

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at the Library, Tredegar on 18th May 2011 at 6.30 pm in Room 2.

Present: **Councillor** **H. Trollope**
 B. Willis
 M. Cross
 A. Tippings
 J Morgan (arrived late)
 D. Howells
 D. Rowberry
 G. Bowen-Knight
 M. O’Sullivan (arrived late)
 P. Prosser
 R W Thomas
 H. Woolf

Also present: **Mrs. A. Jones - RFO**

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

448) Apologies: **Cllrs. G. Woolf, T. Gregory, S. Trollope, A. Cotton**
 and G. Rowberry

An update on Cllr. Gregory was received and best wishes sent by all.

449) Declarations of Interest

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

450) Grants: To consider and approve grants to sporting and cultural organisations.

Blaenau Gwent Visually Impaired Club – A grant of £200.00 was approved.

Carp Crunchers Community Disco – A grant of £200.00 was approved.

Cefn Golau Junior Fishing Club – A grant of £150.00 was approved.

Cefn Golau Tenants & Residents Association – A grant of £200.00 was approved.

Devils Martial Arts – Deferred with request for more information.

Re-Liance Bus Preservation Group – A grant of £200.00 was approved.

Tredegar Amateur Boxing Club – A grant of £150.00 was approved.

Tredegar Angling Club – A grant of £150.00 was approved.

Tredegar Community Youth Café – A grant of £200.00 was approved.

Tredegar Community Archive Group – A grant of £200.00 was approved.

Sirhowy Senior Citizens - A grant of £200.00 was approved.

Tredegar Quilting Circle - A grant of £200.00 was approved.

Tredegar Athletic Football Club - A grant of £150.00 was approved as a Start Up grant for the Junior Section

Grants to Churches and Chapels

None received

451) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts paid in April 2011 and for payment in May 2011.

The accounts having previously been inspected and the invoices and cheques reconciled were agreed. The RFO was asked to take up the task of finding sponsorship for the Clock planting.

Cllr. J. Morgan arrived at 6.40 pm

Questions were asked regarding the Councils position regarding insurance following the move back to the House and were informed that a response was still awaited from the Borough Legal Department.

Mrs Jones left the Meeting at 6.45pm

452) To receive the Minutes of the Heritage Committee Meeting of 20th April 2011

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

453) Matters Arising

1) Minute No. 389 (2) It was noted that this item would need to be included in next years budget (memo to RFO)

454) To receive the Minutes of the Performance Review Meeting of 20th April 2011.

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

455) Matters Arising

There were none

456) To receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 20th April 2011.

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record

457) Matters Arising

1) Minute No 402 (1) It was agreed to pursue the meeting with Ms. Bolt regarding services at the new hospital.

2) Minute No 402 (2) Walk for Life – the total raised was £1544.31. It was agreed to invite one of the local walkers and his wife to the presentation.

Cllr. M. O’Sullivan arrived at 6.50pm

3) Minute No 402 (4) Waterford Vase – the importance of the Vase and the need for its prominent display was reiterated.

4) Minute No. 409 (2c) Amend Minute to show that copies of the letters were requested by Cllr. Tippings and to show that having checked with Bryn Bach Primary School there had been no

correspondence received. The weight restriction being sought would be purely for the busy morning and evening hour when children were dropped off or collected and not for the whole day.

It was further agreed to ask for a vehicle count on the stretch of road in front of the school.

Further to the point about the weight restriction of 7.5 Tonnes it was pointed out by a Member that a local police officer was unaware of the restriction. It was agreed to write to Insp. Green and the Highways Department and seek to improve signage, also to request information from the police regarding the number of accidents on that road. The residents in the area had contacted their Member and had requested speed restrictions and a pelican crossing on Beaufort Road.

5) Minute No 409 (8) It was reported that Cameron Hudd had now received his bike.

6) Minute No 412 (xiii) regarding LDP – disc available from Cllr. Morgan

7) Minute No 417 – No 10 the Circle – a meeting had been arranged between the Leader and Deputy Mayor with the Regeneration section of BGCBC. It was noted that a new Heads of the Valleys Road Corridor Strategy was being put forward,. This might include buildings of historical interest.

458) To receive the Minutes of the Civic Sub-Committee of Council dated 11th May 2011

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record

459) Matters Arising

There were none.

460) To receive the Minutes of the Civic Committee of Council dated 11th May 2011

The Minutes were received and approved as a true record

461) Matters Arising

1) Minute No 428 – Members were asked to attend the Council Chamber in Bedwellty House prior to the inauguration, to take part in the making of a film to be shown in the Chamber – interested Members to contact Cllr. Tippings.

2) Minute No 429 (1bii) Discussions that had taken place with the House Manager were reprised, thanks expressed to Cllr. Tippings for the work she had undertaken with regard to the inventory. It was agreed that the Clerk and a Member would be present to agree the location of memorabilia in the foyer

3) Minute No 429 (9) St James Parade – Members were informed that the firm were not in receivership and it had been rumoured that the site might be bought by United Welsh Housing.

4) Minute No 429 (11) Incinerator – it was agreed to write to the Environment Agency and ask to be consultees.

5) Minute No 432 (1) Members were concerned that even with CCTV and a watchman drinking, vandalism and thefts were still taking place in Bedwellty Park. It was agreed to write to the Borough and police voicing these concerns.

6) Minute No 432 (2) It was noted that the TA and Truck Shop had been withdrawn from the auction. It was agreed to contact the auctioneers, CADW, Trading Standards and the Heritage Officer re conditions of sale and description.

462) Correspondence.

- 1) BGCBC (a) N. Deufel, Bedwellty House & Park Manager
(i) Re: House bookings. Requesting we complete the booking forms posted to us and return both copies to her. Also need to supply Labour Group meeting dates and need to liaise a few months prior to each Inauguration to make the necessary booking arrangements.
(ii) Re: House bookings. It is OK to sign the booking forms on behalf of Twinning and Labour Group, always send two copies each time to her.

RECEIVED – Clerk to complete.

- (b) B. Cartwright, Town Centre Manager
(i) Re: Xmas Lights damage. Copy of email Bethan sent to the insurance department when she was contacted about the damage to Red Lion Public House Tredegar.
(ii) Re: Claim by Neil Griffiths Red Lion Public House. Copy of email from the Insurance Company explaining they will be rewriting to Mr Griffiths as they are still awaiting from him the information they requested in their previous letter.

RECEIVED It was noted that the matter was being dealt with by the Borough's insurance company and was not the responsibility of the Town Council.

Cllrs. B. Willis and D. Rowberry declared an interest in the following matter and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

- (c) List of Licensing Applications week ending 6.5.11

RECEIVED

- 2) One Voice Wales Details and booking form for Training events up to July, £25 per delegate.

RECEIVED to be copied to Cllr. G. Rowberry

3) Armed Forces Day

- (a) Gp Cpt S. Ellard. Accepting invite to AFD.
(b) Armed Forces Day. Confirming event has been submitted for approval to website.
(c) Help for Heroes.
(i) Thank you for submitted the AFD event information.
(ii) Confirming AFD fundraising as been approved.
(d) C. Rundle
(i) Will try to attend Events Meeting 23.5.11. Also unable to offer the ACE platform for this year's AFD.
(ii) Will have the radio truck, canoeing & kayaking for AFD.
(iii) Will consider a canoe/slalom race but there are safety issues and equipment which need to be addressed for such things.

ALL RECEIVED invitations to be sent and press release issued. The presence of a helicopter from RAF Shawbury was also confirmed.

- 4) L. Price Request to know who will represent Council on the Twinning trip to France?

RECEIVED. It was noted, with regret, that the Council could not be represented on this occasion.

5) Community Council of Abertillery & Llanhilleth

New Chairman is Cllr Denis Roles and Vice Chairman is Cllr Julian Meek.

RECEIVED Congratulations were noted.

6) Ann Roberts

Information from United Valleys Action Group – copied for all Members.

RECEIVED

7) Shelter Cymru

Details of the changes to housing advice surgeries in Blaenau Gwent.

NOTED

8) GAVO

“Buzz Bikes Challenge”. Asking for support for this group of Blaina teenagers who help establish Buzz Bikes in Blaina through the support of the Princes Trust. To show their thanks to the Princes Trust they are now participating in the Prince’s Trust Adventure Challenge to the Himalayas in October and have to fundraise £3700 each which goes back to the Princes Trust. Any donations or business sponsorship welcomed.

RECEIVED

9) Children with Cancer UK Formerly known as Children with Leukaemia UK now the first UK Charity dedicated to fighting all forms of childhood cancer. Launching an appeal to fund research into the causes of childhood cancer and for treatment/care.

RECEIVED

463) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Road works report week ending 20.5.11; Glasdon leaflets on bollards and benches; BGCBC updated road work report week ending 20.5.11; GAVO Network Summer 2011 newsletter.

AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS

464) AGENDA

None received.

465) Delegates: To receive and consider reports from Delegates to Outside Bodies and the recommendations of Sub-Committees/working Parties.

- i. Bedwellty Park Management Board- **A number of items were raised by Members a) the fact that we do not receive reports from the Board b) their meetings clash with ours c) no discussions have taken place regarding the artefacts d) composition of the Board e) no date given for the Annual General Meeting**
- ii. Joint Committee of Local Councils – **No report**
- iii. Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales– **No report**
- iv. Tredegar Twinning – **a list of meeting dates was sought**
- v. School Governing Bodies – **Bryn Bach Primary was praised for the programme to encourage youngsters to clean their teeth, which they did in school each morning.**
- vi. Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled – **it was reported that there had been a successful renegotiation and the cuts in funding proposed by the Borough had been reduced, to be revised further in the future.**

- vii. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee – **it was reported that takings in the café had increased, due to the cutbacks in staffing, that the Parc had a deficit of £60,000, the triathlon planned for 2012 would not take place because of the Olympics, break-ins had been foiled by security but the polytunnels had been vandalised. A tannoy system was to be introduced to let people know when the Parc was closing, dog orders were nearly complete and there would be 3 enforcement officers who would be multi-functional further staff would be employed to deal with confrontation and that some would be operating on a commission basis.**
- viii. Tredegar Youth Café– **No report**
- ix. Blaenau Gwent CAB– **No report**
- x. Communities First Board – **the AGM was imminent.**
- xi. Tredegar Crime Prevention Panel– **No report**
- xii. Tredegar Business Forum – **it was noted that they were arranging events for August and looking for suggestions for themes.**
- xiii. Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum– **No report**
- xiv. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum– **No report**
- xv. Blaenau Gwent HARPS Project – **No report**

Cllrs. B. Willis and H. Trollope declared an interest in the following items and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon – the Chair was taken over by Cllr. Cross

466) Planning:

a) To consider an Officer's Report – NONE RECEIVED

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2011/0131	Mr C Smith 43 Glanhwy Street, Tredegar	Proposed single storey extension and single storey garage
NO OBJECTIONS		
2011/0141	Mr Pritchard 9 Scwrfa Road, Tredegar	Storm porch to front elevation.
NO OBJECTIONS		
2011/0142	Mr C Hind 6 Isfryn, Rhymney	New dwelling and garage, land adjacent to 1 Hughes Cottages, Merthyr Road, Tafarnaubach
NO OBJECTIONS		
2011/0118	Mr M Parker Parker Motors, Promenade Garage	Partial change of use for mobile food outlet, Parker Motors,
Council were minded to object as before on grounds of visual impact, aromas affecting future events at the Park and siting near the school detrimental to healthy eating policies.		

c) To consider other planning matters

2011/0085 Residential development (outline), Graham's Bus Depot, Graham's Yard, Tredegar – REFUSED 11.5.11

467) Matters of Local Interest or Concern

- 1) A Member raised a number of queries relating to the Woodfield Rd development
- a) the fact that during recent heavy rain it was noticed that only part of the rear wall has drainage holes to let the water out
 - b) was the original wall that was left safe
 - c) had the new part been tied in
 - d) plots 1 & 2 seemed to have been built in the wrong place
- It was agreed to contact Building Control and Planning at the Borough.

2) It was pointed out by a Member that many local green spaces had been handed to Tai Calon during the changeover. Questions were asked about the fate of these spaces should anything happen to Tai Calon. **It was agreed to put this question to the next meeting of the Joint Committee of Local Councils.**

3) A member of the public had called the office to recognise the excellent work being done for charity at the Weetmans Papershop, where they have an exchange library service with proceeds going to charity.

4) It was agreed that a letter of congratulations should be sent to Alun Davies AM who had recently been appointed as Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and European Programmes.

468) To consider the exclusion of the Press and public by virtue of the matters to be discussed under the provisions of the LGA 1972 Schedule 12a.

This was agreed

469) To receive the verbal recommendation of the Staffing Committee meeting of 18th May 2011

The recommendations of the Staffing Committee were agreed and approved unanimously.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

_____ **Chair**