

# **TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at the Library, Tredegar on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at 6.00 p.m**

**Present:**                      **Councillor**    **H. Trollope**  
   **B. Willis**  
   **M. Cross (late)**  
   **A Tippings**  
   **D. Howells**  
   **P. Prosser**  
   **R. Thomas**  
   **D. Rowberry**

**Apologies:**    **Cllrs T. Gregory; G. Bowen-Knight;**  
   **A. Cotton; T. Gregory; K. Hayden; J. Morgan;**  
   **M. O' Sullivan; S. Trollope; G Woolf and**  
   **H. Woolf**

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

## **220) Declarations of Interest**

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

## **221) Grants: To consider and approve grants to sporting and cultural organisations.**

**Royal British Legion – A grant for £200 was approved**

**Transitions Counselling and Therapy Service – A grant for £200 was approved**

## **Churches & Chapels (s.137) to approve grants to Churches and Chapels.**

**Vale Terrace Chapel – A grant for £200 was approved**

**Trinity Spiritualist Church – A grant for £200 was approved**

## **222) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts paid in October 2010 and for payment in November 2010.**

**The cheques and invoices having previously been reconciled by the Mayor and Leader were approved. It was noted that over £500 had been raised for the Mayor's Appeal by the Quiz Wizards. Special thanks were extended to Cllr. Tippings for her help at the presentation.**

**Mrs Jones (RFO) left the Meeting at 6.10pm.**

**223) To receive Insp. Green who will answer questions previously supplied by Members.**

1) Q. Please can you outline the process of dealing with complaints that are passed to Officers or made over the telephone? Are these passed to an Officer the following day? And how do you separate reports of the same crime or link them together?

2) Q. Recently Tredegar Town Council and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council both reported an incident of vandalism and theft involving two underage children. If it were not possible to prosecute the children because of the age – would it be possible to prosecute the parents? Apparently these children were 11 years of age and alone in Town at 2 am, surely the parents have some responsibility?

**In response to the combined questions 1 and 2 a Member related the incident of theft and vandalism that had occurred around the Clock in September, and the response of Police, both in person and via the telephone. Insp. Green agreed that a member of the public should be able to report an incident in person to a Police officer or PCSO and that the Member had received “poor service” and agreed to look into this matter. The linking of reported incidents was very time-related and any connection between incidents may not be made if there had for example, been shift changes either at the call centre or station or if the incident had been regarded as dealt with. The age of the children involved meant that they were below the age of responsibility, but a report to Social Services regarding parenting skills had been made. In relation to the motorbike incident at Trefil he asked Sgt Petrie to investigate.**

3) Concerns over the security of the General Hospital have been expressed especially since reports of tiles going missing. Members have queried how this could have gone un-noticed (noise, lights – need for transport). They have also asked if police patrols or cars returning to the Tredegar Station could include the Hospital on their route to deter any damage.

**Insp. Green stated that this was not their responsibility and they had to rely on the awareness of people in the neighbourhood to report any suspicious incidents.**

4) Additional Q – relates to parking in West Hill, Bourneville Terrace and Glandovey Terrace areas. Response of emergency vehicles being delayed due to the number of vehicles parked in the area.

**Insp. Green stated that he would support any moves to have a one way system in the area and a Borough Member reported that this had been an ongoing problem and the request for a one-way system had been made to the Borough on previous occasions and had been raised once again.**

**Cllr. M. Cross arrived at 6.27 pm**

**It was suggested that one-way and double yellow lines might ease the problem.**

**Insp. Green accepted a further question from a Member querying what impact the reduction in street lighting had had. The Insp. replied that there was no evidence to show that crime had increased, indeed in some areas it had decreased and that all incidents were diarised. He then went on to outline a drop in reported incidents of anti-social behaviour of some 30% in Tredegar, with there being 458 less call in Tredegar as a year on year figure. He detailed calls for Halloween and Bonfire night reporting youth related anti social behaviour as being 2 and 5, this being the result of a team effort between Local Authorities and local groups. A Member queried the liaison between Tai Calon and the Police authorities and was told that the agreement was similar to that with the County Borough.**

**A Member recalled the presentation that Insp. Warren from Cwmbran had given at a recent One Voice Wales meeting and that we had invited him to meet with Tredegar Town Council and extended the invitation to Insp. Green to join us on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December, which he accepted.**

**A Member then referred back to the way Police link incidents and procedures and the Inspector detailed the different allocations given to calls:-**

**Emergency – generally a 999 call – response within 15 minutes.**

**Priority – not a case of life or death – response time within 1 hour**

**Scheduled – neither of the above and with the agreement of the caller an agreed time within 48 Hours.**

**Many of those present who had called the Police had not had that information supplied – the Inspector agreed to look into that point.**

**The Leader of Council reminded the Inspector and Sgt Petrie that the Lights Switch-On was scheduled for Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November and also invited them to attend the Memorial Service on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010.**

**At 7pm the Inspector and Sergeant withdrew.**

**There then followed a frank discussion on the quality of the questions that had been posed and also the housing policy of Tai Calon.**

**224) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Performance Review Sub-Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2010.**

Subject to the amendment of the word “changer” to “charges” on Minute No 186, the Minutes were accepted as a true record.

**225) Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**226) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2010.**

Cllr. D. Howells noted that whilst present his name was not listed as present – subject to this being amended the Minutes were accepted as a true record.

**227) Matters arising not on the Agenda.**

1) Minute No. 194. (2) Memorabilia – once again Members raised the question of ownership and the fact that the bust and picture had been moved to Ebbw Vale – the Clerk was instructed to write to Ms. Bolt at Aneurin Bevan Health Board for clarification.

2) Minute No. 202. (14) - it was agreed to invite Mr. Davies AM to meet with the Town Council on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011.

3) Minute No. 202. (15a) – the lack of response by schools was noted as disappointing and school governors were urged to try to move the lantern parade forwards. It was agreed to contact “Head 4 Arts” to see if there was a “How to make lanterns” guide that could be put onto the Council web site. Minute No. 205 (xii). The new Chair of Communities First was named as Jane Hughes with Mandy Moore as Vice-Chair. It was agreed to send letters of congratulations.

**228) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Civic Committee Meeting of Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010**

The Minutes were received and accepted as a true record.

### **229) Matters arising not on the agenda**

- a) Minute No 213. (1) It was agreed to ascertain the dates of the Bedwellty Park Management Board Meetings to check that they did not clash with Town Council Meetings. Future security of the House and Park in the light of the new housing development on Stable Lane was highlighted.
- b) Minute No 213. (2) – Wall along Promenade – it was noted that the Clerk had been contacted by Mr. D. Watkins and that instead of remedial works to the wall a full renovation was planned and had funding in place.
- c) Minute No 215. (3) – It was noted that there was still no bus service to Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan and that members of the public were paying £17 for taxis to the hospital. Concerns were again expressed about recent falls at the Hospital resulting in patients being taken to Nevill Hall.
- d) Minute No 215. (12) – It was agreed to invite Ms Sullivan to attend a Meeting of the Town Council in January 2011. It was also agreed, once again to write to Mrs. Law seeking a meeting and to minute the Council's disappointment that she had not accepted any of our many offers.

### **230) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

With the amendment of the Chair being Cllr. M. Cross pending the arrival of Cllr. Tippings, the minutes were received and noted as a true record.

### **231) Matters arising not on the agenda**

- 1) Minute No. 218. It was noted that some members of Tredegar Town Band had agreed to play Carols around the Clock, that the NCB Club would be open for use by artists and that the Spirit of Bevan shop was having their official opening on the same day and would be available for power supplies for the stage. It was agreed that staff should be asked to work with time off in lieu of payment. It was further noted that the four corner lights around the Clock and the Herian spot lights were not working – Clerk to inform.
- 2) Minute No. 219. It was noted that Nick Smith MP would be available to read at the Memorial Service on the 9<sup>th</sup> December.
- 3) The date of the meeting at Trefil to be amended to the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

### **232) Correspondence.**

- 1) BGCBC (a) Grants to Organisations – Cheque for £300.00 in respect of a grant made by Tredegar Members of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to Tredegar Town Council (Armed Forces Day)

RECEIVED. It was noted that the letter should have stated that it was a donation from the Tredegar Labour Members.

### ***Cllr. A. Tippings declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the voting or discussions thereon***

- (b) Tourism Signage in Upper Sirhowy Valley – Fortunate in securing funding to review and enhance tourism signage across the whole of Blaenau Gwent. Consultation with community groups and members will take place at 2.00 –4.00pm in Tredegar Library on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

RECEIVED.

- (c) Corporate Improvement Plan 2010/2011 – Enclosed a copy of the Council's Corporate Improvement Plan that was approved by full Council

on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

RECEIVED.

- (d) (i) Licensing – Applications Received week ending 31.10.2010
- (ii) General Licensing Applications Received week ending 31.10.2010
- (iii) Applications Received week ending 07.11.2010
- (iv) General Licensing Applications Received week ending 7.11.2010

RECEIVED.

- (e) A. Tippings - (i) Advising Tredegar winners of Blaenau Gwent in Bloom Link to BGCBC website (Page Printed attached to email).

RECEIVED. It was agreed to send letters of congratulations.

- (ii) Fflic Tv – request for filming in Tredegar TBA

RECEIVED. This was in connection with a book entitled “100 places to see before you die” which featured four places in and around Tredegar, including the Town Clock.

- (f) K. Evans - RE: Electronic communication and consultation procedures. Suggest all 4 Town/ Community Councils Clerks and Planning Admin Officers discuss how this process might be improved for Mutual benefit.

RECEIVED. It was agreed that the Clerk should attend and that by passing the onus of printing on to the Town Council there would be no saving to the public purse.

- (g) N. Deufel - Suggesting dates for and seeking information on Park Concerts and Mayors Events

RECEIVED. It was noted that the Band Concerts were traditionally held through June and July and that the Mayor would want to host an event in Mid-April. The question of the supply of refreshments was not felt to be a problem and the possibilities of holding a collection for the Mayors Appeal during the Band Concert was put forward.

#### 4) Christmas Lights

- (a) A. Tippings - Christmas Information and Events uploaded to the Valleys and Southern Wales website. (Christmas poster has been emailed)

RECEIVED.

- (b) Forest - Confirmation on quotation for the Christmas Lights Switch-On

RECEIVED.

- (c) Bethel Pentecostal Church  
Unable to attend the Christmas Lights Switch on

RECEIVED.

#### 5) Memorial Service 9<sup>th</sup> December

- (a) Father John Davis  
Amended Order of Service

RECEIVED.

- (b) Flt Lt. Peter Batson
  - (i) Information and Details on the aircraft that crashed and RAF Hymn
  - (ii) Will bring as much memorabilia from 115 (R) Sqn to the Memorial

Service as available.

RECEIVED.

- (c) Tredegar Orpheus Male Voice Choir  
Will attend in Choir Uniform

RECEIVED.

It was noted that the surviving families of those involved had been contacted.

6) Woodfield Road

- (a) C. Powell - Confirmation that the existing Pipe and new pipe are the same size

RECEIVED.

- (b) L. Price - Letter attached that was sent to United Welsh regarding the Culvert

RECEIVED.

7) Local Councils update November 2010 Issue 113 – Copied to Members

RECEIVED.

- 8) GAVO The Engagement Gateway – pre – qualification questionnaire briefing session 9.30-11.30am, Invitation to Tender briefing session 11.45 – 1.15pm

RECEIVED. It was agreed to copy to interested Members

9) The Civic Trust For Wales

Open Doors de-briefing, brainstorming and lunch – 12.00-3.00pm  
Bryngawr House near Brigend

RECEIVED.

10) Countryside Council for Wales

Fundraising Newsletter November 2010

RECEIVED.

- 11) One Voice Wales Minutes of the last Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> October 2010

RECEIVED.

- 12) A. Price Reciprocal Linking.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to contact H. Lewis .

13) Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

- (a) (i) Local Development Plan: Deposit Consultation  
(ii) Local Development Plan 2007-2022
- (b) Agenda for Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010
- (c) Draft Community Council Charter
- (d) UDP Draft guidance note

Above all RECEIVED. The Clerk was asked to check the status of the Town Council representative to see whether he has speaking rights at the meeting. A Member agreed to read through the Deposit Consultation Plan and report back.

14) L. Thomas                      Proposed Suite of Fire & Rescue Authority performance indicators and Guiding principles for dwelling fires response from 2011-10 onwards  
RECEIVED.

15) R. Tucker                      Gwent Valleys Ordinary Meeting Minutes  
RECEIVED.

16) Regeneration Partnership Board  
Meeting on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November, Council Chambers, 11.00am. (Fwd Cllr. John Morgan)  
RECEIVED.

17) Tredegar Comprehensive School  
Requesting donation to Year 13 Business Students along side Communities First to arrange a Christmas party for the Senior Citizens of Tredegar.  
RECEIVED. It was agreed to fund the Christmas Party in the same amount as previous years. (RFO to confirm)

18) Tredegar Scouts Group  
Recently reformed with members in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.  
RECEIVED. It was agreed to send a grant form.

19) Tredegar Junior Cricketers  
Photograph of one of our "Home Grown" talents who represented Glamorgan u19's Cricket Academy touring to Dubai.  
RECEIVED.

20) Vaughtons                      Quotations and designs for Civic awards and gifts/ Medal  
RECEIVED. It was agreed to forward to a meeting of the Finance Committee to review the memorabilia given by Town Council.

### **233) PUBLICATIONS**

Road works report 05/11-12/11/10; Gwent Churchyard Conservation day- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010; Living Churchyards Newsletter; Ville d' Orvault Issue October 2010; Road works report 12/11-19/11/10; Local Government Pension Scheme Employer Briefing: November 2010.

**AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS**

### **234) AGENDA**

Consultation with Town/ Community Councils Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at 2.30pm Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010, Minors Institute, Llanhilleth Abertillery 5.30pm; Special Executive meeting held in Council Chambers, Civic centre, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010 at 11am; Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Meeting Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010. 9.30 am Tredegar Library; Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at 2.00pm; Special Executive Committee Meeting held in Council Chambers, Civic Centre Ebbw Vale on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at 11.00am; Special Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Meeting held in Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at 1.00am; Special Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee Meeting held in Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw

Vale Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 at 11.00am; Audit Committee Meeting Held in Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 at 2.00pm.  
**AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS**

**235) 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 – it was agreed to write regarding the question of school transport provision.
- iii. Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales– **No Report**
- iv. Tredegar Twinning– **No Report**
- v. School Governing Bodies– **No Report**
- 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– **No Report**
- xi. Blaenau Gwent CAB– **No Report**
- xii. Communities First Board – vote for Chair pending.
- xiii. Blaenau Gwent Joint Liaison Committee– **No Report**
- xiv. Tredegar Crime Prevention Panel– **No Report**
- 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 – **No Report**

**236) PLANNING**

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

**a) OFFICERS REPORT** – No report received.

**b) APPLICATIONS –**

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2010/0389	Mr. R. Jones 1 <sup>st</sup> Equity Group 25 Gwent Shopping Centre Tredegar	Santander 25 Gwent Shopping Centre Tredegar
<b>No Objections</b>		
2010/0385	Mr. Reed, 113 Gwent Way Tredegar	Erection of steel frame and first floor bridge link to provide disabled access.
<b>No Objections</b>		



2010/0401      Mr. Hale BGCBC  
Leisure Services Div  
Anvil Court, Church Street  
Abertillery

Poly tunnels and x2 Site  
Cabins to be used for office  
accommodation and sales  
Parc Bryn Bach, Tredegar

**No Objections**

**c) Other Planning Matters**

None Received.

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

1) A Member raised a point of concern regarding the surface at Southend Park and highlighted attempts by Street Games for improvements.

2) A Member also highlighted the lack of spiritual care in care/nursing homes throughout Tredegar and Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan with many pianos being removed and requested that Social Service be contacted to ask what provision was being made.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9PM.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair