

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at the Library, Tredegar on Wednesday 16th February 2011 at 6.30p.m

Present: **Councillor** **A. Tippings**
 H. Trollope
 B. Willis
 T. Gregory
 P. Prosser
 J. Morgan
 K. Hayden
 D. Howells
 M. O'Sullivan
 D. Rowberry
 S. Trollope
 G. Woolf

In attendance: **Ms. C. M. Keane – Town Clerk**
 Mrs. A. Hones – RFO

311) Apologies **Cllrs M. Cross, G. Bowen-Knight, H. Woolf and A. Cotton**

312) Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members to make declarations of interest at the appropriate point on the Agenda.

313) To verbally receive the recommendations of the Civic Sub Committee of 14th February 2011

- a) The recommendation of the Civic Sub-Committee with regard to the Tredegar & Rhymney Golf Club – Veteran Society was approved and a grant of £150 agreed unanimously *See Minute Ref. 304 (a)***
- b) Tredegar Town Band – having sought clarification from One Voice Wales the RFO, Mrs. Jones could confirm that it was possible to pay the entrance fee for the competition in Montreaux, some £500. This could be paid under either Section 144 (Power to encourage visitors) or Section 145(Provision of entertainment) of the Local Government Act 1972. It was agreed unanimously that the sum of £500 be granted to cover the costs of the entrance fee. It was further agreed that a concert, with supporting artists, be organised at a later date to help raise funds for the Band, currently 6th in the World.**

314) Grants: To consider and approve grants to sporting and cultural organisations.
Tredegar & Rhymney Golf Club – Veteran Society - a grant of £150 was approved.
Tredegar Town band – A grant of £500 was approved.

Grants: Churches & Chapels (s.137) to approve grants to Churches and Chapels – none received

315) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts paid in January 2011 and for payment in February 2011.

Having previously been inspected by the Mayor and Leader and the cheques and invoices reconciled, the following items were highlighted.

- a) Xmas Lights – The RFO reported that the electricity costs were lower than anticipated, despite a VAT increase and the rise in electricity across the board.**
- b) Allotments – Members agreed that an urgent meeting was required.**
- c) Attic Web Design – it was agreed to review the requirement every six months.**

FOLLOWING THESE DISCUSSIONS THE ACCOUNTS WERE APPROVED.

316) Co-option of a person to fill the vacancy in the Central and West Ward.

Ms. Gemma Rowberry was proposed by Cllr. A. Tippings and seconded by Cllr. M. O’Sullivan. The help and support she had offered during her Mothers term as Mayor was noted. There being no other nominations, Ms. Rowberry was unanimously co-opted to fill the vacancy in the Central and West Ward.

317) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Performance Review Sub-Committee of Council held on 19th January 2011.

The minutes were received and approved as a true record.

318) Matters arising not on the Agenda.

There were none

319) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 19th January 2011

The minutes were received and approved as a true record.

320) Matters arising not on the agenda.

There were none

321) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held on 26th January 2011

The minutes were received and approved as a true record.

322) Matters arising not on the agenda.

1) Minute No. 288 (c.d.and e) Park Events – Members again stated their concerns about use of the Park and House for Town Council functions. It was agreed to approach Fr. John Davis RBL Chaplain for the use of St. George’s Church grounds.

323) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Heritage Committee Meeting held on 2nd February 2011

The minutes were received and approved as a true record.

324) Matters arising not on the agenda.

It was agreed that the Summit take place on Wednesday 9th March 2011 at Tredegar Rugby Club, due to the excellent parking and access facilities and the available sound system.

325) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Civic Committee Meeting held on 2nd February 2011

With the addition Cllr. J. Morgan who arrived late, the minutes were received and approved as a true record.

326) Matters arising not on the agenda.

- 1) Minute No. 296 (10) Gas works site at Vale Terrace – during discussion of this item Members attention was drawn to the Local Development Plan and the sites included for possible building throughout Tredegar. Members were advised to study the plan closely.
- 2) Minute No 299. The responses by Mr. Davies AM were notes as being honest and candid.

327) Correspondence.

- 1) BGCBC (a) S. Smith – outcome of planning meeting to discuss proposals to send planning applications by email.

RECEIVED. It was agreed that there would be cost implications to the Town Council and it was agreed to speak to Planning Aid Wales on the matter.

- (b) Taxis
 - (i) Environmental Health Section – RE: Taxis. Includes “Noise Pollution” & “Waste – Duty of Care” leaflets outlining the responsibilities on both home and businesses. Confirms they are involved as a “Consultee” in the planning process and review the impact noise of a taxi business in residential areas. – Copied to all Members

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

- (ii) Planning Dept. Reply to letter 10.1.11 Re: Taxi Firms – Planning application not required for 1 taxi belonging to owner/operator of the residential property nor if both spouses operate a taxi as their main occupation. – Copied to all Members.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

- (c)
 - (i) N. Deufel - Agreeing to meeting on 23.2.11 at 5pm
 - (ii) D. Watkins - Confirming attendance at meeting on 23.2.11

RECEIVED.

- (d) Regeneration Partnership Board Meeting at ViTCC 11/2/11 – agenda, minutes and papers for meeting – forwarded to Cllr Morgan 7.2.11

RECEIVED

Cllrs. D. Rowberry, K. Hayden and B. Willis all declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

- (e) Licensing
 - (i) W/Ending 28.1.11 Licensing List.
 - (ii) W/Ending 4.2.11 Licensing List.

RECEIVED

- 3) One Voice Wales Tidy Towns Community led funded Projects 2011-12; application forms, guidelines and criteria included.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to check whether allotments might be included

- 4) Aneurin Bevan Health Board

- (a) Re: Accident & Emergency Services at Nevill Hall – No decision has been made to reduce/remove this service and certainly no plans to change the service from April 2011. However, currently looking at a range of potential improvement options to ensure services are sustainable for the future. Any preferred option would need to be considered by the Board, discussed with Community Health Council and if more significant would be subject to public & staff consultation.

- (b) Bobby Bolt – Re: Tredegar General Hospital. Offer to meet to discuss concerns raised.

Both received. It was noted that Ms. Bolt had accepted an invitation to the Heritage Summit. It was further agreed to write concerning the out of hours provision at Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan.

- 5) Kidney Wales Foundation

Walk for Life 2011 posters/sponsor forms.

RECEIVED. The location of Parc Bryn Bach was again confirmed.

- 6) S. Bartlett Draft Charter and summary of meeting held 23.11.10 to discuss Draft Charter (not Minutes, consider as a briefing note to aid further discussion). copied to Cllrs.Cross/O'Sullivan/Willis/H. Trollope

RECEIVED.

Cllr. J. Morgan declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

- 7) Stephen Evans TCIC YETI – will be looking to provide 16 young people with a shield/plaque each and the winning team a winner's cup with cinema tokens, approximate total = £100

RECEIVED. This was agreed.

- 8) Tredegar Orpheus Male Voice Choir

List of long serving Orpheus Male Voice Choir.

RECEIVED. The list was approved by Member and it was further suggested that Mrs. Mary Evans of the Tredegar Thespians might qualify for a Civic Award, it was agreed to check whether she had already received one.

- 9) Cllr Thomas
 - (i) Copy of letter sent to Inspector Green regarding break ins in Nantybawch/Trefil. No response received to date.
 - (ii) Confirming meeting with DI Richard Williams Tues 16.2.11 at 10am.

RECEIVED. Cllr. Thomas reported that almost every agricultural holding in the area had been targeted by thieves – with many thousands of pounds of equipment being stolen. There

had been cases where stolen equipment had been “offered back” for cash and that police response had been ineffective. However he was more hopeful following his meeting with DI Williams. Another Member reported that mobile police stations were being set up in various areas.

10) Cllr Tippings Newsletter 1 for Carers Week. Cllr Tippings wishes to get together with local businesses to hold an event for carers.

RECEIVED. The idea to get together Communities First with local traders etc to provide small gifts such as gift tokens for hair do's and nail bars etc was warmly welcomed.

11) Spinal Injuries Association

Leaflets on ways to fund raise for SIA and details of “Fish & Chip Supper” on 20.5.11.

RECEIVED. It was agreed that this should pass to the incoming Deputy Mayor.

12) R.Tucker

(i) Gwent Valleys Ordinary Meeting Minutes 25.1.11.

(ii) Confirming amendment to Gwent Valleys Minutes as per Ken Burton and that next meeting will now take place in April as previously agreed.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to check the availability of the Moose Hall.

13) Tredegar Twinning Association

Cost per person for Orvault trip is £130 and asking whether Cllr Willis will be taking a guest. Also have organised a free event at Georgetown Community Centre 19.2.11 with a Valentine's theme as a thank you to supporters, open invite but must confirm attendance to Lynne so seats can be allocated.

RECEIVED. The Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Willis was not now able to attend on behalf of Tredegar Town Council. It was agreed to seek an alternative representative.

14) Tredegar.co.uk

Announcing launch of “Tredegar Timeline”, goes live from 7.2.11 and is being released to celebrate 20th Anniversary of the Tredegar website.

RECEIVED. It was noted by Members that this was an excellent addition to the site.

15) BT

Re: Kiosk 01495 722749 Trefil – changes to policy regarding adoption of red kiosk offered in previous correspondence. Power to kiosk will be disconnected at some point over next 5 years at BT's expense but they will contact us prior to this to enquiry as to whether we wish to take over the power supply costs. Kiosk adoption scheme just £1 to take over the kiosk (letter does not contain costs of power requirements).

RECEIVED. It was agreed to forward this to the Borough's Tourism Officer.

16) Community Health Council

Meeting schedule April 2011 to April 2012

RECEIVED.

17) Tri Yn Un Communities First

Posters and leaflets advertising the Ceiber Film Festival 2011 being run in conjunction with Penrhiwceiber Hall – distributed some to Library 14.2.11

RECEIVED.

18) Capital Region Tourism

Invite to make a nomination for forthcoming election of CRT Trade Directors taking place in March 2011, nominations close at end of

February with postal ballot in March. Elected Directorship commences April 2011, appointment for 3 years.

RECEIVED. Interested Members to contact.

19) Shelter Cymru Real Cost of Housing Seminar on 13th April 2011 at ESIS, Treforest.
RECEIVED.

328) PUBLICATIONS

James Cocker & Sons List of available Bare Root Rose Bushes; Noah's Ark Appeal Newsletter Issue 24 Winter 2010; BGCBC Road works report week ending 18.2.11; Healthcare Inspectorate Wales Annual Report 2009-10 published 31.1.11.

AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS

329) AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting Thursday 10th February 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale – additional Minutes; Special Executive Committee Wednesday 9th February 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Joint Scrutiny Committees Friday 11th February 2011 at 9am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Ordinary Meeting Thursday 10th February 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum on Thursday 17th February 2011 at 9.30am Tredegar Library; Executive Committee Wednesday 16th February 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Committee Wednesday 16th February 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale – additional report on Silent Valley; Community Health Council Meeting on Wednesday 9th February 2011 at 5.30pm Miners Institute, Llanhilleth; Special Planning Committee Friday 18th February 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale. Re: C/2010/0226 Land at Factory Road, Brynmawr; Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 1st March 2011 is now rescheduled to **Wednesday 9th March 2011 at 2pm**; Special Executive Monday 21st February 2011 at 10am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Social Care & Inclusion Scrutiny Committee Monday 21st February 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 22nd February 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.

AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS

330) Delegates: To receive and consider reports from Delegates to Outside Bodies and the recommendations of Sub-Committees/working Parties.

- i. Bedwellty Park Management Board – **Concerns were raised again regarding the effectiveness and role of the Board, as well as its composition. Concerns that the need to make the House and Park financially viable would overtake the public use of both. Borough Councillors present suggested meeting with Officers.**
- ii. Joint Committee of Local Councils - **No Report**
- iii. Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales – **A comprehensive report on the meeting which featured Shelley Bosson providing an overview of the new plans for policing – which raised much concern. Also that Tredegar Town Council was to host the next session in April, which would be the last before Mr. Ken Burton retired – it was suggested that this be moved to May to allow the meeting to take place in Bedwellty House.**

Cllr. A. Tippings left the Meeting at 8.15 pm

- iv. Tredegar Twinning- **No Report**
- v. School Governing Bodies – **It was reported that St. Josephs had received an excellent talk on Child Protection.**
- vi. Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled- **No Report**
- vii. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee – **Café opening times were queried and news that changes to bye laws were to be introduced to allow thoughtless owners to be prosecuted. Plans for a possible pop concert had been discussed.**
- viii. Tredegar Youth Café- **No Report**
- ix. Tredegar Development Trust – **Following news of the voluntary liquidation of the Trust, it was agreed to remove this from the list.**
- x. Blaenau Gwent CAB – **News was received that they were holding sessions once every fortnight at the bottom surgery and that they were hoping to move to Catapult.**
- xi. Communities First Board- **No Report**
- xii. Tredegar Crime Prevention Panel- **No Report**
- xiii. Tredegar Business Forum – **It was noted that meeting dates had been received and interest expressed in the Heritage Summit.**
- xiv. Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum- **No Report**
- xv. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum- **No Report**
- xvi. Blaenau Gwent HARPS Project - **No Report**

331) Planning:

Cllr. B. Willis declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

a) To consider an Officer's Report - Received

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2011/0028	Mr C Searchfield 4 St James Park, Tredegar	First floor bedroom extension, rear single storey kitchen extension, garage conversion and associated additional parking

NO OBJECTIONS

2011/0020	Mr B Matthews 15 Alexander Place, Rhymney	Retention of stable block with addition stable built on to existing, small holding near Cefn Golau
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NO OBJECTIONS

2011/0021	Mr P Hodges P&P Fresh Prepared Veg Ltd 6A Tafarnaubach Ind. Est.	Erection of steel frame canopy over existing loading bay hard standing
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NO OBJECTIONS

2011/0031	Mrs W. Morgan 30 Oliver Jones Crescent.	Two storey side extension.
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NO OBJECTIONS

NO OBJECTIONS**c) To consider other planning matters**

i) Application for a Development Consent Order Brig Y Cwm Energy from Waste Facility, Cwmbargoed, Merthyr Tydfil Registering and making a representation – Registration time table is 11.2.11 to 25.3.11 and all interested parties including members of the public must register with the IPC (Infrastructure Planning Commission) to be able to present a case on the proposal. As an authority adjoining the host authority's boundary, BGCBC is required to respond to the proposal by preparing a Local Impact Report. However the Council has no role in publicising or co-coordinating a response from members of the public who must make their own representations direct to the IPC.

ii) Burger Van at Parkers – concern was expressed that this had not been removed. It was noted that application could be made for each new siting – it was agreed to write seeking clarification.

332) Matters of Local Interest or Concern

a) A Member raised concerns relating to works that had been carried out on the cobbled areas outside the Cambrian and Wetherspoons and also in Commercial Street. He noted that the cobbles had not been replaced, but that the area had been patched with tarmac. It was agreed to write to the Highways Department requesting that this be rectified.

b) The Mayor commented on a recent visit to Tredegar Comprehensive School to view an anti-drinking film made by 15 year olds. He was then questioned by the Business Section about what they had discovered was good and bad in Tredegar – amongst young people. He was surprised that they shared similar fears litter, lack of shops, places for drama and dance and a lack of street lighting. Highlights – Town Clock and Parc Bryn Bach. It was hoped that the enthusiasm could be harnessed and channelled positively to support the use of Bedwellty Park. It was suggested that the presentation be made at the Heritage Summit.

c) A Member noted that Saturday 20th August 2011 marked the 100th Anniversary of the Jewish Riots in Tredegar which should be commemorated – it was agreed to put to the Events Committee.

d) Woodfield Road – lorries were again parking and dropping off materials in Woodfield Road, contrary to a previous agreement that this would be done on site. Residents had been abused by drivers too. It was agreed to write to BGCGC seeking to have the restrictions enforced. (copy correspondence to the action group)

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.40PM

_____ Chair