

BARRY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2009 COMMENCING AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor B Brooks (Chairperson) together with Councillors J Evans, K Evans, A D Hampton, N P Hodges S A Hodges, K Kuhnell, K Lewis and B I Shaw

ALSO PRESENT: Cliff Lewis – Deputy Executive Officer
Angie Norman – Administration

A97. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors O Cash and P Drake

A98. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

A99. **MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES LAST MEETING HELD ON 14 SEPTEMBER 2009**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Amenities Committee's last meeting held on 14 September 2009 be approved and signed as a correct record.

A100. **PIONEER HALL**

a. **Comparison of Bookings (1 April 2008 – 31 October 2009)**

RESOLVED: that the report be received and noted.

b. **Activities Report (1 September – 31 October 2009)**

RESOLVED:

1. that the report be received and noted.
2. the urgent actions in relation to the periodical test at the Pioneer Hall be agreed to ensure that the Council complies with the 17th edition of the Electrical Test and Inspections and that the Deputy Executive Officer make the necessary arrangements for these works to be carried out by Lee Beesley as soon as possible.

A101. **CEMETERIES**

a. **Comparison of Burials (1 April 2008 - 31 October 2009)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be received and noted;
2. That the Deputy Executive Officer investigates ways to publicise the usage of the Chapel and increase the revenue by offering the chapel for use to support groups such as bereavement counselling services and SANDS and that he submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee.

b. **Activities Report (1 September – 31 October 2009)**

RESOLVED:

1. that the report be received and noted;
2. that the Deputy Executive Officer speak to Gaynor Williams of SEM Services for advice on the type of native plants and seeds the Council could purchase to encourage wildlife within the pond area.

c. **Update of Biodiversity**

RESOLVED:

1. that the report be received and noted;
2. that a date be identified for an official opening of the pond by the Mayor in conjunction with the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council (in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Vale of Glamorgan CASH Scheme);
3. all Councillors be encouraged to attend a site visit;
4. that local schools be invited to take part in any planting scheme within the biodiversity area.

A102. **TRANSFER OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS OF BURIALS (378-406)**

RESOLVED: that in accordance with Standing Order 68, authority be given for the Council's Common Seal to be applied to Deed Transfers numbered 378-406 inclusive, granting the exclusive right of burial to those named on each transfer.

A103. **GRANTS OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL (12938-12979)**

RESOLVED: that in accordance with Standing Order 68, authority be given for the Council's Common Seal to be applied to Deeds numbered 12938-12979 inclusive, giving the exclusive right of burial to those named on each deed for a period not exceeding 70 years.

A104. **UPDATE REPORTS ON BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS**

RESOLVED:

a. **Architects Report**

1. That the report be received and noted.
2. That the Council's Architect and C D Gray Consultants be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee.

b. **Deputy Executive Officer's Report**

That the report be received and noted.

A105. **PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE 2010/11 ESTIMATES**

RESOLVED: that the proposed list of projects for the 2010/11 financial year be recommended to the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee for inclusion in the 2010/11 budgets. (subject to further discussion on item no. 7 of the report)

A106. **BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENTS (APRIL 2009-OCTOBER 2009)**

RESOLVED: that the report be received and noted.

A107. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: that the next Ordinary meeting of the Committee be held on Monday, 1 March 2010, with a Special Meeting being held on Thursday, 17 December 2009.

A108. **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 is advisable in the public interest that the press and public are excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

A109.

CEMETERY RECORDS PRESERVATION

Members were requested to give consideration to a report outlining a service that could be provided to the Council for scanning the cemetery books and making them available on the Council's website for use by staff, funeral directors, monumental masons and the public.

RESOLVED:

That the following recommendation be submitted to the Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee:-

1. That £1,500 be made available in the 2010/11 estimates for the purchase of electronic scanning of all burial registers with the provision of super compressed PDF's;
2. that the Deputy Executive Officer attempts to seek further funding from other organisations to enhance the above electronic scanning scheme, such as a computer terminal in the cemetery for use by members of the public. (on a view only system)

A110.

REQUEST TO WAIVE TREBLE FEES FOR RECENT INTERMENT

Members were requested to give consideration to a request to waive treble fees for a recent interment.

RESOLVED:

That the request for a refund be declined and that a suitably sensitive letter be sent to the applicant advising of the Committees decision.

A111.

COST OF REPAIRING OLDER, MORE PROMINENT MEMORIALS

Members were provided with a report detailing the estimated cost of repairing orphaned memorials within the Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery.

RESOLVED:

1. that a further estimate be obtained from a second monumental mason for consideration at the special meeting of Amenities due to be held on 17 December 2009;
2. that the Working Party set up to consider the repair of memorials prepare a draft policy for the maintenance of orphaned memorials and that this be submitted to a future meeting of the Amenities Committee for consideration.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed

Date