. Mark Roberts, Cllr. Delyth Russell, Cllr. L. Toth, Cllr. John Wyn Williams.

Officers:- Martin Hanks (City Director), Llinos F. Jones, (Deputy City Director) and Sioned Jones (Translator).

114/23 APOLOGIES: Her Worship the Mayor Cllr. Elin Walker Jones, Cllr. Salamatu Fada, Cllr. Meic Pattison.

115/23 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION.

None

116/23 TO CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLORS.

The Council received a brief presentation from a prospective Menai Ward Councillor, Beverley Jones.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to co-opt Beverley Jones to the vacant Menai Ward seat.

117/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

None

118/23 CITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

The Report had been circulated before the meeting.

The Director reported that the Transforming Towns project to improve the image of the High Street was now well underway and work had begun on identifying further stages of the project in preparation for beginning a search for outside funding. It was reported that the Council still had a vacant seat in the Marchog Ward and given the time that had elapsed since the publication of the original notices, there would be a re-publication over the coming week or so. Further to the resolution of the last meeting to apply for the General Power of Competence, the Director reported that he had a meeting with One Voice Wales later in the week to move the application forward. Councillors attention was drawn to the latest Map options supplied by ABG Design (included in the pre-circulated Report) and comments were requested by the end of the week (i.e. 16th February 2024).

IT WAS RESOLVED: To accept the City Director's Report.

119/23 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE

- i) **15th January 2024.**
- ii) **22nd January 2024**

The minutes of both meetings had been pre-circulated to Councillors.

- i) **IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes of the 15th January 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
- ii) **IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes of the 24th January 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

120/23 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE DECARBONISATION WORKING GROUP.

The Council received an update and presentation from the Decarbonisation Working Group. The presentation highlighted the Council's ambition to lead by example and effect change both directly and indirectly. Some of the suggested actions to assist it in achieving this goal, included training for staff and Councillors, the undertaking of an energy audit of buildings and the adoption of sustainable projects. The group also proposed the adoption of the following resolution:

"Cyngor Dinas Bangor (CDB / the Council) recognises that the climate is changing, that this is caused by human factors, and that it will impact the people of Bangor. The Council further recognises that alongside and linked to this Climate Crisis we are responsible for a Nature Crisis. The Council notes that the Welsh Government has declared a Climate Emergency and a Nature Emergency (2019 & 2021) and that Cyngor Gwynedd published its Climate and Nature Emergency plan in 2022 and the City Council endorses these calls to action."

IT WAS RESOLVED: to adopt the resolution and to thank the working group for its efforts to date.

121/23 TO APPOINT AN ADDITIONAL MEMBER TO THE STAFFING COMMITTEE.

Following the recent resignation of one of the Members of the City Council's Staffing Committee, it was requested that any Councillor who was willing to serve on the Committee make themselves known. Three Councillors offered to stand for the vacancy. These three Councillors left the room and a vote was taken.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to appoint Cllr Russell to the Staffing Committee.

122/23 TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR BANGOR 2025 CELEBRATIONS.

In 2025 St Deiniol's Cathedral will celebrate its 1500th year since its establishment, in 525 AD. By extension, Bangor as a location will also celebrate 1500 years of its existence. Although, it is acknowledged there is a view that there may have been a settlement in the location earlier than this. The Council were advised that, following consultations with the Lord Lieutenant of Gwynedd, the University and the Cathedral, there was the possibility of a Royal visit to the City in that year. As well as this, the Council felt that this was an opportunity to promote Bangor and to organise a series of events that would entertain citizens and attract visitors.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to hold a workshop to explore possibilities for the 2025 Celebrations.

123/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

- i. C24/0041/11/DT - Application re-submission for new gable end, this time with no window at 14 Rhodfa Belmont, Bangor 60 Ffordd Ffriddoedd, Bangor.

No objection

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm

CYFARWYDDWR DINESIG – Martin Hanks – CITY DIRECTOR