

Minutes of the meeting of Bangor City Council held at Penrhyn Hall and via Teams video-conferencing on **22 July 2024** at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: - His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Gareth Parry (Chair) Cllr. Medwyn Hughes (Deputy Mayor), Cllr. Salamatu Fada, Cllr. Dylan Fernley, Cllr. Elin Walker Jones, Cllr. John Wynn Jones, Cllr. Meic Pattison, Cllr. Gwynant Roberts, Cllr. Mark Roberts, Cllr. Delyth Russell, Cllr. Lisa Toth.

Officers:- Martin Hanks (City Director), Sioned Jones (Translator).

39/24 APOLOGIES: Cllr. Steve Bell, Cllr Beverley Jones, Cllr. Huw Wyn Jones, Cllr. Nigel Pickavance, Cllr. Eirian Williams Roberts.

40/24 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION

Cllrs Elin Walker Jones, John Wyn Jones and Meic Pattison declared an interest in item 46/24 as they are Members of the Menter Iaith Bangor Committee and therefore refrained from voting.

41/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Council received a presentation on the proposed Bangor Tradewinds project. This project is putting together a City-wide partnership to combat local child poverty and to reduce disengagement, alienation and absenteeism from schools. To achieve this it is planned to establish a Maritime Learning Centre via a Heritage Lottery Fund grant. The City Council was asked to be the Institutional base for the project.

Following the fifteen-minute presentation a question and answer session ensued. The Council thanked the representative for the informative information.

42/24 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 22nd OF JUNE 2024.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the meeting of the 22nd June 2024 as a true and accurate record of the Council Meeting. However, it was proposed that an additional notation was added to record that, due to equipment fault, the Council's wifi had failed and it had not been possible to run a hybrid meeting.

43/24 CITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The City Director's report had been circulated before the meeting.

The City Director's report, which detailed updates on Council initiatives and projects, had been pre-circulated in advance of the meeting. Of the items in the Report, the Director drew the Council's attention to the following:

- i) Item v, following the successful completion of the High Street project in a short time period the Welsh Government, via Cyngor Gwynedd, had advised the City Council that there is additional funds in the Transforming Towns budget, should the Council have further projects that could be completed by March 2025.
- ii) In conjunction with the Chair of Assets, Cllr Medwyn Hughes, a very successful meeting was held with Mr Staffan Jones of Cyngor Gwynedd to discuss the image of the City. New initiatives and joint working practices were discussed and it was

agreed that Bangor would run a trial project that, if successful, would be rolled out across the County.

- iii) Ynni Ogwen had agreed to fund the installation of solar power to Penrhyn Hall.
- iv) Councillors were asked to familiarise themselves with items iv & xv, the consultation for the new LDP and Cyngor Gwynedd's proposal to change its voting system. Paperwork for each was included in the meeting pack and the Council was advised that both items will be included in September's Agenda.

44/24 TO ACCEPT THE 3 MONTHS BUDGET ACTUAL REPORT

The 3 Months Budget versus Actual Report had been pre-circulated for consideration.

The (temporary) Chair of the Finance Committee presented the 3 Months Budget Versus Actual Report to the Council with a recommendation that, following that committee's evaluation, the report be accepted. The RFO highlighted that this report had been prepared in a different format to that used in previous years for ease of understanding.

Resolved: to recommend acceptance of the 3 Months Budget versus Actual Report.

45/24 TO NOMINATE A CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CONTRACTOR FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

Three quotations to supply Christmas Lights for the next three years were compared based on price, content, recyclable materials used, and whether they supply other Councils locally. The name of each supplier was anonymized to ensure fairness. The quotations had been evaluated by the Finance Committee and the Council was advised that the Committee recommended option 2.

Resolved: to appoint supplier 2 as the Council's supplier for the next three years.

*Undisclosed at the meeting was that supplier 2 was Blachere Illuminations.

46/24 TO DISCUSS ST DAVID'S DAY 2025 GRANT

The Council was advised by the (temporary) Chair of Finance that the committee had discussed the level of grant for Menter Iaith Bangor for St David's Day 2025. It concluded that it would be happy to increase the grant to MIB to allow for an expanded St David's Day celebration, given that the City would be celebrating 1500 years since the establishment of St Deiniol's religious settlement. However, it was decided to defer the final recommendation until the application form was received.

47/24 TO EVALUATE A GRANT APPLICATION FROM ACTION FOR CHILDREN

The grant application form had been pre-circulated to Members

The Council was advised that following a detailed and extensive discussion of this application by the Finance Committee, it was resolved that there was insufficient detail to recommend its acceptance. Concerns were raised that this project should be funded via statutory bodies and was not within the remit of a community council, also there were insufficient details on what the grant money to the National body would be spent on and how the remained requirements were to the met. Neither was the committee convinced that there was a guarantee that all the money would be spent in Bangor.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to reject the application at this time.

48/24 REQUEST TO MAKE ALTERATIONS FROM NANTPORTH CIC

It was reported that a retrospective request had been received from Nantporth CIC to make alterations to Nantporth Stadium. These alterations included the addition of cladding to the

parts of the exterior of the building, the refurbishment of the interior, upgrade work on the external fencing, and improvements to the football pitch. The City Director reported that since receiving the request, he had visited the stadium and confirmed that, visually, the changes were a significant visual upgrade. He further reported that the CIC had been advised that, such changes should have been requested in advance of the work being undertaken. This had been acknowledged and an apology made.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the alteration request but ask that, in keeping with the City Council's bilingual policy, the stadium signage be erected in both Welsh as well as English.

49/24 PLANNING APPLICATION

Planning application C24/0527/11/LL to change the use of 104 High Street from commercial usage into a single dwelling.

There were no objections.

The meeting ended at 7.45pm

CYFARWYDDWR DINESIG – Martin Hanks – CITY DIRECTOR