

## **BARRY TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 12 JULY 2010 COMMENCING AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor K Kuhnell (Town Mayor), together with Councillors B Brooks, O Cash, G D Davey, S Egan, J Evans, H C Hamilton, N P Hodges, S A Hodges, K A Kemp, L M Payne, B I Shaw, T C Stenstrom, C T Turner

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Derek Wolfe – Executive Officer  
Cliff Lewis – Deputy Executive Officer  
Mark Sims – Responsible Finance Officer  
Angie Norman – Administration

#### 292. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Drake, K Evans, K Lewis, S T Wiliam and E T Wiliam

#### 293. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor K Kuhnell declared a personal interest in relation to all agenda items regarding the Memorial Hall & Theatre Trust by virtue of being Trustee.

#### 294. **MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 10 AND 11 MAY 2010**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Council's Annual Meeting held on 10 and 11 May be approved subject to the following amendment:-

Minute no. 263 (1) – be amended as follows:-

Councillor Bronwen Brooks – nominated by Councillor J Evans and seconded by Councillor Stenstrom.

#### 295. **POLICE REPORT**

The Mayor welcomed Inspector Louise Davies to the meeting. Inspector Davies provided Council with an update on crime figures for the past 12 months advising that all crime for the year to March 2010 was down by 12%. She advised that Barry Police had been running several operations within Barry, Operation Heat – an operation to crack down on problems experienced on Barry Island during the hot weather, Operation Clematis – an operation to stop handbag thefts in the town centre and operation Electric – to clamp down on rouge traders. She advised that various other operations had taken place and that several arrests had been made as a result.

Councillor Kuhnell advised Insp. Davies that he had been made aware that speeding motorists were being used to disguise the noise made by cutting equipment being used to remove various industrial items from sites on Hayes

Road. Councillor Payne enquired about burglaries that she had been advised of occurring in Palmerston, Insp. Davies advised Councillor Payne that she would investigate the problem and respond to Councillor Payne directly. Councillor Hodges praised Insp. Davies on operation Heat and its success. He then enquired whether she considered the closure of Barry Magistrates Court would have a detrimental effect on Barry, she did not believe this to be the case. Insp. Davies advised members that following the closure of the Bridewell Suite a bail clinic had been established in Barry. An enquiry was made into how the Police deal with abandon vehicles, Insp. Davies advised that unless the vehicle had been reported stolen or were in a dangerous location or condition then the removal of abandon vehicles was the responsibility of the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

296. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor advised Members that his Civic Service would be held on Sunday, 18 July and that he hoped to see as many there as possible. He also advised Members that the Council had been highly commended in the recent Biodiversity Awards for the biodiversity project in Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery.

As a result of the recent Priministerial elections in Australia and the election of Julia Gillard, the Mayor advised that he had been contacted by various media organisations in Australia and that he had given several live interviews regarding this. Councillor Egan advised that an email had been sent to Mrs Gillard but he considered a formal letter should be sent along with a Town Plaque.

**RESOLVED:** that a formal letter of congratulations be sent to Mrs Gillard, the newly elected Priminister of Australia, from the Mayor, along with a Town Plaque.

297. **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

None

298. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

None

299. **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 MAY 2010**

It was proposed by Councillor Brooks, seconded by Councillor S A Hodges and:-

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Committee's meetings be received and noted.

300. **MINUTES OF AN AD-HOC APPOINTMENTS PANEL MEETING HELD ON 18 MAY 2010**

It was proposed by Councillor Egan, seconded by Councillor Stenstrom and:-

**RESOLVED:**

1. that the minutes of the meeting be received and noted subject to the following amendment:-

Minute No. CAT56(1) – that candidates be offered the position of HR/Personnel Advisor in order of preference in line with the results of the scoring process followed at the interviews.

2. that an informal meeting be arranged as a matter of urgency and no later than the end of July, between Councillors and the successful candidate to allow Councillors to advise them of the matters considered to be priorities in their role as HR/Personnel Advisor.

301. **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE, POLICY & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 7 JUNE 2010**

It was proposed by Councillor Stenstrom, seconded by Councillor Davey and:-

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee's meeting be received and noted.

302. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 8 JUNE AND 6 JULY 2010**

It was proposed by Councillor Payne, seconded by Councillor Stenstrom and

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Planning Committee's meetings be received and noted.

Councillor Stenstrom sought that the Planning Committee minutes of 6 July be referred back on the grounds of the recommendation contained within the minutes. He stated that within the Terms of Reference the Committee could not make a decision on this item and that it would have to be defined how to deal with this matter. The Executive Officer stated that he would append the item to the minutes of Council for Council to decide. Councillor Stenstrom indicated that this was not the way to deal with this matter, and stated that the minutes of the meeting of Finance, Policy & General Purposes Minute F158 of 3 March 2008 confirmed at a meeting on 7 April 2008 and Minute 301 at the Annual Meeting of 10 May. These minutes were to avoid the frustration of the Council Business. Councillor Payne confirmed that as she was unaware of the contents, she would not have agreed to this action. Councillor Egan concurred with Councillor Stenstrom and suggested that the item be sent out to Councillors for a quick response and that the Urgency Committee meet, with delegated powers, to respond on the proposed Welsh Medium Schools in

the Vale of Glamorgan, taking into consideration that some members of the Urgency Committee may be Governors of Welsh Medium Schools and therefore may have to provide a substitute for the Urgency Committee on this occasion.

**RESOLVED:** that a date be identified to enable the Urgency Committee to consider the proposals on Welsh Medium Schools in the Vale of Glamorgan.

303. **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 JUNE 2010**

The Executive Officer pointed out that minute no R119 contained a recommendation for the Council's consideration. However, Councillors felt that the subject of the recommendation did not require a decision by the Council, asking that when the minutes were considered by the Committee at its next meeting, the word "recommended" be changed to "resolved".

It was proposed by Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor J Evans and

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Resources Committee be received and noted.

304. **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS FOR JULY 2010**

**RESOLVED:** that the schedule of payments for July 2010 consisting of direct debits and cheques numbered 106088 to 106131 in the total sum of £70,391.58 be approved, subject to the necessary paperwork being in order.

305. **DRAFT TOWN COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2009/10**

**RESOLVED:** that the draft financial statements and the annual return for the year ending 31 March 2010 be approved, prior to their submission to the external auditors Mazars LLP.

306. **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT**

a. **Complaints Wales Consultation – Proposals for a Common Complaints System**

Councillors were requested to comment on the Complaints Wales Consultation proposal for a common complaints system for public service providers in Wales, noting that the deadline for the receipt of responses by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales was Friday, 23 July 2010.

Councillor Egan stated that he agreed with the principle of the procedure but considered that a rider should be added as follows:-

“If a specific ICT system was to be considered then it should be taken into consideration that some Town and Community Councils may not be able to afford such a system.”

**RESOLVED:** that the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales be advised that this Council agreed in principle with the introduction of a Common Complaints System but that If a specific ICT system was to be considered then it should be taken into consideration that some Town and Community Councils may not be able to afford such a system.

b. **Initial Proposals by the Working Party to Review the Management and Performance of the Town Council’s Operations**

Members were provided with an update on items discussed by the Council’s Working Party to Review the Management and Performance of the Town Council’s Operations. They were advised that the Working Party had discussed various matters and requested the Council’s permission to pursue a number of items, those being:-

1. devolution of responsibility for the Gladstone Annex (Blind Park);
2. devolution of responsibility for allotments adjacent to the Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery;
3. that a proposal be made to the Community Liaison Committee on whether this Council would be able to take on consultations for conservations areas in Barry;
4. schools awards.

Councillor Stenstrom provide some further detailed information on the above items. It was suggested that it might be useful for the Council to reconsider signing up to the Charter between Town and Community Councils and the Vale of Glamorgan Council. It was therefore **RESOLVED:**

1. that the Working Party be authorised to investigate these matters further and report back to the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee in September;
2. that the Working Party be given delegated authority to consider and determine the matter of this Council signing up to a Charter with the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

c. **FINANCIAL REPORT AND COSTINGS FOR NEW COUNCIL VEHICLE**

Councillors considered a report on the cost of a new Council vehicle based on the type of vehicle agreed at previous meetings. Following a brief discussion it was **RESOLVED:**

1. that a new vehicle be purchased for use on the public highway and that the current Council vehicle be used only within the cemetery grounds;
2. that the Deputy Executive Officer be authorised to purchase a new Council vehicle at a cost of up to £7,000 plus VAT and that this vehicle be either a Ford or a Vauxhall.

307. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** to note that the next meeting of Full Council was scheduled for Monday, 15 November 2010.

308. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** that in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

310. **NEW FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BARRY TOWN COUNCIL AND THE MEMORIAL HALL AND THEATRE TRUST 2010/15**

The Council was requested to agree in principle to the proposed grants agreement between Barry Town Council and the Memorial Hall & Theatre Trust covering the period to 31 March 2015. Councillors were provided with an outline of the proposed new five year agreement in respect of staff working in the Memorial Hall & Theatre. They were also advised of various discussion points that had arisen between the two parties.

Concerns were raised with regard to staff who may not wish to transfer from the employ of the Council to that of the Memorial Hall & Theatre. The Leader advised that should any posts become available within other Town Council staffing divisions between now and September they would be frozen until they could be offered to staff within the Memorial Hall & Theatre who did not wish to transfer.

**RESOLVED:**

1. that the figures provided in the report with regard to the new five year agreement for the period 2010/11 – 2014/15 be approved;
2. that the transfer of staff from the employ of Barry Town Council to the Memorial Hall & Theatre Trust take effect from 1 September 2010 with the agreement of the Memorial Hall & Theatre Trust;
3. that the Council agree to act as guarantors for the pension scheme;
4. that the Council and Trust representatives meet very soon in an attempt to iron out the remaining details of the transfer;

5. that once the details of the transfer had been ironed out the matter be referred back to Full Council for consideration;
6. that the term "Funding" be changed to "Grant Allocation";
7. that as the Council had representatives on the Management Committee who could report back it would no longer be a necessary to have an observer at Trust meetings.

311. **ACCEPTANCE OF QUOTATIONS – CHRISTMAS LIGHTING IN BROAD STREET/HIGH STREET**

Members were advised that the Executive Officer had not received all the necessary quotes from a third party to enable him to provide a comparison on the various options open to the Council with regard to Christmas lighting for Broad Street and High Street.

**RESOLVED:**

1. that this matter be referred to the Working Party due to meet on 15 July 2010 and that the Working Party be given power to act;
2. that a budget of £8,000 per year for three years be allocated for the provision of Christmas lighting in Broad Street and High Streets;

312. **CEMETERY EXTENSION WORKS PHASE 1 – TENDER ACCEPTANCE REPORT**

The Council received a report on the outcome of the recent tender exercise for the cemetery extension Phase One project which sought the Council's authority to accept the lowest tender as recommended by those Councillors present at the opening of tenders.

It was reported that all tenders received had been very competitively priced and it was **RESOLVED:**

1. that Richard Dyke be awarded the contract to carry out the cemetery extension works phase 1 at a cost of £107,538.42;
2. that the Deputy Executive Officer be asked to obtain quotes for the provision and installation of a permanent security fence to replace existing temporary fencing for submission to the Amenities Committee for consideration and referral to the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee if necessary.

The meeting ended at 9.02pm.

Signed ..... Dated .....  
(Town Mayor)