TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at Tredegar Library on Wednesday 20th January 2010 following the Estimates Committee at 5.30 p.m.

Present:	**Councillor**	**H. Trollope** **M. Cross** **A. Tippings** **D. Howells** **T. Gregory** **S. Trollope** **B. Willis** **G. D. Woolf**
In attendance:		**Ms. C.M. Keane – Acting Town Clerk** **Mrs. A. Jones – Acting RFO**
328) Apologies:		**Cllrs. R. Thomas; A. Williams; J. Morgan; G. Bowen-Knight; A. Cotton; H. Woolf**

329) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
The Chair reminded Members to make declarations of interest at the appropriate point on the agenda.

330) GRANTS:
Thanks from NSPCC and Llangollen International Eisteddfod were noted.

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE GRANTS TO SPORTING AND CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS.
There were none

CHURCHES & CHAPELS (S.137) TO APPROVE GRANTS TO CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.
Reconciliation Ministries, Calvary Pentecostal Church Sycamore Avenue – It was noted that nothing had been granted as far back as 1985 and it was agreed to arrange a meeting with the Civic Sub Committee.

331) ESTIMATES. To receive the verbal report of the Estimates Committee and to set a precept for 2010/2011.
The report was received from the Estimates Committee and a reduction of 2% was unanimously approved.

332) ACCOUNTS: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts paid in December 2009 and for payment in January 2010.
The accounts were inspected and queries relating to the cost of plants and planting were raised and it was agreed that sponsorship be sought for planting around the Town Clock, the acting Clerk was instructed to contact Arriva Trains, Unison and Messrs. Hill and Mantle. The Accounts having previously been inspected by the Leader were approved.

Mrs. A. Jones left the Meeting at 5.45 pm

333) TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL held on 16 December 2009.
The Minutes were received and moved as a true record.

a) Minute No. 304. Members commented on the warm welcome they had received at the Senydd and it was agreed that letters of thanks be sent to all involved and Town Clock Badges and plates be made available for Mr. Davies and the First Minister.
b) Minute No 308 The additional sum due to Sugar and Spice was £30 it was agreed to amend the Minutes accordingly.

334) MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA.
There were none.

335) CORRESPONDENCE

1) BGCBC

(a) Request for Precept 2010/11 to be submitted no later than 31.1.10

This was noted. It was agreed that the information would be sent.

(b) Application form for Small Lottery Licence for Mayor's Appeal.

It was agreed to apply Annually.

(c) Chief legal Officer confirming he can discuss Code of Conduct at Meeting on 3.2.10 but this would take another 30 minutes including questions. Seeking confirmation from us first.

This was agreed.

(d) Highways - Reply to letter concerning attachment of Banners to street lighting columns – Permission was grant after the company carried out a comprehensive risk assessment and used special arm brackets.

Received and Noted.

(e) Licensing

(i) W/Ending 13.12.09 Licensing List
(ii) W/ending 3.1.10 Licensing List
(iii) W/ending 17.1.10 Licensing List

Received and Noted.

(f) Stakeholder Event, Community Planning – Concluding Event, Friday 29.1.10 from 10am at Llanhilleth Institute. Request attached slip confirming attendance to be returned by 20.1.10

Received and Noted. Members interested to contact the Office.

(g) Letter from Planning Department requesting Council to include proposed Park Hill allotments when Council reviews its allotments policy. Hard copy of letter received too.

It was agreed that this would be taken into consideration when the policy is reviewed. It was further agreed to contact Abertillery Town Council and seek information on their very successful Allotment policy.

Cllr. M. O'Sullivan joined the Meeting at 6pm.

Cllrs. J. Morgan and P. Prosser joined the Meeting at 6.05 pm.

Cllr. A. Tippings declared an interest in the following matter but it was agreed that she should be able to answer questions from Members.

(h) Updated Final VRP grant funding for Nye Bevan Festival, needs feedback by Thursday 21.1.10 morning (previous versions attached too).

Details of the funding available were received and welcomed. It was agreed that the Council work with other partners to celebrate this event and that it should go forward to the next Events Committee.

2) Dave Galligan – UNISON

Unison are interested in participating in events to celebrate Nye Bevan and request to be informed of meeting dates.

It was agreed to write to UNISON and invite them to attend a meeting of the Events Committee and to become one of the project partners.

(3) One Voice Wales

(a) Buckingham Palace Garden Party 20.7.10 – invite to current (outgoing) Chairperson plus guest to be nominated for the chance to be selected to attend the Garden Party.

Agreed

(b) WAG consultation papers on the Capital Finance Framework and covering letter from One Voice Wales.

Received and noted.

(c) Request to Councils to discuss whether Once Voice Wales should continue to provide instantaneous translation facilities at meetings.

This facility had not been used by Members and it was agreed to advise OVW that it was not required by Members at this time.

(d) Details of new Government Sponsored Public Appointment mentoring programmes and course application forms.

Members expressed an interest and it was agreed to request an extension of the deadline for applications.

(e) 2 Copies of The Voice and written statement by Welsh Assembly on Community & Town Councils.

Received – available for Members.

(4) WPS Town Council Insurance scheme underwritten by Aviva – part of this scheme is a quarterly email factsheet which is being distributed soon. We will be included in mailing.

Received. It was agreed that a review of insurance costs should be undertaken by the RFO.

(5)Hywel Lewis

Updating website, asking as to whether we wish to continue with the business directory section as this will need continual updating which would be time consuming and it may look as though Council is biased towards the listed businesses.

It was agreed that Cllr. H. Woolf should contact Mr. Lewis to clarify and arrange a viewing of the test site.

(6) Tredegar Twinning

French visit scheduled for 16th April 2010, requesting whether there will be a Mayor's Reception and recommendation as to where they can hold the inter committee meeting.

It was agreed that the Council should provide drinks and refreshments and that the Moose hall be contacted as a venue. It was also agreed that an appropriate gift be sourced.

Cllr. H. Woolf joined the meeting at 6.15 p.m.

(7) Gwent Police

(a) Insp.Green - Poster for Anti Social Campaign being launched – **copied for all Members.**

It was suggested by a Member that the new Neighbourhood Officer be invited to the next meeting with Insp Green

(b) Insp. Green - Re: letter concerning parking at Avalon Terrace – passed to Sgt Petrie for him to link up with BGCBC Highway section

Received and noted.

(8) W.A.G. Communities 1st Programme – reply to letter concerning failure to give a letter of support for Tredegar Youth Café application. This failure may have occurred due to difficulties the Programme was experiencing at that time and the absence of senior staff. A new co-ordinator is now in the post and has been in direct contact with Tredegar Youth Café. – **Copied to all Members.**

It was agreed that previous problems were hopefully past and that this letter could be a useful step forward.

(9) Blaenavon Town Council

Local Councils Partnership Committee Draft copy for Torfaen.

Received – it was agreed to take this to the next Joint Committee Meeting with Blaenau Gwent.

(10) Brecon Beacon National Park

(a) Response to letters dated 28th & 29th October Ref: Guidance Note – Charging for Pre-application/Planning Advice & UDP Policy ES 25 – Comments were received/appreciated and will be the subject of further discussions before both are implemented.

Received and noted.

(b) Confirmed Meeting Minutes 10.9.09 – copied to H. Woolf & R.Thomas.

Received and noted. Members raised the question of a boundary stone for Trefil in the Park and it was agreed to write seeking information.

(11) Kidney Wales Foundation

Details of Walk for Life 2010 appeal, Sunday 28th March 2010.

It was agreed to support this event again this year and it was further agreed that the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. H. Trollope, would organise the event in co-ordination with staff. It was suggested that the Walk be held around Parc Bryn Bach because of its excellent facilities and access for the disabled. It was agreed to contact both the Parc and Foundation to advise them of this.

(12) RNIB Request to be one of the Mayor's nominated charities for their term in Office.
Received - it was agreed to pass to the incoming Mayor.

(13) Gwent Valleys One Voice Partnership
Agenda for Meeting Tuesday 26th January 2010 at 7pm Pontypool Community Council Offices – **copied to M. Cross & M. O'Sullivan.**
Received.

(14) Newport Brass Band
Request to play in Summer Band Concerts.
Received – it was agreed to advise that the Park was closed this year but to forward the request to the Events Committee.

336) PUBLICATIONS
BGCBC Road works report W/C 18.12.09; Ashwood Calendar and thank you for using their services; Ville D'Orvault Le Cens Pratique No 111 & Orvault Magazine No 43; BGCBC Road works report W/C 8.1.10; Second Life Products Catalogue street furniture made from recycled items (polythene); Notts Sports Cricket Free advice on repair/replace of sports/play area surfaces; J. Parker Bulbs Catalogue; BGCBC Road works report W/C 15.1.10; Gwent Living Churchyards Newsletter Issue 4; Ville D'Orvault Bordereau d'envoi December 2009; BGCBC Poster advertising Cab Safe scheme in Blaenau Gwent; Clerks & Councils Direct January 2010 Issue 67
AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS

337) AGENDA
Ordinary Meeting Wednesday 23rd December 2009 at 2pm, Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Licensing Committee Tuesday 5th January 2010 at 11am, Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Committee Wednesday 6th January 2010 at 2pm, Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Joint Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 6th January 2010 at 10am, Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Planning Committee Thursday 7th January 2010 at 2pm, Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Social Care & Inclusion Scrutiny Committee Monday 18th January 2010 at 3pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Social Care & Inclusion Scrutiny Committee Monday 18th January 2010 at 3pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale – Additional item; Community Health Council Wednesday 13.1.10 at 5.30pm at Miners Institute Llanhilleth; B.G. Heritage Forum Thursday 21.1.10 at 9.30am Tredegar Library; Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 12th January 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre; Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 12th January 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre – Postponed; Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 19th January 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre; Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 20th January 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre; Planning Committee Thursday 7th January 2010 postponed till Friday 22nd January 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre; Special Meeting Thursday 4th March 2010 at 9.30am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Thursday 28th January 2010 at 10am Council Chamber, Civic Centre; Notice of Consultation with Town/Community Councils Tuesday 26th January 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre (3 Copies); Consultation with Town/Community Councils Tuesday 26th January 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre (3 Copies); Environment & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Thursday 21st January 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre
AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS

338) DELEGATES: TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM DELEGATES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUB-COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES.

I. Bedwellty Park Management Board – **Work on the House is on schedule and in budget. A query was raised about the location of the Scroll from the Burma Hill Memorial and a request was made to check its location. A visit to view works was requested.**
II. Joint Committee of Local Councils – **No Report**
III. Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales – **No Report**
IV. Tredegar Twinning – **The upcoming visit was mentioned as was a shortage of funding. The pre-Christmas fund raising effort had been marred by lack of heating and the Twinning committee were writing to the Borough to have the hire costs reduced. It was agreed to support this move.**
V. School Governing Bodies – **A Member raised the question of the Winter Maintenance programme and the cost to each school. It was agreed to contact Blaenau Gwent CBC to ascertain the take up and costing and also to get feedback from all School governors. Special mention was made of Georgetown Primary, which is in two sections separated by a road and it was agreed to write to Blaenau Gwent CBC to find out the arrangements for snow clearance for this particular school. It was also mentioned that Kristian Morse and the Comprehensive School Choir were to be featured in a BBC programme and a charity concert at the O2 Arena in London.**
VI. Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled – **No Report**
VII. Brecon Beacons Advisory Group- **No Report**
VIII. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee – **No Report**
IX. Tredegar Youth Café - **No Report**
X. Tredegar Development Trust – **It was noted that Mr. Kember had now retired.**
XI. Blaenau Gwent CAB – **No Report**
XII. Communities First Board **– It was reported that the new office was due to open shortly.**
XIII. Blaenau Gwent Joint Liaison Committee – **No Report**
XIV. Tredegar Crime Prevention panel – **Members were concerned that one Officer would not be able to provide cover for the whole Gwent force area and it was agreed to write to Insp. Green to voice these concerns.**
XV. Tredegar Business Forum – **Members were concerned that no news had been received with regard to the monies raised at the Christmas event. It was agreed to ask the Forum to meet with Members of the Events Committee.**
XVI. Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum – **A well attended meeting during which the changing face of 6th Form education was discussed.**
XVII. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum – **No Report**
XVIII. Blaenau Gwent HARPS project – **A number of meetings had been held and it was felt that the Project was doing a good job.**

Cllr. K. Hayden joined the Meeting at 7.05 pm.

339) PLANNING

At the outset of the Meeting Members expressed concern at the parking of cars on the main road leading to the Business Park, during the recent snowfalls. It was agreed to write to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Highways Department.

a) OFFICERS REPORT – None received

b) APPLICATIONS –

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2009/0402	Centrica PLC Millstream, Maidenhead Road, Windsor	Retrospective application for Advertising Signs x 4 (2 building mounted, 1 'totem' sign,1 post mounted sign), Innova One, Tredegar Business Park

NO OBJECTIONS

2009/0410	Mr D Roberts 92 Charles Street	Change of use from waste ground to private land for new detached garage, open storage area and 1.8m high walls, land at rear of Arnold Place

Concerns were raised that this development should have no commercial use, due to its location.

Cllr. K. Hayden declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion or voting.

2010/0001	United Welsh Housing Association, Caerphilly	demolition of existing storage sheds, development 10 two storey residential dwellings, supported accommodation and associated external works, Former Bus Depot Site, Woodfield Rd

It was agreed to object to this application on the grounds that the access to the site was insufficient. Concern was also raised regarding the culvert on site, which had flooded in the past.

2010/0007	Mrs Wendy Morgan 30 Oliver Jones Crescent	Two storey side extension at 30 Oliver Jones Crescent

NO OBJECTIONS

2010/0009	Mr L Phillips 21 Rhyd Terrace	Addition of 1st floor extension to existing ground floor to rear rear of building for a bedroom & bathroom, detached garage to rear – 21 Rhyd Terrace

NO OBJECTIONS

c) Other Planning Matters

2009/0148 & 2009/0149 Construction of poultry unit & retention of building for egg packing/storage/poultry rearing, Isaf Carreg Bica Farm - **Appeal being held Wednesday 13.1.10 at 10am, Committee Room 5 Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale – NOTED.**

340) MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN.

1) Members informed Council that Mary Russell of Bedwellty Park Nursing Home was due to celebrate her 100th Birthday on 5th August 2010 – this was noted.
2) A Member informed Council that the 70th Anniversary of the Canadian Bomber crash was on 9th December and she had been making enquiries about the crew. It was agreed that, as part of Armed Forces Day a presentation be set up. It was further agreed that a Remembrance Service be held both at the Cairn and at St. George's (it was agreed to contact Fr. John to arrange this)
3) U-Hire - It was noted that the container was ready for siting and Cllr. Cross agreed to liase with them and Mr. Dave Watkins.
4) It was noted that the Round Table and Ladies Circle had provided gifts for a family over Christmas. It was agreed to send a letter supporting this action.
5) Members requested an updated contact list.
6) Members congratulated the Mayor, Councillor Andrea Williams on her engagement and it was agreed to send a letter of congratulation.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS – THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.40 P.M.

_____ Town Mayor