

Minutes of the meeting of Bangor City Council held at Penrhyn Hall and via Teams video conferencing on **17th February 2025** at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: - His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Gareth Parry (Chair), Cllr. Medwyn Hughes (Deputy Mayor), Cllr. Steve Bell, Cllr. Salamatu Fada, Cllr. Dylan Fernley, Cllr. Simon Hibbs, Cllr. John Wyn Jones, Cllr. Elin Walker Jones, Cllr. Nigel Pickavance, Cllr. Gareth Roberts, Cllr. Gwynant Roberts, Cllr. Eirian Williams Roberts, Cllr. Mark Roberts, Cllr. Delyth Russell, Cllr. Lisa Toth, Cllr. John Wyn Williams & Cllr. Jackie Spence.

Officers:- Martin Hanks (City Director), Carwyn Davies (Administrative Officer) & Sioned Jones (Translator) and one member of the public.

120/24 APOLOGIES: Cllr. Huw Wyn Jones, Cllr. Beverley Jones & Cllr. Michael Pattison.

121/24 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION

None

122/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair addressed the Council that this item had been deferred to the next Council meeting of the 17th of March 2025. This is due to the two members of the public not being able to attend this meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To request that the City Director invite the two representatives to the next Council meeting on the 17th of March 2025.

123/24 CO-OPTION OF CITY COUNCILLOR TO MENAI WARD

The Council received presentations from two candidates for the vacant seat in the Menai Ward.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to co-opt Jackie Spence to the vacant Menai Ward seat.

124/24 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 13TH OF JANUARY 2025

IT WAS RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the Council meeting of the 13th of January 2025 as an accurate record of the meeting.

TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 27TH OF JANUARY 2025

IT WAS RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the Council meeting of the 27th of January 2025 as an accurate record of the meeting.

125/24 CITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The report had been circulated before the meeting.

The City Director highlighted and recited a few points from his report to the council on the following:-

- i) The City Council has obtained two grants to assist with the establishing of the community hub in Cafe Hafan totaling almost £6,000. This transfer is more or less completed and the location is proving popular with third-sector organisations.
- ii) A meeting took place last Wednesday between Cyngor Gwynedd, Bangor University and City Council officers to re-examine the problems of rubbish and waste collection in Upper Bangor. It was pleasing to see five Gwynedd Cabinet Members in attendance and while the discussion raised some challenging issues, there was an agreement to try some new ways to tackle the problems.
- iii) On the 28th of this month, a plaque will be unveiled, here in Penrhyn Hall, to commemorate the signing of the Tripartite Indenture Agreement in 1405 AD, between Owain Glyndwr, Edmund Mortimer, and Henry Percy 1st Earl of Northumberland. Guests have been invited, including the Chairman of the Owain Glyndwr Society, and light refreshments are being served in the Hall afterward.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To accept the report.

126/24 TO DISCUSS THE FREEDOM OF BANGOR AWARDS

A proposal had been presented to the Council for the possibility of awarding the Bangor Cathedral the Freedom of the City. Given that this is a historic milestone for the Cathedral for its 1,500-year anniversary since it was established.

IT WAS RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to award the Bangor Cathedral the Freedom of the City of Bangor. Councillors were asked by the Chair to consider other nominations by the next meeting and to submit proposals to the City Director.

127/24 TO DISCUSS SOLAR POWER FOR PENRHYN HALL

The report on these three options had been pre-circulated before the meeting.

The Council's Project Officer was in attendance to answer questions on the various proposals for new solar panels to be fitted to Penrhyn Hall. The solar panels will be fitted and wired to

supply electricity to the City Council offices. The fitting of these solar panels will ensure that the City Council can reach its target of becoming a more energy-efficient and greener Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED that option 3, Council staff to organise fitting solar power, would be the more favored option. However, it was requested for the City Director to provide a cost breakdown for the project, including estimated savings, at the next council meeting.

As the next item contained detailed discussion of the lease agreement between the City Council and Nantporth CIC it was proposed that the press and public be excluded.

IT WAS RESOLVED: it was resolved to exclude the press and public during the next item 128/24.

128/24 TO DISCUSS A REQUEST FROM NANTPORTH CIC

The City Director addressed the Council on requests that had been made on the future of Nantporth Stadium by the directors of the Nantporth CIC.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- i) To reject the request for a 250 year lease, as was requested.
- ii) To reject the request to reduce the rent to £1 per annum for 250 years.
- iii) To confirm that that the City Council had no interest in selling the stadium at this time
- iv) To approve discussions on extending the current lease to a term that would facilitate a Welsh FA grant.

129/24 TO DISCUSS THE WARTSKI HERITAGE TRAIL PROPOSAL

A proposal for a Wartski Heritage Trail in Bangor was presented to the Council. The trail would follow the historic areas in and around Bangor that has been influenced by the Wartski family. These are areas such as Wartski fields on Holyhead Road, presented to the City in memory of a member of the family who was Mayor in 1939 – 1941. The Council was informed that the Wartski family have confirmed that they will be providing a contribution towards the establishment of the trail. The City Council has been asked if a contribution can be given towards the trail.

IT WAS RESOLVED: It was agreed that this item should be deferred to the next council meeting pending more information.

The meeting ended at 9.00 pm

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