

Minutes of the meeting of Bangor City Council that was held at Penrhyn Hall on **6<sup>th</sup> November 2023** at 6.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** - Her Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Elin Walker Jones, Cllr. Gareth Parry (Deputy Mayor), Cllr. Steve Bell, Cllr. Salamatu Fada (intermittently), Cllr. Dylan Fernley, Cllr. Medwyn Hughes, Cllr John Wyn Jones, Cllr. Meic Pattison, Cllr. Eirian Williams Roberts, Cllr. Gwynant Roberts, Cllr. Mark Roberts, Cllr. L. Toth, Cllr John Wyn Williams.

Officers:- Martin Hanks (City Director), Llinos F. Jones, (Deputy City Director), Lowri Gwyn (Translator) and two members of the Public.

**68/23 APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Huw Wyn Jones, Cllr. Nigel Pickavance, Cllr Gareth Roberts, Cllr. Delyth Russell.

**69/23 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION**

Cllr Gareth Parry declared an interest in item 77/23 below due to his previous involvement with MCPT.

**70/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**70/23 a) TO SET ASIDE STANDING ORDERS TO ALLOW FOR AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST.**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To set aside Standing Orders for the next item only.

**70/23 b) TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION**

Bangor City Council expresses its despair for the people in Gaza, Israel and the West Bank who are suffering the effects of the violence, and implores, on behalf of all residents of the City, for an end to the fighting and violence.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To accept the resolution.

**71/23 CITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*The Report had been circulated before the meeting.*

The City Director's report had been pre-circulated in advance of the meeting. The Director advised the Council that there was now a candidate interested in the vacant Marchog seat, and it was hoped that this candidate would be available to attend the next meeting. Also, a vacancy had opened up in the Menai Ward and there was already an interested party in this seat. The Director reported that the visit by the delegates from the Twin City of Soest had been a great success as had the firework display of the previous evening. Finally, as next Sunday was Remembrance Sunday, the Director asked all Councillors to make every effort to attend.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To accept the City Director's Report.

**72/23 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**

*The minutes of the Council meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October had been pre-circulated to Councillors.*

The City Director reported that one amendment was required to item 64/23 and that the resolution should read 'Resolved to obtain more details on how the Council can comply with this commitment and how much it will impact the Council's operation before making a final decision. Cllr Bell, Cllr Patterson and Cllr Toth offered to assist with this assessment.'

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that with the incorporation of the amendment, the minutes were a true and accurate record of the Council Meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023.

### **73/23 TO APPROVE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A FINANCE & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.**

*The detailed Terms of Reference for the Finance & Oversight Committee had been pre-circulated in advance of the meeting.*

The detailed Terms of Reference were discussed briefly.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to accept the Terms of Reference for the Finance and Oversight Committee as presented.

### **74/23 TO APPROVE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO TWINNING BANGOR WITH MAY PEN JAMAICA**

The Council were advised that a request had been received from May Pen, in Jamaica, given the historical links between the two regions, to open negotiations on the potential of Twinning May Pen and Bangor. A detailed discussion ensued on the potential costs against the benefits of such an arrangement.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to establish a task and finish working group to explore this proposal further and report its findings and recommendations to the Council. The councillors appointed to the working group were Cllr Elin Walker Jones (Mayor), Cllr Gareth Parry (Deputy Mayor), Cllr Dylan Fernley, Cllr. Medwyn Hughes, Cllr. Meic Pattison, Cllr. Eirian Williams Roberts.

### **75/23 TO APPROVE JOINT FIRST AID COVER FOR THE CITY CENTRE OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.**

It was reported that a request had been received to support a project which would supply first aid from a National professional supplier to cover the city centre on what was considered to be the busiest evenings of the Christmas and New Year period, in conjunction with Bangor BID and Trilogy Night Club. The project was designed to take the pressure off the NHS and A&E. The cost of such cover, which included the supply of an Ambulance and four qualified staff, on 'Black' Friday, Boxing Day and New Year's Eve would be a total of £1,400 to each participant in the project. Following a full discussion, there was a general feeling that the need for the project had not been proven.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to ask the Finance and Monitoring Committee to assess the benefits of this project to the City and report back.

### **76/23 REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR MCPT**

The Council received a request for financial support for MCPT to continue to undertake community work. It was acknowledged that MCPT had made a valuable contribution to recent Council events, including the Mayor's Clean-Up Day, Firework Night and the annual cleaning of the War Memorial etc

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to award a grant of £2,000 to the local branch of the MCPT as recognition for the community work undertaken in Bangor.

## **77/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

- i. Proposed introduction of double yellow lines Fountain Street & Robert Street  
**No objection**
  
- ii. C23/0787/11/LL – Bangor University, School of Computer Science & Electronics, Dean Street, Bangor – Construction of a series of security fences around the building perimeter.  
**No formal object, however, the Council wanted to note that the erecting of a steel fence around the building was not in keeping with the Council's nor the University's greening and sustainability policies.**
  
- iii. C22/0176/11/LL – Pontio Ffordd Deiniol, Bangor – Improvement works to College Park including the provision of a new footpath and associated landscaping.  
**No objection to the overall project. However, the plans show an area of skate activity that interjects with the path in several places. The Council wished to object to these intersections on safety grounds, as they cause an increased risk to pedestrians from skaters travelling at speed. It was noted that the width of the footpath was not ideal either.**
  
- iv. C23/0639/11/CT – 18 Trem y Wyddfa, Bangor – Works to trees in a conservation area.  
**No objections**
  
- v. C23/0127/11/HY – Nyth, Ffordd Garth, Bangor – Create new illuminated signs behind the railing.  
**No objections**
  
- vi. C23/0782/11/LL – Top Shop and Top Man, 255-257 High Street Bangor – Change of use from A1 retail to provide 'Ty Cyfle' with ground floor to be used as a customer service area for both Grwp Llandrillo Menai and Adra and Lifelong Learning training facility on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.  
**No objections**

**The meeting ended at 8.30 pm**

**CYFARWYDDWR DINESIG – Martin Hanks – CITY DIRECTOR**