

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 6 OCTOBER 2025 AT 7PM

PRESENT: Councillors Aviet, together with Councillors Ball, S Hodges, N Hodges (Vice Chair) & Perkes.

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Mason – Interim Deputy Chief Officer
Emma Thorne - Engagement and Events Officer
Joanne John - Engagement and Events Administrator
Cllr Johnson – Observer
David Cole - entered 7.04pm, left 7.13pm (RBL)
Jeff Rees - entered 7.04pm, left 7.13pm (RBL)
Matt Blumberg - entered 7.42pm, left 8.13pm (Mack Events)
Dr Jonathan Hicks - entered 7.42pm, left 8.13pm (Mack Events)

67. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Brooks and Davies-Powell

68. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE COUNCILS CODE OF CONDUCT

None Received

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

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

70. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE VIBRANT CULTURE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 7 JULY 2025

The Vice Chair asked for an update on point 59.3 on the action sheets with regards to the Heritage Centre Working Party. The Interim Deputy Chief Officer advised that he has been in contact to arrange a viewing in the Waterfront properties, but has not received a response, and will continue to try. Members suggested the Working Party meet in the meantime to investigate alternative options.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Vibrant Culture Committee held on 7 July 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

71. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 31 AUGUST 2025

Members were presented with the report confirming that there is a projected overspend, however the Interim Deputy Chief Officer advised this will even out once a number of event budgets had been finalised following the events.

RESOLVED: That the Budget Monitoring Report to 31 August 2025, be received and noted.

7.04pm David Cole and Jeff Rees from RBL joined the meeting

72. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2025

The Interim Deputy Chief Officer gave a summary of the report, and advised members that all agencies involved were satisfied with the proposed plans, and the road closure had been approved by the Vale of Glamorgan Council. He confirmed that the parade will depart King Square a little later at 10.25am to avoid arriving early at the Cenotaph, and there will be an enhanced first aid provision this year, including an ambulance that can convey. Other improvements will include hiring a platform with handrails to replace the current dias, due to its condition, and an improved sound system for the service.

One condition of the road closure arrangements is that local businesses and residents are informed in advance. The Interim Deputy Chief Officer requested that members help distribute these letters if they are able to. Cllrs N and S Hodges said they would be happy to help.

Mr Cole agreed that starting at 10.25am would be better, and they would also request that the band slow down. He suggested that we ask for assistance from Barry Round Table on the day. The Engagement and Events Officer confirmed she is already in contact with them. She added that she had also been trying to contact HM Coastguards but was yet to receive a response. Mr Cole informed members that RBL will be providing refreshments in the RAF Air Cadet building following the service.

Cllr S Hodges noted that they thought staff coped very well last year with the first aid incidents, and was pleased to note that this year we can offer an improved provision, at the Council's expense. Cllr S Hodges queried if all the arrangements had been confirmed with the Memo Arts Centre. The Interim Deputy Chief Officer confirmed that use of the cenotaph, memorial hall, and toilets had been agreed. Concerns were raised with regards to parking and traffic as the Memo Arts Centre has another event that weekend.

The Vice Chair asked if there were any further questions of which there were none, and thanked the RBL members for attending.

7.13pm David Cole and Jeff Rees from RBL left the meeting

73. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY

The Interim Deputy Chief Officer summarised the report and feedback from the summer events attended by the Future Generations Project Officer whilst researching the NFC Band scheme. Positive feedback was received, with some organisations guiding us to alternative bands that may be more aesthetically pleasing. He added that the Future Generations Project Officer is currently trialling some of the bands.

The Vice Chair commented that we wouldn't want to be involved with the upkeep or ongoing running costs, but it would be useful following the trial that the Future Generations Project Officer come back to the committee with a recommendation.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

74. CHRISTMAS EVENT

The Engagement and Events Officer summarised the report advising members that this year's Christmas event will be different and will be a one day event on Saturday 22nd November, 10am – 7pm, similar to what took place 10 years ago. This was due to not receiving approx. £25,000 of SPF funding from the Vale of Glamorgan Council. This funding would usually have covered services such as weather suitable huts, overnight security, and additional entertainment. The Interim Deputy Chief Officer commended the Engagement and Events Officer on her work reshaping the event at short notice whilst retaining many of the key elements.

The Vice Chair commented that it was a shame we found out about the lack of funding at short notice, but remembers the how the event used to be, and commented that it would be more than acceptable. He added there may be a possibility of requesting additional budget from Shop Local Advisory Committee's allocation. He commented that we were good at showing value for money, and making every pound count.

Members asked for further information on why we were not receiving the SPF funding this year, and discussed the support given by the Vale of

Glamorgan Tourism and Events team. The Engagement and Events Officer confirmed that the Vale of Glamorgan will be loaning the gazebos to us at no cost, and we continue to have a good working relationship with the Tourism and Events team. Members appreciated the fact that withdrawal of grant funding is problematic, and raised concerns at the short notice we were given, and noted that there may be public comments about the difference look and feel of the event. Some members also felt this was a matter to be highlighted for Barry Town Councillors who also sit on the Vale of Glamorgan Council. Cllr Johnson echoed the Vice Chair's earlier comments that it may be possible to request additional budget from Shop Local considering the footfall the event will bring into Holton Road. The Interim Deputy Chief Officer advised he would produce a report to request the additional budget to be submitted to Finance, Policy and General Purposes Committee on 20th October 2025.

The Vice Chair commented that we shouldn't become reliant on the Vale of Glamorgan Council or any others, as to lose funding this late in the day was worrying. He added that the ownership of King Square, where we hold a number of our own events, should be a consideration for the future.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members received and noted the report.**
- 2. That the Interim Deputy Chief Officer will prepare a report for Finance, Policy and General Purposes Committee on 20th October 2025 requesting additional Christmas event budget from Shop Local.**

75. SUMMER EVENTS REPORT

The Engagement and Events Officer summarised the report on the events Barry Town Council have organised and attended over the summer months.

The Vice Chair commented that looking through the list he felt that all events were successful and here to stay. Members added that they would like to commend the Engagement and Events team, and the events they had attended had been very enjoyable. The Vice Chair agreed and added that the events had increased the profile of the Town Council, applauding the social media coverage, and had helped to differentiate between the work Barry Town Council do and the Vale of Glamorgan Council. Cllr Johnson added it was pleasing to see Barry Town Council as a main sponsor of Gwyl Fach y Fro in May, and it was great to have Welsh speaking staff working the event, but next year we should ensure all print material is bilingual.

The Interim Deputy Chief Officer advised members that the Future Generations Project Officer is currently looking to arrange a working party to discuss the proposed newsletter.

The Vice Chair asked if there were any other comments to which there were none.

RESOLVED: That members received and noted the report.

76. FAMILY FUN DAY

The Interim Deputy Chief Officer and the Engagement and Events Officer summarised the report noting that we have received lots of positive feedback.

The Vice Chair highlighted we had received good attendance figures, and how a number of these events are weather dependant.

RESOLVED: That members received and noted the report.

77. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Vibrant Culture Committee is scheduled to be held on 24 November 2025 at 7pm.

78. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

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.

79. GLASTONBARRY GRANTS

7.42pm Matt Blumberg and Dr Jonathan Hicks from Mack Events entered the meeting.

The Vice Chair welcomed Matt Blumberg and Dr Jonathan Hicks and explained the application process. Mr Blumberg and Dr Hicks then provided with a detailed overview of the festival, and plans going forward for the Fringe event and the main Glastonbary weekend. Following their presentation, members continued to discuss the application.

Confidential notes will be held with the Chief Officer as the discussion and applications contains commercially sensitive information.

8.13pm Matt Blumberg and Dr Jonathan Hicks from Mack Events left the meeting.

80. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 3(aa)**

RESOLVED that Standing Order 3(aa) be suspended for a period of ten minutes.

80a. **GLASTONBARRY GRANTS**

RESOLVED:

1. That members received and noted the report.
2. That the Interim Deputy Chief Officer will investigate corporate packages and draft a memorandum of understanding.

RECOMMENDATION:

3. That a grant of £2,000 per year for 2 years is awarded to Mack Events towards the Glastonbary Fringe Arts Festival subject to being agreed at the meeting of Finance, Policy and General Purposes on 20th October 2025, to include confirmation of which budget it is allocated to.
4. That a grant of £25,000 per year for 2 years is awarded to Mack Events for the main Glastonbary Festival subject to being agreed at the meeting of Finance, Policy and General Purposes on 20th October 2025, to include confirmation of which budget it is allocated to.

Meeting closed at 8:34pm

Signed (Chairperson)

Dated