TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Civic Committee Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, Bedwellty House on Wednesday 7th September 2011 at 6.30 p.m.

Present: **Councillors** **B Willis**
A Tippings,
M Cross,
G. Bowen-Knight
K. Hayden
D. Howells
P. Prosser
D. Rowberry
R. Thomas
S. Trollope
H Trollope
G. Woolf
H. Woolf

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

90) Apologies: Cllrs A. Cotton, T. Gregory, J. Morgan and G. Rowberry.

91) To receive applications for Cultural/Sporting Grants
Thanks from Tredegar Youth Café, Shelter Cymru, Tredegar Athletic Football Club and Vale Terrace Methodist Church were noted

Sling Shot Street Band – A grant of £200 was agreed
North Gwent Table Tennis Centre – A grant of £150 was agreed
Bedwellty Park Bowling Club – A grant of £150 was agreed
Tredegar Business Forum – A grant of £200 was agreed
Victim Support – A grant of £200 was agreed unanimously, with Members commenting on the excellent service that some members of the local community had received.

Previous grants submitted but queried:-
Devils Martial Arts – The information received from One Voice Wales relating to both groups was noted, however it was agreed that this group be approached to re-submit the grant request for other purposes and that the Aneurin Bevan Health Board Portage Service be invited to meet with the Civic Sub-Committee of Council.

To receive and consider applications for Grants to Churches & Chapels (S.137)
Trinity Spiritual Church – A grant for £200 was agreed.

Cllrs Willis and Trollope declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

92) Planning

a) To consider an Officer's Report

2011/0166 Change of use of dwelling to respite care home, 67 Church Street – Recommending Refusal.
2011/0167 Revised staff car park and vehicle access and construction of new manufacturing building, Penn Pharmaceuticals Unit 23/24 Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate – Recommending to be Granted with planning conditions.
2011/0193 To install security roller shutter screens to 3 west elevation windows, Former Citizens Advice Bureau, Queen Victoria Street – Recommending Refusal.
2011/0189 Residential Development (3 houses) Reserved Matters Glyn Baptist Chapel, Glyn Terrace – Recommending Reserved Matters be Approved.
2011/0191 Relocating of existing garden shed, 2 Shop Row, Trefil – Recommending to be Granted.*Nb It was noted that there was to be a site meeting and that Members were asked to speak against this application due to its location.*
2011/0211 Change of use from general industrial to a non-residential education & training centre, Unit 19 Tafarnaubach Ind. Est. – Recommending to be Granted.

Appeals received and determined

C/2010/0280 Variation of condition to allow an increase of number of children from 16 to 30, Tiggywinkles Nursery, Stonelodge, Merthyr Road – Appeal dismissed.
Appeal 515355 Urgent works notice to listed building, Tredegar Co. Shop, Shop Row – JR's on hold

List of Delegated items determined between:-
(a) 24th June 2011 and 28th July 2011.

2011/0007 Proposed dwelling plot (outline), land adjoining Tafarn Ty Uchaf, Trefil Road, Trefil - Approved.
2011/0057 Change of use with external alterations from light industrial (B1/B8) to garden Centre, Unit E Crown Business Park, Dukestown – Approved
2011/0133 Single storey rear extension to main house, 3 Park Place – Approved
2011/0141 Storm porch to front elevation, 9 Scwrfa Road – Approved
2011/0143 New dwelling and garage (outline), land adjacent to 1 Hughes Cottage, Merthyr Road – Approved
2011/0156 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 – Approved
2011/0168 Prior notification of proposed demolition, Cartref Aneurin Bevan, Ashvale – Approved
(a) 29th July 2011 and 18th August 2011.
2011/0199 Double storey extension to rear, 17 Arthur Street - Approved.
2011/0207 Retention of detached garage, 21 Rhyd Terrace – Approved.
2011/0176 CCTV cameras on external walls of Bedwellty House – Approved.

The above items were all received.

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal

The following applications had been received during recess and copies to each relevant Ward Member.

2011/0220	Mr P Schofield 34 York Terrace, Tredegar	Single storey side extension for use as a utility area, 6 Rhymney Row, Trefil

Returned No Objections received.

Cllr Malcolm Cross declared an interest.

2011/0225	Mr I Hulbert Longleat, Twyn Star.	Single storey extension to rear elevation to include three bedrooms, Longleat Twyn Star

Returned No Objections received.

2011/0245	Mr B Matthews 15 Alexander Place, Rhymney	Retention of stable block of 52.3m^2 on small holding near Cefn Golau, Tredegar

Returned No Objections received.

2011/0246	Mr A Evans BGCBC, Baldwin House Ebbw Vale	Proposed construction of new shared route (forming part of National Cycle Network Route 46), land South of A465 between Crown Business Park and Rassau Road

Returned No Objections received.

The following planning applications were received as normal

2011/0201	Mr M Skinner Rhyd House Tredegar	Amended planning application for Demolition of existing ground floor extension and construction of proposed double storey extension *and proposed car port to replace existing shed (amendment in italics)* at 22 James Street

NO OBJECTIONS

2011/0255	Mr K Miller 180 King Street Brynmawr (Victoria Garden Centre)	Alterations and extensions to garden centre to create covered storage/display area and parking, Unit E Crown Business Park

NO OBJECTIONS

2011/0263	Penn Pharmaceutical 23/24 Tafarnaubach Ind. Estate	Revised staff car park and vehicle access to enable the construction of an additional manufacturing building, Units 23/24 Tafarnaubach Ind. Estate

NO OBJECTIONS

c) To consider other planning matters and the reinstatement of the Planning Committee.
C/2011/0189 Residential development (3 houses) Glyn Baptist Chapel, Glyn Terrace, Tredegar – Granted 11.8.11

i) It was noted by a Member of the Heritage Trust that the Grove, which had been the residence of Dr. Davies, was in a state of rapid decline and it was agreed to write to the Borough's Estates Office copied to the Heritage Officer to fully support any future use of the building.
ii) It was agreed to reinstate the Planning Committee, but not to include any Borough Members.

93) To receive a verbal report of the Events Committee Meeting held prior to this and to call on Members to Steward events as detailed.
A verbal report of the Events Committee meeting was given and volunteers put themselves forward. (full Minutes see p51 and 52)

94) Correspondence

1) BGCBC (a) Consultation with Town/Community Councils Premeeting Thursday 15.9.11 at 2pm Committee Room 3 & Meeting follows at 2.30pm in Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale

Received

(b) S. Smith Re: Planning Consultations with Town/Community Councils. Unable to return to paper versions of planning applications. However they have secured some funding from WAG which enables them to make one off purchases of printers for each T. Council but not for the associated on going costs of usage. Would this be of some assistance to each Town Council?

Received. It was again noted by Members that it was the size of the incoming e-mails that was causing the problem

(c) A. Evans, Engineering Services & Transportation Strategy Manager. Re: Nantybwch Footway – letter from Council has been copied to Carillion and he will ensure that it is discussed at progress meetings with the contractor.

Received. It was noted that the presentation by Carillion had stated that no money had been incorporated into the scheme for a footpath. Members again stated the dangers to parents and children using the path to Bryn Bach Primary School and it was agreed to write to Mr. Evans thanking him for his assurances and seeking a site meeting at the garage at 8.45 am with the Head Teacher, Mr. Martin Price and Ms. Sylvia Lindoe Director of Education.

(d) <u>Bedwellty House & Park</u>
(i) Reply from L. Phillips to Cllr Trollope Re: Querying CCTV, litter and gates.
(ii) C. Engel Re: Incident on 29.6.11. Vehicle and driver have been identified as part of the L.A.M.S. team and gives assurance that the matter will be investigated fully (NO UPDATE RECEIVED TO DATE)
(iii) Copy of letter sent on behalf of Tredegar Ward Members complaining about the number of unsupervised children running around the Park on 19.7.11, climbing over the Cenotaph, Bandstand, kitchen walled gardens; ornamental fountain and riding scooters on the tennis courts.
(iv) D. John Re: Bandstand & War Memorial – Bandstand is the responsibility of BGCBC but the War Memorial is the responsibility of Town Council.

All Received. (i and iii) Members noted that the security of the Park was a key issue that the Management Board would need to address. A firm "joined up" approach by police and security was required and it was agreed to write to Insp. Green to ask him to target the Park. (iv) It was noted that a company had been approached for costings for refurbishment and also an annual maintenance costing. It was agreed to write to the Heritage Officer, now also the War Memorial Officer, seeking grants towards the refurbishment works, bearing in mind its Listed status. It was also agreed to ask why the Memorial which had featured in the original bids for funding for the restoration works had been taken out.

(e) LDP 2006-2021: Consultation on Site Allocation Presentations. An Alternative Site Register has now been prepared, consultation for 6 weeks from 21.7.11 to 1.9.11.

Received. It was noted that the representations had been made on behalf of the Town Council and not as individuals.

(f) SNAP! Biodiversity of Blaenau Gwent Photographic Competition 2011. Leaflets & Poster. Closing date 14.10.11

Received.

(g) List of Blaenau Gwent in Bloom 2011 Winners.

Received. It was agreed to write and congratulate the winners.

Cllrs. H. Trollope, B. Willis, D. Rowberry and K. Hayden declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

(h) (i) List of Licensing Applications week ending 15.7.11
(ii) List of Licensing Applications week ending 22.7.11
(iii) List of Licensing Applications week ending 5.8.11
(iv) List of Licensing Applications week ending 19.8.11

Received.

2) One Voice Wales

(a) Queens Diamond Jubilee Guide to taking part in the Beacons Celebrations on 4.6.12.

Received. It was agreed to contact the ATC and Scouts to seek their involvement.

(b) Free Principles into Practice events during September. Aim of the events is to equip practitioners with the knowledge and skills needed to design and deliver services that encourage good quality, consistent engagement activity with users and the general public.

Received.

(c) Web link to new publication entitled "Being a Councillor 2012" – document & link added to TTC website.

Received. Available to all Members

(d) Reminder to take part in the survey Gwent Police Authority "How would you spend it" Summer 2011.(Copied to Cllr. Thomas)

Received.

(e) Autumn Training Programme.

Received. Available for all Members

3) SLCC

(a) Glamorgan & West Wales branches meeting 21.9.11 at Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Swansea 10am to 4pm, £40 members/£60 non-members.

Received. It was agreed for the Clerk to attend.

(b) Notice of AGM Saturday 15th October 2011 at 2.15pm in Reading.

Received.

4) JCLC (a) Brynmawr Town Council - Letter to Chair of JCLC (Cllr. Cross) and Tredegar Town Council with regards to the misuse of the Council Chambers by outside bodies.

Received. To be put forward to the Consultation Meeting.

(b) Response from Alwyn Holland regarding items raised by JCLC and also offer of date to sign the Charter of Wednesday 5th October at 12.30 pm. Requesting 3 representatives.

Received. It was agreed that the Clerk and three Members attend. The Leader sent his apologies because he would be on holiday.

5) Help for Heroes Thank you for the money raised at this year's Armed Forces Day. This money will be used to establish a Recovery Capability that will not just ensure that those who leave get jobs buts that they have access to a comprehensive range of support, a "one stop welfare shop" for our wounded and their families.

Received.

6) Hospice of the Valleys

(a) Invite to Clerk to attend the AGM on Thursday 15th September 2011 at 7pm in the Council Chamber Ebbw Vale.

Received.

(b) Dusky Valleys Bike ride was cancelled due to lack of entries, asking whether we would like the grant cheque returned or if they could use this towards the costs of the next events – Midnight Walk in October and Annual Santa run and Christmas Fair.

Received. It was agreed unanimously that the grant be used for the Annual Santa run held at Parc Bryn Bach.

7) Horeb & Sardis Chapel

Invite to all Members to attend the Harvest Thanksgiving and Flower Festival being held from 2nd to 4th October 2011 at Horeb Chapel, Trefil. Floral displays depicting Biblical verses on the theme of Light are available to sponsor at £25 each and collections of tinned food/toiletries/medical supplies are being collected and will be distributed in Romania.

Received. It was agreed unanimously to sponsor a floral display in the sum of £25 as in previous years and to encourage Members to make donations to this worthy cause,

8) Tredegar Comprehensive School

Request from the Head of Music for raffle prize contributions for a fund raising concert on 7.9.11 (tonight – Cllr Morgan attending) in aid of Matt Sandercock, a young talented 16 year old who has recently been diagnosed with Leukaemia.

Received. It was noted that Cllr. Morgan was attending and that the Town Council actively support any future event.

9) Spinal Injuries Association

Raffle tickets, closing date 23.12.11 and draw on 6.1.12.

Received. Members to support on individual basis.

10) Ville D'Orvault Thank you for the sculpture. The families of Orvault enjoyed the recent visit of families from Tredegar.

Received. To be placed on web site.

11) HSBC Confirmation that Tredegar Old Peoples Welfare Committee account has now been closed and enclosed a cheque for £49.75 final balance.

Received. It was agreed unanimously that this some be put to the Mayors Appeal.

12) A. Jones Letter of thanks to Councillors for sponsorship her tandem skydive in aid of the National Autistic Society.

Received. And noted.

13) P. Morgan Jones Re-submitting of original letter sent in asking for name plaques in Tredegar to honour Rhys Davies & Daniel Gooch. Details of commemorative plaque schemes available.

Received. It was agreed to forward to the Tredegar Heritage Trust.

14) Fr. John Davis Request to support a petition to the Home Office following metal thefts from both his Churches with link http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/406

Received. Members to support on an individual basis.

15) J. Wilcox Additional films about Tredegar released on You Tube – "The Chartists, Mystery of the Severed Leg" and memories of nurses from St James' Hospital from 60s & 70s.

Received. It was agreed to put the link on the Town Council web-site and to investigate the possibility of a Council site on youtube.

16) Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Club

New project starting in Blaenau Gwent 6.9.11 and requesting circulation of the enclosed information to relevant/potential participants. Project will launch at Ebbw Vale Institute, runs for 3 hours per week for 9 months & will engage 25 people over that period. Its free of charge and aims to work with people to build skills and confidence required for employment.

Received. It was agreed to forward details to Kidz R'Us and the Youth Café.

17) GAVO (a) Introduction from Andrea Williams, newly appointed Community Economic Development Officer, who is delivering the Enterprising Communities Project in Blaenau Gwent which aims to assist voluntary/community groups to become self sustaining.

Received and noted. It was agreed to write to Ms. Williams and congratulate he on her new appointment.

(b) Nominate a volunteer for an award, deadline 9.9.11.

Received. It was agreed to nominate Mr. Malcolm Higgs for the "Fundraising Volunteer" in recognition of the work that he has done for the Mayors Appeal via the Annual Quiz Wizards Competition.

18) ICO Confirmation of entry renewal.

Received and noted.

19) Up coming event notices:-

(i) Aneurin Bevan Health Board.Invite to attend Health Fair & AGM at Caerphilly County Borough Council on Tuesday 20.9.11 from 5pm to 7pm.

(i) Invite and poster for The Bible Exhibition being held Monday 12th September 2011 to Thursday 23rd September 2011 at The Gospel Hall, Poplar Road. Open 10.30am-8pm Mon/Tues/Wed/Fri, 10.30am-6pm Thurs & 10.30am-4.30pm
Saturday.

(iii) Christians Together Question Time Event on Monday 26th September 2011 at 7pm Siloh Uniting Church.

(iv) New family fun event every Sunday from 4pm to 4.45pm at St Georges Church starting Sunday 11th September 2011. Lively activities, great games and free refreshment – poster in our notice board.

(v) New production "Gary Grace's" Friday 30th September 2011 at 7.30pm, Little Theatre, Tredegar. Tickets £10 or £12 Balcony, Contact Tel: 01495 711527/07534 975298

(vi) Alzheimer's Society Memory Walk being held in Cardiff on Sunday 18th September 2011, registration at Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama 9.30am to 11.45am with actual walk starting at 11.30am. Post walk entertainment starts at 12.30pm until 2.45pm.

ALL ABOVE RECEIVED AND NOTED OR DISPLAYED.

20) Powys County Council

Details of public consultation running from 29th July 2011 to 2nd September 2011 on the Council's proposals on the assessment of the emerging Powys LDP against strategic environmental objectives throughout its preparation.

Received and noted

21) Royal Horticultural Society

RHS Britain in Bloom is the UK's largest community driven environmental campaign. The campaign helps local authorities to improve public spaces with the support of community volunteers.

Received and noted.

95) PUBLICATIONS

Sutcliffe Play Leaflet on play spaces for communities and parishes; BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 29.7.11; Ashwood New best sellers leaflet; Ville D'Orvault Press cuttings June 2011; BGCBC Road works report week ending 5.8.11; BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 12.8.11; Connect Summer 2011 magazine; BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 26.8.11; BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 2.9.11; BGCBC, Roadworks report week ending 9.9.11; Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report to be published by 31st December 2011. Any comments on the report must be received by 3rd October 2011; Communicorp Local Councils Update August 2011 Issue 142; Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Management Plan 2010-2015 in brief and Priority Actions.

96) AGENDA

Environment Scrutiny Committee Thursday 28th July 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Regeneration & Housing Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 27th July 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Crime & Disorder & Safer Communities Scrutiny Committee Monday 19th September 2011 at 2pm is **RESCHEDULED** to Tuesday 20th September 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Extra Ordinary Meeting of Council Thursday 25th August 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Meeting Thursday 18th August 2011 at 9.30am Tredegar Library; Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council meeting on Wednesday 24th August 2011 at 5.30pm Raglan House, Llantarnam Business Park, Cwmbran; Extra Ordinary Meeting of Council Thursday 25th August 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Finance, Improvement & Performance Scrutiny Committee Monday 26th September 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Planning Committee site meeting on Wednesday 7th September 2011 at 11am, 67 Church Street; Executive Committee Thursday 1st September 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Licensing Committee Tuesday 6th September 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Finance Improvement and Performance Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 6th September 2011 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Social Care & Inclusion Scrutiny Committee Monday 5th September 2011 at 3pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Meeting on Thursday 22nd September 2011 at 9.30am at Tredegar Library; Education & Leisure Scrutiny Committee Thursday 8th September 2011 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.

97) Matters concerning Bedwellty House and Park

a) It was noted by Members that 26th November – 4th December was National Tree Week and that this might be an opportunity to recognise certain individuals by planting within the Park.
b) The outstanding bid for a pavilion for the Bowls area in the Park was highlighted as was the future use of the top toilets. It was felt that that toilets in this area would benefit all those using the children's play area.
c) The Leader brought to attention of the Members a recent visit to the Monmouthshire Bowling Association and that the Secretary was a local man Mr. Terry Hopkins. Mr. Hopkins had detailed the history of the Cup which was donated by Lord Tredegar and presented annually. He had requested that the Cup, of quite some value, be displayed in Bedwellty House. This was agreed, checks to be made regarding insurance, supply of a cabinet and seeking agreement of House Management.
d) It was also noted that the Mayoral Boards needed to be updated and that some caps were missing off screws. Members also noted that the sides of the Boards had pain on them which needed to be removed – Heritage Officer to be contacted.

98) Nominations for Civic Awards:

A number of names were put forward for Civic Awards following long service or the support of community organisations. Following discussion it was agreed to put forward: a) Lyn Morgan-long standing stalwart of the Central Baptist Church b) Beryl Bennett-active in Sirhowy Senior Citizens for over 40 years c) Terry Hopkins-Sirhowy born Secretary of the Monmouthshire Bowls Association and future President of the Association, a strong supporter and promoter of the Town and Town Council throughout Wales d) Ann Ingram-Long serving Secretary of Peacehaven TARA, for her work with the Thespians and Communities First and as a voice and advocate for older people e) Laurie Marsh- played Under 18's football for Wales f) Gerald Phillips-linesman for over 35 years for many teams g) Mark Colbourne local Medal winning Paracyclist h) the Evans family, Meryl, Glyn, Jane and Michael after 70 years at Harcourt Terrace Chapel looked forward to the move to Vale

Terrace i) Len and Joy Kisby of Vale Terrace for their support j) Arthur Summerfield-for his contribution to the life of Tredegar.

99) Matters of Local Interest and concern

1) A Member highlighted recent incidents of burglary and poor response from the local police and raised awareness of a website which detailed crimes in the various areas of town www.police.uk this would allow access to "Crime Maps" which gave a detailed break down of crimes by postcode areas. All Members were urged to visit this site.

2) A Member had received a request from the Otters for Town Council support in its nomination of Derek Brown for an OBE.

3) A Member of the Bedwellty Park Ladies Bowls Team had requested Town Council support for the Pavilion. It was noted by Members that the changing rooms had been demolished because of an asbestos concern and that funding of a replacement had been lost to the Garden Festival in Cwm.

4) A Member suggested the re-painting of the Town Council portacabin at the Recreation Ground both as advertisement for the Town Council and also as a community art project.

100) 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 unanimously

101) To receive the tenders for the Christmas Lighting and to agree a supplier.

The tenders, five in number, were received by the Members. It was agreed that due to the complexity of this matter and the varied designs and quotations supplied that this be forwarded to a Joint Meeting of the Finance and Events Committees to be held the following Wednesday – this was agreed by all.

There being no other business the meeting closed.

_____ Chair.