TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Civic Committee Meeting of Council held at Bedwellty House on Wednesday 3rd June 2009 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor A. Williams
M. Cross
A. Tippings
J. Morgan
P. Prosser
D. Rowberry
H. Trollope
B. Willis
G. Woolf
H. Woolf
A. Cotton

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

Apologies: Cllrs. T. Gregory S. Trollope R. W. Thomas D. Howells M. O'Sullivan

67) Presentation by Police - Inspector Green not present.

68) <u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>

1) Alyson Tippings — E-mail from Lyn Price, Twinning ref the cancellation of the Executive meeting on 22 June, list of meeting dates for Cllrs. Rowberry and Woolf also nice comments on Cllr. Cross and H. Trollope's trip to Orvault.

RECEIVED. Agreed to send a thank you letter to Orvault.

2) Fr. John — Confirming St James available for Armed Forces Day at 3pm - charge for organist £20. Will organise service unless TTC would like an input if so, please contact by 5th June.

RECEIVED. Agreed to pay the organist. It was noted that Cllr. Tippings had contacted Fr. Davies and arranged that she and the Cllr. Williams would do readings.

3) Joanna Lumley — Outcome of the Gurkha Justice campaign and thanks for support.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to invite Ms. Lumley to the Armed Forces Event.

4) BGCBC Dave Ware — a) (i) Local Forum Committee no longer operates.
RECEIVED AND NOTED
(ii) Forum of Major Partners - no longer operates
RECEIVED AND NOTED
b) Weekly Licensing Lists w/e 17,24 and 31/05/09

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

c) Consultation with Town & Community Councils – meeting to be held on Thursday 18th June at 10.30 am in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale -Items for inclusion no later than Noon Tuesday 9th June.(MC.MO'S,A W)

RECEIVED AND NOTED. Items for inclusion had already been sent to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

Bethan Cartwright — d) Ref Christmas event with Town Forum - requesting that this item be agendaed for the next meeting and an invitation issued to the Forum to meet with TTC.

Agreed to invite to the next Events Meeting on 10th June 2009.

John Marshall — e) Quote for Xmas lights

RECEIVED. The Clerk was instructed to use this information for grant applications.

5) OVW — The Secret Millionaire - a grant scheme for community and Town Councils in conjunction with the Channel 4 programme and the Big Lottery's Award for All Scheme – applications up to 21st December 2009.

RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to seek further details.

6) WAG — Consultation Policy paper re proposed changes Accounts & Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

7) GAVO — Voluntary Sector Forum on 30th June at 10.30 Civic Centre Ebbw Vale - Agenda

RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed that Cllr. A. Williams would represent Tredegar Town Council.

8) Brynmawr TC — Mayor Cllr Barrie Sutton, Dep Mayor Cllr. John Hopkins JCLC Reps - Cllrs Elias Nash LI Davies Mayor Cllr Sutton and Dep Mayor Cllr John Hopkins

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

9) Kidney Wales Foundation Annual Report 200911 0 and thanks to Cllr. Williams for support.

RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to congratulate Cllr Williams for organising the event.

10) EVI — Details of forthcoming events at Ebbw Vale Institute.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

11) Allianz — Details of fidelity guarantee proposal.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

12) All Wales Convention "The future of Wales is in your hands" at Llanilleth Institute Abertillery on 11 June at 6.30 pm re devolution/powers in Wales seeking public opinions across Wales.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

13) Brecon Beacons Advisory Group Querying Members remit.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

14) SLCC Wales regional conference 2009 at Venue Cymru on 7th July 2009 at Llandudno.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

15) OVW E-mail contact details.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

16) P. Topping Request for response to correspondence dated 1st May re "Council Tax Increase for 2009/10"

RECEIVED AND NOTED. A Member queried where Mr. Toppings original letter had gone as some Members required copies. It was agreed that this would be attended to.

Cllr. A. Williams declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

17) Beyond Imagination Ministries Complaint against Cllr A. Williams Verbal apology received - matter resolved

The Clerk read out the complaint and also stated that there was some confusion as he had received three separate verbal assurances that this complaint had been dropped. It was pointed out that none of these are in writing. It was agreed to write seeking clarification before considering the next step. Tredegar Town Council confirmed its confidence in Cllr. Williams and in her Office as Mayor.

18) Dr. J. Evans To Cllr Cross, Leader, appeal against termination of employment letter.

RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to refer this to an Appeals Committee hearing on 15th June 2009 at 10.30 a.m. It was noted that Cllrs. K. Hayden and R. Thomas now on the Appeals Committee, had been party to the decision to dismiss the Clerk. It was agreed that they could not sit on the Appeals Committee for this item.

69) PUBLICATIONS

Glasdon Catalogue;GA VO Newsletter; BGCBC list of Committee Members; Le Cens Pratique No 106; BGCBC Road works report w/c 29/05/09

AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS.

70) AGENDA

Annual Meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale on 28th May at 2pm; Special Meetings of Council to be held on 23rd June at 4 pm and 29th June at 2.30 pm in the **Council Chamber Ebbw Vale.**

AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS.

71) MATTERS CONCERNING BEDWELLTY HOUSE AND PARK

1) Cllr. Morgan produced a badly damaged enamelled sign which had been removed from Bedwellty Park at some time in the past and at an unknown date. The item had appeared in auction and Cllr. Morgan had purchased this from the successful bidder. It was agreed to recommend at the Ordinary Meeting of Council that Tredegar Town Council purchases the item from Cllr. Morgan and discuss the item with the appropriate Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Officers about restoration.
2) The Clerk reported on a visit to Tredegar Library that afternoon. The work is proceeding, but the area offered looks even smaller now that the partitions are in. It was agreed to arrange another site meeting. The Clerk also informed Council that the new decant dates were 6th to 13th August 2009. Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council would prefer the 6th, but the 13th was the fall back position.
3) Cllr. Morgan referred to a dog's grave in Bedwellty Park. Apparently the dog belonged to Lord Tredegar and was buried in the Park. No other person had knowledge of this.

72) GRANTS

Cultural and Sporting Grants (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19

Heads of the Valleys Gateway Club - a grant of £200 was recommended
Friends of Deighton School - a grant of £200 was recommended.
Carp Crunchers Community Disco - a grant of £200 was recommended.

Grants to Churches and Chapels - NONE RECEIVED

73) VISIT TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, TO FURTHER CONSIDER MEMBERS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE SENYDD.
The following Members expressed an interest in attending the Assembly:
Cllrs. D. Rowberry; A. Tippings; B. Willis; M. Cross; J. Morgan; A.Cotton; H. Woolf; G. Woolf; A. Williams; H. Trollope and S. Trollope. It was agreed to contact absent Members and to arrange a date.

74) PLANNING

a) OFFICERS REPORT - NONE RECEIVED

b) APPLICATIONS

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2009/0174	Mr. Timothy Morgan Woodlands 12 Beaufort Rd	Householder application for first floor extension

NO OBJECTIONS

2009/0178	Mr. R. Philips Valley Taverns C/o 15/16 New Barleyfield Ind Est Brynmawr	Retention of roller shutters to windows and doors and external air conditioning units, at The Inn Place

OBJECTIONS TO NOISE OF AIR CONDITIONING UNITS

2009/0179	Mr. Paul Evans 2 Avalon Tce	Householder application for single storey extension

NO OBJECTIONS

c) Other Planning Matters

1) Cllr. Morgan again raised the question of Arosfa and stated that parking problems had had not been addressed. Following discussion it was agreed to point this out to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Planning Department.
2) Cllr. Morgan drew attention to the recent decision to approve the planning applications in respect to the former Young's Garage. ***Cllr M. Cross declared an interest in this and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*** **Cllr. Morgan stated that the offending rear section of a lorry used for valeting and refused permission by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, was still operating. It was his opinion that a Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council enforcement action was not being complied with. It was agreed to write to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and complain at the lack of enforcement action, especially as this site is one of the Eisteddfod gateways into Blaenau Gwent. Members also were of the opinion that Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Planning Department did not take account of the visual impact of the new development and believed that the assurances given not to use the site for residential use were spurious. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Leader of Council, the CEO and the National Assembly.**

Cllr. P. Prosser left the Meeting at 7.25 pm.

75) MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST AND CONCERN

1) Cllr. M. Cross brought to Council's attention the success of Christian Morse in a recent talent competition. It was agreed to send a letter of congratulation.
2) Cllr. M. Cross also brought to Council's attention the success of Trefil RFC in the Cyrus Davies Cup Competition. It was agreed to send a letter of congratulation.
3) Cllr. M. Cross brought to Council's attention the success of Tredegar Ironside RFC in getting promotion. It was agreed to send a letter of congratulation.
4) Cllr. M. Cross brought to Council's attention the gifts from Orvault and it was agreed that these would need to be displayed in the restored Bedwellty House. Cllr. Cross also reported on the desire of Orvault to twin with Tredegar schools. Apparently only Bryn Bach Primary have maintained a link. It was suggested that Tredegar Town Council School Governors seek to encourage their schools to participate.
5) It was brought to Council's attention that Mr. Brian Winters will celebrate 50 years as a Butcher in Tredegar. It was agreed to a Civic award.
6) Cllr. A. Tippings brought to Council's attention that Penn Pharmaceuticals had developed a growing reputation for assisting local charitable causes. It was agreed to send congratulations and give them a Civic award.
7) It was brought to Council's attention that Bethania Chapel is 100 years old. It was agreed to give them a Civic award.
8) TEMS Closure - ***Cllrs. J. Morgan and H. Trollope declared an interest and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*** **Cllr. Rowberry reported**

that the funding for the project had run out and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council were not financially in a position to bring them in-house but there was a reason to hope that another funding stream may be able to assist - but not in the short term.

9) TEMS 'Silver Spade' - the clerk reported that TEMS would be prepared to give the Silver Spade to Tredegar Town Council in return for a donation. Members were of the opinion that since the spade had been bought with grant moneys it could not be sold. If TDT as the parent body wished to donate the spade, Tredegar Town Council would accept it.

10) Website. It was agreed to hold an Events Sub- Committee on Wednesday 17th June and to receive a presentation from R. Harris, A. Meredith and H. Lewis in regards to updating our web-site.

11)Cllr. J. Morgan informed Council that UNISON had contacted him regarding a sum of £300 left over from the celebrations of the Anniversaries. They have suggested it be put to a "re-opening party" at Bedwellty House in 2011/12. This was agreed.

12) Cllr. Morgan reported on the Regeneration Board. It was pointed out that this is on the Agenda of the Ordinary Meeting of 17th June 2009.

13) Cllr. Morgan brought up the matter of car sales on Beaufort Road once again. It was agreed to contact Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and Gwent Police.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.55 PM

_____TOWN MAYOR