

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Committee Meeting of Council held at The Library, Tredegar on
Wednesday 3rd November 2010 at 6.00 p.m.**

Present:	Councillor	H. Trollope M. Cross A Tippings A. Cotton K. Hayden D. Howells P. Prosser R. Thomas (late) S. Trollope D. Rowberry (late) G. Woolf T. Gregory M. O’Sullivan (late)
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In attendance: **Ms. C. Keane – Town Clerk**

208) Apologies: Cllr. B Willis; G. Bowen-Knight; H. Woolf; G. Woolf and J. Morgan.

A minutes silence was observed in Memory of Mrs. Val Bartlett, former Councillor and wife of Mr. Graham Bartlett, Clerk to the Community Council of Abertillery and Llanilleth. It was noted that get well wishes had been given to Cllr. J. Morgan's wife Gwynedd and also congratulations were noted to Cllr. Rowberry who had just become a grandmother. An update on Cllr. Bowen-Knight was received and agreed by Council.

209) GRANTS

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

Time Banking Wales – Spirit of Bevan Studio - Requesting a grant to help with costs of making the building more user friendly and making repairs to studio space. – **As a new application it was agreed to invite this group to a Meeting of the Civic Sub-Committee.**

Cllrs Thomas and Rowberry arrived at 6.06pm

Sling Shot Street Band – Request to help with new Uniforms, Instruments, Hall Hire and Instructors.
– **As a new application it was agreed to invite this group to a Meeting of the Civic Sub-Committee.**

Homemakers Community Recycling – requests for funding towards running costs. NB no grant form sent as yet, Ebbw Vale based charity but will use any funding for Tredegar
As a new application it was agreed to invite this group to a Meeting of the Civic Sub-Committee.

St. Johns Ambulance – Request to help with costs of new fixtures and fittings for refurbished hall.
Members requested that St. John be invited to attend a meeting of the Civic Sub-Committee.

Transitions Counselling and Therapy Service. – Request to help with running costs of the service – **a grant of £200 was recommended**

Royal British Legion – Request for grant towards costs of Remembrance Day and a request for funding to help with running costs of the Association – **a grant of £200 (to be spent as they saw fit) was recommended**

Grants to Churches and Chapels

Vale Terrace Chapel – Request to help with refurbishing the Gents toilets and surrounding area – **a grant of £200 was recommended**

Trinity Spiritualist Church – Request to help with Replacing boiler and radiators throughout the building - **a grant of £200 was recommended**

210) Correspondence

1) Mazars Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2010 – request for final approval by Council

RECEIVED. The RFO reported on the Annual Return which had been returned with no adverse comments or actions required and the document was duly signed by the Mayor.

Cllr. O’Sullivan arrived at 6.20

The RFO received a vote of thanks from the Members and the excellent report from the External Auditor was noted. Mrs. Jones then left at 6.25 pm.

2) BGCBC

(a) Licensing – List of Applications Received Week Ending – 24.10.2010

RECEIVED.

(b) David Ware – Notes from the last Regeneration Partnership Board Meeting with James Price (copied to J. Morgan)

RECEIVED.

(c) Yvonne Tovey – Seeking items for inclusion on the agenda for the Consultation Town / Community Councils on 11th November 2010

RECEIVED. Following discussion it was agreed that the question of future provision of school transport to the new Campus at the Works should be put forward. Also that other local Town Councils should be approached for their views.

3) Tredegar General Hospital

(a) Steve Smith Re: Letter forwarded to the Regeneration Division who will deal with the issues raised in the letter to Frank Olding.

RECEIVED.

- (b) BGCBC Re: Thank you letter regarding the potential of listing Tredegar General Hospital.

RECEIVED.

Both items were considered and it was agreed to write to Blaenau Gwent CBC Regeneration, Planning and Heritage Officers and to copy to the Chief Executive to seek clarification and to move forward with the intention of having the Hospital recognised as a building of local interest and historical significance

4) One Voice Wales

- (a) Planning Training Workshops in the area

RECEIVED. It was agreed to copy to all Members.

- (b) Invitation to attend a workshop hosted by Wales & West Utilities, on 1st December 2010

RECEIVED.

5) Christmas Lights

- (a) BGCBC – Trading Standards will liaise with colleagues in the department to discuss.

RECEIVED.

- (b) Copy of email Paul Gray sent to Forest regarding road closures for Christmas Lights Switch-On

RECEIVED.

- (c) Quotes for Road Closures for Christmas Lights Switch-On

RECEIVED. It was agreed to accept the quotation as a last resort but to attempt to source elsewhere. It was further agreed to write to Mr. Paul Gray to organise Steward training.

- (d) Regimental Band of the Royal Welsh regrettably have a previously booked engagement on the same night as the Christmas Lights Switch – On and are unable to attend

RECEIVED. It was noted that the Band had been approached to play at Next Year's Armed Forces Day Event.

- (e) Delivery Notice for Blue Aran Delivery of Mixing Desk

RECEIVED. It was agreed that the speaker stands needed to be retrieved.

- 6) Memorial Service Flt Lt P. K Batson RAF Cranwell - Will be attending Memorial service on 9th and bringing own Wreath to the Cairn on 11th December 2010.

RECEIVED. His attendance at both events was warmly welcomed.

7) GAVO

- (a) Voluntary Sector Awards – Sponsorship for next year

RECEIVED. It was noted that Tredegar Town Council had previously sponsored their "Special Volunteer" Award and it was agreed unanimously to do so next year.

- (b) Blaenau Gwent Voluntary Sector Forum Meeting, Tuesday 30th November 2010 at 10.30 am Newtown Community Centre, Ebbw Vale.

RECEIVED. Cllrs. Trollope and Gregory to attend.

- (c) Voluntary Sector Achievement awards will be held on 20th November 2010 at Abertillery Leisure Centre starting at 6.30pm

RECEIVED. It was noted that this event clashed with a concert for the Mayor's Appeal and the Deputy Mayor was put forward to attend.

8) Woodfield Road

- (a) Nick Smith MP - Response received from United Housing Association and enclosed copy of this letter.

RECEIVED.

- (b) HSE - Health and Safety at Woodfield Road, issues raised do not come under the Health and Safety Executives remit and therefore have no enforcing authority

RECEIVED.

- (c) Query re culvert size - Email copied to Carl Powell to answer specific questions

RECEIVED. In response to questions a Member pointed out that the fear was that the new pipe would act as a bottleneck or funnel for excess water.

- (d) Levels on site are lower than previously approved by Planning Committee-Lowered by agreement between the developer and the Council

RECEIVED. It was pointed out by Members that the finished height of the building will exceed that of present structure by some 5 metres – rather than the previously reported 2 metres. It was felt that the plans were extremely complicated and could not fully be grasped by those who did not have specific knowledge.

9) Shelter Cymru 30th birthday conference to be held on 30th June and 1st July 2011

RECEIVED. The Mayor was nominated to attend.

10) Fair Trade Wales Fair Trade Champion Scheme- anyone can apply, good way to strengthen the local Campaign.

RECEIVED.

11) Latvian Honorary Consul to Wales

Letter of thanks regarding the possible link with Gulbene, Latvia.

RECEIVED.

12) Macmillan Your Guide to Equality Act and cancer

RECEIVED.

13) McAfee Internet Security Subscription Renewal Notice

RECEIVED. It was noted that the subscription was not due until 11th January 2011.

14) Tredegar Round Table

Fire works display Tredegar Recreation ground from 6.00pm

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

15) Twinning Association

Information on Cheese and Wine Evening £10 per person, 6th November, Orpheus Hall.

RECEIVED AND NOTED.

16) Community Health Council

Attached public notice advised of the next Meeting in Llanhilleth Miners Institute – Notice in Library

RECEIVED already displayed.

17) Haydn Trollope Mayor's Blog

RECEIVED. The Mayor explained that copies of his Blog would be sent to all the organisations and groups that he had visited in hard copy if they did not have access to the Internet.

18) Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council

Tuesday 23.11.10 and Thursday 25.11.10 are the two dates being offered B.G.C.B.C. for a meeting to discuss the Draft Charter, either will be at the Municipal Offices Ebbw Vale at 2pm. The J.C.L.C. will agree a date at their meeting on 11.11.10 and request a pre-meeting at 1pm for the selected date.

RECEIVED. Date to be agreed at the Meeting. Clerk invited to attend with Cllrs. Trollope and Cross.

211) PUBLICATIONS

Ashwood Guide Supplement new lines October 2010; Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Road Work Reports 22/10/10-29/10/10; Blaenavon World Heritage Site Halloween Activities and Events; Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Road works report week commencing 29.10.10; Xavier Anderson Refurbished LED Christmas lights; Ville D'Orvault Le Cens Pratique November 2010 Issue No. 119.

AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS

212) AGENDA

Regeneration and Housing Committee Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale at 2.00pm 27th October 2010; Special Executive meeting held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale on Wednesday 17th November 2010 at 11.00 am; Crime and Disorder and Safer Communities Scrutiny Committee Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre Ebbw Vale on Monday 1st November 2010 at 2.00pm; Licensing Committee Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale on Tuesday 2nd November 2010 at 11.00 am; Planning Committee Meeting held in Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale on Friday 5th November 2010 at 2.00pm; Environment Scrutiny Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre Ebbw Vale on Thursday 4th November 2010 at 2.00pm; Executive Committee meeting held in the Executive Room, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale on Thursday 4th November 2010 at 3.30pm;

AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS

213) MATTERS CONCERNING BEDWELLY HOUSE AND PARK

- 1) Future use of the House was discussed, as was the possibility that Town Council may not be able to cater for their own events. It was agreed to invite Mr. Watkins and Ms. Deufel to meet the Events Committee to discuss all aspects.
- 2) The continuing decline of the wall along the Promenade d'Orvault was noted. There had been no sign of the remedial action promised earlier.
- 3) The Memorial Gates. These had recently been returned – refurbished but would be boarded for protection after the Remembrance Sunday parade until the re-opening.

214) PLANNING

a) to consider an Officer's Report - Received

C/2010/0273, Llysweddog House off Poplar Road, Tredegar, double garage – **Approved.**

C/2010/0234, 5 Scwrfa Road Tredegar, roller shutter – **Approved.**

C/2010/0276, Land opposite Hunts Lodge, Newport Road, Tredegar, construction of a detached single storey dwelling – **Refused.**

C/2010/0135, Land adjacent to Tafarn Y Uchaf Public House, Trefil erection 3 bedroom dormer bungalow – **Approved.**

C/2010/0262, The Bush Hotel, Park Row, Tredegar, all advertising boards are for local sponsors of Tredegar Ironsides RFC detailing local businesses and services. Maximum of 4 adverts – **Refused.**

C/2010/0296 New build 4 bed detached house with integral garage, Plot 24 Lakeside, Tredegar – **Recommendation is to Refuse.**

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2010/0354	Mr A. Owens 116 Peacehaven Tredegar	Porch on front of house
No Objections		
2010/0355	Mr C. Lake 36 Arches Close Dukestown Tredegar	Retention of Balcony
No Objections		
2010/0356	Mr P Richards Ty-Gwyn Rhyd Terrace, Georgetown Tredegar	Single Storey Extension at 67 Vale Terrace
No Objections		
2010/0359	Rhyd Development Ltd, Windsor Villa, The Rhyd, Tredegar	Semi detached Houses including access parking and associated ground works Land at and adjacent to 6 Queen Victoria Street
No Objections		
2010/0363	Mr. A Jenkins Rhyd Hall The Rhyd Tredegar	Retention of smoking shelter and decking area
No Objections		
2010/0371	Mr L Rothwell Ty Coch, Picton Road, Dukestown,	Change of use from a former Chapel to domestic dwelling, Carmel Chapel
No Objections		
2010/0378	Mr. P Skinner, Ron Skinners & Sons Ltd, Tafarnaubach Ind. Estate	Form new porch to entrance, at The Car Show Room
No Objections		

2010/0379	Mr S Williams, The Cambrian Hotel The Circle, Tredegar	New Painted timber traditional signage fascia with signage, projected double sided sign on a metal bracket.
No Objections		
2010/0380	Mr I Gould, 4 Vale Terrace,	Retention of block shed.
No Objections		
2010/0381	Mr L Evans, 1 York Terrace,	Proposed extension and garage store,109 Glyn Terrace
No Objections		

c) to consider other planning matters

- 1) Recent receipt of Planning Applications by e-mail had severely disrupted the computer system and the Mayor who was in the office at the time had phoned the Planning Department and told them that this was not acceptable. It was agreed to bring this matter to the attention of the JCLC.
- 2) It was agreed to query the legality of the gate at Trefil and also to enquire when the cattle grid will be replaced.

215) MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST AND CONCERN

- 1) Postal Services – it had been noticed by Members in the Dukestown area that letters had been delivered in bulk – with one member of the public awaiting a cheque that had been delayed by several days. It was agreed to write to the Post Office to ask if there were issues that Tredegar Town Council should be made aware of.
- 2) Race to Infinity – details of a competition to get enhanced broadband coverage in the area – it was agreed to publicise on the website and to contact Tredegar Comprehensive to seek the backing of the pupils and also to send details to the Tredegar.co site.
- 3) Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan – The lack of Accident and Emergency facilities was noted once again and the poor signage of the Minor Injuries Unit was highlighted.
It was further noted that there had been three falls in the individual rooms and there was no way for people to attract attention in such cases. It was highlighted that concerns about the flooring had been raised by a Member following a visit to the Hospital. It was agreed to write to Ms. Bolt at the Aneurin Bevan Health Board and to raise queries regarding notices, the lack of public transport to the site and the spiritual aspect of care.
- 4) Members were reminded of the Service of Remembrance to take place on Armistice Day 11th November at 11am in Gwent Shopping Centre – all available Members to attend.
- 5) Bomber Crash Site. It was noted that the Spirit of Bevan project were able to produce a certain number of films relating to local topics. It was suggested by a Member who had flown over the Bomber Crash site and other local areas by helicopter that this would be an excellent way of recording local sites of interest and outstanding beauty. At this point the forthcoming Remembrance Service was discussed and it was agreed to invite the Bishop to attend and also the Orpheus. It was thought that hymns should be of a popular nature, to seek the availability of Fr. John for the wreath laying for Remembrance Sunday and to request the use of the Community mini-bus for the December Anniversary.
The Leader of Council asked for the appreciation of all Members to Cllr. Alyson Tippings be minuted, and that the extensive research and effort that she had put into this project be noted and commended.
- 6) It was noted that Mrs. Jane Medlicott was due to retire from the Hospice of the Valleys and agreed that a letter of thanks and with best wishes be sent.
- 7) The Mayor reminded Members of his Concert at the Rhyd Hall on 20th November 2010 and that tickets priced at £5 were available.

- 8) It was also noted that the Orpheus Choir were holding a fund raising concert for Saron Chapel on the 26th November 2011 – details from the Chapel/Choir.
- 9) A series of animated films on Youtube were mentioned – these having been made by local youngsters in collaboration with Communities First with an Anti-bullying theme.
- 10) Updates were given with regard to the ‘talking papers’ idea that had been raised at a previous meeting and it was noted that further contact had been made to a local newspaper but that restructuring had meant that the editor had left. Further contact to be made – it was noted that facilities were now available and a person had volunteered to read the pieces for recording.
- 11) Details of Dukestown PACT meeting given.
- 12) An informal request to meet with Council had been received from Jane Sullivan, a prospective independent candidate. It was noted again that no response to a request to meet with Mrs Law had been received and it was agreed to send the invitation once more. It was agreed that having met with Alun Davies AM that any other candidate would be welcomed to future Council Meetings.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.35PM

_____Chair.