

Minutes of the meeting of Bangor City Council held at Penrhyn Hall and via Teams video conferencing on **2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026** at 6.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** - His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Medwyn Hughes (Chair), Cllr. Steve Bell, Cllr. Salamatu Fada, Cllr. Dylan Fernley, Cllr. John Wynn Jones, Cllr. Elin Walker Jones, Cllr. Huw Wyn Jones, Cllr. Sam Njoku, Cllr. Gareth Parry, Cllr. Nigel Pickavance, Cllr. Nick Pritchard, Cllr. Mustakim Raza, Cllr. Eirian Williams Roberts, Cllr. Jackie Spence, Cllr. Lisa Toth & Cllr. John Wyn Williams.

**Officers:-** Martin Hanks (City Director), Carwyn Davies (Administrative Officer) & Sioned Jones (Translator).

**59/25 APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Gareth Roberts, Cllr. Gwynant Roberts & Cllr. Delyth Russell.

**60/25 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION**

None

**61/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**62/25 TO APPROVE THE 2026-2027 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET**

*Reports provided by the City Director before the meeting.*

The Chair of the Finance Committee addressed the Council and reported that the Finance Committee had scrutinised three potential variants to the 2026-2027 Income and Expenditure Budget and had resolved to recommend this variant to Council.

The City Director gave a general overview of the prepared budget and reported on some of the major points of planned expenditure and on significant changes to budgets from previous years.

The Council asked for clarification on a number of budget lines and on the differences between this, the Finance Committee approved option, and the other options discussed by the committee.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to accept the 2026-2027 budget as presented.

**63/25 TO AGREE THE 2026-2027 PRECEPT**

Following discussions on the above item.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To set the 2026-2027 precept with an increase of 5% on the previous year. This represented an increase of around £0.59 a month for a Band D household.

**64/25 TO APPROVE THE ADOPTION & RUNNING OF HIRAEI COMMUNITY CENTRE**

It was reported that the Hiraei Community Centre was closing down, due to the retirement of the long standing manager and, despite repeated efforts, the absence of anyone willing to take on the role.

The Council were advised that this was a semi-active community centre with a healthy bank balance and low financial overheads, meaning that there would not be any financial drain on the Council in the foreseeable future.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To adopt the Community Centre to ensure its continued availability.

#### **65/25 TO DISCUSS A 2029 CITY/TOWN OF CULTURE APPLICATION**

It was conveyed to Council that applications for the 2029 City of Culture were open. However, following recent meetings with Gwynedd Officers, which had led on the previous application, it was apparent that, due to the population numbers required to make such an application worthwhile, such an application would need to be a regional one led by Cyngor Gwynedd.

However, it was further relayed that, this year, a new category had been opened, that being for Town of Culture. An application to this category could be led by Bangor, as the population numbers could be much lower. It was reported that Bangor University are willing to jointly lead with an application with the City Council.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that Bangor City Council should jointly lead the City on a Town of Culture application with Bangor University.

**The meeting ended at 7.20 pm**

**CYFARWYDDWR DINESIG – Martin Hanks – CITY DIRECTOR**