

**TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Ordinary Committee Meeting of Council held at The Library,  
Tredegar on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 6.00 p.m.**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>B Willis</b>
		<b>A Tippings,</b>
		<b>T. Gregory</b>
		<b>D. Howells</b>
		<b>P. Prosser</b>
		<b>R. Thomas</b>
		<b>J. Morgan</b>
		<b>G Woolf</b>

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

**66) Apologies:** Cllrs. H & S Trollope, M. Cross, A. Cotton and G. Bowen-Knight (in hospital)

**67) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, the Mayor reminded Members to make declarations of interest at the appropriate point on the Agenda.**

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

No thanks were received

*Cllr. A. Williams declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.*

Kidz R Us – a grant for £200 was approved.

Catapult FC – a grant for £150 was approved.

## **Grants to Churches and Chapels**

None received.

**69) To receive a verbal report on the Events Sub Committee Meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010.**

The recommendation of the Events Committee to accept Option two was agreed with a contractual start date from the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010. The recommendation that the site was to go live asap was also agreed and a letter of thanks to be sent to Mr. Lewis.

**70) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts paid in May 2010 and for payment in June 2010.**

Following discussion it was agreed that the purchase of floral tributes should be rotated around all local florists i.e. Lilys, Interflora, Park Place and Flower House.

The accounts having previously inspected by the Mayor and Leader and cheques and invoices reconciled – were approved.

**Mrs. A. Jones (RFO) left the Meeting at 6.15 pm.**

**71) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Events Committee meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010.**

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

**72) MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

**73) To receive the Minutes of the Finance Section of the Finance & Staffing Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

**74) MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

**75) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010.**

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

**76) MATTERS ARISING**

- 1) Minute No. 34 - It was noted that Zurich Municipal be appointed as insurers in the sum of £2665.97. The RFO was thanked for her diligence and the saving of some £6000.
- 2) Minute No. 39 (3) – It was noted that the Mountain Air had agreed an amount to sponsor the bedding. Interest had been shown by Wetherspoons too. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Monwell Hankinson and Woolmer Fitzpatrick to cost signs for the display. Also that the sponsorship should feature on our new website.
- 3) Minute No. 39 (9) – It was noted that Members had been on a visit to Bedwellty House and Park and were duly impressed by the quality of craftsmanship being displayed. The works are both on time and on schedule.
- 4) It was noted tat the style of Minutes had changed and the Clerk agreed to attach a copy of her “Action Sheet” to future Minutes.

**77) To receive the Clerks report on a meeting with the Stallholders for the Armed Forces Day Event.**

The ATC involvement for the day was noted and it had been agreed to engage professional stewards for the gate and that a buffet for 40 people at £3.50 per head be arranged at the Nags Head for 4pm onwards. The problems experienced with the Parc were noted.

**78) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Civic Sub-Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010.**

The Minutes were received and noted as a true record and the recommendation of a grant for Catapult Football Club be approved in the sum of £200.

**79) MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

**80) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Community, Youth and International Sub-Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010.**

The Minutes were received and noted as a true record. Many Members had expressed an interest in making the trip to Latvia, but because the meeting of Partners was scheduled for Friday morning, they were unable to attend. It was agreed that the Clerk travel on behalf of the Town Council and that suitable gifts be purchased.

**81) MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

**82) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Civic Committee Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010.**

The Minutes were received and noted as a true record.

**83) MATTERS ARISING**

- 1) Minute No 58 (1) b – it was agreed that the Fairtrade logo be exhibited on our website.
- 2) Minute No 58 (8) b – it was noted by Members that a break in had occurred at the Bush, whilst the street lights had been switched off, which had rendered the CCTV camera ineffective. This despite being assured that the lights around CCTV cameras would remain on. It was agreed to write to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council once again expressing concerns. Also that a press release be supplied to the Clerk.

Cllr. H. Woolf left the Meeting at 7pm.

- 3) Minute No 63 (4) The sign was from the Yard Level and a new bi-lingual sign was in the process of being made.
- 4) Minute No 63 (5) Wheelie Bins – Members noted that there was still much confusion regarding the use of black bags and that Bins had been put in houses that were boarded up. Also the new tags to request additional recycling bags raised concerns amongst Members regarding Identity Theft.  
Clerk to write to BGCBC re the re-cycling of old bins.

**84) Questions for Insp. Green – to meet with Civic Committee on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2010.**

The following questions were posed:

- 1) Have the revised Fixed Penalty Notices been received? Could you provide results of the recently promised “zero tolerance” blitz of the Town Centre with an update on the number of parking fines issued.
- 2) Query the increasing number of car thefts throughout Tredegar and could you supply Members with the Car crime statistics for the last quarter.

- 3) There appears to be an increase in Anti-social behaviour in the Town Centre on Friday and Saturday nights and Members have noted that some shop keepers are closing early to avoid problems. Do you have any plans to increase patrols etc to cover these periods.
- 4) Police Surgeries – Members query the lack of publicity and are seeking a fixed timetable which can be advertised in advance. (Highlighted in my letter of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010, copy enclosed)
- 5) P.C.S.O. Powers – also ref. my letter of 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Members are seeking clarification of the responsibilities and powers of the PCSO's which are specific to Tredegar.

Morfydd Jones arrived at 7.15 pm

- 6) Street Lighting – Members question again whether Police were consulted in respect of the lights switch-off. We have a response from Clive Rogers, Chief Technical Officer for Blaenau Gwent CBC to a question from Cllr. Gregory that states that you were. (copy attached for your information)
- 7) Burglaries – Members have queried Police response to and clear up rate of burglaries in the area which, they say, seem to be on the increase.
- 8) Pub Watch Scheme – you highlighted the “Traffic Light” system for Members previously. However many Members query its effectiveness with youngsters, as young as 12 years of age, being pictured on Facebook and similar sites in local pubs etc with alcohol.

#### **85) To receive the Clerks report on a visit to Abertillery Allotments.**

The Clerks report was received. It was noted that Vale View and Milefield Allotments were rented from the Borough, Southend Allotments were owned by the Town Council. It was agreed that a working group be formed to review Allotment Policy to consist of Members of the Finance Committee.

#### **86) Correspondence.**

- 1) BGCBC (a) (i) Re: Representation on Consultation with Town/Community Councils. No cross party membership as was previously when Labour was in control. All representatives are members of the ruling coalition group - copied for all Members.
- (ii) Response from Des Hillman Re: Representation on Consultation with Town/Community Council Ad Hoc Committee – Copied to all Members

**It was agreed to write to the Leader of BGCBC stating that Members wished to return to the previous cross party format, whilst not wishing to be drawn into direct conflict between Cllrs Hillman and McCarthy.**

- (b) Re: Trefil Village Enhancements. Reply to concerns raised – Copied to all Members.

**The response of the Regeneration Projects Manager was noted. However this still left Members dissatisfied and a site meeting with Mr. Engel and Villagers was called for. Cllr. Tippings to inform Clerk of likely dates.**

- (c) Licensing
  - (i) W/Ending 30.5.10 Licensing List.
  - (ii) W/Ending 6.6.10 Licensing List.

#### **RECEIVED**

- (d) New Draft Community Strategy for Blaenau Gwent 2010-2030. Draft out for consultation for 12 weeks starting Monday 14.6.10 to Sunday 5.9.10. Relevant documentation available at all libraries in Blaenau Gwent, at

<http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/council/8399.asp> and will be given to a number of local groups, organisations and partnerships.

**RECEIVED**

- (e) Notice of day change from 9<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010 for the B.G. Regeneration Partnership Board meeting, agenda to follow – forwarded by email to Cllr J.M. 7.6.10

**RECEIVED**

- (f) Confirming election of Cllr B. Thomas as BGCBC's representative on Tredegar Old People's Welfare Committee.

**RECEIVED, query whether this Committee still existed.**

- (g) Notice of Election to be displayed for the Tredegar Central & West Electoral Division – displayed in Library window 3.6.10

**NOTED**

2) One Voice Wales

- (a) Link to update on consultation on Microgeneration and Low Carbon Energy Technologies.

**RECEIVED**

- (b) Community Climate Change Network events, 23/6/10 Newport & 24/6/10 Carmarthen. Booking form attached.

**RECEIVED**

3) SLCC

Booking form for 2 day Working With Your Council training event at Cardiff, 6<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010.

**RECEIVED. It was agreed that the Clerk attend.**

4) Trish Law A.M.

Re: Councillors Concerns regarding Tredegar Town Centre and loss of jobs. The issues raised are primarily matters for the local authority although the loss of jobs across the whole of the county borough is a cause of considerable concern to her. Have raised these concerns directly with ministers at Cardiff Bay. Will readily take up the matters with the respective executive member and/or ward member on our behalf. – Copied to All Members.

**RECEIVED. It was noted that there had been no response to the request for an open meeting and the Clerk was instructed to write again to pursue the invitation.**

5) Wootton Bassett

Town Clerk accepting invite to Armed Forces Day Event.

**RECEIVED. It was agreed that a plaque be presented to him showing our support to him and his community, and that he should feature widely in our publicity.**

6) C. Rundle

Confirming ATC will be onsite at AFD event from 9am starting activities at 10.30am, unable to offer Cadets as stewards due to insurance restrictions and the great amount of abuse they took whilst stewarding the "GoWild" Event.

**RECEIVED. The comments were noted and it was suggested that they may help with the litter pick at the end of the event.**

7) Sustainable Energy Partnership

Request to lobby MPs on Sustainable Energy (Local Action) Bill.

**RECEIVED. It was agreed to support.**

8) Fairtrade  
**RECEIVED.**

List of Fairtrade Schools on Wales June 2010.

9) Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council  
Advising New Mayor Cllr J. Anstee and Deputy Mayor Cllr P. Baldwin.  
**RECEIVED.**

### **87) PUBLICATIONS**

BGCBC Road Works Report W/Commencing 4.6.10; Keith Fuller Fire Training Services leaflet; Amberol Hanging baskets, planters etc catalogue; BGCBC Road Works Report W/Commencing 11.6.10; Product Delivery Corporation Delivery services they offer.

**AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS**

### **88) AGENDA**

Joint Scrutiny Committees Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 at 9am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Finance, Improvement and Performance Scrutiny Committee meetings reconvened to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2010 at 10am and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at 10am both in Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Crime & Disorder & Safer Communities Scrutiny Committee Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Joint Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 at 9am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Audit Committee Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Regeneration & Housing Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre.

**AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS**

### **89) 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 – **Members were reminded of a Cheese and Wine Party at the Rhyd Hall on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June and that a group of pupils were about to visit France. Twinning to feature on the Website.**
- v. School Governing Bodies – **the inspection report on Bryn Bach Primary School is due in 4 weeks.**
- vi. Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled– **No Report**
- vii. Brecon Beacons Advisory Group – **Members were advised that there was very little of local interest.**
- viii. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee– **No Report**
- ix. Tredegar Youth Café – **funding continued for key projects, the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Café was near and the funding to purchase the building was ongoing.**
- x. Tredegar Development Trust– **No Report**
- xi. Blaenau Gwent CAB– **No Report**
- xii. Communities First Board – **Members queried, once again the leadership of the Board whilst commenting that the staff were marvellous. Many projects had been turned down, others had received no response. Members felt that there had not been the level of support for good projects which they had hoped.**
- xiii. Blaenau Gwent Joint Liaison Committee– **No Report**

- xiv. Tredegar Crime Prevention Panel – **a blitz on Peacehaven was planned for the beginning of July to highlight ‘cons’ taking place in the area. It was noted that Mr. Tony Gregory of Tafarnaubach had agreed to cut local pensioners gardens for £10.**
- xv. Tredegar Business Forum– **No Report**
- xvi. Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum– **No Report**
- xvii. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum– **No Report**
- xviii. Blaenau Gwent HARPS Project- **It was noted that funds were available for community organisations to support further bids.**

## 90) PLANNING

a) **OFFICERS REPORT** – Received.

b) **APPLICATIONS** –

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2010/0201	Mrs V Price The Oak, Club Row Dukestown, Tredegar	Retention of Smoking Shelter, The Oak, Club Row Dukestown

**NO OBJECTIONS**

2010/0203	Mr S Helm Advance Construction Consultants, Hillside Crescent, Rogerstone	Retention of use as a flat, 4 The Circle
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**NO OBJECTIONS**

2010/0204	Mr S Helm Advance Construction Consultants, Hillside Crescent, Rogerstone	Retention of use as a flat, 4a The Circle
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**NO OBJECTIONS**

2010/0205	Mr S Helm Advance Construction Consultants, Hillside Crescent, Rogerstone	Retention of use as a flat, 5a The Circle
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**NO OBJECTIONS**

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

2010/0212	Jaylae Services Ltd 2 Trident Court Ocean Park, Cardiff	Reserved matters of vehicular/pedestrian access to plots from Ashville; elevations & materials to the dwellings; external timber & stone walling enclosures, new tree planting; position of dwellings on site to avoid overlooking & the relationship to adjoining properties, land adjoining Fulford House.
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**NO OBJECTIONS**

2010/0214 Lindsay Pugh  
88 St James Way

Single storey extension to rear elevation,

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**c) Other Planning Matters**

2010/0068 Construct detached single storey hot food takeaway, land at Ysguborwen – Planning Permission **GRANTED** on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010

**Members were surprised that this had been granted.**

**Comments were also made about a burger van parking in the bus lay by near the Comprehensive. Members noted the increase in Housing Association properties in the Town and queried whether there should be more school provision and a housing ladder.**

**91) Matters of Local Interest or Concern**

- 1) Members requested that United Welsh be invited to attend a Meeting of Council and make a presentation.
- 2) It was noted that Mr. Ron Jenkins was approaching his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday – it was noted that he had already received recognition from the Town Council.
- 3) The recent notices regarding land transfer to Tai Calon, a trading arm of BGCBC, caused concern, with Members noting that open land used for play, had been transferred too, giving Members concern that this may be opened up for sale. Also queried was any possible affect on Council Taxes and whether repairs would continue until the transfer.
- 4) Residents in Peacehaven had complained to their Members that Clarke's buses had ceased their route through the area because of parking problems. Clerk instructed to write to the Police regarding parking issues – letter to be copied to all Georgetown Councillors.
- 5) It was noted that Mr. Colin Jones of Harford Street had been awarded the prestigious Chairman's Prize for Civil Engineering for Great Britain – he had been instrumental in the removal and making safe of the tips that caused the Aberfan Disaster.
- 6) 6<sup>th</sup> Form Education – It was noted that consultations had taken place.
- 7) Members noted that the bus depot in Woodfield Rd had been demolished and queried whether checks for asbestos had been done. Clerk to contact Planning Dept.
- 8) Members were dismayed to hear that a swan at Parc Bryn Bach had been put down after becoming tangled in fishing line. Also dogs were continually being let off the lead despite new notices reminding people of the recent attacks on wildlife. It was agreed to write to Parc Bryn Bach Management and Mr. Carl Hayle, the direct Line Manager and raise these concerns as well as their concerns over rods and fishermen casting over paths.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.40PM**

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair