

From 1 May 2021, the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 sets out a statutory requirement that: As soon as reasonably practicable after a meeting of a community council, and in any event before the end of seven working days beginning

with the day on which the meeting is held, the council must publish electronically a note setting out—

(a) the names of the members who attended the meeting, and any apologies for absence;

(b) any declarations of interest;

(c) any decision taken at the meeting, including the outcomes of any votes.

Barry Town Council meets this duty by publishing this information in the form of draft meeting minutes which will be displayed electronically within 7 working days after the meeting. It should be noted that these minutes are DRAFT and not agreed until the next meeting.

### **BARRY TOWN COUNCIL**

#### **MINUTES OF THE VIBRANT CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 27 JANUARY 2025 AT 6PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Brooks (Chairperson), together with Councillors Aviet, Davies-Powell, S Hodges, N Hodges & Perkes.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chris Mason – Engagement and Events Team Manager  
Greg Smart – Planning Officer  
Kathryn Thomas – Office Team Leader  
Councillor Clarke – Observer  
Councillor Johnson – Observer

Mr Booker - Barry War Museum & Heritage Centre  
Mr Green - Barry War Museum & Heritage Centre  
Mr Alloway - Historian

#### **33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Ball

#### **34. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE COUNCILS CODE OF CONDUCT**

None Received

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 be received and noted.

**36. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE VIBRANT CULTURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2024**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting of the Vibrant Culture committee held on 18 November 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**37. ONLINE CONSULTATION RESULTS**

At the meeting of the Vibrant Culture committee on 18 November 2024, it was resolved that consultation work should be undertaken to advance the Heritage Centre.

An online survey was produced and made available to the public. Members of the public were encouraged to complete the survey through Barry Town Council's social media.

Since the launch, 275 responses have been received to date:

- 95% think Barry would benefit from having a Heritage Centre
- 93% are interested in History, with 68% interested in local information, and 56% interested in both Arts and Culture
- 67% like to attend Exhibitions, 63% like History activities and just over 50% like to attend Community Events, Markets/Pop Ups and Tours/Walks.
- 42% were aged 65+, with only 5% aged under 35

Councillors S Hodges, Perkes and Brooks said they were pleased with the outcome of the report. As a Council we have to be confident that the community know how we are spending money.

Councillor Brooks asked how can we try and contact the younger generation

The Planning Officer has already started to contact younger people and will continue to do so including going out to Schools.

Councillor Brooks suggested contact the Vale Youth Service.

Mr Green from the Barry War Museum & Heritage Centre commented about all the work that they do with the Barry War Museum & Heritage Centre, and asked for Barry Town Council to connect with him and speak

to the Museum staff in order to work together and form an effective partnership & collaboration.

Mr Booker also agreed with Mr Green. He said he had over 12 years' experience that he would like to share with members.

Councillor Brooks said we are in early stages of the Heritage Centre and that it has been an aspiration of Barry Town Council for many years.

The Planning Officer said it is an amazing opportunity for all of Barry and it would be very helpful to work together on this.

Councillor S Hodges said we are certainly not detracting anything about the work that the Barry War Museum & Heritage Centre does, but has a concern about the long-term legacy. As a Council, we know that the Heritage Centre will carry on but will that happen with the War Museum.

She also commented that we are all so pleased that they came along to the meeting.

Mr Alloway has an interest in the history of Barry and welcomes the Heritage Centre. However, he states that we do need to encourage youngsters by speaking to Schools and Scouts etc.

Councillor Brooks said history is very important and now is the time to reach out and start the process going forward of the Heritage Centre.

**RESOLVED: That members received and noted the report, and endorsed the next stage.**

### **38. OPERATIONAL BUSINESS PLAN**

Members were asked to consider forming a Working Party to formulate an operational business plan for the proposed Heritage Centre.

The Engagement & Events Team Manager said the plan would provide details of how the Heritage Centre would be managed and operated, and what it would offer to the public. It would also ensure that on-going, non-capital, operational costs, and income have been modelled for 3-5 years.

Councillor N Hodges said we need an operational working party and that the Heritage Centre needs to be professionally run and led. The working party needs to come from this committee.

We are already getting offers of things to donate, lend, and for sale, therefore we also need to think about storage. We need to set up an acquisition fund and the Heritage Centre would be a tourist hub that can incorporate it into tourist attractions that we already have in Barry.

Councillor N Hodges also recommend keeping the Working Party small.

Councillor Perkes agreed.

The Engagement & Events Team Manager said he has tourism experience and that he believes he could contribute.

Councillor S Hodges suggested the Chair, Vice Chair and 1 other to form the committee.

Councillor Brooks confirmed the Working Party Committee would be Councillor Brooks, N Hodges and S Perkes.

The Planning Officer also said we could have a Workshop, where we invite the public to attend in order to seek advice from them.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That a Working Party be established to formulate an operational business plan for the proposed Heritage Centre.**
- 2. That Councillors Brooks, N Hodges and Perkes being appointed to the Working Party.**
- 3. That a Workshop be arranged for April / May.**

**39. HERITAGE CENTRE**

Members were provided with an update regarding the progress of actions resolved at the Vibrant Culture Meeting on 18 November 2024.

The Planning Officer has been looking at different locations for the Heritage Centre. Places are quite expensive however there are different options available. There were ongoing talks with the Vale regarding the Dock Offices, however this is not a viable option.

Councillor S Hodges asked what a Heritage Centre should look like. She is envisaging a centre with Community Rooms etc and to do more than just the Heritage Centre.

Councillor Brooks said a coffee shop idea is an ideal way of getting people in.

Councillor S Hodges also said that to go 'digital' is a way forward as this might encourage youngsters.

Councillor N Hodges stated that we do our best to get the best site. He is not sure how many choices we will have but we must work quickly on this. We have already looked at 3 possible sites that didn't work out.

Councillor S Hodges said that it would be better if the Council could buy rather than rent as it would be an asset to the Council.

Councillor S Hodges asked about timescales for the Working Party to meet and for the workshop to take place.

**RESOLVED:**

**1. A meeting of the Working Party to Formulate an Operational Business Plan for the Proposed Heritage Centre be arranged in February 2025.**

**2. A Workshop be arranged for April / May 2025**

**40. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the next meeting of the Vibrant Culture Committee is scheduled to be held on 17 March 2025 at 7pm. However, Councillors agreed that the newly formed Working party to meet in February 2025

Meeting closed at 6:41pm

Signed ..... (Chairperson)

Dated .....