

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at The Library, Tredegar on Wednesday 19th
May 2010 at 6.30 p.m.

Present: **Councillor** **H. Trollope**
 B. Willis
 M. Cross
 A. Tippings
 G. Bowen-Knight
 K. Hayden
 A. Williams
 S. Trollope
 A. Cotton
 T. Gregory
 G. Woolf
 D. Howells
 J. Morgan

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

31) Apologies: **D. Rowberry, H. Woolf, R. Thomas (ill)**

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

33) GRANTS

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

No thanks were received.

Tenovus Cancer Charity – **It was agreed to seek further information.**

North Gwent Table Tennis Centre – **A grant of £150 was agreed.**

Cllr. T. Gregory declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

Cefn Golau Tenants/Residents Association (1)– Request to be considered for a **Special Grant** to make a one off purchase of 15 rucksacks to be used by the children for packed lunches whilst in walking groups and on nature trails.

Cefn Golau Tenants/Residents Association (2)– Grant to be used to help with the set up of new projects such as a rear garden; internet access.

Both requests were considered by Council and it was agreed that a single grant of £200 be made to this organisation, which would be flexible. It was also agreed that they should be pointed towards other funding sources – agreed.

Cllr. T. Gregory declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

Visually Impaired Club – A grant of £200 was agreed. A Member pointed out that this group was receiving little backing from Social Services and were re-considering changing their name and client base.

Cllr. T. Gregory declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

Cefn Golau Junior Angling Club – A grant of £150 was agreed.

Cllr. T. Gregory declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

Carp Cruncher Community Disco – A grant of £200 was agreed.

Tredegar Junior Cricketers – A grant of £150.00p was agreed.

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

Tredegar Archive Group – A grant for £200.00p was agreed.

Re-Liance Bus Preservation Group – A grant for £200 was agreed.

Mrs. A. Jones declared her interest.

Cylch Meithrin ABC – A grant for £200 was agreed.

Grants to Churches and Chapels

None Received

34) TO RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT ON THE FINANCE SECTION OF THE STAFFING & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 19TH MAY 2010.

Details of the previous Meeting were recounted and it was agreed that the quote for £2665.97 be approved. This was agreed unanimously. Staff were thanked for their contribution to an overall saving of approx. £6000.

35) ACCOUNTS: TO CONSIDER A SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS PAID IN APRIL 2010 AND FOR PAYMENT IN MAY 2010.

A Member reminded the new Mayor that the RFO would require a breakdown of the Mayor's Allowance – the Mayor had already taken this matter in hand.

The Accounts having previously been inspected and the invoices and cheques reconciled were approved.

6.50 pm. Mrs. A. Jones (RFO) left the Meeting.

36) TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 21ST APRIL 2010.

Details of the arrangements and groups involved were recounted. It was suggested that a Town Council flag be designed in a competition for school children and it was agreed to agenda this for a future meeting of the Events Committee. With regards to the Climbing Wall that had now been withdrawn by Parc Bryn Bach – it was suggested that we contact Merthyr Borough Council for use of theirs.

37) MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

38) TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 21ST APRIL 2010.

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

39) MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA.

- 1) Minute No. 460 – ref Minute No 436 Latvia – It was noted by Members that the Comprehensive School were taking part in the music festival being held in July that Tredegar Town Council had been invited to attend. It was agreed that this matter be raised at a Meeting of the International Sub-Co to be held in early June.
- 2) Minute No. 453 Website Maintenance Fee – it was suggested that an hourly rate would be appropriate and that further discussions were needed.
- 3) Minute No. 454 Clock Planting – original intention were to approach Mr. A. Jenkins however it was further agreed to contact other businesses such as J D Wetherspoons; Ron Skinner and Sons; Penn Pharma and the Snooker Club.
- 4) Minute No. 460 – ref Minute No 441 (b) Museum – A Member queried whether the Museum would move to Bedwellty House on completion, but the Meeting was informed that this would not be happening and that this was as the result of one individual. The possibility of using the Lodge had been raised and was being investigated by Mr. Olding. The hours of opening were outlined and the fact that the afternoon opening hours had been changed to allow access after school hours was warmly welcomed by all.
- 5) Minute No 460 – ref Minute No. 437 1&2 – PCSO's. The Clerk apologised for not havng written to the Inspector on this matter due to time constraints and agreed to do so immediately.
- 6) Minute No 461 – Cllr. Willis told Members that the Fish and Chip Supper was in hand and that it would cost £10 per head – with £5 being donated to the charity.
- 7) Minute No 464 1 (b) Street Lighting – the Trefil Member highlighted the fact that of 23 light in Trefil – 20 – would be switched off. A number of Members, having reviewed the plans for their own areas, highlighted many concerns. A number had written to the Borough Council expressing concerns, and it was agreed that the Leader of Council should assemble a list of concerns and write to the Borough Council.
- 8) Minute No 464 (e) – Election- the outcome of the Election was noted and it was agreed to send a letter of congratulation to Mr. Nick Smith M.P. for Blaenau Gwent and to invite him to attend a future Meeting – this was agreed.
- 9) Minute No. 467 I – It was of grave concern to all Members that the Clerk had still not received a response to repeated requests made to Mr. D. Watkins for Council to view the works at Bedwellty House. The Clerk was urged to renew this request and that of the future use of the House by the Town Council.

10) Minute No. 467 VIII – Parc Bryn Bach – Members noted that the exclusion notices regarding the Eisteddfod use of the Park had been posted.

11) Minute No 469 I – Allotments – the meeting at Abertillery allotments had had to be re-scheduled and it was agreed to re-convene this as a matter of urgency.

40) TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL ON 5TH MAY 2010.

Thanks were expressed by the Mayor to Cllr. Tippings for the fine tribute that she had paid to Cllr. Morris. He also reminded all Members of the importance of informing the Clerk of apologies to avoid inquorate Meetings. He thanked all those who had attended his inauguration and for the money raised on the night for the Hospice of the Valleys, his Appeal for the year. The Minutes were received as a true record.

41) MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

42) TO RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT ON THE EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING OF 19TH MAY 2010.

Members were informed that they hoped for flypast by the Red Arrows would not take place and of the withdrawal by Parc Bryn Bach of the Climbing Wall which had previously been agreed. Attendees were outlined and it was agreed to invite all newly installed Mayors and County Borough Councillors as well as the Youth Mayor. The question of insurance cover should the event not go ahead was also raised. The Clerk to speak to the RFO to action.

43) MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

44) CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) BGCBC (a) Barry Toose Re: Signs at Town Clock. Request for more specific information.

It was agreed to check the financial implications of any permissions that may be required. It was also suggested that the signs would not be permanent and would only be on 3 sides of the Clock (not the door side)

- (b) Receipt and forms for Tredegar Town Council Lottery Licence.

RECEIVED.

- (c) Licensing
(i) W/Ending 25.4.10 Licensing List.
(ii) W/Ending 9.5.10 Licensing List.
(iii) W/Ending 16.5.10 Licensing List.

RECEIVED.

- (d) Regeneration Partnership Board Minutes of meeting 23.4.10 and confirmation next meeting arranged for Friday 9th July 2010 at 11am at ViTcc – copied to John Morgan 19.5.10

RECEIVED

2) One Voice Wales

- (a) Appointment of 4 New members, the Adjudication Panel for Wales.
Closing date for applications 26.5.10

INTERESTED MEMEBERS TO CONTACT THE CLERK.

- (b) Letter outlining changes to the Accounts and Audit Regulations and Capital Finance regulations in Wales.

RECEIVED.

- (c) The Voice Magazine Issue 13 April 2010.

RECEIVED

- 3) W.A.G. (a) Re: Section 3 Brynmawr to Tredegar, A465 Heads of the Valleys Dualling – invite to attend a presentation of the plans on Tuesday 25.5.10 at 6.30pm at The Energy Academy, British Gas Building, Innova 1, Tredegar Business Park. Must confirm attendance. Public viewing on 26.5.10 from 10 am to 8pm.

RECEIVED.

Cllrs H. Trollope; Prosser; Tippings; Williams; Cross; Morgan; Willis; Howells and Gregory to attend. To be copied to all absent Members. Points for concern highlighted were: pedestrian access from Waundeg; the Tafarnaubach Ind. Estate access; Dukestown Cemetery.

- (b) A Shared Community – guidance on relationship building measures and charters for unitary authorities and community/town councils. Update on how things have progressed with charters/liaison meetings between unitary authorities and community/town councils.

RECEIVED.

- 4) CADW Reminder of conditions laid in place at the point of a grant being issued For the Town Clock and questionnaire to be completed regarding the conditions set.

RECEIVED – TO BE COMPLETED.

- 5) GAVO County Borough of Blaenau Gwent Voluntary Sector Achievement Awards 2010, nominate form and criteria.

RECEIVED – It was agreed that Tredegar should be represented in the Awards and it was agreed to nominate Cllr. T. Gregory as well as Sue Woodward and Derek Brow for their work with the Otters. It was agreed that this should be copied to all Members.

- 6) H. Lewis Asking how website is progressing and what sort of support will the Council be looking for.

It was agreed to reply that the agreed payment would be on an hourly rate and to have further discussions.

7) Tredegar Junior Cricketers

In December 2009 one young member played for Glamorgan County Cricket Club Under 19 Academy and went on a ten day tour to Dubai prior to Christmas 2009. Wishes to present a photo to Council for Bedwellty House to acknowledge this achievement.

RECEIVED. It was agreed that the question of display space for memorabilia in Bedwellty House should be raised in discussions with Mr. D. Watkins. The kind thoughts of the Cricketers were acknowledged and it was agreed to invite them to a Presentation Night

8) G. L. J. Badges Business is being handed over to Reliable Stamping Ltd as of 30.5.10.
RECEIVED AND NOTED. Members commented that the badges previously supplied for the 150th Anniversary of the Clock had been used widely and that people were proud to wear them.

9) Communicorp Clerk & Councils Direct May 2010 Issue 69
RECEIVED.

10) Communicorp May 2010 Issue 127 – copied to all Members 19.5.10
RECEIVED.

45) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Road works report week commencing 23.4.10; Noah Ark Appeal 10th Anniversary magazine issue no. 21 Spring 2010; Kompan Playground equipment brochure 2010; BGCBC Road works report week commencing 30.4.10; Flagmakers Catalogue 2010/11; BGCBC Road works report week commencing 7.5.10; Ville D'Orvault Le Cens Pratique No 115; Key May-June 2010 Product leaflet; Road works report week commencing 14.5.10; One Voice Wales Copy of Power Perfector presentation made at the Larger Councils Committee meeting 21.4.10; Fair Trade Table talker to be placed with menus etc, details on ordering free copies; One Voice Wales Link to WCVA Funding News May 2010.

AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMEBERS

46) AGENDA

Licensing Committee Tuesday 4th May 2010 at 11am – CANCELLED; Ordinary Meeting Friday 7th May 2010 at 2.30pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Joint Scrutiny Committees Tuesday 11th May 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Committees Wednesday 12th May 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; B.G. Community Health Council Wednesday 12.5.10 at 5.30pm at Miners Institute, Llanhilleth; Ordinary Meeting Tuesday 18th May 2010, item No. 24 Housing Stock Transfer Consent – removed.

AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS

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

- a) Bedwellty Park Management Board – **No Report**
- b) Joint Committee of Local Councils– **No Report**
- c) Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales– **No Report**
- d) Tredegar Twinning – At the recent visit by the Orvault group an embarrassing question regarding the Associations financial status has been asked – it was felt that this was unnecessary and that the Chair of the Association had dealt with the situation well. Concern was raised regarding the siting of the Camellia gifted by Orvault and it was agreed to ask John Mantle/Graham Hill to monitor the plant, with a view to relocating.
- e) School Governing Bodies – **Bryn Bach Primary – it was noted that this was the final day of their inspection and that the outcome should be available for the next Meeting of Council.**
St. Josephs – It was reported that Mrs. Gill Jones had been appointed as the new Head Teacher.
Georgetown – It was reported that they had just today appointed Susan Thomas as the new Deputy head to work with Mandy Hulbert, recently

appointed Head Teacher

Deighton Primary – it was noted that a cheque had been presented to the Friends of Deighton Primary.

Mention was made of the recent visit of the Latvian Ambassador to Tredegar Comprehensive and Cllrs Morgan Willis and Cross were thanked for their efforts. It was noted that the Ambassador and Choir had also visited the Orpheus. The Latvian Ambassador expressed an interest in re-visiting the school.

- f) **Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled– No Report**
- g) **Brecon Beacons Advisory Group– No Report**
- h) **Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee– No Report**
- i) **Tredegar Youth Café – It was reported that a £50,000 grant had been received from Children in Need to support a Youth Worker for 2 years.**
- j) **Tredegar Development Trust – The AGM had gone well but the Feeling Good Project had come to an end. It was agreed to write to the Project members and thank them for their efforts. Cllr. Morgan agreed to supply names and addresses to the Clerk**
- k) **Blaenau Gwent CAB– No Report**
- l) **Communities First Board – the date for the AGM was reported as the 9th June in the Moose Hall.**
- m) **Blaenau Gwent Joint Liaison Committee– No Report**
- n) **Tredegar Crime Prevention Panel – Cllr. Gregory reported that an elderly person in Peacehaven had been conned into paying £190 to have their grass cut, and that the Crime Prevention Panel were putting together a pack warning of such cons. It was noted that the TEMS team were much missed in these areas.**
- o) **Tredegar Business Forum – It was noted that at a recent meeting local police had advised of a “blitz” on illegal parking – this, the Forum stated, had not taken place. They had also raised issues with work being done by ‘Future Jobs’ people not being kept up. Members noted that membership of the forum was growing.**
- p) **Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum– No Report**
- q) **Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum – The Forum would be represented at the Eisteddfod in Ebbw Vale with the launch in Welsh of the Henry Hughes Story.**
- r) **Blaenau Gwent HARPS project – The notice of the next meeting of this project had been given to Cllr. Morgan but should have been included in correspondence since it was an open invitation. The Clerks apologies were accepted and the invitation to attend on 7th June at 10am in Venue 1 was read.**

48) PLANNING

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

b) APPLICATIONS –

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2010/0166	Mr A Jahanfar Castle Street Dental Practice 24-25 Castle Street, Tredegar	Re-render front and side elevations, fit new windows and security shutters to ground floor windows on front and side elevations

NO OBJECTIONS

2010/0181	Mr M Jones Bridge House, Oliver Jones Crescent	Construct new garage,
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NO OBJECTIONS

2010/0179	Mr S Long 8 Maes Glas, Tredegar	Proposed conversion of existing first floor store area to bedroom with dormer window
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NO OBJECTIONS

2010/0183	Mr C Phibben 26 Arnold Place, Tredegar	Double storey extension to rear of property
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NO OBJECTIONS

2010/0184	Mr C Gittings 27 Vale Terrace, Tredegar	Proposed domestic (single) garage to rear garden
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NO OBJECTIONS

c) OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Burger van at Parkers – Members were disappointed to note that the van was still in place and trading – it was pointed out that the costs of enforcement were high and that Planning Department Officers were attempting to re-locate the business.
- b) Another Member queried the parking of trailers in lay-bys, particularly along the Heads of the Valleys Road and the Clerk was asked to write to the Highways Department seeking clarification.

49) MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN

- 1) Sale of cars on Sirhowy Hill – Clerk to write to Police and BGCBC Highways.
- 2) Regeneration – the response of Trish Law AM was sought – the Clerk to move forward.
- 3) Police Surgeries – a Member highlighted the fact that these were being held in areas but not advertised enough. It was agreed that we should ascertain the dates of these surgeries.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS – THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.15 PM

Town Mayor