

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 2 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7PM

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

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Mason – Head of Community Services & Facilities
Kathryn Thomas - Office Manager

93. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Davies-Powell

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

None Received

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

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

96. STANDING ORDER 3(O)

The use of cameras, camcorders and other recording devices in all Council, Communities and Sub-Committee meetings is expressly forbidden, with the exception of any formal recording of proceedings in accordance with the Council's policy, should the council instigate such a policy.

RESOLVED: That the Standing Order 3(o) be received and noted.

97. **TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE VIBRANT CULTURE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2025**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Vibrant Culture Committee held on 24 November 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

98. **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO DECEMBER 2025**

Members were presented with the report December 2025, indicating actual income and expenditure up to the end of month nine in the 2025/26 financial year.

The projected out turn for the current financial year anticipates overspends and underspends on various budget headings currently projecting a net underspend of £500

RESOLVED:

That the Budget Monitoring Report to December 2025, indicating actual income and expenditure up to the end of month nine noting the projected underspend of £500 be received and noted.

99. **E-NEWSLETTER DRAFT – 1ST EDITION**

Following on from the meeting held on 2 December 2025 for the Working Party set up to discuss the e-newsletter, members were updated on progress, with a draft having been presented to the Globally Responsible Barry Committee at their meeting on 26 January 2026.

Feedback was given to the Future Generations Project Officer including making the e-Newsletter shorter.

The Head of Community Services & Facilities confirmed they had been working on the feedback. If the newsletter is to be a little shorter, then consideration is being given to increasing the frequency from a 3 monthly basis.

Councillor Brooks asked how we are going to encourage people to sign up to our newsletter.

The Head of Community Services & Facilities said that this will be done at all our events throughout the year

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

100. **HERITAGE CENTRE PROJECT OFFICER - COMMUNICATON**

RESOLVED: That this agenda item be moved to Part 2 of the meeting.

101. ST DAVIDS DAY FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Members were presented with an update on the upcoming St Davids Day Festival Weekend.

This will be a 2-day festival with which take place on King Square and in Central Park on 28 February 2026, and the Daffodil Dash on 1st March at Barry Island.

The festival will run from 10am-3pm which will include bilingual live music and entertainment plus a selection of local traders selling craft and food items on King Square and in Central Park, there will be a range of activities including South Wales Police and the Barry & District Rotary Club. There will also be an opportunity to meet Dexter the Dragon.

The Daffodil Dash will be on 1st March over Barry Island. There will be the 2k fun run where participants are encouraged to wear their best Welsh-themed outfit to run, walk, jog or stroll our 2km route.

We will provide some daffodil merchandise for the runners and this year we are going to have craft traders, live music and choirs to try and encourage people to stay, rather than leaving as soon as the run is over.

Registration opens at 10.00am with a warm up from 10.45. The run will start at 11.00am.

RESOLVED: That members receive the report

102. UK TOWN OF CULTURE 2028

Members were asked to agree for officers to prepare and submit an Expression of Interest in Barry becoming a UK Town of Culture 2028.

The Head of Community Services and Facilities updated members on the process of submitting an Expression of Interest.

Three finalists – one small, one medium and one large town will be chosen. The winner will be crowned UK Town of Culture 2028 and receive a £3million prize. The two runners up will each receive £250,000 to deliver elements of their bid. Barry would fall into the medium town category.

The deadline is 31 March 2026, with the shortlist of towns expected to be announced this Spring. Shortlisted towns will receive £60,000 to help deliver their full bids for the competition.

The Future Generations Project Officer would prepare the document and has agreed to work additional hours in respect of this work. The cost of

these additional hours is available in the Council's salaries budget, which has already been agreed with the Deputy Chief Officer/Responsible Finance Officer

Councillors Brooks and S Hodges both agreed that we should go with it.

Councillor Brooks said we have a unique aspect being bilingual – that should go in our favour. We are proud of our Welsh Culture.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members receive and note the UK Town of Culture 2028 report**
- 2. That members approve the request for Barry Town Council to submit an Expression of Interest for the UK Town of Culture 2028.**

103. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Vibrant Culture Committee is scheduled to be held on Monday 13 April 2026.

104. **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.

105. **CHRISTMAS TREE ON KING SQUARE**

Members were provided with a report on the town centre Christmas Tree in 2025 and asked to consider whether the Town Council would again fund the town's Christmas Tree in 2026.

Councillor Brooks noted it was a fantastic tree last year, and we had no issues. It's in the perfect spot with the backdrop of the Town Hall behind it.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members receive and note the Christmas Tree Report**
- 2. That members agree that Barry Town Council will organise and fund a Christmas tree on King Square in 2026.**

106.

HERITAGE CENTRE PROJECT OFFICER - COMMUNICATONS

Members discussed the report presented to them and agreed a structure for communication to ensure that members remain informed of progress with this workstream, with suitable opportunities to input and steer the direction of progress.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That members receive and note the Heritage Centre Project report**
- 2. That the Heritage Centre Working Party will meet online only on a monthly basis, comprised of members of the Vibrant Culture committee.**
- 3. That an executive summary of progress be presented to each meeting of the Vibrant Culture Committee.**

Meeting closed at 7:41pm

Signed (Chairperson)

Dated