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 GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 7PM

PRESENT: Councillors Clarke, Dancey, Johnson (Chair) and Payne

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Sims - Deputy Chief Officer
Manda Webb - Future Generations Project Officer
Tesni Owens - Engagement & Events Support Officer
Councillor N Hodges - Observer
Councillor S Hodges - Observer

132. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

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

None received.

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

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 the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

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

135. STANDING ORDER 3(O)

The use of cameras, camcorders and other recording devices in all Council, Committee a 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 Standing Order 3(o) be received and noted.

136. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE GLOBALLY RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE'S MEETING HELD ON 23 JUNE 2026

RESOLVED: **That the minutes of the Globally Responsible Committee held on 23 June 2026 be approved and signed as a correct record**

137. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 31 JULY 2026

The Committee received and noted the Budget Monitoring Report to 31 July 2026.

RESOLVED: That the Budget Monitoring Report to 31 July 2026 be received and noted.

138. AUDITEL

The Future Generations Project Officer presented the Council's 2024/25 carbon footprint report. The report showed a 5.13% reduction in the Council's carbon footprint compared with the 2023 baseline. It was noted that some of the data used continued to rely on estimates.

The Future Generations Project Officer advised that work would continue on improving data collection, including recording waste weights at Council sites, and that she was working on carbon reduction plans for consideration at the next meeting. The Future Generations Project Officer also highlighted the importance of focusing future carbon reduction efforts on the Council's largest sources of emissions.

The Chair noted that, using the same data collection methods across the two reporting periods, a promising reduction had been identified, although improvements to the methodology may affect future figures. The Future Generations Project Officer advised that the 2025/26 report was expected by the end of the calendar year.

The Committee discussed the availability and accuracy of utility data. In relation to Pioneer Hall, it was noted that gas bill information was unavailable for the report and that there was currently no smart meter installed. The Future Generations Project Officer agreed to investigate the possibility of installing a smart meter to enable more accurate and readily available readings.

The Committee also discussed the current Auditel contract and whether the Council was receiving value for money. It was noted that the contract runs until October 2026 and that the Committee had previously agreed to continue the arrangement. Members discussed whether the Council could undertake the work internally, including whether AI could be used to assist with the carbon footprint reporting. Members acknowledged that there were currently insufficient staff capacity and expertise to undertake the work internally. Members also discussed the wider policy implications of the Council's use of AI, and it was suggested that this would be more appropriately considered by the Finance & Policy Committee.

Concerns were also raised regarding the Council's inability to obtain accurate utility data from the Vale of Glamorgan Council, particularly in relation to Town Hall, resulting in estimates being used in the carbon footprint calculations. The Committee agreed that Huw Williams from Auditel should be invited to attend the next meeting to discuss the data, methodology and any limitations arising from the information available.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

139. FAIRTRADE UPDATE

The Future Generations Project Officer presented the Fairtrade Update, including confirmation that Barry's Fairtrade Town status had been renewed for a further three years. The Committee was advised of ongoing work to promote Fairtrade at local events, including product tastings, showcasing Fairtrade products and the use of new promotional artwork and marketing materials.

An update was also provided on the Council's work with Ysgol y Deri, including a Fairtrade presentation and product samples. The initiative had received very positive feedback, with pupils and schools keen for the work to continue annually and for Fairtrade to remain within the curriculum.

The Committee was advised that a Fairtrade grant had been received, with some funding to be used during Fairtrade Fortnight. The Co-op has donated a hamper for the Fairtrade quiz, with Fairtrade prizes to be

provided for the quiz and raffle. It was noted that the proposed Fairtrade Market would not be proceeding, as although traders had expressed enthusiasm, none were able to commit to attending.

The Chair congratulated the Future Generations Project Officer on the renewal of Barry's Fairtrade Town status and highlighted the Committee's ongoing work in support of Fairtrade. The Chair highlighted a typographical error in the agenda, with the Fairtrade Litter Pick listed as 4 August rather than 4 October 2026.

The Committee discussed the distribution of Fairtrade bananas at Barry Town AFC, and the Chair asked for this to be arranged. The Chair requested that invitations to the Fairtrade Fortnight events be circulated to all relevant parties. An update was provided regarding the cleaning of the Fairtrade Town signs, with the Future Generations Project Officer awaiting confirmation of dates. It was suggested that the cleaning could be recorded for use on social media, and the Future Generations Project Officer agreed to enquire whether this would be possible.

RESOLVED: That the Fairtrade Update be received and noted.

140. SCHOOL BIODIVERSITY PROGRAMME

The Future Generations Project Officer presented the School Biodiversity Programme report and provided an update on the pilot programme at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery. Schools in the local area had been invited to participate, with further contact to be made at the start of the new school year. A meeting had been arranged with All Saints Primary School, who were interested in delivering the programme across multiple school years. The worksheets would continue to be developed and adapted.

The Chair welcomed the interest from All Saints Primary School in engaging pupils across multiple years and noted the importance of gathering feedback to identify what worked well and where improvements could be made. Councillor N Hodges noted that the programme complemented the Green Flag status of Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery and offered his support with future events, as did Councillor Payne.

The Chair advised the Committee of discussions at the Halls, Cemeteries and Community Facilities Committee regarding biodiversity and No Mow May and noted that the implications of any move away from No Mow May should be considered alongside the Council's biodiversity work at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery.

The Committee discussed whether financial assistance towards transport costs could be made available to schools visiting Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery. It was noted that the Council had previously funded transport for school visits. Members discussed whether this should be highlighted when contacting schools but noted that no schools had requested financial assistance to date. It was suggested that schools could be asked whether transport or any other barriers were preventing participation. The Chair noted that the programme remained a pilot and that the capacity required to deliver it would need to be considered.

RESOLVED: That the School Biodiversity Programme report be received and noted.

141. <u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u>

RESOLVED: That the date of the next meeting of the Globally Responsible Committee be Monday 16 November 2026

Meeting closed at 7:51pm

Signed ……..... (Chairperson) Dated …….....