

# **TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Civic Committee of Council held at The Library, Tredegar on  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:**        **Councillor**    **H. Trollope**  
   **B. Willis**  
   **A. Tippings**  
   **K. Hayden**  
   **D. Howells**  
   **J. Morgan**  
   **P. Prosser**  
   **D. Rowberry**  
   **G. Woolf**

**In attendance:**                    **Ms. C.M. Keane – Town Clerk**

**Members stood in silence to mark the passing of Cllr. Roger Thomas's daughter in law, Claire Pritchard, and funeral arrangements were noted.**

**It was agreed that a letter of condolence be sent.**

**56) Apologies                    Cllrs. M. Cross, G. Bowen-Knight (Hospital) A. Cotton, S. Trollope and  
   T. Gregory.**

Members were asked to note that Cllr. Gregory was facing a period of intense treatment for his illness and that his attendance may vary accordingly.

## **57) To receive applications for Cultural/Sporting Grants**

Thanks from Blaenau Gwent Otters, Friends of Deighton Primary and Cylch Meithrin ABC were received and noted.

Kidz R'Us – A grant of £200 was agreed.

Catapult Football Club – having previously met with the Civic Sub-Committee a grant of £150 was agreed.

However it was noted by Members that applications for sporting grants should be carefully viewed and that organisations should be part of a structure or league such as the Welsh FA etc, noting the difference between “fun” groups and more competitive groups.

**To receive and consider applications for Grants to Churches & Chapels (S.137)**  
**NONE RECEIVED**

## **58) CORRESPONDENCE**

**1) BGCBC        (a)            Residential Development – Street Naming, Glandoverly Terrace, Tredegar  
   – 10 units on old school site. Developer submitting “Prince Llewellyn  
   Court” and a letter in support of his request. Council has 10 working days  
   to submit their own proposal.**

**RECEIVED AND NOTED. No other proposal put forward.**

*Cllr. A. Tippings declared an interest in the following item.*

- (b) Invite to Blaenau Gwent Fairtrade Meeting, agenda Thursday 3.6.10 at 2pm BGCBC Offices. Barleyfields Ind. Estate.

**RECEIVED. Cllr. H. Trollope offered his apologies and it was agreed that since Cllr. A. Tippings would be at the Meeting in a work capacity, she would report back to Council.**

- (c) Bethan Cartwright. Re: Traffic management in Commercial Street. Been working with Police, business forum representatives and Ward Councillors to solve the problem of congestion/illegal parking. Now that funding has been secured they have made progress with the scheme and it has also been agreed that the police would be carrying out stringent enforcement over the next few weeks.

**RECEIVED. Members agreed that as a Town Council there should be a greater chance for input into Town Centre schemes overall. Although normally each Member commented only on those matters in their own Wards it was agreed that anything affecting the Town Centre should be put to the Council as a whole. It was agreed to write to the Town Centre Manager and to have a delegate on the Business Forum Partnership. It was further agreed to write to the Chief Executive of Blaenau Gwent and to copy the letters to the Executive Member.**

## **2) One Voice Wales**

- (a) Notification of Conference & AGM 9.10.10 at Bont Pavillion, Pontrhydfendigaid, registration and payment must be by 30.7.10. Motions for debate at AGM must be submitted by 2.7.10

**RECEIVED. It was agreed that the Mayor, Leader and Clerk should attend. A Member suggested that the following motion should be suggested "That OVW should be fighting for the distribution of business rates from Borough Councils to Town Councils (with special reference to Tredegar Town Council)"**

- (b) Final Free training event for Town/Community Council delivered through the Gwent Consortium for Member Training will be held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at Caerphilly Council Headquarters.

**RECEIVED – interested Members to contact the Clerk.**

- (c) Update on Referendum on stronger law making powers for the Assembly.

**RECEIVED**

- (d) Wales Africa Community Links Newsletter.

**RECEIVED. A copy passed to the Chair of the International Co.**

- 3) Insp. Green Re: Letter dated 12.5.10 parking in Town Centre – Neighbourhood team will pay attention to the situation but will not be allocating a PCSO to check on a daily basis. His team will carry out a zero tolerance throughout the next month and they are awaiting a batch of Fixed penalty tickets which had been recently withdrawn due to a printing errors.

**RECEIVED. Members queried how there could be a zero tolerance period without fixed penalty tickets being available. There had been disquiet from the Business Forum due to inaction by the Police. Members requested an update on the number of parking fines issued and this was suggested as a question for the Inspectors next visit. However it was agreed to write prior to this regarding an increase in car thefts and whether Borough car parks on housing estates were covered by CCTV. It was also suggested that statistics for car crime in the last quarter could be requested.**

- 4) Ombudsman                      Complaints Wales Consultation: Proposal for a common complaints system for public service providers in Wales includes a Model Policy & design criteria for complaints handling procedures. Requests feedback by Friday 23.7.10.

**RECEIVED**

- 5) SLCC                              Regional Conference for Wales Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at Best Western Parkway Hotel, Cwmbran, £55 for Members & £75 for Non-Members.

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

- 6) H. Lewis                        SLA offer for website maintenance, 3 options available.

**RECEIVED. It was agreed to defer a decision and to meet with Mr. Lewis at a Publicity Meeting (nb this was incorporated into Events)**

- 7) B.G. Biodiversity Partnership

Poster and letter advertising Go Wild event on 12.6.10 at Parc Bryn Bach  
11am to 4pm – poster displayed in Library 2.6.10

**RECEIVED.**

- 8) Cllr Tony Gregory

- (a)                      Copies of letter sent on behalf of Cefn Golau Tenants and Residents Regarding the Communities 1<sup>st</sup> event on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at Parc Bryn Bach. It highlights an incident where the word “ASBO” appeared on the score sheet for the children’s team from Cefn Golau.

**RECEIVED AND NOTED**

- (b)                      Questions relating to the switch off of street lighting in Tredegar.

**This letter had been sent to Cllr. Trollope in his capacity as a Borough Councillor. There was widespread condemnation of the response by the Borough and it was stated once again that the information that we received from the Police was that there was no consultation with them. The “blanket” switch off of lights in Trefil and along the Promenade were highlighted again and it was agreed to invite the Executive Member to attend a meeting of Council to respond to concerns. Cllr. Gregory was congratulated for the list of questions he had put and Members agreed that the Town Council should be seen to be taking action.**

**Cllr. J. Morgan left the Meeting at this point.**

- 9) Community Council of Abertillery & Llanhilleth

- (a)                      Rearranging allotment visit for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010 at 10.30am.

**RECEIVED. It was agreed that Cllrs. Willis and Prosser accompanied by the Clerk should attend.**

- (b)                      Notification of new Chair Cllr W. Bard & Vice Chair Cllr D. Roles for 2010/11.

**RECEIVED. It was agreed to send congratulations.**

- 10) Pontypool Community Council

Minutes of Gwent Valleys One Voice Partnership held on 20.4.10  
Also requested contact email – Details emailed & minutes - copied to Cllrs M.C./M. O’S./H.T. 25.5.10

**RECEIVED**

11) Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Letter stating the Planning Aid Wales Training session on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at Maescar Community Centre & Crickhowell Community Centre have now both been cancelled.

**RECEIVED**

12) Tredegar.Co

Confirming they will advertise Armed Forces Day on Tredegar.co.uk website and any future events too.

**RECEIVED**

13) Barclays Bank

Confirmation new bank mandate setup with Cllr Trollope as signatory.

**RECEIVED**

14) Brynmawr Town Council

Confirming new Mayor as Cllr B Sutton & Deputy Mayor Cllr Hopkins.

**RECEIVED. Agreed to send congratulations.**

15) Tredegar Round Table

Confirming attendance at Armed Forces day with a bouncy Castle & also requesting Council underwrites the fireworks display – grant form sent 2.6.10

**RECEIVED. Grant form already sent any further discussion required to be forwarded for a Finance Committee Meeting.**

16) Cllr H. Trollope

Link to website showing Latvian visit to Tredegar Comprehensive.

**RECEIVED.**

17) Communicorp

Local Councils Update Issue 128 – copied to all Members 2.6.10

**RECEIVED.**

**59) PUBLICATIONS**

BGCBC Road works report week commencing 21.5.10; Travis Perkins Brochure giving details of their group & brand names incorporated within their group; BGCBC Road works report week commencing 28.5.10; Ville D'Orvault Bordereau d'envoi April 2010.

**AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS**

**60) AGENDA**

Annual Meeting of Council Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Meeting Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Annual Meeting of Council on Thursday 27.5.10, supplementary information for item No. 17; Licensing Committee on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Committee on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Committee Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 10am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Social Care & Inclusion Scrutiny Committee Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Planning Committee Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Meeting Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 9.30am, Tredegar Library; Brecon Beacons National Park Local Access Forum on Thursday 10.6.10 at 2pm Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Headquarters – Cllr R Thomas & Cllr H Woolf.

**AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS**

## 61) MATTERS CONCERNING BEDWELLY HOUSE AND PARK

- a) House Visit – a visit to Bedwellty House and Park had been arranged for Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 10 am. Members available gave their names to the Clerk. Apologies were received from Cllrs H & S Trollope and A. Tippings – copy to all Members not present.
- b) Lighting – members expressed concern at the security risk to Bedwellty House and Park with the street lighting being turned off along the Boulevard.
- c) Cllr. Hayden told Members that the wall surrounding the Park, which was deteriorating, was part of the regeneration of the House but would be fenced off for safety. Any emergency remedial works would be carried out.

*Cllr. H. Trollope declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*

## 62) PLANNING

- a) To consider an Officer's Report – **None Received**

### b) APPLICATIONS –

| App No    | Applicant   | Proposal                                       |
|-----------|---|--|
| 2010/0187 | Mr L Monroe<br>Hentafern, Market Street<br>Tredegar | Infill of covered access at ground floor level |
| 2010/0189 | Mr W H Robinson<br>6 Cefn Glas, Tredegar            | Retention of conservatory                      |

- c) To consider other planning matters – **None Received.**

## 63) MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST AND CONCERN

- 1) A Member for Cefn Golau highlighted recent cases of a group of men going from door to door trying to buy gold. Their attitude was quite intimidating, however the Ward Police Officer arrived within 30 minutes of being called. Members were warned that they could try the same thing in different areas.
- 2) The article relating to Tredegar General Hospital which had appeared on the front page of the Gazette was noted. Members were anxious that members of the public be aware of the actions the Town Council had already taken. The idea of a campaign to save the Hospital was raised again, with local celebrities and social networking sites being highlighted for support. A further letter to CADW and a press release were called for. Clerk to gather together all correspondence re the Hospital.
- 3) Rumours of the impending withdrawal of Accident and Emergency services from Nevill Hall were raised again, despite the recent refurbishments and a heli-pad at the hospital. Members requested either a visit to or a presentation by Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan in Ebbw Vale. Queries were raised whether dialysis beds would be available at the hospital.
- 4) A Member queried the missing plaque from Yard Row and was informed that it was in the Council office. To be collected for re-fixing. The dumping of tyres in Tabernacle Chapel was

highlighted – Clerk to contact Environmental Health. A query over the ownership was taken up by a Borough Member.

- 5) The recent conversion to digital had brought an increase in abandoned TV's – Members queried whether the introduction of wheelie bins would have a similar effect. Clerk to query whether plans had been made by the Borough.
- 6) It was noted that Tredegar Under 11's had won the Abertillery Rugby Tournament.
- 7) Also that Luke Harwood – Tredegar born – had been made Caerphilly Rugby Player of the Year.
- 8) Following the recent public display of the next Dualling Phase of the Heads of the Valleys Road concern was again expressed that Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate had no direct connection.
- 9) A Member, also a member of the Orpheus Choir highlighted a concert by the Mousehole Choir.
- 10) Members were reminded of the presentation by Mr. Gerald Davies concerning the last passenger train through Tredegar to be held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2010.
- 11) Members were also reminded of a Fish and Chip Supper being held in support of the Spinal Injuries Association and organised by the Deputy Mayor at the Firs also on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm.
- 12) Similarly a Cheese and Wine Evening being held at the Rhyd Hall by the Twinning Association – also on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

THERE BEING NO FUTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.30 PM

\_\_\_\_\_ **Town Mayor**