

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY 2024

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB /REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY 2024 AT 16:00

Present

Councillor – W Kendall – Chairperson/Mayor

A R Berrow
N Clarke
S Easterbrook
J Gebbie
D T Harrison
M Jones
J E Pratt
AJ Williams
E D Winstanley

F D Bletsoe
RJ Collins
M J Evans
RM Granville
M L Hughes
MJ Kearn
R J Smith
HM Williams

S J Bletsoe
HJ David
N Farr
H Griffiths
D M Hughes
T Wood
JC Spanswick
I Williams

E L P Caparros
P Davies
P Ford
GH Haines
M R John
RL Penhale-Thomas
JH Tildesley MBE
MJ Williams

Present Virtually:

S Aspey
W R Goode
M Lewis
G Walter

H T Bennett
S J Griffiths
J Llewellyn-Hopkins
A Wathan

JPD Blundell
RM James
I M Spiller
R Williams

C L C Davies
P W Jenkins
T Thomas

Officers:

Mark Galvin
Laura Griffiths
Lindsay Harvey
Rachel Keepins
Carys Lord
Claire Marchant
Janine Nightingale
Michael Pitman

Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Group Manager – Legal and Democratic Services
Corporate Director Education, Early Years and Young People
Democratic Services Manager
Chief Officer - Finance, Housing & Change
Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing
Corporate Director - Communities
Technical Support Officer – Democratic Services

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Alex Rawlin
Mark Shephard
Kelly Watson

Corporate Policy & Public Affairs Manager
Chief Executive
Chief Officer Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy

15. Apologies for absence

Decision Made	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alex Ulberini-Williams and Colin Davies
Date Decision Made	No decision made

16. Declarations of Interest

Decision Made	The following personal declarations of interest were made:- Councillor S Bletsoe – Agenda Item 8 Councillor M Williams – Agenda item 8 Councillor I Williams – Agenda item 8 Councillor Amanda Williams – Agenda item 8
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

17. To receive announcements from the Mayor Councillor W Kendall

Decision Made	The Mayor gave an outgoing speech confirming how his year the last 12 months as Mayor of Bridgend County Borough Council had been so special to him. He gave an outline of some of the functions he had attended in this role and how fulfilling these had been for him and his Consort. The Mayor also paid thanks to the support he had received from all BCBC members and staff, particularly those in Democratic Services. Councillors Spanswick, Amanda Williams and Ross Penhale-Thomas as Group Leaders of the 3 political groups, commended him for the proactive part he had played in his mayoral role in 2023-2024.
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

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18. To elect the Mayor for the period to May 2025 in accordance with Section 23 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That Councillor Heather Griffiths be elected as Mayor for the ensuing year, to May 2025. Councillor Griffiths confirmed that her Consort would be David Griffiths.
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

19. To elect the Deputy Mayor for the period to May 2025 in accordance with Section 24(1) of the Local Government Act 1972

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That Councillor Huw David be elected as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year, to May 2024. Councillor David confirmed that he would not be having a Consort.
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

20. To elect the Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council

Decision Made	There were two nominations for Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council for the ensuing year 2024-25, namely Councillor JC Spanswick and Councillor R Penhale-Thomas. A vote therefore took place on the election of the Leader, the result of which was as follows:- <table><tr><td><u>Councillor Spanswick</u></td><td><u>Councillor Penhale-Thomas</u></td><td><u>Abstentions</u></td></tr><tr><td>29</td><td>20</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	<u>Councillor Spanswick</u>	<u>Councillor Penhale-Thomas</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>	29	20	0
<u>Councillor Spanswick</u>	<u>Councillor Penhale-Thomas</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>					
29	20	0					

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	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u> That Councillor JC Spanswick be elected as Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council for the ensuing year, to May 2025.</p> <p>The Leader thanked Members for the confidence that had been placed in him to be the new Leader of the Authority and he assured Members, that he would take this prestigious role very seriously in order to do the very best he could for the BCB and the constituents who reside within its communities. He added that he hoped all Members of BCBC would unite in this challenge.</p> <p>Councillor Spanswick paid tribute to the outgoing Leader Councillor HJ David who he had held in very high regard. He added that if he could follow in the footsteps of Councillor David and support the local authority as he had done so admirably for the last 8 years, then he would see his role as being a successful one. He added however, that succeeding Councillor David would be a very hard act to follow.</p>
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

21. The Leader to inform Council of the Members to be appointed to the Cabinet including the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member portfolios

Decision Made	<p>The Leader advised that his Cabinet would comprise of the following Members occupying the portfolios as stated:-</p> <p>Councillor J Gebbie – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member Social Services, Health and Wellbeing Councillor P Davies – Cabinet Member Climate Change and the Environment Councillor M Jones – Cabinet member Education and Youth Services Councillor N Farr – Cabinet Member Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing Councillor H Williams – Cabinet Member Finance and Performance Councillor M Evans and Councillor E Caparros (joint role) – Cabinet Member Resources</p>
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

22. Appointments to the Council Committees and Other Council Bodies

Decision Made	The Monitoring Officer presented a report, its purpose being to seek Council approval for the appointment
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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.

The report attached the following supporting Appendices:-

- Role, remit and functions of Committees and other Bodies of the Council – Appendix 1;
- The proposed political balance of Committees, etc – Appendix 2
- Proposed Committee structure – Appendix 3

RESOLVED: That Council :-

- (1) Appointed the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and such other Committees as the Council considered appropriate to deal with matters which are neither reserved to the Council nor are executive functions;
- (2) Determined the size and terms of reference for those Committees as set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (3) Determined the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules as set out in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (4) Noted which political groups represented at Council are entitled to make which appointments of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairpersons;
- (5) Received nominations and appointed Councillors to serve on each of the Committees, Panels and other bodies indicated below:-
 - Appeals Panel
 - Appointments Committee
 - Governance and 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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2• Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3• Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee <p>(6) Received nominations and appointed the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the following Committees, Panels and other bodies (as indicated), with it being noted that the Governance and Audit Committee at its first scheduled meeting will appoint a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, from its Lay Members and that a Chairperson would similarly be appointed at the first scheduled meeting of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee:</p> <p>Appeals Panel – Chairperson – Councillor H Bennett and Vice-Chairperson – Councillor W Kendall (both unopposed) Appointments Committee – Chairperson - Councillor JC Spanswick and Vice-Chairperson – Councillor J Gebbie – (both unopposed) Democratic Services Committee - Chairperson – Councillor T Thomas (unopposed) Development Control Committee - Chairperson RM Granville and Vice-Chairperson – Councillor S Griffiths (both unopposed) Licensing Committee and Licensing Act 2003 Committee – Chairperson – Councillor M Lewis and Vice-Chairperson Councillor R Williams (both unopposed) Town and Community Council Forum – Chairperson – Councillor JC Spanswick and Vice-Chairperson Councillor J Gebbie (both unopposed).</p> <p>(7) Received nominations and appointed the Chairpersons of the following Overview and Scrutiny Committees, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 – Councillor Alex Williams (unopposed)• Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 – Councillor F Bletsoe (unopposed)• Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 – Councillor JP Blundell (unopposed). <p>(8) That the recommendation for certain meetings to become fully remote by default as outlined at paragraph 3.11.4, of the report be removed, as this was not supported by Council.</p>
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

23. Proposed Programme of Ordinary Meetings of the Council and Council

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	<p>c. Noted the provisional draft programme of meetings of Council and Council Committees for 2025/26 set out in Appendix 2 to the report;</p> <p>d. Noted the proposed dates of Cabinet, any Cabinet Committees and the Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee which were also set out in Appendix 1 and 2 to this report, for information purposes.</p>
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

24. Representation on Outside Bodies and other Committees

Decision Made	<p>The Monitoring Officer submitted a report, the purpose of which, was to seek Council's approval for the appointment of Members to the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee – Joint O&SC, South Wales Police and Crime Panel, South East Wales Strategic Planning Group and South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Governance and Audit Sub-Committee, as set out in the report at Appendix 1, for the ensuing year, to May 2025.</p> <p>The following nominations, both moved and duly seconded were made to the above unopposed. It was therefore</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) That Councillor S Griffiths be appointed as a member of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee – Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee, with Councillor JP Blundell being appointed as Deputy Member.(2) That Councillor J Llewellyn-Hopkins be appointed as a member of the South Wales Police and Crime Panel.(3) That the Chairperson of the Development Control Committee (Councillor RM Granville) be appointed as a member of the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group.(4) That Councillor R Goode be appointed as a member of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee Governance and Audit Sub-Committee.
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

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25. Constitution Review

Decision Made	<p>The Monitoring Officer presented a report, the purpose of which, was for Council to note the Member suggestions made in relation to Constitutional amendments and to approve her recommendations and to further approve, Constitutional amendments to reflect and accommodate certain legislative changes.</p> <p>As referenced in paragraph's 2.5 and 2.6 of the report, it was suggested that the Council's Constitution required amendment to formalise the establishment of a Standing Advisory Council (SAC) on Religion, Values and Ethics, as well as changes to the Public Services Board (PSB).</p> <p>It was further proposed that Council delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make any amendments to the Constitution resulting from the formalisation of scrutiny arrangements for the Regional CSP Board to be reported back to Council for information.</p> <p>A member noted from paragraph 3.4 of the report, that the proposed membership of SACRE/SAC did not include representation from the Jewish faith.</p> <p>The Corporate Director – Education, Early Years and Young People stated that the proposed membership of this body had been confirmed by SACRE and the Region, however, he would take this point up with them outside of the meeting.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Noted the proposals put forward by Members and the responses of the Monitoring Officer at Appendix 1;2. Approved the amendments to the Constitution as outlined at paragraph 3.2;3. Approved the amendments to the Constitution required for SACRE and the PSB as outlined at paragraphs 3.4, 3.5 and Appendix 2, subject to the query in the last paragraph above before the resolution, being looked into further;4. Delegated authority to the Monitoring Officer to make any amendments to the Constitution that may be required from the formalisation of scrutiny for the Regional CSP Board with any amendments reported back to Council thereafter for information.
Date Decision Made	15 May 2024

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26. To invest the Mayor of Bridgend County Borough Council for 2024/2025

Decision Made	<p>Following Council having approved the nomination of Councillor Heather Griffiths as Mayor of Bridgend County Borough for the year 2024/2025, Councillor Griffiths was invited by the outgoing Mayor, to formally accept the Office of Mayor. Councillor Griffiths verbally accepted the office of Mayor and recited the following oath:–</p> <p>“I Heather Griffiths do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty the King, Charles the Third.”</p> <p>Councillor William Kendall extended his congratulations to the incoming Mayor.</p> <p>Councillor Kendall also announced that the current Youth Mayor, Ellie O’Connell and Deputy Youth Mayor, Daisy Davies would remain in their respective posts for a further year</p>
Date Decision Made	No decision made

27. To invest the Mayor's Consort

Decision Made	The outgoing Mayor Councillor William Kendall announced that it was his pleasure to confirm David Griffiths as the incoming Mayor’s Consort.
Date Decision Made	No decision made

28. To invest the Deputy Mayor of Bridgend County Borough Council for 2024/2025

Decision Made	The outgoing Mayor Councillor William Kendall confirmed that earlier Council had approved the nomination of Councillor Huw David as Deputy Mayor of Bridgend County Borough Council for the year 2024-2025. He therefore invited Councillor David to accept this offer in office.
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	Councillor David duly accepted the offer of Deputy Mayor with great pleasure, adding that he looked forward to supporting the newly elected Mayor, Councillor Heather Griffiths in this honorable position he had been given.
Date Decision Made	No decision made

29. To invest the Deputy Mayor's Consort

Decision Made	The outgoing Mayor Councillor William Kendall announced that the incoming Deputy Mayor would have no Consort for the coming year.
Date Decision Made	No decision made

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#)

The meeting closed at 17:45.