TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 20th July, 2016 at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors **J. Thomas (CHAIR)**
T. Smith
A.E. Tippings
D.W.A. Howells
P. Prosser
S. Trollope
M. Turner
B. Willis

In attendance: Town Clerk – Mrs. C. Price
RFO – Ms. A. Jones

094) Apologies. Councillors O. Price, G. Bowen-Knight, G. Meredith, J.C. Morgan, D. Rowberry, H. Trollope and R. Watkins

- ***Welcome*** – Members were introduced to Paula, the newly appointed PCSO for the Tredegar area; the Officer would be attending Town Council meetings to provide an opportunity for Members to raise any issues of concern.

Members informed the PCSO of problems experienced at Park Row and the vicinity of the General Hospital; the Officer said that she was aware of a meeting that was to take place in respect of this issue. A brief discussion ensued whereby Members outlined their concerns in respect of the Hospital proving a safety and fire hazard and the need for the building to be demolished.

Councillor R. Thomas joined the meeting at this juncture.

A Member proposed that Tredegar Town Council meet with the Aneurin Bevan Health Authority and the Police to resolve these long outstanding issues, which was agreed accordingly.

095) Declarations of Interest.
The Chair reminded Members to make their declarations as and when necessary.

096) To receive a presentation from BGCBC Regeneration Officers, and the appropriate Executive Member, in respect of town centre regeneration.
Members were informed that this Item had been withdrawn, as it had not been deemed beneficial in this forum, and an invitation had been extended to Members to attend a public presentation in respect of this matter.

097) To receive the verbal recommendations of the Performance Review meeting held immediately prior to this meeting.

The following recommendations arising from the Performance Review were reported to the Ordinary Meeting of Council for consideration:

- Written instructions be given to the gardeners in respect of the Town Clock garden surround planting scheme;
- Ordering of plants to be undertaken in a timely manner;
- Approve that the Town Council meet the costs associated with an electrical assessment being carried out to the Town Clock floodlighting equipment, proposing this be undertaken by Mr. P. Lewis.
- Recommend that a grant of £250.00 be allocated to Tredegar Business Forum, organisers of the Classic Car Day event.

The recommendations of the Performance Review Sub-Committee were agreed and accepted unanimously by Council.

098) Grants:

a) To consider and approve grants to Sporting and Cultural organisations.

Tredegar Leisure Centre Members' Fund – recommend that a donation of £100.00 (£50.00 to each group, i.e. Decoupage and Parchment) be made, under Section 9 'Miscellaneous Provision': with the proviso that if the groups wished to apply next year, then the groups would have to establish their own bank accounts.

CHAD – grant of £200.00 recommended and agreed to promote service on the Town Council website.

Councillor A.E Tippings declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

Sirhowy Valley Woodlands – grant of £200.00 recommended.

Councillors P. Prosser and B Willis declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

Tredegar History & Archive Society – grant of £200.00 recommended.

Tredegar Town U19s Football – grant of £200.00 recommended.

b) Churches & Chapels (s.137): to consider and approve grants to Churches and Chapels.

None received.

099) Accounts: to consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in June 2016.

The RFO spoke to the report and explained that the bank reconciliations were available for Members to view.

The RFO requested that, due to the recess of meetings of Council during August, delegated powers be assigned for the Leader/Deputy and Mayor/Deputy to approve any urgent payments arising during that period, which was agreed accordingly.

Councillor M. Turner joined the meeting at this juncture.

- **Mayor's Parlour** – it was agreed that the Heritage Officer be approached to ascertain if roller blinds would be required, rather than vertical, in line with the Listed Building status of The House. This was agreed accordingly, and delegated powers assigned to the RFO to approve, once tenders had been re-evaluated to install roller blinds, should this be required. Therefore, in accordance with the tender process undertaken, it was agreed that Quotation B be approved to undertake the contract, subject to the foregoing.
- **Siting of Commemorative Benches** – in accordance with the tender process

undertaken, it was agreed that Quotation D be approved; i.e. R.J. Plant to be awarded the contract to site commemorative benches at Peacehaven and the community garden, Beaufort Road.

There being no further queries regarding the Schedule of Accounts, all presented items were approved for payment.

100) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:

a) Civic Meeting of Council - 1st June, 2016;
b) Events Sub-Committee - 8th June, 2016;
c) Events Sub-Committee - 22nd June, 2016;
d) Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22nd June, 2016 (to follow).

It was agreed that all Minutes presented be moved en bloc as a true record, with any matters arising to follow.

101) Matters arising from the Minutes.

Civic Meeting of Council – 1st June, 2016 – A Member referred to the request to convene a meeting of the Health Authority, Police and House to discuss problems at Park Row, the General Hospital; the Town Clerk confirmed that all parties had been invited to meet with Members and responded representatives would be willing to attend such a meeting;
Tredegar Live Project – an appropriate response had to be submitted in readiness for the next deadline; a meeting was needed for that Sub-Committee;
Concerts in the Park – Sub-Committee needed to debrief on these events and a decision made in respect of Armed Forces events in the future;
Updates regarding Bedwellty House and Park – Members to email/contact the office with previously reported issues to Aneurin Leisure Trust staff, which remained outstanding or where no response had been received, in order for Town Clerk to compile an email to the House Manager.

Events Sub-Committee - 8th June, 2016 – a Member highlighted that the plaque was 3 x 1 ft, and not 2 x 1 ft as previously informed, this had therefore impacted upon the size of the stone required and the Town Council would now have to wait for another blast to be done. Gwent Buildings Supplies needed to be contacted to ascertain if this stone could be collected / transported and clarity on the point of contact to pursue issues, as the Deputy Leader had been delegated to liaise with the quarry manager. Members were also informed that the engraving to the plaque was to be re-done.

Events Sub-Committee – 22nd June, 2016 – a Member suggested that Only Boys Aloud could be contacted to perform at future events, such as Armed Forces Day or the Christmas Lights switch-on; which was agreed accordingly.

102) Chair to sign Minutes.

Minutes not available at meeting.

103) Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth—13th March, 2017: to discuss.

The Town Clerk outlined the following information, following a request by Members at the previous meeting of Council:

- Commonwealth Day 2017 – event to take place at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 13th March, 2017.
- Commonwealth flag sizes – 90” x 54” @ £39.50 or 60” x 36” @ £24.80 including

delivery plus VAT.

- Order to be placed no later than 13th January, 2017.

It was agreed that the Town Council liaise with Aneurin Leisure Trust in respect of the purchase and raising of the flag and seek interest from schools in respect of participation.

104) Correspondence.

1) BGCBC

a) A. Tippings – Blaenau Gwent Destination Management Plan. Engaging with stakeholders to review the action plan which is split into five sections. Asking whether there are any actions that Council can include and own.

- Deputy Leader to email Town Clerk the actions that Tredegar Town Council deliver to contribute to the DMP and to respond accordingly.

Councillor B Willis declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

b) List of licensing applications week ending 15.07.2016.

- Noted.

2) Councillor D.W.A. Howells

Resigning as governor from Bryn Bach Primary with immediate effect.

The Deputy Leader said that it had been with great regret that the Governing Body had accepted this resignation. Councillor Howells, who had been a governor for the past three years, was a long-serving, dedicated Ward Member and had stepped up to meet any challenging areas that arose. The Head had commended and thanked the Member for meeting this duty and he would be greatly missed. The Town Council thereupon expressed their thanks to Councillor Howells for this service.

- to be agendaed for discussion following the August recess.

3) One Voice Wales

a) Higher rates of tax on purchases of second homes: have your say – closing date for comments 31.08.2016.

- Noted.

b) Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill Draft – all responses have been summarised in a report available at http://gov.wales/consultations/localgovernment/draft-local-government-(wales)-bill-consultation//lang=en>

- Noted.

c) One Voice Wales Conference Saturday, 1st October, 2016 at 9.30 a.m. Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells.

- Agreed that two places be booked.

4) D. Ogilvie — Paint price to allow touch-ups if benches become damaged.

- ascertain if paint could be locally sourced.

5) GAVO

a) Blaenau Gwent Voluntary Sector achievement awards nomination form.

- agreed that Malcolm Higgs of The Wizards be nominated for the Inspirational Award.

b) Commonwealth War Graves Commission Living Memory Project – funding and resources available to community groups.

- Noted.

Councillor B Willis declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

6) Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

i) Weekly list of planning applications, date 08.07.2016.

ii) Weekly list of planning applications, date 15.07.2016 – *forwarded to Cllr Price.*

- Noted.

7) R. Trimm — Deals going down from Tredegar Forum meeting.

- circulate to Councillor A.E. Tippings/O. Price.

8**) PUBLICATIONS**

BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 22.07.2016; Plantscape brochure on floral features.
Available for Members.

9) **AGENDA**

Statutory Licensing Committee Tuesday, 19th July, 2016 at 10.00 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; General Licensing Committee Tuesday, 19th July, 2016 at 10.45 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Environment, Economy & Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 28th July, 2016 at 2.00 p.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Ordinary Meeting of the Council Friday, 22nd July, 2016 at 9.00 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Ordinary Meeting of the Council Friday, 22nd July, 2016 – report for agenda item no. 36.
Available for Members.

105) Planning:

a) To consider an Officer's Report (if received).

List of Delegated Items determined between 20th June, 2016 and 1st July, 2016:

C/2016/0143 Proposed change of use and conversion of 1st/2nd floors from 3 flats to 4 self-contained flats and replacement shop front to ground floor, 4-5 The Circle, Tredegar – *Approved.*

Planning Applications Report:

C/2016/0142 Proposed change of use to A3 takeaway, 21 Park Place, Tredegar – Recommending *Granted* subject to specified conditions.

C/2016/0136 Two storey dwelling with attached garage, site adjacent to Nook House, rear of Harford Street, Tredegar - Recommending *Granted* subject to specified conditions.

Noted as received.

b) Verbal report of the Planning Committee, if any.

None received – noted.

c) To consider Planning Applications submitted for Council's observations.

App No	Applicant	Proposal
C/2016/0212	Mr. P. Jones Hirgan Farm Penmark, Tredegar	Proposed enlarged replacement garage, Hirgan Farm, Penmark, Tredegar.
No objections		

d) To consider other planning matters.

None received.

106) Matters of Local Interest or Concern (by prior notice).

- The Mayor requested that the current position on the repair of the Mayoral chain be ascertained in order that Town Council could be kept updated.
- Members congratulated Councillor Phil Prosser on the factual information presented on the recent televised NHS Programme.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

_____ Chair