



**BARRY TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF Y BARRI**

PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BELOW STATUTORY PROVISIONS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE IS TO BE HELD ON A HYBRID BASIS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, KING SQUARE, BARRY, CF63 4RW AND REMOTELY ON MONDAY 14 APRIL 2025 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSACTING THE BUSINESS SHOWN IN THE AGENDA SET OUT BELOW.

From 1 May 2021, The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 makes provision for meetings to take place through a variety of arrangements, including multi-location meetings where all individuals are attending virtually and hybrid meetings where a number of individuals are attending in person at a designated location and others are attending virtually from a range of other locations. The Act makes permanent provision for remote meetings (multi-location) and electronic publication of documents

This is a public meeting and any resident of Barry may attend in person or remotely; for remote access details, please contact info@barrytowncouncil.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

Dennis Clark
Chair

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct**
(Note: Members seeking advice on this item are requested to contact the Monitoring Officer at least 72 hours before the meeting)
3. **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**
(To note)

*Globally Responsible Committee members will note that this Act sets out the requirement for a public body to act in a manner which seeks to ensure **that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.***

In order to act in that manner, a public body must take account of the following things:

- (a) the importance of balancing short term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to meet long term needs, especially where things done to meet short term needs may have detrimental long-term effect;*
- (b) the need to take an integrated approach, by considering how—*
 - i. the body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals;*
 - ii. the body's well-being objectives impact upon each other or upon other public bodies' objectives, in particular where steps taken by the body may contribute to meeting one objective but may be detrimental to meeting another;*
- (c) the importance of involving other persons with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and of ensuring those persons reflect the diversity of the population of the part of Wales in relation to which the body exercises functions;*
- (d) how acting in collaboration with any other person (or how different parts of the body acting together) could assist the body to meet its well-being objectives, or assist another body to meet its objectives;*
- (e) how deploying resources to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may contribute to meeting the body's well-being objectives, or another body's objectives.*

4. **To approve the minutes of the Globally Responsible Barry Committee meeting held on 17 February 2025**

(Pages 99-108)

5. **Auditel – Carbon Footprint Update**
(Page 109)
6. **Fairtrade Update**
(Pages 110-111)
7. **Town of Sanctuary – Working Party Update**
(Pages 112-117)
8. **Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting of Globally Responsible will be agreed at the Annual Meeting on Monday 12 May 2025 and Tuesday 13 May 2025

Distribution

Electronic notification of summons and front-page Agenda to all Committee members. Email notification of electronic papers to all Barry Town Councillors (22). A full copy of the agenda and papers for this meeting (with the exception of confidential items) will be available at the Town Council Offices and on the Town Council Website – www.barrytowncouncil.gov.uk

This document is available in large print and other formats upon request/Cewch y ddogfen hon mewn pring bras a fformatiau eraill drwy holi.

BARRY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7PM

PRESENT: Councillors Clarke (Chairperson), Dancey, Johnson, and Payne.

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Mason – Engagement and Events Team Manager
Amanda Webb – Wellbeing Goals Officer
Joanne John – Engagement and Events Administrator
Councillor S Hodges – Observer

33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Drake and Perkes.

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 THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE BARRY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2024.

Members agreed the minutes.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Extraordinary Globally Responsible Committee held on 11 November 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

37. TO RECEIVE ACTION SHEET UPDATES FROM THE PREVIOUS GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE BARRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councillor Johnson requested that the action sheets be reviewed to identify outstanding actions that were still relevant, and suggested that this information be discussed at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Wellbeing Goals Officer will review the past action sheets and highlight any outstanding relevant actions that are yet to be completed at the next meeting.**

2. That members received and noted the report.

38. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT UPDATE

The Chair asked if the remaining budget will have been used by the end of the financial year. The Wellbeing Goals Officer confirmed that there would be £5430 remaining and the Responsible Finance Officer was aware of this. The Wellbeing Goals Officer confirmed that although there had been plans for a schools' project to utilise some of this budget, there had been no interest from local schools, and she had not received a response from the education contact. The Wellbeing Goals Officer commented that the committee needed to establish what they would like to offer schools going forward, and advised that they often start planning in June / July for the next academic year.

Councillor Johnson asked why there were two separate budgets and questioned if the 'Town Planters' budget should sit within / added to 'Globally Responsibly Barry' main budget. Councillor Johnson also noted there was no Fairtrade spend listed in the budget. The Wellbeing Goals Officer confirmed that this was correct as Fairtrade Refreshments (Tea / Coffee) had already been purchased.

Members agreed that some budget next year will need to be allocated to areas of improvement identified through the Carbon Management Plan (Auditel Report).

RESOLVED: That members received and noted the budget monitoring report.

39. TO DISCUSS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE WORKING PARTY FOR TOWN OF SANCTUARY

The Chair advised members that the Vale of Glamorgan Council haven't progressed further with their application to become a County of Sanctuary, but have registered their interest. Councillor Johnson confirmed that the original application was submitted in July 2024, but that may now be out of date. The Wellbeing Goals Officer advised it would be beneficial to understand what they had planned, as staff may be working through issues relating to it. The Wellbeing Goals Officer will contact the Vale of Glamorgan Council for an update.

An initial date for the first meeting of the Working Party for the Barry Town Council application to become a Town of Sanctuary has been set for 13 March 2025.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**
- 2. That the Wellbeing Goals Officer contact the Vale of Glamorgan Council requesting an update on their application to become a County of Sanctuary.**

40. OBJECTIVE FOR WELLBEING GOALS OFFICER

The Chair advised members that the Terms of Reference for this committee are extremely wide ranging, and perhaps the question should be to determine the priorities for the officer. The Engagement and Events Manager clarified that the aim was to discuss how the Wellbeing Goals Officer can support the work of the committee, and what they were hoping to achieve looking into 2026. Councillor Johnson advised there are three main strands as ongoing mission-based issues:

- Fairtrade
- Climate Change
- Town of Sanctuary

Members advised there is already a framework in place. Councillor Hodges advised a number of the strands raised were already embedded within the Council, and suggested that officers should ensure a proper record is kept so we can be confident of continued status with elements such as Fairtrade. Councillor Johnson agreed, and added we needed to ensure we were in line with statutory and regulatory requirements in terms of reporting. Members agreed that key priorities were:

- Maintaining Fairtrade status
- Continuing work towards Town of Sanctuary
- Continuing Climate Change projects
- Improving communication with the public

The Engagement and Events Manager commented this was a helpful start but was concerned that 50% of the budget this year had not been committed, and asked for early thoughts on projects that could make use of this funding. Councillor Johnson clarified that the funds had been originally intended for projects set out in the action plan, including £1000 for Fairtrade, and a Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery awareness project with schools.

The Chair confirmed that the budget can open up prospects for what the committee can achieve. The Chair suggested that perhaps the Wellbeing Goals Officer should be working on specific projects to ensure they can be concluded, rather than trying to work across the range of work covered by the committee. Councillor Hodges commented that members should be mindful of the number of projects given to the staff,

and perhaps members should be encouraging external parties to lead on projects (i.e The Green Grant), that Barry Town Council can then assist with. Councillor Hodges noted it was important to help people be able to lead an improved and sustainable lifestyle. Councillor Payne added we should be consulting with the public, and asked whether there is a way this could be incorporated into any work carried out.

The Chair reminded members that P91 of the agenda contained a list of items the committee were looking into, and asked members if they would like to have additional meetings. Councillor Johnson advised there is a date in place for the working party which will cover some of the additional work, but felt that February – May was too much time between meetings.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**
- 2. That an Extraordinary meeting be arranged before May 2025, (date TBC), to consider how the budget can be allocated for the next financial year with members to consider suggestions for projects from both Barry Town Council and external organisations.**
- 3. That the Wellbeing Goals Officer looks at previous public consultations from the last two years for any relevant comments.**

41. AUDITEL UPDATE

The Chair confirmed that the interim Auditel report has been distributed. The Chair noted that wasn't much to learn from it yet, but gave a verbal update that our carbon footprint was looking relatively low. The Chair emphasised the importance of arranging a meeting with Auditel representatives as soon as possible to be able to examine the data. The Wellbeing Goals Officer confirmed that we should receive verification by 21 March 2025, but we were waiting for some additional information regarding an accurate record of the utility spend at Town Hall from the Vale of Glamorgan Council. This has been delayed due to the necessary contact being on annual leave. The Wellbeing Goals Officer also advised due to the Auditel working hours policy, they could only meet Mon – Fri before 5pm.

Councillor Johnson added it was nice to have received the preliminary report which stated our carbon emissions were 66 tons, and although we are not a direct comparator with a local authority, and would be similar to a small business, the carbon emissions of the Vale of Glamorgan Council are 69,000 tons. Councillor Johnson commented that the full report was important to provide a baseline, but there may be some things that are impossible to reduce, and we would need to look at what could

be offset in the future. Councillor Johnson also noted that since the data had been collected there had been some fundamental changes within Barry Town Council, such as cemetery vehicles replaced with electric vehicles. Councillor Johnson felt that it would be interesting to go back through the action plans with the experts, and ask for their guidance in what we should be aiming for.

The Chair agreed with members and suggested we raised the suggestion to swap from gas to electric at Pioneer Hall. The Chair advised members the committee should be fully prepared in order to get the most out of the Auditel meeting.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**
- 2. That a meeting is arranged with Auditel following receipt of the verification report.**
- 3. That the Wellbeing Goals Officer uses the four suggestions detailed in the preliminary report to improve data for 2024.**

42.

FAIRTRADE UPDATE

Councillor Johnson gave a summary of the report, and advised members that the next Fairtrade fortnight will be from 22 September - 5 October 2025. Councillor Johnson suggested that these two weeks be our main focus on Fairtrade for the year, and commented in the past during the fortnight we have held a quiz, coffee morning, attended the football with Fairtrade bananas, and provided hampers as prizes. It was also noted that Barry Town Council uses Fairtrade tea and coffee supplies at functions and events. Councillor Johnson added he would be happy to contact Fairtrade Wales for a small grant in order to hand out bananas at the end of the Daffodil Dash to participants on 2 March 2025.

Councillor Johnson continued to say that previously members of the committee have been into local schools give talks on Fairtrade, and asked for any comments from Councillor Dancey. Councillor Dancey advised that the curriculum had changed, but schools were still continuing to do a lot of work during Fairtrade fortnight as part of the Humanities curriculum, and often the tea, coffee, snacks supplied at breakfast and after school clubs were Fairtrade products.

Members asked if we could support schools by creating a Fairtrade Information pack. Councillor Johnson advised that this is already available from Fairtrade Wales, but we should look at committee members visiting the schools like previous years. The Chair noted that there are some committee members who are governors of schools, and this could be a suitable way to contact the schools. The Chair also asked

if this was being aimed at Primary or Secondary age. Councillor Johnson confirmed talks / projects would usually be aimed at yr 5 and 6.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**
- 2. That members agreed that the Council continue to provide Fairtrade Bananas at various events during the year including the Daffodil Dash event.**
- 3. The Wellbeing Goals Project Officer arrange for a Committee Member to visit various schools during Fairtrade Fortnight to raise awareness of Fairtrade.**
- 4. The Wellbeing Goals Project Officer arrange to contact various Churches in Barry to engage and raise awareness of Fairtrade.**

43. ENVIROMENT (WALES) ACT 2016 – THE BIODIVERSITY AND RESILIENCE OF ECOSYSTEMS DUTY – REPORTING, NEW TWEMLATE

Currently, the Section 6 Biodiversity Report is compiled on an annual basis and published as part of the Annual Report. Having revisited the guidance from Welsh Government, this report is required on a 3- yearly rotation, expected from Dec 2019, then every 3 years thereafter. The next report is therefore due in December 2025. There is also a need to change the format of the current report, to ensure that all relevant information is included.

The Chair queried the decision of Barry Town Council submitting Section 6 Biodiversity reports annually. The Wellbeing Goals Officer confirmed that it was requested by the Chief Officer.

The Wellbeing Projects Officer requested that members agree to delay the production of this year's report to December 2025, to allow for the format changes to be made, and to then submit the report to Welsh Government in line with the expected date of December 2025. A basic report will also be produced for this year's Annual Report and each Annual Report thereafter, to provide residents and councillors with an update on the work carried out during the municipal year, which would then feed into the 3-year report.

The Chair confirmed we should consider using the alternative reporting template as advised by the Wellbeing Goals Officer, and advised this item should be back on the agenda to be reviewed at the beginning of next year.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**

- 2. That members agree to the changes requested, and review this item at the beginning of 2026.**

44. ENGAGING WITH RESIDENTS

Currently, Barry Town Council interacts with residents through Social Media, its Website, and Events held through the year. It has been suggested that an e-newsletter could increase engagement and improve residents' understanding of the work and functions of the Town Council.

Councillor Payne highlighted that the newsletter would be a good way to encourage public understanding of some of the biodiversity schemes, and incorporate explanations of some of the maintenance work carried out at the cemetery that has received negative comments on social media in the past. The Chair highlighted it was an important part of the Terms of Reference to identify ways of working with the public.

The current MailChimp package, which is free, allows a contact list of no more than 500, with the ability to send 1,000 emails (2 x 500) per month. The Chair asked if it would be possible to continue using this free package. The Wellbeing Goals Officer advised that it would be possible but it was very likely we would go over the 500 limit as we already have 344 signed up. Councillor Payne commented that the paid version would be better and provide us with additional features.

The Chair commented that a newsletter would be a good way of highlighted the Council's interests and achievements. Members agreed that a digital newsletter is what we should be doing from a sustainability perspective, but asked if Globally Responsible was the appropriate budget heading to allocate the cost. The Engagement and Events Manager agreed this was a reasonable question, but there may not be room in other allocations for moving the budget at this point in the year.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**

RECOMMENDED:

- 2. Recommend to the meeting of Full Council on 13 May 2025 that members agree to fund the costs to upgrade to the Essentials MailChimp package at a cost of £264 pa (£22 per month) subject to the correct budget allocation being agreed.**

45. KING SQUARE PLANTERS – SPONSORSHIP BY LOCAL BUSINESSES

Barry Town Council currently pay Vale of Glamorgan Council to provide and maintain planters on King Square, at a cost of £8,000 annually. There has been an increasing amount of vandalism and ASB in the Square over the past few months. Vale of Glamorgan Council (VoG)

have informed the Acting Chief Officer and Wellbeing Projects Officer that due to the numerous occasions where plants have been pulled out and thrown around the Square by youths, VoG have replanted several times but unfortunately the displays do not look as good as we would wish. Unfortunately, VoG are unlikely to absorb the cost of replanting or replacing plants in forthcoming years if this continues to be a problem.

The committee were asked to consider offering local businesses to sponsor the planters as an advertising opportunity.

Members raised concerns that this was only hypothetical at the moment as new costs have not been confirmed, and should this be taken to the Finance Committee. Concerns were also raised at what material would be used to create the vinyl sticker advertising. Members suggested the Council look into what alternative planter options were available as the current ones have been in place for some time, but also highlighted this was a policing issue, and if the planters were being damaged we should be looking at how to prevent the damage first. Members queried how many planters were covered by the Vale of Glamorgan Council maintenance fee. The Wellbeing Goals Officer will check and confirm. Councillor Johnson asked who was responding to the details received from Vale of Glamorgan Council and felt a wider conversation was required.

The Chair asked if the £8000 fee was good value, and suggested one option to be investigated was if this work could be carried out in-house by our own gardener, but this would need to be considered by the Halls and Cemeteries Committee. The Chair added it would be advisable to include staff thoughts on feasibility, and commented this should be considered irrespective of whether or not the Vale of Glamorgan Council increase the cost. Councillor Johnson added the Senior Leadership Team should be the first point of contact for feasibility. Members agreed, and added we should consider all options including tendering out to other companies.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**

RECOMMENDED:

- 2. Recommend to the meeting of the Halls, Cemeteries and Community Facilities Committee being held on 10 May 2025 for members to consider whether the Council has capacity for, and the cost of maintaining the King Square planters in house (to include copy of email received from the VOGC and any alternative options available)**

46. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Globally Responsible Committee will be agreed at the Annual Meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday 13 May 2025. However, Councillors agreed that an Extraordinary meeting may be held prior to that – date TBC.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm

Signed (Chairperson) Dated

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

ACTION SHEET - GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE BARRY COMMITTEE - 17 February 2025

MINUTE NO.	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY	DATE ACTION TO BE CARRIED OUT	PROGRESS	Notes
6 (i) and 20	a working party is created from within this Standing Committee, and Terms of Reference are agreed			Complete	Date to be agreed for meeting
6 (ii)	Councillor's Payne and Johnson are approached to see if they would be happy to join.			Complete	Jason to contact. MW Contacted at the beginning of August, with apologies for contacting during recess. No response received to date - follow up email sent week beginning 9th Sept.
6 (iii)	A Working Party meeting is held (Globally Responsible Awards Scheme)			Ongoing	Date to be agreed by members of working party, waiting for WP members to be decided.
9	the Council should offer five sessions to schools to begin with, funded by the Council and if any savings can be made on the costs (i.e through grants) look to increase this number. (Sustainability)			Ongoing	Only interest received from Ysgol y Deri Barry Campus, Awaiting confirmation on how the workshop fits with the current KS Curriculum from provider.
10 (i)	The Wellbeing Goals Project Officer investigates training opportunities, regarding Town of sanctuary training			On Hold	Having discussed with City of Sanctuary team, no specific training is available at this time, but have regular check backs diarised to continuously check for new training when available.
10 (ii)	Councillor Payne be approached to join the Town and Parish meetings and the Chairperson is reserve.			On Hold	Put on hold until next meeting, due to personal reasons.
10 (iii)	Councillor Dancy approaches a contact at Vale of Glamorgan Council Educational department in reference to the school curriculum and feeds back to the officer. (Town of Sanctuary)			Ongoing	progress to be checked at next meeting
21	Meeting with Auditel to be arranged once report complete.	WGO		Ongoing	Same as Action 41 below
37	Review the past action sheets and highlight any outstanding relevant actions that are yet to be completed at the next meeting.	WGO	By next meeting May or EO prior	Complete	Current Action Sheet includes all previously noted actions
39	Wellbeing Goals Officer contact the Vale of Glamorgan Council requesting an update on their application to become a County of Sanctuary.	WGO	By next meeting May or EO prior	Complete	Cllr Johnson confirmed at Working Party meeting on 13/3/25 that no updates had been received from VoG.
40	That members consider how the budget can be allocated for the next financial year, and consider suggestions for projects from both Barry Town Council and external organisations.	Committee		Ongoing	To be considered at the EO meeting scheduled for 14 April.
40	That the Wellbeing Goals Officer looks at previous public consultations from the last two years for any relevant comments.	WGO		Ongoing	
40	That an Extraordinary meeting be considered before May 2025, to be confirmed once possible dates established.	E&E Mgr		Complete	Extraordinary meeting scheduled for Monday 14 April
41	That a meeting is arranged with Auditel as soon as possible.	E&E Mgr / WGO		Ongoing	Same as Action 21 above
41	That the Wellbeing Goals Officer begins to work on four suggestions detailed in the preliminary report.	WGO		Ongoing	Data collection for 2024 calendar year will begin shortly, following receipt of 2023 report.
42	Contact Fairtrade Wales to see if small grant available for purchase of bananas to hand out to Daffodil Dash participants	U		Complete	Bananas distributed at Daffodil Dash on 2/3/25. Fairtrade hot drink supplies ordered with surplus grant money.

GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	14 April 2025	AGENDA ITEM: 5
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Auditel – Carbon Footprint Update

Report Author

Amanda Webb – Wellbeing Projects Officer

Carbon Footprint Report - to follow

Purpose of Report

To update members on the progress of becoming Verified with our Carbon Footprint by Auditel

Update Information

Auditel provided us with a preliminary report (Friday 14 February) which was presented to members at the last committee meeting on Monday 17 February.

Auditel have confirmed that the full verification documents have been sent to the verifier with an expectation of the results being received by Friday 11 April. Should the full report be received ahead of this meeting, it will be shared with members separately.

Verification has been carried out using estimated energy usage data for Town Hall as the landlord did not provide accurate usage data for Barry Town Council's portion of the building, despite several requests for this information.

It has been discussed that a face-to-face meeting with Auditel representatives be arranged following completion of the verification and receipt of the report. As Auditel's policy is not to work outside of 'standard' office hours, this meeting cannot be arranged after 5pm. Auditel have proposed Monday 28 April at 11.30am to meet with members, and other interested Councillors.

Recommendation

1. That members receive and note report.
2. That members agree to meet with Auditel representatives on the date and time proposed, or offer alternative options.

GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	14 APRIL 2025	AGENDA ITEM: 6
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Fairtrade Update

Report Author

Amanda Webb – Wellbeing Projects Officer

Purpose of Report

To update members on the progress for promoting Fairtrade, including activities for Fairtrade Fortnight which is being held from 22 September 2025 through to 5 October 2025

Detailed Information

Summer Programme of Events

As in previous years, Barry Town Council will utilise corporate events being held throughout the year to promote Fairtrade. The WPO asks that if members are available to attend any of the events, in part or in full, to help promote Fairtrade, they sign up with the Engagement and Events Team.

New promotional material is to be created for this year's events, including a pop-up stand to be used at each event.

It is requested that £250 be released from the GRBC budget to purchase the new material and Fairtrade sample products for the events.

Fairtrade Fortnight

During Fairtrade fortnight we will promote Fairtrade products and ideology using social media platforms and the website.

A Fairtrade Quiz night has been booked to take place at Cemetery Approach Communittee Centre on Friday 26 September 2025. Invitations will be sent out to all local Fairtrade groups, including other Vale Councils.

It is requested that 3 Fairtrade hampers be offered as prizes for the quiz and that the cost of these be taken from the GRBC budget, up to £80 (1 x £40, 1 x £30, 1 x £20).

As discussed at the last meeting, as part of Fairtrade Fortnight, members are asked to volunteer to go into local schools and talk about Fairtrade. The officer would like to contact local schools after the Easter Holidays to offer dates for talks in the new academic year. It is requested that members, who are able, provide dates they are available to go into schools.

Recommendation

1. That members receive and note the report
2. That members agree to the budget spends requested in the report.
3. That members note the dates for all corporate events and agree to inform WPO which events they are available to attend.
4. That members provide the officer with available dates to visit schools during Fairtrade Fortnight by Friday 2 May.

GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	14 APRIL 2025	AGENDA ITEM: 7
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Town of Sanctuary – Working Party Update

Report Authors

Amanda Webb – Wellbeing Projects Officer
Cllr. Ian Johnson

Attached

Minutes from the Town of Sanctuary Meeting held 13 March 2025

Purpose of Report

To update members on the progress made with the Working Party for Town of Sanctuary

Detailed Information

The first meeting of the Town of Sanctuary Working Party was held on Thursday 13 March 2025. Cllr Ian Johnson has provided the following update:

'COUNCIL OF SANCTUARY

At the Full Council meeting of 9th October, 2023, Barry Town Council declared that it would become a Council of Sanctuary and would work in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council to achieve Town of Sanctuary status for the town of Barry.

We recognise that much of the support required by asylum seekers and refugees is provided by the Vale as the principal local authority or by the local health board, but as a Town Council we want to play our part in making Barry a welcoming and inclusive place for all.

In practical terms, this means that we will provide services and facilities to groups, for example the use of our community centres and host multicultural events which help our new residents to become part of the community in Barry – a town which has been the home of many cultures since the docks were first built in the 1880s.'

A further verbal update is to be received from Cllr Johnson at the meeting.

Multi-Cultural Event

A provisional budget of £2,000 has been assigned to the event from Vibrant Culture Committee.

A provisional date has been booked during Refugee Week, for Friday 20 June 2025 at Cemetery Approach Community Centre.

The initial event plan is to be based on family food recipes and cultural music. We will ask Barry residents to bring along past family recipes written and cooked, while we will have live music from different cultures. The recipes will be available to take home, and we are also investigating the possibility of producing a recipe booklet to distribute.

All Councillors will be invited to attend, and all help and recipes will be welcomed.

Any suggestions for the event from members is appreciated.

Recommendation

1. That members receive and note the minutes from the Working Party meeting
2. That members note and diarise the date for the Multi-Cultural event so that they are available to attend.

BARRY TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF SANCTUARY WORKING PARTY HELD ON
MONDAY 13 MARCH 2025 AT 6PM**

PRESENT: Councillors Dancey, Johnson, Payne, and Perkes.

ALSO PRESENT: Amanda Webb – Wellbeing Goals Officer
Joanne John – Engagement and Events Administrator

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON FOR 2024/25 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Wellbeing Goals Officer requested nominations from members for the Election of Chairperson for 2024/25 Municipal Year.

Councillor H Payne nominated Councillor Johnson with Councillor Perkes seconding the nomination.

No other nominations were received.

RESOLVED: that Councillor Johnson is elected as the Chairperson for the Town of Sanctuary Working Party for the 2024/25 Municipal Year.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR 2024/25 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Chair requested nominations from members for the election of Vice-Chairperson for 2024/25 Municipal Year.

Councillor S Perkes nominated Councillor Payne, with Councillor Dancey seconding the nomination.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Payne be elected as Vice-Chairperson for the Town of Sanctuary Working Party for the 2024/25 Municipal Year.

3. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

4. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

None received.

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

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

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE

BY WAY OF RECOMMENDATION TO THE GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE

- To lead discussions on pursuing and maintaining Council of Sanctuary and Town of Sanctuary Status for Barry.
- To make recommendations concerning the Council of Sanctuary and Town of Sanctuary Status for Barry back to the Globally Responsible Committee.

The Chair advised members that accreditation is no longer provided on a local basis. He advised that the governing body have reached the conclusion that giving titles such as 'Town of Sanctuary' does not meet the needs, and they will consider applications on an institution by institution basis. The Chair continued to advise that we could call ourselves a Town of Sanctuary but it would have no independently verified status or have to show a body of evidence.

Members queried if we could work towards the goal of becoming the 'Barry Town Council of Sanctuary'. The Wellbeing Goals Officer confirmed from checking the <https://cityofsanctuary.org/> website that we would be considered a 'local group' – a group who endorsed the charter, and adopted the values. Members agreed to revisit discussion on this topic at another date, and leave the wording 'Council of Sanctuary and Town of Sanctuary Status for Barry' as it was for the time being.

RESOLVED: That the Terms of Reference be received and noted.

7. TOWN OF SANCTUARY WORKING PARTY UPDATE

Councillor Johnson confirmed there had been no update on the report from the Vale of Glamorgan Council or the action plan associated with that report. The Chair advised that the Vale of Glamorgan Council had responsibility for three main elements: Education, Housing and Refugees, and we should be considering raising awareness within these initiatives. The Chair highlighted that Refugee Week 2025 will be celebrated from Sunday 15 June to Saturday 21 June, which would be a good time to hold the multicultural event which Barry Town Council are working towards. The Chair advised it should be in association with the Vale of Glamorgan Council so that the relevant groups are invited. The Chair also suggested the following ways in which Barry Town Council can adopt the Council of Sanctuary values:

- Provision of Council venues (Community Centres and Council Chamber) for groups / meetings.
- Promote awareness and initiatives around sanctuary as a concept.
- Visibility on website, notice boards and social media.
- Look at potential volunteering opportunities, and working towards lifting the ban on asylum seekers working
- Raising awareness within the Council and Staff.

Members agreed with the points raised above and added we should prioritise on 'myth busting', and we should also be looking at how we can help and facilitate families to celebrate and recognise their National Days.

Members discussed the various groups within the area of Barry, and agreed a list should be made of the most common community groups within the area along with details on any National celebrations. Councillor Perkes commented that Barry should be a place of sanctuary for anyone living here, and advised that through her work has a number of connections which may help identify various groups in the area.

Councillor Payne suggested it involved an historical link and the contribution made to Barry i.e. building the docks, social histories, so that the focus is it being a positive piece of work. Councillor Dancey added if we could identify the community leaders we could look at recording short interviews with them for the website in the future. The Chair agreed and added it will soon be the 120th anniversary of the birth of Gareth Jones. Councillor Dancey suggested we create a timeline of community groups in Barry for the website. Members agreed the following actions should be a priority:

- Draft some text ahead of the next Globally Responsible meeting to provide background and context to the Town of Sanctuary work.
- Look at plans for an event during refugee week that can be held in one of our Community Centres.
- Pull together myth busting facts for the website / social media to be agreed at the next Town of Sanctuary working party meeting.
- Plan social media coverage for refugee week.
- Look for available dates for a Town of Sanctuary working party meeting to take place in May.

The Chair offered to write some short copy for the background statement which can then be added to the next Globally Responsible Barry agenda. Members asked if this should be multilingual including Ukrainian, Afghanistan (Dari and Pashto) and Syrian, and also available as a recording. The Chair advised that it would come back to what schemes the Vale of Glamorgan Council had in place and what they would advise

on best practice and availability. The Chair agreed to contact Tom Bowring, Director of Corporate Services in the Vale of Glamorgan to see if there was an update on any of the sanctuary work.

RESOLVED: That members received and noted the report with the Wellbeing Goals Officer to provide an update on discussions to the next meeting of the Globally Responsible Barry Committee.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that the next meeting of the Town of Sanctuary Working Party will be in May – date TBC.

Meeting closed at 6:51pm

Signed (Chairperson) Dated