

BARRY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HALLS, CEMETERIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, 11 JANUARY 2021 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillors N P Hodges (Chair), Aviet, Clarke, Johnson, Nugent-Finn and Richardson (Vice Chair)

ALSO PRESENT: Amanda Evans – Facilities and Cemeteries Manager
Rhian Burns – Administrator
Councillor S Hodges – Observer
Councillor Payne (arrived at 19.16) - Observer
Councillor Wilkinson - Observer

A248. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None were received.

A249. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

It was noted that Councillor Johnson had been granted Dispensation to allow him to speak and vote on matters appertaining to any Community Facilities owned or run by Barry Town Council, by virtue that he is a Vale of Glamorgan Council Trustee for the Alexandra Gardens Community Association.

A250. **WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015**

RESOLVED: That the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales Act 2015 be received and noted

A251. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE HALLS, CEMETERIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE'S MEETING HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2020**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Halls, Cemeteries and Community Facilities Committee's meeting held on 14 December 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.

A252. **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT DECEMBER 2020**

Members received the Committee's income and expenditure in the 2020/21 financial year as at the end of December 2020.

Councillor Johnson queried whether there were any further business rates grants available that could be applied for due to loss of income for the Pioneer Hall and Cemetery Approach Community Centre.

The Facilities and Cemeteries Manager noted that she had been advised by the Deputy Chief Officer that there was nothing at present

but that Members would be informed by email if any grants were to become available.

RESOLVED: That the budget monitoring report for December 2020 be received, noting the projected net overspend (deficit for the year) of £20,720 in 2020/21.

A253.

HALLS UPDATE

The Facilities and Cemeteries Manager advised that she had secured funding from the Vale of Glamorgan Council for play equipment to be installed around the Cemetery Approach Community Centre.

Members advised that this had been raised previously and that it had been agreed by committee members that the Cemetery Approach Gardens were not an appropriate area for play equipment due to the proximity to the Cemetery. Members agreed that the Chair would discuss proposals for equipment with the Facilities and Cemeteries Manager to agree a way forward.

The Facilities and Cemeteries Manager also advised that the Welsh Government Guidelines regarding community buildings were being closely monitored and adhered to.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the verbal update be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Chair meet with the Facilities and Cemeteries Manager to discuss what equipment would be suitable for the Cemetery Approach Gardens.**

A 254.

CEMETERIES UPDATE

The Facilities and Cemeteries Manager noted that the number of burials being carried out at Merthyr Dyfan and Porthkerry Cemeteries was consistent with previous years and that there was no increase due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

She advised members that one of the Trainee Cemetery Operatives had left on Friday 8 January 2020 and that recruitment for a new trainee would begin shortly.

The Facilities and Cemeteries Manager noted that a new butterfly garden had been installed at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery which, it was hoped, would improve the biodiversity of the site.

The Facilities and Cemeteries Manager advised that a number of requests had been received from residents of the White Farm housing estate, neighbouring Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery, for pruning to be carried out on trees situated within the cemetery. The Facilities and

Cemeteries Manager noted that she felt it would be beneficial to put together an information leaflet to distribute to residents outlining the Council's obligations regarding the maintenance of trees on Council property in order that it is clear what requests should be fulfilled.

The Facilities and Cemeteries Manager advised that any issues relating to the Health and Safety of trees within the Cemetery boundary were dealt with immediately but that the requests received had been for trees to be pruned to provide more light to resident's garden.

Members agreed that it would be useful for a leaflet to be drafted outlining the Council's position. They also requested the Facilities and Cemeteries Manager report of the scale and type of requests at the next meeting of the Halls, Cemeteries and Community Facilities Committee meeting.

RESOLVED:

1. That the verbal update be received and noted.
2. That the Facilities and Cemeteries Manager draft a leaflet to be distributed to neighbouring residents outlining the Council's obligations with regard to trees within the Cemetery boundary.
3. That a report be provided at the meeting of the Halls, Cemeteries and Community Facilities Committee meeting to be held on Monday 8 March 2021.

A 255. **TRANSFER OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL (1194 - 1211 INCLUSIVE)**

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Standing Order 27(a), authority be given for the Council's Common Seal to be applied to Transfer Deeds numbered 1194 - 1211 inclusive, granting the transfer of Exclusive Right of Burial to those named on each transfer request.

A 256. **GRANTS OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL (13780 - 13787 INCLUSIVE)**

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Standing Order 27(a), authority be given for the Council's Common Seal to be applied to Deeds of Exclusive Right of Burial numbered 13780 - 13787 inclusive, granting the Exclusive Right of Burial to those named.

A 257. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: The next meeting of the Halls, Cemeteries & Community Facilities Committee is scheduled for 8 March 2021.

A 258. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: 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.

A259. **GRAVE MATTERS**

Members received a report as requested from the extraordinary meeting held on 14 December 2020. The Facilities and Cemeteries Manager advised Members that she had received feedback from One Voice Wales, the ICCM and other local burial authorities.

A detailed discussion took place where Members raised a number of concerns. It was suggested that Barry Town Council could offer enhanced grave maintenance work and the Facilities and Cemeteries Manager was requested to investigate the feasibility of such a scheme.

Members determined that following this, it may be necessary to develop a policy regarding third party contractors undertaking work in the cemetery in conjunction with the Finance, Policy and General Purposes Committee Members.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Facilities and Cemeteries Manager investigate the feasibility of an ‘in-house’ enhanced grave maintenance scheme to be carried out by Barry Town Council staff.**
- 2. That a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Halls, Cemeteries and Community Facilities Committee meeting to be held on Monday 8 March 2021.**
- 3. That the ban on the use of power tool by members of the public (or those contracted by members of the public) at Merthyr Dyfan and Porthkerry Cemeteries be upheld.**

A260. **TREES**

Members received an update on the proposed tree works to take place at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the report be received and noted.**
- 2. That a virement in the sum of £2,445 be made from the Cemetery Improvement Reserve to the Special**

Projects/Cemetery Treework budget to cover the increase in hire costs.

- 3. That the Cemetery Team remove the branches and soil currently situated at the access points to allow the work to commence.**

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm

SignedDate