

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 17 MARCH 2025 AT 7PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors N Hodges (Vice Chair), together with Councillors Ball, Davies-Powell, S Hodges, & Perkes.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chris Mason – Engagement and Events Team Manager  
Joanne John - Engagement and Events Administrator  
Councillor Johnson – Observer

**41. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Brooks (Chair)

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

None Received

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

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

**44. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE VIBRANT CULTURE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 27 JANUARY 2025**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting of the Vibrant Culture committee held on 27 January 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**45. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 28 FEBRUARY 2025**

The Engagement and Events Team Manager summarised the report confirming that there is a projected underspend of £75,228.

The Engagement and Events Team Manger went on to clarify that there had been no movement on the Dementia Friendly project as the programme has ceased, but that he, with the Wellbeing Goals Officer, were looking for other ways to continue with this workstream.

The Vice Chair noted that there was an underspend in general within Corporate Projects - Arts, Culture and Entertainment, but felt that as a Council we were providing good value for money with the events we provide.

**RESOLVED: That members received and noted the report.**

**46. BARRY YOUTH COUNCIL**

The Engagement & Events Team Manager confirmed that the Barry Youth Council will next be meeting informally on 23 April to look at the priorities for 2025/26. The Responsible Finance Officer has confirmed that the money raised this financial year will roll over into the next financial year as their charity is likely to remain as Cardiff Dogs Home.

The Engagement & Events Team Manager requested that Link Councillors renew their commitment to the youth council and join some of the meetings, adding that the Mayor Elect would be happy to attend one or two of the sessions.

The Engagement and Events Officer has now begun their Level 3 qualification and is hoping that Barry Youth Council will be considered for some of the placement hours. Members asked what level of qualification Level 3 was. The Engagement & Events Team Manager confirmed that this is the legally required level from May 2025, replacing the old Level 2 qualification already achieved by the Engagement and Events Officer.

**RESOLVED: That members received and noted the report.**

**47. CHRISTMAS TREE ON KING SQUARE**

The Engagement and Events Team Manager summarised the report outlining some of the challenges faced in 2024 including two named storms, and antisocial behaviour. The Engagement and Events Team Manager has been making tentative enquiries into costs for alternative options where all aspects of the tree would be covered.

Members asked if a potted tree would be available, and how would we ensure it would be hard to move. The Engagement and Events Team Manager advised that the ideal situation would be to have the same potted tree that could return year upon year, rather than one that was

taken away to be chipped each year. The Engagement and Events Team Manager advised that he had informed the companies he was talking to of some of the issues including the support at ground level, antisocial behaviour, and the wind.

Members confirmed that the idea of not having a tree would have a negative impact on the town. Confirmation would be required of which budget the tree costs would be allocated to. Members advised that there may be potential for accessing SPF Funding to replace the ageing Christmas Lights on Holton Road, High Street and Park Crescent, and this should be discussed with the Vale of Glamorgan Council. The Vice Chair asked if it would be possible to look at additional PR around the Christmas Tree with new marketing / advertising. The Engagement and Events Team Manager advised that estimated costs were around £9,000 - £11,000. Members agreed to proceed with organising the tree, and although they couldn't set a budget yet, there was an agreement in principle so that more detailed quotes could be requested. Members were mindful that the estimated costs may increase, and that this would be looked upon favourably.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**
- 2. That the Engagement and Events Team Manager will obtain detailed quotes and options for the 2025 Christmas Tree.**

**48. EVENT REPORT FROM DAFFODIL DASH**

The Vice Chair asked if there was anything to feedback from the event.

The Engagement and Events Team Manager summarised the report and advised members it had been a successful event, and there may be some minor tweaks going forward but nothing major. Some attendees have asked if we will be holding the event again next year, and it is now proposed that it becomes an annual event to coincide with the St David's Day activities on the same weekend.

Councillor Johnson gave a background to the event, advising that it started as a Santa Fun Run in 2016. He continued to add that this year we had been able to access funding from Fairtrade Wales to purchase bananas to hand out to runners at the finish. Fairtrade Wales also included details of the event on their website.

The Vice Chair stated that with the event being moved to March there would be a better chance of having pleasant weather. The Engagement and Events Team Manager added that this time of year may not be as busy for families as the December period. The Vice Chair and members

noted the success of the event and agreed it should be a part of the future events calendar.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That members received and noted the report.
2. That members agreed the Daffodil Dash should form part of the future events calendar.

**49. EVENT REPORT FROM ST DAVIDS DAY**

The Engagement and Events Team Manager summarised the report and advised members it had been a successful, larger event this year due to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Council, and it was estimated that 4000 had attended. Bro Radio provided bilingual hosts and performances for the stage, including an act funded by Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg.

The Vice Chair commented how this had been another successful event. Councillor Johnson added that he had attended during the day, and that it was great to see the NFU as part of the event. He felt the event had a nice market atmosphere.

Members discussed that St David's Day falls on a Sunday next year, and asked if there were any plans in place. The Engagement and Events Team Manager confirmed the St David's Day event will be programmed on the closest weekend to St David's Day when it falls on a weekday. The Vice Chair added that having an event in March staggers the number of events within our programme well throughout the year, and thought it a good use of the budget. The Engagement and Events Team Manager clarified that the costs included in the budget are only the external expenditure.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That members received and noted the report.

**50. CORPORATE CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The Engagement and Events Team Manager summarised the proposed calendar of events, and clarified there would be civic events in addition, and also a corporate presence at local festivals/events.

The Vice Chair stated that the difference between now and ten years ago was phenomenal, and our events were becoming well established. The

Vice Chair acknowledged that those events listed would be the minimum and that opportunities for additional events should be embraced.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That members received and noted the report.
2. That members agreed the proposed programme of corporate events.

**51. BARRY TOWN COUNCIL MULTICULTURAL EVENT**

The Engagement and Events Team Manager advised members that there was some concern with regards to this event due to the current political climate, and advised that a sensitive approach needed to be taken during the planning and organisation. Following discussions at previous meetings, the purpose of the event is to bring families together by sharing food and stories. The Wellbeing Goals Officer has spoken to SRS, and they have confirmed that as it is a one-off event, normal food hygiene regulations would be relaxed, as long as all food provided had the available recipe and allergen advice.

Councillors Perkes and Johnson fed back from the Town of Sanctuary Working Party held on 13 March, and advised that this was an event the Council had committed to holding so it should go ahead. Councillor Johnson advised that Refugee Week takes place Sunday 15 June to Saturday 21 June, and suggested the event be held during this period.

Councillor S Hodges added that careful consideration should be given to how the event was marketed and the language used so that it became a celebration of the people who live in the Town. She continued that food and music were a good way to bring communities together, and suggested the event included live music performances. Members agreed.

Members discussed the reach of the event, and three main groups were identified to engage with: Ukrainian, Afghan, and Syrian. Members decided that this should be an open event rather than invitation only. The Engagement and Events Team Manager confirmed that the Wellbeing Goals Officer had been in contact with the Vale of Glamorgan Council with regards accessing key community groups, but they had responded that they were unable to help and didn't know who to contact.

The Vice Chair asked what budget would be required for the event, and suggested £2,000. The Vice Chair also suggested that if it was too short

notice to organise by mid-June, then it should still go ahead, but at a later date. The Engagement and Events Team Manager confirmed this would be a generous budget. Members agreed that the event should take place in the Cemetery Approach Community Centre and include use of the gardens.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**
- 2. That an event is planned for between 15 June and 21 June to be held at the Cemetery Approach Community Centre.**
- 3. That the event be allocated a budget of £2,000 from Corporate Projects – Arts, Culture, and Entertainment.**

**52. WELSH LANGUAGE PROVISION UPDATE**

The Engagement and Events Team Manager summarised the report and confirmed he was still waiting for a reply from the Vale of Glamorgan Council about plans for a future Eisteddfod. The report also included that Menter Iaith had identified a gap in Welsh language social output for 18 – 30 year olds.

Councillor Johnson commented that Barry Town Council was in a position where we were getting up and running with Welsh language inclusion on St David's Day and our attendance at this year's Gwyl Fach y Fro. Councillor Johnson advised members that a new officer was in post at Menter Iaith Bro Morgannwg, and mentioned a number of projects aiming to support young people on their own path. The Vice Chair suggested looking into Welsh medium comedy nights.

Councillor Johnson advised members that Barry Town Council had a Welsh language scheme set up some years ago, and requested the documents for this be found and updated, adding he was happy to read through the scheme and assist if required.

The Vice Chair advised members that the Urdd Eisteddfod will be held in Margam Park at the end of May, and at a recent Vale of Glamorgan Council's Life Long Learning Scrutiny meeting the suggestion of the Eisteddfod returning to Barry had been well received.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**
- 2. That the current Welsh Language Scheme is revisited and updated.**

**53. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Vibrant Culture Committee will be agreed at the Annual Meeting scheduled to be held on Monday 12 May and Tuesday 13 May 2025.**

Meeting closed at 8:01pm

Signed ..... (Chairperson)

Dated .....