TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at Tredegar Library on Wednesday 18th November 2009 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor A. Williams
H. Trollope
M. Cross
A. Tippings
K. Hayden
D. Howells
J.C. Morgan
M. O'Sullivan
P. Prosser
S. Trollope
B. Willis
H. Woolf

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

257 Apologies: Cllrs. T. Gregory; R. Thomas; G. Bowen-Knight and A. Cotton. Council was in formed that Cllr. Thomas had just had an operation on his ankle. It was agreed to send him a get well card.

No.		Action
258	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** **The Mayor advised Members to make declarations of interest at the appropriate point in the agenda.**	
259	**TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 21ST OCTOBER 2009.** **They were received**	
260	**MATTERS ARISING** **1) Minute No. 212. It was agreed to send a letter to the Royal British Legion thanking them for their involvement in Remembrance Sunday.** **2) Minute No. 214. The Clerk informed Council that the Sleigh had been confirmed and that the Ladies Circle had asked to help. It was agreed to invite them to assist with the decoration of Santa's Grotto.**	
261	**THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF 21ST OCTOBER 2009 WERE RECEIVED**	
262	1) Minute No. 216. A Member reported that the electronic chip would also record the weight of material in the bins, it was not only for identification	

	purposes as was stated by the Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Officer. 2) Minute No. 223. (2) It was agreed to request that Messrs. Mantle and Hill meet with a sub-committee of Council to discuss their concerns. Cllr. Tippings again queried the state of the interior of the Clock and the Clerk responded by stating that the Clock key was currently with Street Lighting who were erecting the Christmas Lights. 3) Minute No. 225. (3) It was agreed to request that Mr Holland give a presentation to Council on the Freedom of Information Act, charges for copies of documents and the work involved and vexatious requests. 4) Minute No. 227. (5)(e). It was apparent that nobody was willing to accept responsibility for removal of the hanging baskets. It was agreed to write to Mr. Robin Morrison, Chief Executive Officer, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. 5) Minute No. 227. (5)(e). Cllr. Cross queried if any response had been received from the Allottees. It was confirmed that no-one had replied. It was agreed to repeat the request. 6) Minute No. 236. Cllr. Cross reported that U-Hire had advised that they had an as new trailer due back from hire which they would be prepared to sell to Tredegar Town Council for an all in price of £900 to include painting and siting on the recreation ground. 7) Minute No. 333. (2). It was agreed to write to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council supporting the Archive Group to take over the running of Tredegar Museum. It was agreed to contact Mr. F. Olding to organise the changeover.	
263	**THE MINUTES OF THE CIVIC SUB-COMMITTEE WERE RECEIVED AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS APPROVED.**	
264	**MATTERS ARISING** 1) A grant of £200 for Friends of Twinning was recommended and agreed. 2) It was agreed to contact Tredegar & Rhymney Golf Club and invite them to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee	
265	**THE MINUTES OF THE CIVIC COMMITTEE OF 4TH NOVEMBER 2009 WERE RECEIVED.**	
266	**MATTERS ARISING** **1) It was noted that Cllr. Cross was not present at the Meeting.** **2) Minute No. 243. (3)(c) It was agreed to contact Mr. Olding for advice and the necessary photographs.** **3) Minute No. 243. (17) It was agreed to contact Mr. Alwyn Holland about charges (see above).** **4) Minute No. 246. It was agreed to request a meeting at Bedwellty House to view progress. A Member stated that the contractor had not engaged any local labour. It was agreed to contact Mr. D. Watkins to query this.** **5) Minute No. 249. (2). It was agreed to bring this to the attention of Mr. Alan Reed, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.** **6) Minute No. 249. (3). It was agreed to bring this to the attention of Mr. Alan Reed, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.** **7) Minute No. 249. (6). It was agreed to bring this to the attention of**	

	Mr. Alan Reed, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.	
267	**TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING WITHN MOOSE INTERNATIONAL No.1 LODGE.** **It was agreed to defer this to the confidential part of the Meeting**	
268	**THE ACCOUNTS HAVING BEEN INSPECTED BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR PRIOR TO THE MEETING WERE APPROVED.**	
269	**CORRESPONDENCE**	
	1) BGCBC Catherine Ashby Principal Planning — a) Response to letter dated 22 October and phone call. Re 2009/0328 and 0329 Land adjacent to Park Hill proposed residential development. Inviting Council to submit views on the development in writing and advising that it is too early to hold a meeting with the developers. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. Members stated that a number of residents had been asking questions about the development and further information is needed.**	
	Environment — b) Licensing Lists w/e 8th November 2009 **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
	Y. Tovey — c) Consultation with Town & Community Council meeting to be held on Thursday 28th January 2010 at 2.30 pm **Items for agenda by 15th January 2010**.(3 copies MC MOS) Pre Meeting booked for 2pm in Committee Room 3 **RECEIVED AND NOTED. This item is on the Agenda.**	
	d) Local Development Plan 2006-21 Update (3) Nov 2009 Results of the preferred strategy consultation. **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
	A. Tippings — f) Microsoft applications workshops with costs. **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
	A. Tippings — g) A Bit of Tom Jones – a new film by Peter Watkins Hughes on show locally. **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
	2) Alun Davies AM — Suggesting available dates for Senydd visit in January and itinerary. **RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to accept 19th January 2010 as the date to visit the Assembly. It was agreed to write to all Members to request their availability and to discuss transport at the Ordinary**	

Meeting of 16th December 2009.

3) Mr Gerald Davies — Suggesting an event in 2010 along the lines of the Abergavenny District Railway Society held in 2008 celebrating railway events.

RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to agenda this for a meeting of the Heritage Committee and invite Mr. Davies to discuss this.

4) Parc Bryn Bach — Response to letter regarding fishing line – stating that they have regular meetings with the Angling Club Committee and they have clean up days, the line is also collected by the Park Rangers.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

5) BBNP — Agenda for Local Access Forum 10 December (Copy to HW)

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

6) BG Heritage Forum — Agenda for meeting to be held in the Library on Thursday 19th November at 9.30 am

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

7) WAG — Proposed guidance for the Wales Programme for improvement for the Fire and Rescue Authorities in Wales – asking for comments and observations by 25th January 2010.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

8) Barclays Bank Mandate a) Mayor's Appeal

It was agreed that the signatory of the Mayors Appeal would be the Responsible Financial Officer.

b) TTC Accounts

It was agreed that the signatories on the Mandate would be: Leader of Council; Mayor; and both Council Staff members (3 from 4 to sign).

9) GAVO — Invite to a "Vetting & Barring" presentation by WCVA Engagement Gateway info

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

10) Fire Service Training & Development Centre — Offering training courses

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

11) Info@b2b — Details of CCTV services available

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

12) Local Councils Update — November 2009 Issue 121.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

	13) Clerks & Councils Direct Nov 2009 Issue 66 **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
270	**PUBLICATIONS** Glasdon Details of product exhibition; Orvault Revue de Presse; Noah's Ark Appeal Issue 20 Summer 2009; Road works report 13/11 **AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS**	
271	**AGENDA** Executive Committee meeting to be held in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale on Wednesday 11th November 2009 at 2pm: Consultation with Town & Community Council meeting to be held on Thursday 28th January 2010 at 2.30 pm Items for agenda by 15th January 2010.(3copies): Pre Meeting booked for 2pm in Committee Room 3; Ordinary Meeting of Council on Thursday 19th November 2009 at 3pm in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale; Minutes Sept/Oct/Nov 2009 **AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS**	
272	**<u>GRANTS</u>** Thanks were received from Urdd Gobaith Cymru – Wales Air Ambulance – Tredegar Town AFC **and noted.** **<u>Cultural and Sporting Grants (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19</u>** NSPCC – A grant of £50 was agreed. Hospice of the Valleys – A grant of £500 was agreed. Nantybwch Senior Citizens Association –A grant of £200 was agreed.. **<u>Grants to Churches and Chapels</u>** Saron Congregational Chapel – A grant of £200 was agreed. It was also agreed to inform the Chapel that grants may be available from BGCBC	
273	**DELEGATES: TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM DELEGATES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUB-COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES.** i. Bedwellty Park Management Board **– NO REPORT** ii. Joint Committee of Local Councils **– NO REPORT** iii. Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales **– NO REPORT** iv. Tredegar Twinning –School Governing Bodies **– NO REPORT** v. Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled **– NO REPORT** vi. Brecon Beacons Advisory Group **– Cllr. Tippings requested that a National Park sign be erected near Trefil.** vii. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee **– NO REPORT** iii. Tredegar Youth Café ***– Cllr. A. Williams declared an interest in this***	

	***matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon* – NO REPORT** ix. Tredegar Development Trust **– In the report on TDT it was noted that they are no longer recipients of grant aid from Communities First.** x. Blaenau Gwent CAB **– NO REPORT** xi. Communities First Board **–A lengthy meeting about the lack of a support letter for the Youth Café. The Board still declined to provide the letter on the advice of the Chair. Following discussion it was agreed to get this clarified by WAG. It was noted that the new co-ordinator has been instructed to "build bridges" with the Youth Café.** xii. Blaenau Gwent Joint Liaison Committee –Tredegar Crime Prevention panel **– No Report** iii. Tredegar Business Forum **– The report had been taken in the Events Meeting earlier.** iv. Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum **– NO REPORT** xv. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum **– NO REPORT** vi. Blaenau Gwent HARPS project **– NO REPORT**	
274	QUESTIONS FOR INSPECTOR GREEN. 1) Are finances affecting policing in the area? It is understood that in some areas residents are employing local security firms, is Inspector Green aware of this? 2) Members are querying the effectiveness of the barrier in the car park. Are the Police aware that the displaced car drivers are causing problems in other areas. 3) Are the Police monitoring underage drinking in Tredegar public houses. 4) Why are the Police forbidding non-organised use of car parks? Organised use appears to be permitted, but non-organised use appears not – why? 5) Members are concerned at the parking on double yellow lines in Avalon Terrace, a known danger spot. Do the Police have any plans to patrol this area. 6) Members expressed concern at the amount of vandalism in Mechanics Square. Are the Police intending to take action against the perpetrators? 7) Members are querying the value of PACT meetings, what is the point? Why not PACT Panels? 8) Members expressed concern at the lack of Police presence in Wards. Is there a reason?	
275	**THE COUNCIL RECEIVED THE FINAL REPORT OF THE TOWN CLOCK PROJECT**. It was noted how high the consultancy fees were and Members criticised BGCBC for recommending CAPITA Symonds. The report was accepted.	
276	**TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE *ARE WE BEING SERVED* EXPERT GROUP REPORT.** **The recommendations appear to refer to Principal Councils and only in small part to Local Councils. The report was noted.**	
277	**TO CONSIDER ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE JOINT LIAISON MEETING ON 28 JANUARY 2009.**	

The following items were proposed for inclusion on the agenda:
1) Slow response to letters from Tredegar Town Council to BGCBC
2) Funding for Christmas Lights from BGCBC
3) Animal trespass and impounding team – are BGCBC satisfied with the response?
4) C2BG, are BGCBC satisfied by the service offered by the call centre?
5) Does BGCBC have target dates for the clean up of the Borough in time for the Eisteddfod?

278 **PLANNING:**

The Clerk was concerned to learn that a "Planning Committee" had met earlier convened by Cllr. Keith Hayden in breach of various parts of the 1972 Local Government Act. This is a serious matter.

a) To consider an Officer's Report (if received) **NO REPORT**

b) To consider Planning Applications submitted for Council's observations

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2009/0347	Mrs Wendy Morgan 30 Oliver Jones Cres	Householder Application for planning permission for two storey side extension.

NO OBJECTIONS

2009/0358	Mrs & Mrs Dunkerton 22 Maes Glas	Householder application – conservatory

NO OBJECTIONS

2009/0362	Mr William Robinson 6 Cefn Glas	Householder application – Conservatory

NO OBJECTIONS

2009/0365	Mr Jamie Woolf Rose Farm Cottage Lakeside	Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval for a residential development on Plot 2 at the former LCR Capacitors for one dwelling.

Cllrs B. Willis and H. Woolf declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.
THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS

C) TO CONSIDER OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

2009/0051 18 Castle St. Appeal by Mr. Ruddock for change of use from shop selling baby clothes to a photographic studio and roller shutter, to WAG against the decision to refuse. Appeal to be dealt with by means of Written Representations Procedure full details available from the office.
NOTED

	2009/0298 Change of use from A1 shop (previously a florist) to A2 Offices (Communities First) at 51 Commercial Street – permission GRANTED on 5th November 2009. **NOTED**	
279	**MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN** 1) Members were advised that stewards will be needed on 5th December. 2) Members were advised that assistance will be needed on 9th December 2009 – as well as participation in the Council Choir. 3) Members were advised and invited to attend the Presentation Evening in the Moose Hall.	
280	To consider the exclusion of Press and Public from the remainder of the meeting by virtue of the provisions of the LGA 1972 Schedule 12 a. **It was agreed.**	
281	To receive an interim report from the Staffing & Finance Sub-Committee The interim report of the Staffing and Finance Sub-Committee was received. It was noted that a further meeting is to be held on 25th November 2009.	
282	**TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING WITH MOOSE INTERNATIONAL NO.1 LODGE.** **The Minutes of the special meeting with the Moose were accepted.**	
283	**THE MINUTES OF THE STAFFING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE WERE RECEIVED.** **It was noted that this is to be the last Meeting for the current Clerk and a number of Members expressed thanks for his service over the years.** **THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.30 P.M.** **_____ Town Mayor**	