TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Library, Tredegar on Wednesday 15th June at 6.30pm.

Present: **Councillor** **A. Cotton**
M. Cross
A. Tippings
G. Bowen-Knight
K. Hayden
J. Morgan
P. Prosser
H. Trollope

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

In the absence of Cllr. B. Willis who was attending the Walk for Life Presentation Evening, the Chair was taken by Cllr. A. Cotton.

29) Apologies were received from: Cllrs. B. Willis, T. Gregory, D. Howells, D. Rowberry, R. Thomas, S. Trollope (arrived later), G. Woolf, and H. Woolf.

30) Declarations of Interest
Members were reminded to make declarations of interest as and when they arose.

31) Grants: To consider, recommend and approve grants to sporting and cultural organisations.

There was a re-iteration by a Member that the grants to associations should be presented by the Mayor to them at the earliest opportunity.

Thanks were noted from the Hospice of the Valleys.

Members were reminded that since the last meeting had been the Annual Meeting, on this occasion grants would need to be both recommended and approved.

2167 (Tredegar) Air Training Corps – Request for a grant to help them purchase a canoe/kayak trailer to enable easier transportation of the equipment to various areas of water such as Parc Bryn Bach.
Previous – 2010/11 Oct'10 CQ No. 116 £200.00
A grant of £200 was both recommended and approved.

Peacehaven Tenants & Residents Association – Any funds received will be used towards the obtaining of a suitable community venue which they are still pursuing. Recently been made aware that there is no funding available from HARPS and they are still continuing to fund raise within the community through weekly lottery draws.
Previous – 2010/11 July'10 CQ No. 836 £200.00
A grant of £200 was both recommended and approved.

Bill Harry Court Tenants & Residents Association –To hire a coach to take residents on a day trip and lunch.
Previous – 2010/11 Oct'10 CQ No. 115 £200.00
A grant of £200 was both recommended and approved.

Cllrs Morgan and H. Trollope declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.
Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum – Request for help with the costs of their Annual Day School Event which will be at Bedwellty House. The grant will go towards publicity for the event and hire of guest speakers
Previous – 2010/11 Sept'10 CQ No. 095 £200.00
A grant of £200 was both recommended and approved.

Devils Martial Arts – Resubmitted with costs of new squad suits which on this occasion will be "Wales" suits.
Previous – 2010/11 Oct'10 CQ No. 112 £150.00
Deferred

Tredegar Gardening Club – Grant funding would be used for the group to visit gardens in the local area and to arrange talks by gardening specialist..
Previous – 2009/10 March'10 CQ No. 770 £200.00
A grant of £200 was both recommended and approved.

Heads of the Valleys Gateway Club – Requesting a grant to help cover the running/administration costs of the Club so that all the money from their fundraising activities go direct to the benefit of their members.
Previous – 2010/11 Sept'10 CQ No. 097 £200.00
A grant of £200 was both recommended and approved.

Churches & Chapels (s.137) to recommend and to approve grants to Churches and Chapels.
Vale Terrace Methodist Church – Enclosed with grant form is a quotation for the repair of vandalism to fascia boards, guttering and brackets.
Previous – 2010/11 Nov'10 CQ No. 139 £200.00
A grant of £200 was both recommended and approved.

32) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts paid in May 2011 and for payment in June 2011.
Bank reconciliations were also received.
a) The amount raised for the Walk for Life was commented on by the Leader who congratulated all involved for the excellent amount raised. It was agreed that a press release and photos of the Presentation be distributed. Past walkers were to be contacted in advance of the 2012 Walk and a database set up. It was further noted that Tredegar Town Council is the only Council that supports this cause in Blaenau Gwent.
b) Cost relating to cancellation of events by BGCBC to be calculated and reclaimed from the County Borough.
c) Zurich Insurance – it was agreed to continue insuring the artefacts until clarification from the Borough. Concerns were raised and noted relating to the security of pictures in the House.
d) It was agreed that a planting plan for the Clock should be formulated in January and quotations sought. Sponsorship to be chased up.
The Accounts having previously been examined by Members and the invoices and cheques reconciled were approved.

33) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Heritage Committee held on 18th May 2011.
The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

34) Matters arising not on the Agenda
Minute No 466. The following points were noted:

a) Waterford Crystal Vase – It was agreed that the original oak cabinet needed to be replaced as was.
b) Plans of where the artefacts were to be hung were requested, use of the Mayors Parlour highlighted.
c) Lack of storage and office space highlighted once again.
d) The Harcourt painting – its relocation to the Chamber.
e) Past Mayor Board – it was agreed to check the colours of the nameplates

35) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 18th May 2011.
The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

36) Matters arising not on the Agenda.

a) Minute No. 461 (3) It was confirmed in an update that the company were in liquidation.
b) Minute No. 465 (x) It was agreed to send a list of our delegates.

37) To receive the notes of a Meeting held between Officers of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and the Leader and Deputy Mayor on 23rd May 2011.
The notes were received.

38) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Events Committee of Council held on the 23rd May 2011.
The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

39) Matters arising not on the Agenda
There were none.

40) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on the 23rd May 2011.
The Minutes were received and approved as a true record.

41) Matters arising not on the Agenda
There were none.

42) Correspondence.
1) BGCBC (a) <u>Artefacts</u>
(i) N. Deufel - Confirming that the items taken to Bedwellty House today will be returned as the photographer as now rescheduled his visit and they

are unable to store the items at the House. Also confirms that the relocation of selected artefacts will proceed as planned on 13.6.11 morning with a meeting in the afternoon with a Town Council representative to discuss the Burma display. Requests that the latest version of the agreed display is amended to indicate which items are owned by TTC.
(ii) A. Tippings. Copy of email sent to Walter thanking him for confirming there is 24 hour security at Bedwellty House and that Nye's bust will be secured in a central room well hidden out of sight.
(iii) N. Deufel Re: Artefacts. Further to Alyson's email and Dave Watkins' conversation with Alyson it has now been agreed for the items to be stored in Nicole's Office at Bedwellty House until 13.6.11 as the centre room is still being accessed by the contractor.

Members expressed concern that the Bust had been moved and without prior consultation.

(b) N. Deufel Re: Band Concerts – only have a small PA system suitable for announcements and recommends sourcing our own for the concerts. It is permissible for a collection to be made at the first concert but requests in future that requests such as this and the use of the PA are specified on the Booking Form.

It had been noted at the "Preview" that the roof was leaking and this had been reported on the day.

(c) Mr T Griffin Re: Dog Control Orders Consultation. Consultation period is 24.5.11 to 20.6.11. Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act 2005 replaces the system of byelaws for the control of dogs and dog fouling. BGCBC are proposing to introduce 3 types of dog control orders – 1. The fouling of land by dogs Order, 2. The dogs exclusion Order, 3. The dogs on lead Order. Dogs will be excluded from schools, playgrounds and sports fields through the Borough plus dogs will have to be kept on leads on pathways through recreational grounds. Proposed location plans are available for viewing at Anvil Court and on BGCBC's website. There will be fixed penalty notices issued for £75 for the offences.

It was agreed to send a letter supporting the measures.

d) C.Rogers Re: Former Bus Depot Site, Woodfield Road, Name proposals for the residential development have been put forward for consideration.

RECEIVED

(e) Mr Evans Re: Beaufort Road, Sirhowy – Council will not consider introduction of major traffic calming measures as this is a principal highway linking Tredegar and Ebbw Vale. Police have recorded seven personal injury accidents along that stretch of road and only one of these was speed related. Limited budget available but they will look at slightly repositioning the existing flashing warning sign in order to improve its prominence however they are unable to consider a formal pedestrian crossing due to the limited budget.

Members expressed deep concern that financial matters had been put before safety.
Monitoring of the traffic on the Hill was being carried out – Clerk to seek more information.

(f) P. Gray Re: Conditions of roads in Tredegar. Formally responding to Councillors concerns raised at the Consultation with Town/Community

Centre two areas of footpath requiring reinstatement were found – 1). Councils meeting 19.5.11. During the recent full inspection of the Town Next to Library crossing point & 2). Outside "The Fryery" at the Circle. Both were as a result of frost damage and have now also been repaired in the original stone material. Utility companies have a site meeting with BGCBC prior to any work being doing and it is agreed in advance the form of permanent reinstatement material to be used. The only areas containing tarmac infill patches are the speed humps/pedestrian crossing points through Commercial Street and this is due to over the years they have begun to degrade to the point where it is no longer possible to make effective repairs but the Authority must ensure they are kept safe.

Members requested a site meeting with Highways.

(g) Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Partnership Board meeting Friday 15th July 2011 at ViTCC 10am, agenda/Minutes to follow. – Forwarded to Cllr Morgan

RECEIVED

(h) Re: Tredegar Old People's Welfare Committee. Cllr B Thomas is the representative. – RFO to check with bank if account still open.

RFO to action.

2) One Voice Wales

(a) Receipt for Membership renewal and form to be completed for the Council's representative at Area Meetings.

(b) Available training sessions for Module 8.

RECEIVED

3) Gwent Police

(a) Supt. M Warrender - Thank you for letter raising a number of concerns discussed in the recent Council meeting. The letter has been passed onto Insp. Tony Green who is responsible for the policing of Tredegar.- Copied for all Members.

(b) Inspt Green - Response to matters raised at the recent Council meeting. Copied for all Members.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to meet with Insp. Green at the Ordinary Meeting and to agenda questions at the Civic Meeting.

4) <u>Armed Forces Day</u>

(i) J. Kivell, Parc Bryn Bach. – Needs to meet asap to discuss safety plan and would like to speak to the helicopter co-ordinator.

(ii) Friends of Deighton Primary - Year 6 will be producing some art pieces for display at AFD again this year and will deliver anytime from week commencing 13th June 2011. Also enclosed a £20.00 donation for the H4H Appeal.

(iii) N. Chatwin – Unable to offer any Cardiff Careers Office staff for the they plan the schedule of events early in the year so commitments had already been made. Will forward our details to HMS Cambria (in Barry) to see if they are able to offer support to our AFD. Wishes good luck with the day. Plus a copy of email sent to HMS CAMBRIA asking if they can offer any support to our AFD.

(iv) K Morley FS - Risk Assessment being used as a basis to build on by

the flight crew of the helicopter.
(v) D. Brill-Williams, Pen-y-Cwm School. Unfortunately due to AFD event being on a Saturday and as their children have disabilities which require staff support they are unable to participate in the evening.

RECEIVED and noted.

5) Tredegar Communities First Central & West
Notice of AGM of Partnership Board of Communities First Central & West and Sirhowy, Tuesday 14th June 2011 at 4.30pm VITCC, Tredegar Business Park.

RECEIVED. It was noted that involvement from businesses and the voluntary sector was lacking.

6) Brynmawr Town Council
New Mayor Cllr B. Sutton & Deputy Mayor John Hopkins.

RECEIVED – congratulations to be sent.

7) Abergavenny Borough Band
(i) Disappointment at cancelling their concert. Requests the £300 as cancellation fee and also wants clarification on whether Tredegar Town Band's fee was going to be £700 as they had seen in the Argus that Council were claiming to be £1000 down for the cancelled concerts.
(ii) Thanks for explaining additional costs of the cancelled events and will send the cancellation invoice through to us.

RECEIVED. It was noted that the explanations had been made

8) Mr P. Morgan Jones Request to consider commemoration of two Tredegar men, Rhys Davies and Sir Daniel Gooch. Rhys Davies designed and built Tredegar Ironworks at Richmond, Virginia – suggests a plaque at the Railway Tavern as his home "Sirhowy House" forms part of this building. Sir Daniel Gooch was one of the foremost engineers of his day with numerous achievements such as the advanced locomotive designs for Brunel's Great Western Railway. Suggests maybe an appropriate commemoration of these men can be arranged for Bedwellty House.

RECEIVED – it was agreed to forward to Heritage.

9) Penn Pharma Unable to offer sponsorship for the Clock Flowerbeds this year as all their budget as been committed already.

RECEIVED

10) R. Buck Please everyone is happy with the Orvault gift, hopes photos of the presentation will be in the local press for all those volunteers involved to see the "fruits of their ideas becoming real and significant". Also requests some photos for her own portfolio.

It was agreed to contact the Twinning Association to see if there were any and to place on the Council website.

11) Slingshot Street Band Band have now found a new Bandmaster and are ready to move back into events, asking us to bear them in mind for any future events we hold and supplies new contact details – Forwarded email to N. Deufel & B.Cartwright as info.

RECEIVED

12) Brecon Beacons National Park

(a) Consultation Summary for the Brecon Beacons National Park Management Plan 2010-2015

(b) Sustainable Development Fund Grants Panel Representatives wanted. Three places available from the east, west and central area of the Park with appointment from September 2011 to March 2013. Nominations are for 1 main representative and 1 substitute representative, nomination form to be returned by Friday 29th July 2011.

RECEIVED Interested Members to contact.

13) SLCC Notice of two new publications – "The Parish Councillor's Guide, 20th Edition" members price £12.75 and "The Councillor" members price £13.50.

RECEIVED it was agreed to purchase if necessary.

14) Public Catalogue Foundation

(a) Request to whether we wish to have our paintings catalogued and included on the "Your Paintings" website which will be going live 23.6.11

(b) Link to new website.

RECEIVED. This was agreed.

15) Gavo Blaenau Gwent Voluntary Sector Forum Tuesday 21st June 2011 at 10.30am Gwent Wildlife Trust, Education Building, Ebbw Vale (The Works).

RECEIVED

16) Blachere Eco catalogue and price list.

RECEIVED forward to Events – an urgent meeting to be called to discuss.

17) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum

Journal Issue number 9, June 2011.

RECEIVED

18) Communicorp Local Councils Update June 2011 Issue 140 – copied for Members.

RECEIVED

43) PUBLICATIONS

Ashwood Product recommendations; BGCBC Road works report week ending 27.5.11; BGCBC Road works report week ending 3.6.11; Ville D'Orvault Bordereau d'envoi April 2011; BGCBC Road works report week ending 10.6.11

AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS

44) AGENDA

B.G. Heritage Forum Thursday 26th May 2011 at 9.30am Tredegar Library; Annual Meeting of Council Thursday 26th May 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Meeting Wednesday 1st June 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Committee Wednesday 1st June 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Social Care & Inclusion Scrutiny Committee Monday 6th June 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Committee Wednesday 1st June 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale – Report for Item 4.03; Licensing Committee Tuesday 7th June 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 7th June 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 7th June 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre; Special Meeting of Planning Committee on Tuesday 14th June 2011 at 11am on site Land adjacent to Dorian House, Tynewydd, Nantybwch – copied to all Sirhowy Members; Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee Monday 13th June 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Meeting Thursday 16th June 2011 at 9.30am Tredegar Library; Aneurin Bevan Community Health Blaenau Gwent Area Committee Meeting Wednesday 22nd June 2011 at 5.30pm Llanhilleth Miners Institute; Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee Monday 13th June 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.

AVAILABLE FOR ALL MEMBERS

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

i. Bedwellty Park Management Board- **After a long wait for Officers there was much concern and dismay with the news that the House would not be ready for the opening in June. The decision to change to a Preview day had not been put to the Board. Many concerns were raised again regarding the membership of the Board, it was noted that there would be an Annual Meeting in September. Problems regarding access around the Block of Coal were highlighted and Board members of Town Council were to highlight.**
ii. Joint Committee of Local Councils – **there was a strong feeling that the Committee was more active, the Planning Officer had recently offered to supply printers which was impractical due to space restrictions and consumable costs**
iii. Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales – **No Report**
iv. Tredegar Twinning - **No Report but Members queried whether their Mayor had ever visited Tredegar.**
v. School Governing Bodies **– Deighton – it was reported that groups of children had recorded stories via Voice Radio on events and highlights of the Town and that these were available to purchase.**
vi. Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled – **recent news articles were highlighted and thanks had been given to the Council for their recent help regarding funding.**
vii. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee - **No Report**
viii. Tredegar Youth Café - **No Report (it was brought to Members attention that former Councillor Andrea Williams had left the Café for GAVO)**
ix. Blaenau Gwent CAB **- No Report**
x. Communities First Board – **it was noted that there was a shortage of businesses and members from the voluntary sector. Saron Chapel had**

joined and the Chair (Jane Hughes) and Vice Chair (Mandy Moore) had been re-elected.

xi. Tredegar Crime Prevention Panel - **No Report but it was noted that the Crime Prevention Trailer would be at AFD.**

xii. Tredegar Business Forum - **No Report**

xiii. Blaenau Gwent Regeneration Forum **– It was agreed that Cllr. Morgan would put forward queries previously detailed to Council.**

xiv. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum - **No Report**

xv. Blaenau Gwent HARPS Project - **No Report**

It was agreed that the newly former Heritage Steering Committee should be added as number xvi. Until the Committee is fully set up it was agreed that the Clerk should support the secretariat.

Cllr. S. Trollope joined the Meeting at 8.35

46) Planning:

a) To consider an Officer's Report - the report was received and an update on Appeal Ref 515355, Mr. Khan, Tredegar Co Shop was requested.

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2011/0156	Mrs H McPherson Ty Coed, Sycamore Drive, Rassau, Ebbw Vale	Change of use from B1 to D1 to allow provision of childcare day nursery and erection of security fence to create safe external play area, Units J & K Crown Business Park.

NO OBJECTIONS

2011/0166	Mr. Aneurin Williams 67 Church Street	Change of use dwelling to respite care home

NO OBJECTIONS

c) To consider other planning matters

i) It was noted that a site meeting had been held at Ty Newydd. Members were reminded of the protocol for such visits. There were still ongoing issues.

ii) Local Plan – the deadline was approaching and questions regarding land use provision in Trefil for windfarms, junction off the Heads of the Valley for Tafarnaubach Ind. Est, land use in shale areas (eg Ystrad Deri bungalows)

47) Matters of Local Interest or Concern

1) It was noted that Mr Stephen Knapik had been awarded an MBE

2) It was also noted that Mr. Andrew Rees had competed in the Marathon Des Sables.

It was agreed that letter of congratulation should go out to both.

48) 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.

49) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting of 18th May 2011. The minutes were received and approved unanimously.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9pm.

_____ Chair