TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at Tredegar Library on Wednesday 16th December 2009 at 6.00 pm

Present: **Councillor** **A. Williams**
H. Trollope
M. Cross
A. Tippings
P. Prosser
D. Rowberry
D. Howells
M. O' Sullivan (arrived late)
S. Trollope
B. Willis
G. D. Woolf
A. Cotton
H. Woolf
G. Bowen-Knight

In attendance: **Ms. C.M. Keane – Clerical Assistant**
Mrs. A. Jones – Clerical Assistant

302) Apologies: **Cllrs. T. Gregory and R. Thomas**

No.		Action
303	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** **The Mayor advised Members to make declarations of interest at the appropriate point in the agenda.**	
304	**TO RECEIVE MR. ALUN DAVIES A.M.** **Mr. Davies addressed the Meeting and made many valid points on current issues and answered a number of questions from Members, which included the listing of Tredegar General Hospital and the issue of Charters – Members pointed out that Torfaen had a working model which Tredegar Town Council could look at in readiness for discussion with the Borough Council.** **The Mayor thanked Mr. Davies for attending and invited him to stay for the rest of the Meeting.**	
305	**Members were informed that a former Mayor of the Town, Mr. Graham Jones had passed away the night before and a minutes silence was observed in his honour.**	

306	**<u>GRANTS</u>** Thanks were received from Friends of Tredegar Twinning Association. **<u>Cultural and Sporting Grants (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19</u>** British Heart Foundation – **A grant for £100 was agreed after it was noted that the Foundation would be visiting local school to spread an anti-smoking message.** Llangollen International Musical Esiteddfod **– A grant for £50 was agreed.** Tredegar Round Table **– A grant for £200 was agreed (conditional – sleigh usage in Tredegar)** Tredegar Thespian Players **– A grant for £200 was agreed.** **<u>Grants to Churches and Chapels</u>** Vale Terrace Methodist Church **– A grant for £200 was agreed.**	
307	**THE ACCOUNTS HAVING BEEN INSPECTED BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR PRIOR TO THE MEETING WERE APPROVED.** **The BT bill was highlighted by Mrs. Jones, and Member agreed that the amount be paid and that a letter be sent to Duoguard to highlight the costs incurred.** **It was further agreed to review the contract with City Illuminations and this was to be put on to the agenda for an Events Committee.** **Members thanked Mrs. Jones for her clear and concise reporting and Mrs. Jones left the Meting at 7.05 p.m.**	**Agenda**
308	**CATERING – TO DISCUSS CATERING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE EVENTS AND TO AGREE A SUM PER HEAD TO BE PAID.** **It was agreed to pay an additional sum of £30 to Sugar and Spice for the previous Presentation Evening. It was also agreed that the maximum amount to be paid per head for catering at future events should be set at £3.50. It was noted that this was to be a maximum only and <u>not</u> a standard payment.**	
309	**TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH NOVEMBER 2009 AND 2ND DECEMBER 2009 AND THE CIVIC MEETING OF 2ND DECEMBER 2009.** **1) EVENTS COMMITTEE 18TH NOVEMBER.** **a) <u>Minute No 254.(6)</u> – Members queries who had paid for the**	

	decoration of the Grotto and the Mayor stated that she had paid for it herself as a donation to the Community – Members expressed their thanks. **b) <u>Minute No 254.(10)</u> – Cllr. H. Woolf advised Members that REAL radio had advertised the event on their station. It was agreed to contact them with future events.** **c) Minute No 255. – The Mayor's Concert was hailed as an outstanding success and it was agreed to hold the event annually as a Town Council event for the Mayor's Appeal. The Mayor praised the 20 groups and 180 performers who supported her Appeal and had been approached by other groups to take part in next year's event.** **Members were dismayed that the Leisure Centre was to charge £500 for their services and it was noted that they had not allowed any other group to provide refreshments. It was agreed to write to the Leisure Centre to see if the charges could be waived or reduced in any way, bearing in mind that this was to become an annual event.**	**Write**
	2) EVENTS COMMITTEE 2ND DECEMBER 2009. **a) Minute No 290 – Lights Switch-On – It was noted that letters of thanks had been sent to all participants.** **b) Minute No 292 – 50 Years on – a Celebration of the Life of Aneurin Bevan – It was agreed to invite the Youth Mayor to take part in the Events planning and to participate.**	
	3) CIVIC COMMITTEE 2ND DECEMBER 2009. **Minute No 294. Members noted that the meeting with Inspector Green had been constructive.** **Minute No 295 (2) (a) It was agreed to invite Mr. Holland to the Civic Committee Meeting on 3rd February 2010 and to ask him to speak on the new Model Code of Conduct too.** **Minute No 295 (5) Cllr. P. Prosser presented the portfolio of photos and information that he had gathered on the General Hospital to help with its "Spot Listing". It was agreed to contact both the Heritage and the Regeneration officers and to seek their responses within 14 days.** **Minute No 295 (7) It was agreed to discuss this matter with Mr. Alwyn Holland on 3rd February 2010.** **Minute No 295 (9) It was agreed to monitor the situation regarding Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan carefully with regard to the provision for minor injuries/out of hours care and Accident and Emergency provision.** **Minute No 298 – Matters Concerning Bedwellty house and Park – It was noted that all parties were keen to keep abreast of the work and that a visit should be arranged as soon as possible after the Christmas break.** **Minute No 301 – Matters of Local Interest and Concern** **Item No 5 – Cllr. H. Woolf advised Members that the band Mimesis**	**Actioned 17/12** **Write DW**

	had won the recent "Battle of the Bands" competition and he was congratulated.	
310	**MATTERS ARISING** **NONE**	
311	**TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL ON 18TH NOVEMBER 2009.** **a) Minute No. 262 (4) It was noted that Ms. Bethan Cartwright, Town Centre Manager, was to seek tenders for the upkeep of the baskets.** **b) Minute No. 262 (5) Response had been received from Southend and Vale View allotments but the Milefield records were out of date but Cllr. Williams could supply the information.** **c) Minute No 262 (7) It was agreed to amend the minute to read "to support the running" not "to take over the running"** **d) Minute No 266 (4) It was noted that 4 local people were now employed at Bedwellty House.** **e) Minute No. 269 (3) It was agreed to invite Mr. Davies to the Events Committee meeting to discuss possible celebrations.**	**Contact Cllr AW**
312	**MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA** **There were none**	
313	**CORRESPONDENCE** 1) BGCBC (a) Highways Reply to letter dated 26.11.09 Re: Charles Street road Markings – Contractors have been warned & quality of their work has improved; Banners on lamp post – passed to Street Lighting for them to respond; Cars for sale on Sirhowy Hill – monitoring the situation & placing notices on cars when required **RECEIVED AND NOTED** ***Cllr. D. Rowberry declared an interest in the following matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*** (b) Steve Osborne 2 Officers from Licensing/Trading Standards attended event on Saturday 5.12.09, no enforcement was required **NOTED – IT WAS AGREED THAT A LETTER OF THANKS BE SENT.** (c) Stakeholder Engagement Event Wednesday 9th December 2009 – programme for the day **NOTED** (d) Dave Ware (i) Minutes of Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Partnership Board, next Meeting will be Friday 26th February 2010 at 11am Council Chamber Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale **RECEIVED – given to Cllr. Morgan 16.12.09** (ii) Courses available at Community University of the Valleys in January	**CK**

	RECEIVED – COPY TO CLLR. TIPPINGS (iii) Reminder of 13 week work/cultural experience exchange programme **RECEIVED** ***Cllr. D. Rowberry declared an interest in the following matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*** (e) Licensing (i) W/Ending 29.11.09 Licensing List (ii) W/ending 6.12.09 Licensing List **RECEIVED AND NOTED**	**COPIED**
	2) Xmas Lights Event (a) Mavis Jellet – Email complaint about the Xmas lights in Castle Street, some are not working and trees from Heads of the Valleys Stationers upwards have static lights not Flashing **RECEIVED. IT WAS AGREED TO RESPOND AND TO CONTACT STREET LIGHTING.**	**Responded**
	(b) Email from Round Table expressing their thanks for our acknowledgement of their participation in the Lights Switch On & that this Sunday evening they will be going around Tredegar with the sleigh/Santa. Also querying whether we have received their grant application **RECEIVED - emailed confirmation that grant application has been received and that a grant will be offered towards their various Christmas activities with the sleigh as legislation restricts retrospective applications.**	
	(3) Peter Watkins Hughes Request for a letter of support for the Film School of the Valleys Project **RECEIVED AND NOTED – IT WAS AGREED TO WRITE A LETTER OF SUPPORT AND ALSO TO CONTACT MR. HUGHES TO SEE IF WE COULD OFFER ANY FURTHER SUPPORT.**	**130110**
	(4) Capita Symonds Recommendations after Clock site visit on 9.12.09 **RECEIVED AND NOTED.**	
	(5) RBL Tredegar Branch Copy of letter sent to BGCBC concerning Cllr Brian Thomas and a request asking for Town Council's comments. **RECEIVED. It was noted that the Town Council is unable to specify the person attending on behalf of the Borough Council and to reply to the RBL advising them of this.**	**130110**
	(6) GAVO (a) Vetting & Barring Presentation 16.12.09 1pm Newtown Community Centre, Ebbw Vale, £45 charge for local authorities - **NOTED**	

	(b) Speed Dating Event in February 2010 – opportunity for voluntary & community organisations to promote their organisation to volunteers - **NOTED**	
	(7) National Union of Mineworkers — Details for Ex-Miners to claim for "Osteoarthritis of the Knees" **RECEIVED AND NOTED**	**Copied to HW**
	(8) Brecon Beacons National Park — List of venues & dates for Planning Advice Centres **RECEIVED AND NOTED**	
	(9) FairTrade — Guidelines for the producer visit 2010 **RECEIVED AND NOTED**	
	(10) Scope — Details of house collections in 2010 and 2011 **RECEIVED AND NOTED**	
	(11) Western Power Distribution — Temporary Unmetered Connections for festive lighting Christmas for 2009 **RECEIVED AND NOTED**	
	(12) Brynmawr Town Council — Notes of One Voice Wales Meeting in Llandrindod Wells on Friday 10th December 2009 **RECEIVED AND NOTED**	
	(13) Sustainable Energy Partnership — Request to lobby MPs Re: Climate Change **RECEIVED it was agreed to support as previously**	
	(14) One Voice Wales — (i) Planning Aid Wales Newsletter (ii) Briefing on the Community Strategies & Planning consultation (iii) Flyer seeking disabled people to join the voluntary Board of Directors for Disability Wales, closing date 8.1.10 **ALL RECEIVED**	
	(15) Local Councils Update — Issue 122 December 2009 – Copied for Members **RECEIVED**	
	(16) Christmas Cards — Received from Abertillery/Llanhilleth Community Council; Re Liance Bus Preservation Group; BGCBC Mayor; Alphafence; Christmas card for Mayor from BGCBC Mayor;BGCBC Leader. **NOTED**	

314	**PUBLICATIONS** BGCBC Road Works Report 4.12.09; BGCBC Road Works Report 11.12.09; BGCBC Revised Road Works Report 11.12.09 ; Ville D'Orvault Bordereau d'envoi 5.12.09 AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS	
315	**AGENDA** BG Heritage Forum Meeting on Thursday 17th December 2009 at 9.30am Tredegar Library; Licensing Forum Wednesday 9th December 2009 at 10.30am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 8th December 2009 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Environment & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Thursday 10th December 2009 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 9th December 2009 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Bedwellty Park Management Board Wednesday 13th January 2010 at 5pm Tredegar Library; Planning Committee Friday 11th December 2009 at 10.30am Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale – Additional agenda item; Audit Committee Tuesday 15th December 2009 at 2pm Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale; B.Gwent Wellbeing Alliance Upper Sirhowy Locality Group Meeting Tuesday 15.12.09 at 1pm Catapult; Executive Committee Wednesday 16th December 2009 at 2pm Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Committee Wednesday 16th December 2009, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale, now at 2.30pm **AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS**	
316	**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 – **NO REPORT** v. School Governing Bodies **– Thanks were expressed for the daffodil bulbs supplied and the excellence of Nativity plays at various schools was highlighted.** vi. Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled **– Staffing issues had been highlighted at its recent meeting.** vii. Brecon Beacons Advisory Group **– Cllr. H. Woolf highlighted the fact that Trefil seemed to have been omitted from the map of the National Park area. It was agreed to write asking that the boundary be reviewed to include Trefil** iii. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee **– NO REPORT** ix. Tredegar Youth Café **– *Cllr. A. Williams declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon* – NO REPORT** x. Tredegar Development Trust **– It was noted that Mr. Brian Kember was due to retire and it was agreed to write to him.**	**Write** **Write**

xi. Blaenau Gwent CAB **– NO REPORT**
xii. Communities First Board **– The unused funds which were being returned to WAG were highlighted.**
iii. Blaenau Gwent Joint Liaison Committee – **No Report**
iv. Tredegar Crime Prevention panel **– No Report**
xv. Tredegar Business Forum **– No Report**
vi. Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum **– NO REPORT**
vii. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum **– NO REPORT**
iii. Blaenau Gwent HARPS project **– NO REPORT**

317 **PLANNING**

Cllrs. D. Rowberry and H. Trollope declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

a) To consider an Officers Report – **NOTED**

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2009/0387	Mr B Jones Sirhowy Homes Ltd 7 Coach Bach Tredegar	Two 3 bed semi-detached town houses off Lower Salisbury Street

Whilst having no objections in principal Members were concerned that this development had no adverse affect on Bedwellty Park

2009/0388	Mr J Shepherd 92 Glyn Terrace	Single storey garage within garden at 72 Glyn Terrace

NO OBJECTIONS

2009/0389	Mr M Parker Parker Motors Promenade Garage	Part change of use of land to facilitate a mobile food outlet

Members objected on the grounds of visual impact, aromas affecting future functions at Bedwellty House and the situation, near the School, being detrimental to healthy eating policies.

2009/0392	Mr B Price & R Prosser Flat 3 Roderick Hill Court	Detached dwelling land opposite 4 & 5 Picton Rd Renewal of o/l app. C/2006/0509

NO OBJECTIONS

2009/0395	Mr C Searchfield 4 St James Park	Covert single storey garage to 2 storey, new single storey extension & additional parking

NO OBJECTIONS

	c) Other Planning Matters – NONE	
318	The report on the 2009 Christmas Lights Switch On was accepted and it was agreed to agenda for a meeting of the Events Committee	
319	Visit to Senydd - 11 Members put their names forward for the visit and it was agreed to travel by train.	
320	**Matters of local interest and concern** Cllr. P. Prosser had completed the portfolio on the General Hospital and this was given to the Acting Clerk for her to pass on to CADW to help spot list the Hospital	**Done**
321	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. **AGREED**	
322	To receive the Minutes of the Staffing & Finance Sub-Committee held on 25th November 09 The Minutes were received and noted. The question of a gratuity for the Clerk was raised and a vote took place by a show of hands and it was a majority decision that no such payment be made. Members also asked for a projection of payroll figures for the next 3 years. It was also agreed that the Chair and Deputy be allowed to sign staff time sheets. It was also agreed to hold a Staffing Committee meeting after the Christmas break.	
323	Matters arising not on the agenda – **there were none.**	
324	Code of Conduct – It was agreed to re-agenda this item for a meeting after the presentation to be made by Mr. Alwyn Holland in February.	
	THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.30 P.M. AND MEMBERS WERE INVITED TO JOIN THE MAYOR IN A CELEBRATION OF THE FESTIVE SEASON. **_____Town Mayor**	