

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN REMOTELY VIA SKYPE ON WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 15:00

Present

Councillor SE Baldwin – Chairperson

S Aspey	TH Beedle	JPD Blundell	NA Burnett
MC Clarke	N Clarke	RJ Collins	HJ David
P Davies	PA Davies	SK Dendy	DK Edwards
J Gebbie	T Giffard	RM Granville	CA Green
DG Howells	A Hussain	RM James	B Jones
M Jones	MJ Kearn	DRW Lewis	JE Lewis
JR McCarthy	D Patel	RL Penhale-Thomas	AA Pucella
JC Radcliffe	KL Rowlands	B Sedgebeer	RMI Shaw
CE Smith	SG Smith	JC Spanswick	RME Stirman
G Thomas	T Thomas	JH Tildesley MBE	E Venables
SR Vidal	MC Voisey	LM Walters	KJ Watts
CA Webster	DBF White	PJ White	A Williams
AJ Williams	HM Williams	JE Williams	RE Young

Officers:

Julie Ellams	Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Mark Galvin	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Lindsay Harvey	Corporate Director Education and Family Support
Gill Lewis	Interim Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change
Claire Marchant	Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing
Janine Nightingale	Corporate Director - Communities
Michael Pitman	Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Andrew Rees	Democratic Services Manager
Mark Shephard	Chief Executive
Kelly Watson	Chief Officer Legal, HR and Regulatory Services

439. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

440. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR COUNCILLOR SE BALDWIN

The Mayor before making his announcements, advised Council that at the last ordinary Council, he made a point indicating that a Conservative Councillor had made an incorrect statement. The Mayor advised that he was wrong to indicate that Member to be a Conservative Member, when it could have in fact, been any Councillor in attendance at the meeting.

The Mayor's announcement was as follows:-

"I would like to say that it has been an absolute pleasure to serve as the Mayor of Bridgend County Borough Council for 2019/2020. I may not have got everything right throughout my term but everyone makes mistakes. Well at least I know I do and I'm not afraid to admit to them and learn from them. The year has not gone as planned, as I am sure you are all aware of with the restrictions imposed on us as part of the Covid19

pandemic and the reason that I have become the longest serving Mayor of Bridgend CBC.

I would have liked to do more fundraising events but unfortunately, time and pandemic have not allowed that. Back in November 2019 I organised very successful afternoon event called 'Music with the Mayor' at the Court Colman Manor. At the event guests were treated to bottomless Prosecco and canapés for the first hour and a half. Guests were also treated to a musical extravaganza of local musical artists and internationally renowned drag artist 'Pixie Perez'. A special thank you to all artists who gave their time free of charge and to the owners of the Court Colman Manor for allowing us to use their venue free of charge. Without the support of my very good friend Ryan Phillips I would never have been able to pull the whole event together. He worked tirelessly for months to make sure that the event was a success. Also a thank you to everyone that donated raffle prizes and for those councillors that attended the event.

As Bridgend CBC first openly gay Mayor it was important to me to choose a charity that was close to my heart. I champion equalities and diversity throughout my life not just as a Councillor. My chosen charity was Pride Cymru and I have had great pleasure informing them that we will be transferring £4954.54 to them to support the fantastic work they do.

Throughout my year, I have encouraged Councillors to donate provisions to Bridgend Food Bank at our monthly full council meetings. I would like to thank all those that have donated in helping Bridgend Food Bank feed those in society that experience such extreme food poverty. I was particularly impressed by the imagination of those Councillors that put together their reverse advent hampers. The Food Bank were extremely grateful for all we did for them.

As well as attending many events, I set myself the task of improving the way that this Council supported the role of the Mayor. During my year, I am pleased to say that we introduced a new online giving platform as part of the Council's website. Definitely a step in the right direction.

I want to thank all the staff at Bridgend CBC, in particular all of Democratic Services for putting up with me when I ask why or why not. Most of all my thanks to Roger for coordinating all of my Mayoral visits and events and driving me to make sure I got there on time.

The life of a Mayor can be very demanding and lonely and I would not have managed had it not been for my fabulous consort Cllr Nicole Burnett. I am sorry I never bought you all the shoes, dresses and handbags you thought you were entitled to.

Last of all I want to wish the new Mayor and Consort all the best for their term and I hope you enjoy it as much as I have".

441. TO ELECT THE MAYOR FOR THE PERIOD TO MAY 2021 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 23(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972.

RESOLVED: That Councillor K Watts be elected as Mayor for the remainder of the ensuing year, to May 2021.

442. TO ANNOUNCE THE MAYOR'S CONSORT

Councillor Watts announced that his Consort would be Councillor J Williams.

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443. TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE PERIOD TO MAY 2021 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972.

There were two nominations for Deputy Mayor for the remainder of the ensuing year, to May 2021, as follows:-

Councillor JC Spanswick
Councillor A Hussain

A vote was therefore conducted, in order to make an appointment to the position of Deputy Mayor, the result of which was as follows:-

Councillor JC Spanswick

Councillor A Hussain

34 votes

17 votes

There were 2 abstentions

RESOLVED: That Councillor JC Spanswick be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.

444. TO ANNOUNCE THE DEPUTY MAYOR'S CONSORT

Councillor Spanswick announced that his consort would be Mrs S Spanswick.

445. TO ANNOUNCE THE YOUTH MAYOR OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIDGEND

RESOLVED: That Megan Stone, Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen School, be announced as Youth Mayor of the County Borough for the ensuing year. (to May 2021).

446. TO ANNOUNCE THE DEPUTY YOUTH MAYOR OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIDGEND.

RESOLVED: That Tino Kaseke, Archbishop McGrath School, be announced as Youth Mayor of the County Borough for the ensuing year, to May 2021.

447. TO ELECT THE LEADER OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

RESOLVED: It was moved, duly seconded and carried by way of assent, that Councillor HJ David be elected as Leader of the Bridgend County Borough Council for the ensuing year, to May 2021.

448. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE LEADER

The Leader gave his report as follows:-

"I'd like to begin by congratulating Ken and Julia, John and Susan I know they will be outstanding representatives and ambassadors for the County Borough, my thanks to thanking colleagues for returning me as Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council.

My public congratulations to Megan and Tino also.

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This is an extraordinary privilege and responsibility to be Leader, and I pledge to once more give the role my full attention and focus, and to always do my very best for all the people and all the communities we serve.

In 2019, when I last addressed the annual meeting of Council, I talked about how we were continuing to experience some of the most difficult and challenging times that local government has ever faced.

Then, I was referring to austerity, and the profound impact of having to cut £60 million from core council budgets over the space of ten years.

Who could have predicted that within just a few months, this scenario, which continues to be the case, would be further compounded by the global outbreak of the Covid-19 coronavirus?

We are all very aware of how this council has once again risen to meet this newest and greatest challenge.

The response from the staff of Bridgend County Borough Council has been absolutely remarkable.

They have adapted, innovated and persevered under the most difficult of circumstances, and have ensured that this authority has been able to continue to deliver essential services to the people of the county borough.

I am certain that members from all parties will want to join me in recognising their efforts, and in offering council staff our sincere gratitude and respect.

Secondly, the pandemic has brought together a wide range of organisations and agencies who have worked together to achieve a common aim across our schools and communities.

This has included such achievements as setting up six emergency childcare hubs overnight, making sure that more than five-thousand children did not go hungry, turning a council depot into a temporary ambulance station within a few days, setting up Abergarw Manor as a temporary step-down facility for people leaving hospital, and providing 2,300 businesses with more than £28 million in much-needed financial support.

We have worked alongside the brilliant BAVO and amazing community groups to support thousands of vulnerable people who were shielding, and set up a viable, locally-managed track, trace and protect system in just two weeks.

As challenging, as hard, and in many cases as tragic as the pandemic has been, it has brought out the very best in people, and it is this aspect, above all, which has served as an inspirational reminder of why we are here.

Of course, we have also faced the biggest blow of losing the Ford Engine Plant the loss of 1,700 jobs and the loss of more than £250 million per year from the local economy.

I previously told the Welsh Affairs Select Committee at the House of Commons that urgent investment and rapid action is vital to protect the county borough's communities and local economy, and this remains the case.

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We have worked alongside taskforce partners such as Welsh Government and the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal to offer support to all affected workers and to see what fresh investment can be brought into the area, and we are continuing to do so.

It is encouraging to see that most of the Ford workers have taken advantage of opportunities for retraining and developing new skills, and that more than 360 of them have found new employment while a further 230 have opted to retire.

However, the fact remains that for more than four decades, Ford was an anchor company and one of the powerhouses of the local economy.

This is why it is more important than ever to maximise the future opportunities posed by the City Deal, and for UK Government and Welsh Government to work tirelessly alongside us to bring in new investment, businesses and jobs.

This is of course in addition to supporting those that are already here, and ensuring that opportunities remain available for our future generations.

In this respect, this council remains firmly focused upon generating future growth and prosperity, and we invite all businesses to come and see what the area has to offer.

Despite the impact of the pandemic and the closure of the Ford Engine Plant, this council has also delivered a number of services and facilities that we should feel rightly proud of.

As part of our modernisation programme of services for older people, and in partnership with Linc Cymru, we have opened two new extra care facilities at Ty Ynysawdre and Ty Llwynderw in Maesteg.

You only have to visit these facilities to see their worth and the positive change that they are making in the lives of older residents.

Ensuring that people can live independently with their partners, in their own apartments, where they can receive the support they need, lies at the heart of our vision for the future of social care and housing across the county borough.

When issues arose around the Ty Cwm Ogwr residential care home in Lewistown, this council took swift and decisive action to ensure that the home remained open, and residents could continue to benefit from high quality care.

Similarly, we have built upon the success of re-modelling our children's homes in Bridgend and Porthcawl to progress new plans for a children's residential facility on the former site of the Brynmenyn School.

This is a key initiative as it will enable us to bring some of our most vulnerable 'out of county' children home within an in-house setting.

We have also continued to deliver significant developments in education.

Band A of our flagship 21st Century School Modernisation Programme has already provided state of the art new facilities in areas such as Pencoed, Bettws, Coety and Brynmenyn.

Now we have confirmed our commitment towards Band B of the initiative, and are set to build upon this success by investing more than £68 million into further improvements.

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This includes exciting plans for English and Welsh medium provision in the west of the Borough Cornelly, developing a new special replacement school for children with complex needs, and much more.

The council also continues to be one of the leading authorities in Wales when it comes to areas such as recycling waste and diverting it away from landfill.

While our plastic recycling rates have been independently deemed the best in the country and the second-highest in the UK, we remain ambitious, and have plans in place for providing a new, modern household recycling centre at Pyle which will replace the ageing facility at Tythegston.

Elsewhere, we are also delivering on pioneering proposals for slashing carbon emissions, and with the UK's first ever large-scale minewater scheme at Caerau and a district heat network in Bridgend town centre all making headway, it is easy to see how the county borough is considered to be at the forefront heart of the UK's future energy revolution programme.

Whether it is projects such as these, delivering multi-million pound investments in cycling and walking routes or establishing energy efficient new buildings, our commitment towards reducing the county borough's carbon footprint is resulting in real action, as evidenced by our £3 million project to provide new walking and cycling routes in Pencoed and Bridgend.

We have committed to a record investment of more than £5 million into re-surfacing carriageways and footways across Bridgend County Borough, and have ring-fenced another £2 million for further public realm improvements.

The council continues to invest in our green spaces, and secured £400,000 through the Valleys Taskforce for investment in the Parc Slip Nature Reserve. We also secured additional investment of £500,000 for Bryngarw Country Park so that conservation work can be carried out along with a community orchard, tree planting, a wildlife garden, a rain garden, new ponds, new educational buildings, and more.

This council has long maintained a commitment to promoting the Welsh language, and we are delivering on this by developing four new Welsh medium childcare centres in Bridgend, Porthcawl and the Ogmore and Garw valleys.

These will enable more families to take advantage of free childcare for working parents.

Our plans for the first centre, which will be established at Blackmill, are already underway.

Childcare is, of course, vital to ensuring that people can work and access training.

On that note, our employability programme has been recognised as the most successful in South Wales, and is continuing to help hundreds of people who are jobless or facing unemployment.

The Cardiff Capital Region City Deal is playing its part in this with a programme for graduate placements which is benefitting local students and firms.

The council is also embracing the programme, and is currently completing the latest round of recruiting new apprentices across a wide number of business areas.

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Our regeneration projects are continuing to make progress, with further exciting developments at Porthcawl as we look towards Salt Lake, and the multi-million pound investment in renewed coastal defences and the Eastern Promenade.

Regeneration is also progressing in Maesteg, where work is underway at the iconic town hall to secure its place at the heart of the valley for generations to come, and Bridgend town centre, where we are preparing to unveil an all-new masterplan template to deliver new prosperity.

As a manufacturing-intensive location, the county borough has been officially acknowledged by the UK Competitiveness Index as being the seventh most competitive part of Wales.

With the second-busiest train station in the City Deal region, we are an area which serves as an important link in the national transport network, both for businesses and for people who need to travel to work or to access training.

Thanks to a £5 million investment from the Metro Plus programme, plans are underway for an expansion of Pyle railway station and the park and ride which will enhance links with Village Farm Industrial Estate.

Elsewhere, a new railway station is being constructed in Brackla, at Pencoed will infrastructure to enable the closure of the level crossing, and improved transport links between Maesteg, Bridgend, Porthcawl and Cardiff are set to include an all-new transport terminus in Porthcawl.

With projects such as these and many more being planned in play, this council is continuing to invest in new infrastructure for the county borough even as we look towards capitalising upon future developments throughout the region, and delivering high-quality services and facilities for the people we serve.

Before I finish, I would like to make some announcements regarding changes in the senior management of the council.

First of all, Janine Nightingale recently joined us as our new Corporate Director of Communities.

With more than two decades experience as a senior manager in local government, Janine is a qualified planner who has previously worked at Cardiff Council at chief officer level.

Janine was most recently the Head of Capital Projects in Economic Development, where she was responsible for providing strategic direction and leading on Cardiff's £300m capital programme.

As a very proud daughter of Maesteg Janine is as passionate about progressing regeneration of our communities as we all are.

Following the retirement of Sue Cooper, Claire Marchant is also taking over as the new Corporate Director for Social Services and Well-Being.

Claire has been the Director of Social Services in Cardiff for the past two years, and brings more than 20 years of senior level experience across Welsh public services to the role.

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Having made Porthcawl her home and the place where she is raising her family Claire is as committed to protecting our most vulnerable citizens and the continued improvement and re-modelling of social services as we all are.

I am sure that members will join me in welcoming them both to Bridgend County Borough Council.

In my role as Leader, I am of course ably backed by my Cabinet colleagues.

I am very grateful for their support, and would like to acknowledge their ongoing commitment.

I can announce today that for the year ahead, there will be one change to the Cabinet team.

Councillor Philip White will be retiring from the position of Cabinet Member for and Councillor Nicole Burnett will be the new Cabinet Member for Social Services and Early Help.

In fulfilling this position over the last few years, Councillor White has offered tireless service.

He has also acted as a passionate champion for the rights of carers, older people, and children and young people.

Councillor White is retiring from Cabinet but for Council, he will continue to be a very active representative for his community of Caerau, for example as Chair of Nantyffyllon Primary School Governing Body.

Councillor Burnett has demonstrated similar dedication and commitment, and I have no doubt whatsoever that she will ably fulfil the requirements of this important role shares that passion and commitment.

I am grateful that Councillor Burnett has accepted this position, and together with my Cabinet colleagues, I would like to extend a warm welcome to her, and to offer our sincere thanks to Councillor White for the invaluable contribution that he has made.

As I am not proposing to make any further changes to the current Cabinet portfolio, I would like to finish by taking this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Deputy Leader, Councillors Patel, Smith and Young for their ongoing and much-valued support.

It is, as always, greatly valued.

I would also like to add my personal thanks to all members for their support during this time of a global health crisis. There are some political differences but as we face a long hard difficult winter. These differences are secondary to the overriding objective that we all share to protect the residents from the Covid-19 virus as best we can. I know we will want to continue to work as one council to support and protect our citizens.”

The Deputy Leader and each of the Cabinet Members in turn, paid their own personal tribute to Councillor PJ White for the commitment, support and dedication he had shown as Cabinet Member for the portfolio of Social Services and Early Help.

Councillor White replied by confirming that he had enjoyed this role immensely and whilst he had thought long and hard about standing down as Cabinet Member, he felt that to be the right choice at this moment in time. He thanked the Leader and Cabinet

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Members for their kind words and for the support that they and other County Borough Members had given him also, since he had been a member of the Executive.

449. THE LEADER TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

RESOLVED: The Leader officially appointed the following Members to the Cabinet:-

Councillor HM Williams
Councillor D Patel
Councillor N Burnett
Councillor CE Smith
Councillor RE Young

450. THE LEADER MAY ANNOUNCE THE DEPUTY LEADER OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL FROM THOSE MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE CABINET AND MAY ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF CABINET MEMBERS TO PORTFOLIOS

RESOLVED: The Leader announced that the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member responsible for Resources for 2020/2021, would be Councillor HM Williams.

He added that the following Cabinet Members would be responsible for the undermentioned portfolios:-

Councillor D Patel – Wellbeing and Future Generations
Councillor N Burnett – Social Services and Early Help
Councillor CE Smith – Education and Regeneration
Councillor RE Young - Communities

451. PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The Monitoring Officer presented a report, the purpose of which, was to propose a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council and Council Committees for the municipal year October 2020 – April 2021 for approval and to note the programme of meetings for the municipal year May 2021 – April 2022.

The Monitoring Officer announced two changes to the programme of meetings for the year 2020-2021, namely that the meeting of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 25th November now be held on 18th November 2020 and that the Democratic Services Committee dated 22nd October now be held on 4th November 2020.

RESOLVED: That Council:-

- a. Approved the proposed programme of Council meetings for 2020/21 set out in paragraph 4.1 of this report;
- b. Approved the proposed programme of meetings of Council Committees set out in Appendix 1 to the report (subject to the above amendments);
- c. Noted the provisional draft programme of meetings of Council and Council Committees for 2021/22 set out in Appendix 2 to the report;

- d. Noted the dates of Cabinet, Cabinet Committees and the Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee which are also set out in Appendix 1 and 2 of the report, for information purposes.

452. APPOINTMENTS TO THE COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COUNCIL BODIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

The Monitoring Officer presented a report, the purpose of which, was to seek Council approval for the appointment of Overview and Scrutiny Committees and such other Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels and bodies as the Council considers appropriate, to deal with matters which are neither reserved to full Council nor are executive functions.

She advised that Part 3 of the Council's Constitution, entitled Responsibility for Council Functions, sets out the Council's Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels and other bodies currently in place. Detailed in the report were certain Committees, some of which are governed by provisions of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, in terms of their composition and/or appointment of Chairpersons.

The report outlined the process that should be followed in relation to the appointment of Members to the above bodies, but more particularly, to the appointment of Chairpersons and where applicable, Vice-Chairpersons, in accordance with the provisions outlined immediately above.

An example of this being, that the appointment of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Audit Committee, would be made at the first Committee meeting after the Annual meeting. These appointments could not be Members from the largest political group of the Council.

The current remit and functions of Committees and other bodies of the Council it was proposed, remained unchanged as detailed in Part 3 of the Constitution – Responsibility for Council Functions which was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

Political balance is essential to determine the allocation of seats on Committees. The current political balance of Committees and other bodies was shown at Appendix 2 of the report.

The current committee structure was shown at Appendix 3 of the report, while the existing membership of committees which will form the basis of any changes to the membership of the committees was attached at Appendix 4.

RESOLVED: That Council :-

- (1) Agreed to rename the Audit Committee to the Governance and Audit Committee and approve that the Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee within Part 3 of the Constitution be amended accordingly to reflect the change in name of the Audit Committee in accordance with paragraph 4.2.3 of the report and the removal of the reference to the Whistleblowing Policy in paragraph 4.2.4 of the report;
- (2) Appointed the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and such other Committees as the Council considers appropriate to deal with matters which are neither reserved to the Council nor are executive functions;

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- (3) Determined the size and terms of reference for those Committees as set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (4) Determined the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules as set out in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (5) Determined which political groups represented at Council are entitled to make which appointments of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairpersons;
- (6) Received nominations and appointed Councillors to serve on each of the Committees, Panels and other bodies (as shown as an Appendix to these minutes);
 - Appeals Panel
 - Appointments Committee
 - Audit Committee
 - Democratic Services Committee
 - Development Control Committee
 - Licensing Committee
 - Licensing Act 2003 Committee
 - Town and Community Council Forum
 - Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1
 - Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2
 - Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3
 - Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- (7) Received nominations and appointed the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons to the following Committees, Panels and other bodies (as indicated) with it being noted that the Audit Committee at its first scheduled meeting will appoint a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson:
 - Appeals Panel

There were two nominations for the appointment of Chairperson to the Appeals Panel for the remainder of the ensuing year, ie to May 2021, as follows:-

Councillor PA Davies
Councillor R Penhale-Thomas

A vote was therefore conducted, the result of which was as follows:-

Councillor PA Davies

Councillor R Penhale-Thomas

30 votes

23 votes

Councillor PA Davies was therefore appointed Chairperson of the Appeals Panel

Vice-Chairperson – Councillor J McCarthy – (unopposed)

- Democratic Services Committee - Chairperson E Venables (unopposed)
- Development Control Committee

There were two nominations for the appointment of Chairperson of the Development Control Committee for the remainder of the ensuing year, ie to May 2021, as follows:-

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Councillor G Thomas
Councillor S Dendy

A vote was therefore conducted, the result of which was as follows:-

Councillor G Thomas

Councillor S Dendy

30 votes

23 votes

Councillor G Thomas was therefore appointed Chairperson of the Development Control Committee

There were two nominations for the appointment of Vice-Chairperson of the Development Control Committee for the remainder of the ensuing year, ie to May 2021, as follows:-

Councillor RM Granville
Councillor S Dendy

A vote was therefore conducted, the result of which was as follows:-

Councillor RM Granville

Councillor S Dendy

28 votes

25 votes

Councillor RM Granville was therefore appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Development Control Committee.

- Licensing Committee & Licensing Act 2003 Committee – Chairperson - Councillor D Lewis (unopposed)
Vice-Chairperson – Councillor PA Davies (unopposed)
 - Town and Community Council Forum – Chairperson – Councillor HJ David (unopposed)
Vice-Chairperson – Councillor CE Smith (unopposed)
- (8) Received nominations and appointed the Chairpersons of the following Overview and Scrutiny Committees in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4.3 of the report:
- Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 – Councillor T Giffard (unopposed)
 - Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 – Councillor CA Green (unopposed)
 - Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 – Councillor JP Blundell (unopposed)

453. **REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND OTHER COMMITTEES**

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report, the purpose of which, was to seek Council's approval for the appointment of Members to the South Wales Police and Crime Panel, Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Scrutiny Committee and the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group as set out in the report at Appendix 1, for the ensuing year ie to May 2021.

There were two nominations for the appointment to the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Scrutiny Committee, as follows:-

Councillor JP Blundell

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Councillor M Voisey

A vote was therefore conducted, the result of which was as follows:-

Councillor JP Blundell

Councillor M Voisey

30 votes

17 votes

There were 5 abstentions

- RESOLVED:**
- (1) That Councillor JP Blundell be appointed to the Cardiff City Deal Joint Scrutiny Committee and that Councillor Alex Williams be appointed the Reserve Member (Councillor Williams was unopposed).
 - (2) That Councillor RE Young be appointed to the South Wales Police and Crime Panel.
 - (3) That the Chairperson of the Development Control Committee be appointed to the South East Wales Strategic Planning.

454. TO INVEST THE MAYOR OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR 2020/21

Following Council having approved the nomination of Councillor K Watts as Mayor of Bridgend County Borough for the year 2020/2021, Councillor Watts was invited by the outgoing Mayor to formally accept the Office of Mayor. Councillor Watts verbally accepted the office of Mayor and recited the following oath :-

"I Kenneth Watts, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second."

Councillor SE Baldwin extended his congratulations to the incoming Mayor.

455. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR

Councillor K Watts, the newly elected Mayor, gave his announcement as follows:-

"Mr. Mayor, Councillors, guests and family who, thanks to the wonders of modern technology can all be 'virtually' present.

Naturally, I am very proud and honoured to have been elected to the office of Mayor for the County Borough of Bridgend, something I never truly expected to happen. To expand on how much this means to me and its unexpected reality, I need to provide some background as to how I, an Englishman, has come to this.

But, before I proceed further, I have to say how even more honoured and proud I am by a certain person agreeing to be my consort especially when one considers the news she received only this time last year and the subsequent impact this has had on her. I can only admire her strength and determination given the circumstances surrounding her decision confirming what a special lady she is.

So, it is with great pride and pleasure when I say to you that Councillor. Julia Williams has agreed to be my consort.

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So back to what this honour means to me.

I first came to South Wales in 1964 as an 18 year old courting a young Welsh girl from the Garw Valley who was later to become my wife.

At that time the coal tips were still very evident and the dead river ran black. My future mother in law, although not a councillor was very vocal on the issue of cleaning up the mess left by the coal industry in which her husband, my future father in law, had worked all his life. Coming from England both the situation and the devastation wreaked by the industry made a lasting impression on me. But, of even greater impact over the years since then has been the subsequent clean up carried out by the then Ogwr Borough Council and now by the Bridgend County Borough Council. To me this is even more impressive considering the point from which the recovery of the Garw Valley had to start.

If someone had said to me then back in the 60's I would become the Mayor of Bridgend County (then Ogwr Borough Council) I would have thought them deluded! As would my in laws! I didn't have a political bone in my body.

Sadly, none of those I have mentioned are here to see this day other than, I'm pleased to say, my children and grandchildren.

But having subsequently moved to South Wales in 1976 I was later to become involved in local matters in Porthcawl. Having seen what could be done in the Garw Valley, then why not elsewhere, so here I am today.

As we know things are at last beginning to move in Porthcawl.

My year in office, in fact one of only 8 months, will be shorter than normal and clearly required to be conducted in a totally different way to that previously experienced by my predecessors. Given the circumstances, of which we are all only too well aware, I shall endeavour to fulfil and promote the role and office of Mayor to the best of my ability by supporting community events wherever and whenever possible whilst at all times keeping in mind the need for us all to stay safe during this dreadful pandemic.

With regard to the Pandemic I believe it incumbent upon us all to set an example to our constituents not only by abiding by the rules and following advice but more importantly, by working together to provide the many services this Authority is bound to do. It is going to be vital we do so to protect the residents of the County probably for many months to come.

We are all aware of the forthcoming Senedd elections next May and I sincerely hope we can leave any political differences to be aired at the right time and the right place during this difficult period but still provide robust challenge and scrutiny where necessary.

It is also a very difficult time for charities, especially in the raising of funds, and this will be challenging to say the least. So, I ask all members to consider making a donation to my chosen charities which are, Parkinson's UK and Epilepsy Society, via the Mayor's Just Giving account. I know you are asked this each year but this year I believe it even more vital for donations to be made as they will no doubt form the greater part of any funds raised.

Lastly, I wish to say well done to the outgoing Mayor Councillor Stuart Baldwin. It's been a unique and difficult time for local authorities everywhere and he has carried the mantle of Mayor with pride and passion throughout these last 17 months. So many congratulations on a successful period in office which has made you, I suspect, the

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longest serving Mayor of BCBC. It's been a privilege to have been your deputy and to have worked with both yourself and your consort Councillor. Nicole Burnett.”

456. TO INVEST THE DEPUTY MAYOR OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR 2020/21

Following Council having approved to Invest Councillor JC Spanswick as Deputy Mayor of Bridgend County Borough for the year 2020/2021, Councillor Spanswick was invited by the outgoing Mayor to formally accept the Office of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Spanswick confirmed that he was both pleased and honoured to accept the role of Deputy Mayor for the year 2020/2021.

Councillor SE Baldwin extended his congratulations to the incoming Deputy Mayor.

457. TO INVEST THE DEPUTY MAYOR'S CONSORT

Mrs S Spanswick having been named as Deputy Mayor's consort for the year 2020/21, was invited by the outgoing Mayor, to formally accept the position of consort.

Mrs S Spanswick verbally accepted the position of Deputy Mayor's Consort, as follows:-

“It gives me great pleasure in accepting the position of Deputy Mayor's Consort.”

Councillor SE Baldwin extended his congratulations to the incoming Deputy Mayor's Consort.

458. TO INVEST THE MAYOR'S CONSORT

Councillor J Williams having been named as Mayor's consort for the year 2020/21, was invited by the outgoing Mayor, to formally accept the position of consort.

Councillor Julia Williams verbally accepted the position of Mayor's Consort, as follows:-

“It gives me great pleasure in accepting the position of Mayor's Consort.”

Councillor SE Baldwin extended his congratulations to the incoming Mayor's Consort.

The meeting closed at 17:38