TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at Tredegar Library on Wednesday 21st October 2009 at 6.00 pm

Present: Councillor A. Williams
H. Trollope
M. Cross
A. Tippings
T. Gregory
K. Hayden
D. Howells
M. O' Sullivan
P. Prosser
D. Rowberry
B. Willis
G. D. Woolf
H. Woolf
A. Cotton

In attendance: Dr. John R.P. Evans – Town Clerk

215) Apologies: Cllrs. J. Morgan, S. Trollope and R. Thomas

Minute No.		Action
216	**Council received a presentation from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's Waste and Recycling Officer, Mr. Gary Samuel. Mr. Samuel stated that the Borough's recycling target was 40% by 2010 and 75% by 2025, yet the current rate is only 23%. The changes to the waste collection service from weekly to fortnightly for residents but the weekly re-cycling collections would continue. Mr. Samuel stated that only 2500 feedback forms cards had been received from all the properties in Blaenau Gwent. On this very small sample it is indicated that only 2% of the respondents do not want wheelie bins. It is to be noted that specific refuse items will be addressed, subject to requests being made to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.** **A Member queried the doorstep consultation and it was noted that £50,000 had been spent on paying the staff who had done the consultation but no stamps had been put on the cards for their return. This was felt to be an error.** **In response to a question, Mr. Samuel confirmed that the wheelie bins will have electronic chips. He stated that these were merely for security purposes and would be used to identify missing bins. Mr. Samuel also said that Blaenau Gwent would be employing Waste Advisory Wardens to assist residents with any queries or issues that need addressing. The ultimate aim is to raise awareness of the need to**	

	improve the re-cycling rate. **The Mayor thanked Mr. Samuel for his presentation.**	
217	**<u>Declarations of Interest</u>** **The Mayor reminded Members to make declarations of interest at the appropriate point on the agenda.**	
218	**The Minutes of the Ad Hoc committee held on 16 September 2009 were received.**	
219	**Matters arising not on the agenda – NONE**	
220	**The Minutes of the Events Committee of 16th September 2009 were received.**	
221	**Matters Arising** **a) Minute No. 175. A Member stated that all publicity needs to specify that the Christmas Lights Switch-On was sponsored by Tredegar Town Council.**	
222	**The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 16th September 2009 were received.**	
223	**Matters Arising** **1) Minute No. 179.1. Cllr. Tippings again stated that it was Council's decision to have an Action column on the Minutes of all Meetings.** **2) Minute No. 179.2. Cllr. Tippings again raised the matter of materials in the base of the Clock and the need to clean these out. The Clerk stated that attempts to get these cleared out by Blaenau Gwent staff had proved abortive. It was agreed that Tredegar Town Council needs to meet with Messrs. Mantle and Hill to hear their concerns and resolve matters.** **Cllr. Tippings also stated that tulip bulbs need to be purchased and planted. This was agreed but who would plant the bulbs was not identified.** **3) Minute No. 184 (2). The Clerk reported that Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council intends that the repair work for the Bandstand Roof would be done as part of the House and Park contract. It was stated that this is unacceptable. The Clerk was instructed to write again to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and make the point that serious damage could occur during the bad weather if this work is delayed.** **4) Minute No. 184 (3). Following discussion it was agreed to write to the National Assembly to ascertain how they learn of a person approaching 100 years and how Tredegar Town Council can access any databases which may be available.** **5) Minute No. 187 (7). It was suggested that a meeting of the**	**Clerk** **Clerk** **4/11** **4/11**

	contractors, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and the police be convened by Tredegar Town Council to discuss the security of Bedwellty House & Park.	**Clerk**
	6) Minute No. 187 (17). Cllr. Tippings queried whether Tredegar Town Council had been in touch with Hywel Lewis regarding the web-site. The Clerk informed Council that Mr. Lewis was currently suffering from swine flu and an attempt contact him via e-mail had been returned by the server. However contact had been made with the Cabinet Office and we have been advised that Tredegar Town Council can have either Tredegar-tc.gov.uk or tredegartowncouncil.gov.uk. The matter was not as straightforward as it seems, the application – by form on the JANET government web-site had to be completed by an ISP (Internet Service Provider) The advice of Mr. Lewis is needed. The Mayor agreed to check Mr. Lewis's e-mail address and inform Council.	
	7) Minute No. 198. (4). There was some confusion as to whether Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan was to have Accident and Emergency facilities. It was agreed to invite Gwent Local Health Board for a meeting with Tredegar Town Council to discuss the future of AE services at Aneurin Bevan and the fate of Tredegar Hospital.	**Clerk** **4/11**
	8) Minute No. 201 (5). The Clerk reported that CADW had stated that Tredegar General Hospital was not listed but require photographs and details. It was stated that this is within the purview of the Heritage Officer and he should be contacted for his opinion. Also it was stated that the Hospital be put on the Buildings At Risk Register. Again this is a matter for the Heritage Officer.	
224	**The Minutes of the Civic Committee of 7th October 2009 were received.**	
225	**Matters Arising**	
	1) Minute No. 201 (2b). Cllr. Tippings stated that on examination of the agenda felt the meeting was inappropriate to attend.	
	2) Minute No. 201 (2f). It was noted that Cllr. H. Trollope attended with the Leader, in place of the Mayor.	
	3) Minute No. 201 (4). Following discussion this Minute was amended to read: **"Guidance for dealing with "Vexatious Requests" The Vexatious Requests guidance from the ICO was received. It was agreed to send a copy of the guidance to all Members to collate all of the requests and to consider whether the correspondence was vexatious. It was also agreed to send the list to OVW for their opinion of the matter."**	**Amended**
226	**The Schedule of Accounts was approved. Cllr. Tippings raised the question of the budget monitoring report not going to a Performance Review Meeting.**	
227	**CORRESPONDENCE**	
	1) Tredegar Youth Café — Request for a letter of support for their CFAP grant to purchase13 The Circle	

	Cllrs. D. Rowberry and A. Williams declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to provide a letter of support and give a copy of the Café letter to Cllr. B. Willis.**	**Copied**
	2) Malcolm Higgs Details of this Year's Quiz Wizards competition and poster (Copied to all Members – colour version available on request) **RECEIVED AND NOTED. Tredegar Town Council will have a team to participate led by Cllr. A. Cotton.**	
	3) Clerks & Councils Direct Annual subscription due in November with Renewal form. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to renew the subscription.**	**Nov OM**
	4) Cllr Mike Roberts JCLC Meeting of JCLC on 22nd October 2009 at 7pm in the Council Offices Former Infants School Blaina (Copied MC, M OS) **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
	5) BGCBC Jane Lee Env a) Seeking details of the TTC representatives on the HARPS Steering Group due on 16th October to send report directly to them. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. Cllr. J. Morgan's details sent to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.**	
	Environment D Ware b) Minutes of the last BG Regeneration Partnership Board Meeting on 11th September 2009, next meeting Friday 4th December at 11 am in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale requesting items for the agenda. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. Passed on to Cllr. J. Morgan.**	
	Leanne Blanchard – Environment c) Weekly Licensing Lists w/e 27/9, 4/10 and 18th October 2009. **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
	Dave Ware – Environment d) Latest version of the Skills Implementation Plan **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
	Bethan Cartwright e) Complaint received re flowers and hanging baskets around the Clock. Interested in working with TTC to strengthen displays to make the town more competitive in next years Blaenau Gwent in Bloom. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was pointed out that it was TEMS who**	

	had responsibility for the hanging baskets and they closed down in June. Arising from this, Members agreed to meet on Saturday 24 October 2009 to do a walk through town to see the state of affairs. 6) GAVO BG Voluntary Sector Forum meeting on 27th October 2009 at 10.30 a.m. Committee Rooms 4 & 5 **RECEIVED AND NOTED** 7) Vale of Glam County Council Request for Members to visit the E-Petition urging the National Assembly to urge the Welsh Govt to introduce third party speaking rights at Local Authority Planning meetings. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. This is a matter for Elected Members to participate in.** 8) CADW Grant instalment of £342 authorised. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. The Clerk informed Council that the final payment had been received and a final report on the Clock would be presented to Council.** 9) Caerphilly CBC Local Development Plan 2006-2021 Notice of submission to WAG If you wish to be involved in the Hearing Sessions in the New Year you will have to attend a Pre Hearing Meeting (PHM) **RECEIVED AND NOTED.** 10) One Voice Wales a) Simon White - Copy of the submission on the proposed Local Government LCO seeking support via local MP or AM **RECEIVED AND NOTED** b) Paula Evans - Reminder of forthcoming workshop events **RECEIVED AND NOTED** c) Clerks Salary Scales from 1st April2009. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to accept the 1.3% increase in staff salaries and back date it to 1 April 2009 in accordance with National Policy.** 11) BBNP Joanne Church Western Area Advisory Forum agenda 23 October at Maescar Community Centre Sennybridge. **RECEIVED AND NOTED.** 12) British Heart Foundation Details of new free service "Heart Matters" and request for donation. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. Request details of activities in Tredegar** 13) HSE Publications available **RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to obtain a copy for all**	**Nov OM** **Clerk** **Nov OM**

	Members of Council. 14) Local Councils Update Issue 120 October 2009 **RECEIVED AND NOTED. Cllr. Tippings pointed up this item related to the Local Competence Order mentioned by Mr. Simon White of One Voice Wales.**	
228	**<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>** BGCBC Road Works report w/c 16/10/09: Orvault Revue de Presse October 2009:BG Local Health Board Copy of 6th Annual Report	
229	**<u>AGENDA</u>** Executive committee meeting Wednesday 14th October 2pm Council Chamber Ebbw Vale: Item 4.02: Special Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19/10 has been reconvened to TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2009 AT 4PM in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale: Informal site visit on Thursday 29th October at 11 am at land at Marian Close off Victoria Street: Special Planning Committee meeting to be held in Committee Room 4 & 5 Civic Centre on Thursday 29th October at 11.30 am: Special Meeting of Council at the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale on Thursday 22nd October 2009 at 2pm: Corporate Improvement Plan 2008-12 Stage 2 2009/10 Review: Finance Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee meeting to be held in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale on Friday 23rd October 2009 at 2pm: Special Finance Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee meeting to be held immediately after at 3.30 pm: Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee meeting in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale on Tuesday 27th October 2009 at 2pm: Social Care & Inclusion Scrutiny Committee meeting to be held in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale, on Monday 26th October 2009 at 3 pm	
230	**<u>GRANTS</u>** Thanks were noted from: North Gwent Table Tennis; Tredegar Operatic Soc; Tredegar Athletic FC and Tredegar (Mon) & District Canine Society. **<u>Cultural and Sporting Grants (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19</u>** **Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales** – a grant of £100 was approved. **Urdd Gobaith Cymru** – a grant of £50 was approved. **Wales Air Ambulance** – a grant of £200 was approved. **Peacehaven Tenants & Residents Association** – A grant of £200 was approved	

	2167 Squadron Air Training Corps – A grant of £200 was approved **Tredegar Ironsides RFC** – A grant of £150 was approved **Tredegar RFC, Mini/Junior/Youth** – A grant of £300 was approved **Trefil Rugby Welfare Club** – ***Cllrs A. Tippings and P. Prosser declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*** A grant of £150 was approved. **Vale View Allotments** – A grant of £200 was approved. **<u>Grants to Churches and Chapels</u>** **Bethania Congregational Church** – A grant of £200 was approved.	
231	**DELEGATES: TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM DELEGATES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUB-COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES.** i. Bedwellty Park Management Board **– Cllr. Rowberry reported on the meeting. She informed Council that Contractors had been named and work was to commence on 26 October 2009.** ii. Joint Committee of Local Councils **– Cllr. M. Cross reported on the meeting stating that a further meeting was to be held to discuss Charters.** iii. Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales **– Cllr. M. Cross reported on the meeting and stated that the expected speaker had not turned up. The meeting also received details of Torfaen's Charter also the lack of local council representation on Community Strategy Plans and Local Service Boards.** iv. Tredegar Twinning **– Members commented that a far more positive atmosphere now prevailed at the Association.** v. School Governing Bodies **– a) Cllr. A. Tippings has been re-elected Chair of Bryn Bach Junior School Governors. b) Cllr. O'Sullivan reported that all Governors will have to undertake CRB checks. c) Cllr. J. Morgan informed Council that Tredegar Comprehensive School will be undergoing a full inspection.** vi. Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled **– Cllr. A. Williams was thanked for her assistance with arranging CRB checks for carers.** vii. Brecon Beacons Advisory Group **– No Report** viii. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee **– Members commented on the quantity of discarded fishing line which is affecting wildlife. It was agreed to write to Parc Bryn Bach about this problem.** ix. Tredegar Youth Café ***– Cllr. A. Williams declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon*** **– there was no report.**	**4/11**

x. Tredegar Development Trust **– Cllr. Trollope reported on the activities of TDT.**

xi. Blaenau Gwent CAB **– No Report**

xii. Communities First Strategy **– the title should be Communities First Board not strategy. Cllr. B. Willis reported on the recent application by the Youth Café for a letter of support which had been refused. It was noted that the matter had been dealt with earlier in the Meeting.**

xiii. Blaenau Gwent Joint Liaison Committee **– Cllr. M. Cross previously reported on this item.**

xiv. Tredegar Crime Prevention panel **– No Report**

xv. Tredegar Business Forum **– No Report**

xvi. Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum **– Cllr. J. Morgan reported on the activities of the Regeneration Forum.**

xvii. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum **– Cllr. P. Prosser reported on the activities of the Heritage Forum and stated that they are seeking old photographs of Blaenau Gwent for a pictorial booklet on Blaenau Gwent.**

xviii. Blaenau Gwent HARPS project **– Cllr. J. Morgan reported on the HARPS project.**

232 PLANNING

a) OFFICERS REPORT – NONE RECEIVED

b) APPLICATIONS –

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2009/0311	Mr Malcolm Cross 63 Church Street	Application for planning permission at 63 Church Street for conversion of ground floor shop and first floor bedsits into a three bed house.

***Cllr. M. Cross declared an interest in this matter and withdrew from the Meeting.* – THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS.**

2009/0315	Mr Asif Ayub M & B Fish Bar & Donna Kebab 26 Commercial Street	Application for planning permission for alteration to shop front and internal shop layout demolition of rear lean to extension and erection of small WC compartment.

NO OBJECTIONS

2009/0329	Tredegar Investments Ltd C/o George + Tomos Penseiri Cyf 12 Heol Penrallt Machynlleth Powys	Application for planning permission for erection of 156 dwellings and provision of new vehicular and pedestrian access on land adjacent to Park Hill Rd

MEMBERS EXPRESSED DISQUIET ABOUT THE ABSENCE OF ANY AMENITY/PLAY SPACE WITHIN THE SITE AND REQUESTED SIGHT OF THE MODEL OF THE DEVELOPMENT

	AND A PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL ON THIS MATTER. **c) Other Planning Matters –** 2009/0226 Proposed use of land for the siting of a mobile home for residential purposes for a period of three years at Isaf Carreg Bica Farm, Georgetown, planning permission was **REFUSED** on 1st October 2009. **NOTED**	
	MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN	**4/11**
233	**1) Cllr. D. Rowberry suggested contacting Mr. A. Davies AM to progress the visit to the Assembly.** **2) Tredegar Museum – The Archive Group are bringing the matter to the attention of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.** **3) Council were informed that Daniel Atkinson of 34 Glanhowy Street, Tredegar had represented Wales as a swimmer. It was agreed to make the usual presentation.** **4) Council was informed of the success of Ashley Ransome of Arnold Place, Tredegar who not only won his age category in the recent BMX Championship but was placed 12 overall on the UK list. It was agreed to make the usual presentation.** **5) Council was informed that the Otters Swimming Club had won both the Welsh Championships and the UK Championship. It was agreed to send them a letter of congratulations.**	**Clerk**
	6) A Member queried whether Mr. Cliff Bethel had ever been honoured by Tredegar Town Council. The Clerk was instructed to check on this matter.	**Clerk**
	7) Council was informed that horses and dogs were using the Deighton School Playing Fields. Members expressed concern and it was agreed to refer this to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.	**Clerk**
	8) Cllr. Gregory expressed his concern and disappointment that no Members of Tredegar Town Council were present at the recent Blaenau Gwent Lights Switch-Off Protest meeting.	
234	**The exclusion of Press and Public was agreed.**	
235	**The report of the Clerk was received. It was resolved to use Heads of the Valleys Stationers for supplies.**	
236	**The report of the Clerk was received and it was decided that the Leader of Council would inspect some of the second hand units for sale by U-Hire and report back to Council.**	**MC**
	THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.45 P.M. **_____ TOWN MAYOR**	