TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at Bedwellty House on Thursday 26th May 2011 at 6pm

Present: Councillor H. Trollope
M. Cross
A. Tippings
B. Willis
G. Bowen-Knight
K. Hayden
S. Trollope
A. Cotton
M. O'Sullivan
D. Rowberry
R. Thomas
H. Woolf
D. Howells
J. Morgan
P. Prosser

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

Also Present: Invited guests.

The Mayor welcomed Members, guests and Alun Davies AM to the refurbished Chambers of Tredegar Town Council.

1) Apologies: Cllrs. G. Woolf, G. Rowberry, T. Gregory and N. Smith MP

2) Thanks and Appreciation by Cllr. H. Trollope, Mayor 2010 – 2011.
The Mayor began by apologising in case he omitted anyone from his thanks. He offered a word of advice to the incoming Mayor, to be his own man and to be truthful. He then thanked his sister Jean who had served as his consort. He thanked and his wife Sharon and Jean's partner Stan as well as Cllr. Willis for acting as drivers throughout the year. He extended his thanks to Mrs. Annette Jones for her work on his blog. He went on to thank Cllr. Cross for his words of wisdom and the golf event he had set up which was outstanding, Cllr. Morgan for the "Battle of the Bands" event and Cllr. Tippings for putting up with him.
He highlighted the highs and lows of his time in office – the lows, the loss of Alan Fox one of the staunchest Members of the Town Council - and the highs – the Memorial events for Flight T2520 and Armed Forces Day which was outstanding. He'd had the pleasure of attending the Otters twice. His Appeal, for the Hospice of the Valleys had raised over £4400.
In response the Leader of Council said that he would be a hard act to follow, that he had overcome personal handicaps and led from the front. At the end of what was a year long family effort he thanked him for his efforts and said that the Council had gone from strength to strength as a result of his work – and it would only get better.

3) To Elect a Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2012.
Cllr. B. Willis was nominated by Cllr. D. Howells and seconded by Cllr. S. Trollope. No other nomination were received and Cllr. Bernard Willis was unanimously voted as Mayor to serve until 2012.

The Chain of Office was transferred.

4) Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the incoming Mayor.
Having read and signed the declaration Cllr. B. Willis was installed as Mayor.

5) To receive any communication the Mayor may wish to lay before Council.
Cllr. Willis promised to carry out the position with dignity and honour and had realised that after shadowing Cllr. H. Trollope, it was hard work promoting the Town but was confident that he had a good team behind him. There was no better leadership than from Cllrs. Cross and Tippings. He thanked his daughter Kym for being his consort and was sure that she would support him in every way. He also thanked the staff at Bedwellty House and Officers of the Borough for the use of the Council Chambers. He announced that his charity for the year would be the Alzheimers Society and gave details of the numbers of people affected by the illness.

6) To Elect a Deputy Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2012.
Cllr. H. Woolf proposed Cllr. Andrew Cotton and this was seconded by Cllr. Hayden, there being no other nominations Cllr. Cotton was unanimously voted as Deputy Mayor to serve until 2012.

7) To Elect a Member as Leader of Council until the Annual Meeting of Council 2012.
Cllr. H. Trollope proposed Cllr. Cross who had led the Council through difficult times. This was seconded by Cllr. O'Sullivan who said that he had done an excellent job not only in Tredegar but in his dealings with the JCLC, Borough and One Voice Wales.
There being no other nominations Cllr. Cross was unanimously returned as Leader.

8) To Elect a Member as Deputy Leader of Council until the Annual Meeting of Council 2012.
Cllr. D. Rowberry proposed Cllr. Tippings and this was seconded by Cllr. Prosser. There being no other nominations Cllr. Tippings was unanimously returned as Deputy Leader.

9) To approve that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leader and Deputy Leader are ex-officio members of all Council Committees and sub-committees with voting rights.
This was agreed unanimously.

10) To receive and confirm the Standing Orders of Tredegar Town Council.
This was agreed unanimously.

11) To receive and confirm the Financial Regulations of Tredegar Town Council.
This was agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

12) To appoint Barclays Bank plc as the Council's Bankers (existing)
This was agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

13) To Authorise the Mayor and the Leader of Council with the Clerk and RFO to sign cheques on behalf of Tredegar Town Council
This was agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

14) To consider any Urgent correspondence
There was none

15) To consider any Urgent Planning Applications
There was none

16) To set the Mayor's Allowance (£1050) and to authorise payment of the allowance
This was agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

17) To appoint a Civic Committee (all Members of Council)
Agreed unanimously.

18) To appoint a Performance Review Committee to meet quarterly (all Members of Council)
Agreed unanimously.

19) To Confirm the following sub-committees and to appoint Members to serve on them until the Annual Meeting of Council 2012 [Please note the names and functions of these committees may be changed and some may be amalgamated and new committees set up]

a. **Civic Sub-committee**

Cllrs. M. Cross – Leader (Chair)
A. E. Tippings – Dep. Leader
B. Willis– Mayor
A. Cotton – Dep. Mayor
R. W. Thomas
D. Rowberry
D. Howells
H. Trollope

b. **Events Sub-Committee**

Cllrs. M. Cross – Leader
A. E. Tippings – Dep. Leader
B. Willis– Mayor
A. Cotton– Dep. Mayor (Chair)
G. Rowberry
H. Trollope
T. Gregory
H. Woolf

c. Heritage Sub-Committee (encompassing Bedwellty House and Park, the Assembly Room Picture Gallery, Tredegar War Memorials and Tredegar Town Clock) With plenary powers up to £500.

Cllrs. M. Cross – Leader
A. E. Tippings – Dep. Leader (Chair)
B. Willis – Mayor
A. Cotton – Dep. Mayor
J. Morgan
D. Howells
S. Trollope
D. Rowberry
P. Prosser
K. Hayden

d. Finance & Staffing Sub-committee

Cllrs. M. Cross – Leader
A. E. Tippings – Dep. Leader
B. Willis – Mayor
A. Cotton – Dep. Mayor
G. D. Woolf
D. Rowberry
D. Howells
H. Trollope (Chair)
H. Woolf

e. Appeals Committee

Cllrs. K. Hayden
M. O'Sullivan (Chair)
P. Prosser
G. Bowen-Knight
Vacancy
T. Gregory
G. Rowberry
S. Trollope
J. Morgan
R. Thomas

f. Policy Sub-Committee- All Members of Council

Agreed unanimously – Chair the Mayor

g. Community, Youth and International Sub-committee

Cllrs. M. Cross – Leader
A. E. Tippings – Dep. Leader
B. Willis – Mayor
H. Trollope – Dep. Mayor
D. Rowberry
Hywel Woolf (Chair)
T. Gregory
G. Rowberry
J. Morgan
S. Trollope

h. To appoint Members to represent Tredegar Town Council on the Bedwellty Park Management Board with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

Cllrs. D. Rowberry
J. Morgan
M. Cross (Reserve)

The Chair of Committees and Sub-committee to be elected at the first Meeting of that Committee/Sub-Committee and to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2012.

20) To confirm the appointment of Mr C James as the Internal Auditor until the Annual Meeting of Council 2012.

Confirmed and agreed unanimously.

21) To appoint Members to serve on the following outside bodies:

a) JOINT COMMITTEE OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Cllrs. M. Cross – Leader
B. Willis – Mayor
M. O'Sullivan
H. Trollope
The Clerk

b) GWENT VALLEYS ONE VOICE WALES

Cllrs. M. Cross – Leader
M. W. O'Sullivan
H. Trollope
The Clerk

c) TREDEGAR TWINNING

Cllrs. D. Rowberry
A. Tippings
A. Cotton

d) SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

Bryn Bach – Cllr. D. Howells
Georgetown – Cllr. B. Willis
Deighton – Cllr. S. Trollope
St. Joseph's – Cllr. M. W. O'Sullivan
Glanhowy Infants and Juniors – Cllr. M. W. O'Sullivan

e) BLAENAU GWENT COUNCIL FOR THE DISABLED

Cllrs. H. Trollope
S. Trollope
J. Morgan
B. Willis

f) PARC BRYN BACH MANAGEMENT

Cllrs. M. Cross – Leader
R. W. Thomas
J. C. Morgan
P. Prosser
T. Gregory
M. O'Sullivan (Reserve)

g) TREDEGAR YOUTH CAFÉ

Cllr. G. Bowen-Knight

h) BLAENAU GWENT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

Cllr. G. Woolf
Cllr. J. Morgan

i) COMMUNITIES FIRST BOARD

Cllrs. D. W. A. Howells
A. Cotton

j) TREDEGAR CRIME PREVENTION PANEL

Cllr. R. W. Thomas

k) TREDEGAR BUSINESS FORUM

Cllrs. H. Trollope
B. Willis

l) BLAENAU GWENT REGENERATION FORUM

Cllr. J. Morgan

m) BLAENAU GWENT HERITAGE FORUM

Cllrs. P. Prosser
B. Willis

n) BLAENAU GWENT HARPS PROJECT

J. Morgan

o) HERITAGE STEERING GROUP

A. Tippings
J. Morgan
P. Prosser
D. Howells

22) To agree the presentation of the Aneurin Bevan Prize, in conjunction with Tredegar Comprehensive School.

This was agreed unanimously

23) To confirm Town Council Members of the newly formed Heritage Steering Committee.

A. Tippings
J. Morgan
P. Prosser
D. Howells

24) To confirm the pattern and timings of Meetings of Council.
Confirmed as in Standing Orders.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 6.45pm and the newly elected Mayor of Tredegar invited everyone to join him at the Moose Hall.

_____ Chair