TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at Bedwellty House on Wednesday 14th May 2014 at 6pm

Present:	**Councillor**	**T. Smith**
		R. Watkins
		M. Cross
		A. Tippings
		B. Willis
		H. Trollope
		S. Trollope
		D. Rowberry
		O. Price
		M. O'Sullivan
		G. Meredith
In attendance:		**Ms. C.M. Keane – Town Clerk**
Also Present:		**Invited guests.**

001) Apologies: **Cllrs. A. Cotton, G. Bowen-Knight, T. Gregory, D. Howells, J. Morgan, P. Prosser and R. Thomas.**

002) Thanks and Appreciation by Cllr T. Smith, Mayor 2013–2014.
Cllr. Smith announced that his Appeal, for the Valleys Life After Stroke and the Stroke Association, had raised over £10,000. Cllr Smith continued by saying how he had been honoured and privileged in his role as Mayor to have represented Tredegar at so many special events during the year; ranging from the Orvault visit to the Commemoration of the Battle for Tredegar Hill and his attendance at the many fabulous local associations we have. He thanked his colleagues, family and friends for their support and wished the incoming Mayor well. The thanks were warmly received by his colleagues and they commended him for his excellent year in Office and for the professionalism he showed during that time. Tributes were also paid to his partner and mother for their support.

003) To Elect a Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2015.
Cllr Ryan Watkins was proposed and seconded – there were no other nominations and Cllr Watkins was elected unanimously.

004) Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the incoming Mayor.
The Mayor read the acceptance of Office and duly signed – it was then confirmed by the Clerk.

005) To receive any communication the Mayor may wish to lay before Council.
The Mayor, Cllr Watkins, congratulated Cllr. Smith on his year in office. He thanked his colleagues for their confidence in him and that he would do his best to fulfil the role of Mayor with their help, the support of the staff and the support he will receive from his Consort Miss Louise Thomas.

He announced that he had selected RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) as the recipient of his Mayor's Appeal. This wonderful charity offer a wide range of services and support to blind and partially sighted people not just nationally but locally too whilst also continuing to campaign for service improvement and to prevent avoidable sight loss. He continued by saying that funding raising activities are currently being planned and will be relayed to Council once firmer arrangements have been made.

006) To Elect a Deputy Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2015.
Cllr. Geraint Meredith was proposed and seconded and, there being no other nominations, was duly elected unanimously. He then completed his declaration of Office which was ratified by the Clerk and was duly installed as Deputy Mayor.

007) To Elect a Member as Leader of Council until the Annual Meeting of Council 2015.
Cllr. Tommy Smith was proposed and seconded and, there being no other nominations, was duly elected unanimously. He thanked Members for the role stating that he was looking forward to this new challenge.

008) To Elect a Member as Deputy Leader of Council until the Annual Meeting of Council 2015.
Cllr. Alyson Tippings was proposed and seconded and, there being no other nominations, was duly elected unanimously. Cllr Tippings thanked Members for re-electing her into this role which she enjoyed doing during the previous year.

009) 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

010) To receive and confirm the Standing Orders of Tredegar Town Council.
This was agreed unanimously as approved by the previous administration.

011) To receive and confirm the Financial Regulations of Tredegar Town Council.
This was agreed unanimously as approved by the previous administration by a show of hands.

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

013) To Authorise the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leader and Deputy Leader of Council with the Clerk and RFO to sign cheques on behalf of Tredegar Town Council.
This was agreed unanimously as approved by the previous administration by a show of hands.

014) To consider any Urgent correspondence

a) GAVO Blaenau Gwent Voluntary Sector Network meeting Tuesday 13.5.14 at 9.30am Bedwellty Park Bowls Pavilion.

RECEIVED.

015) To consider any Urgent Planning Applications.

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2014/0091	Mr I Gould 4 Vale Terrace, Tredegar.	Erection of conservatory, 4 Vale Tce.

No Objections.

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

017) To appoint a Civic Committee (all Members of Council).
This was agreed unanimously and so moved.

018) To appoint ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL to the Performance Review Committee to meet quarterly.
This was agreed unanimously and so moved.

019) To Confirm the following sub-committees and to appoint Members to serve on them until the Annual Meeting of Council 2014.

a. **Civic Sub-committee**

Cllrs.	D. Rowberry	(Chair)
	R. Watkins	(Mayor)
	G. Meredith	(Deputy Mayor)
	T. Smith	(Leader)
	A. Tippings	(Deputy Leader)
	R. Thomas	
	D. Howells	
	H. Trollope	

b. Events Sub-Committee

Cllrs	A. Cotton	(Chair)
	R. Watkins	(Mayor)
	G. Meredith	(Deputy Mayor)
	T. Smith	(Leader)
	A. Tippings	(Deputy Leader)
	M. Cross	
	H. Trollope	
	B. Willis	
	O. Price	

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.	P. Prosser	(Chair)
	R. Watkins	(Mayor)
	G. Meredith	(Deputy Mayor)
	T. Smith	(Leader)
	A. Tippings	(Deputy Leader)
	J. Morgan	
	D. Howells	
	S. Trollope	
	D. Rowberry	
	B. Willis	

d. Finance & Staffing Sub-committee

Cllrs	H. Trollope	(Chair)
	R. Watkins	(Mayor)
	G. Meredith	(Deputy Mayor)
	T. Smith	(Leader)
	A. Tippings	(Deputy Leader)
	D. Rowberry	
	D. Howells	
	A. Cotton	
	M. O'Sullivan	

e. Appeals Committee

Cllrs.	R. Thomas (Chair)
	M. Cross
	P. Prosser
	G. Bowen-Knight
	O. Price
	T. Gregory
	S. Trollope
	J. Morgan
	B. Willis

f. Policy Sub-Committee- All Members of Council

Chair the Mayor Cllr R. Watkins.

g. Community, Youth and International Sub-committee

Cllrs	T. Smith	(Leader/Chair)
	R. Watkins	(Mayor)
	G. Meredith	(Deputy Mayor)
	A. Tippings	(Deputy Leader)
	D. Rowberry	
	O. Price	
	B. Willis	
	G. Bowen-Knight	
	J. Morgan	
	S. Trollope	

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 2015.

020) To confirm the appointment of Mr S. Bees as the Internal Auditor until the Annual Meeting of Council 2015.
Confirmed and agreed unanimously.

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

i. To appoint Members to represent Tredegar Town Council on the BEDWELLTY PARK MANAGEMENT BOARD with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

Cllrs	T. Smith	(Leader)
	J. Morgan	
	D Rowberry (Reserve)	

ii. JOINT COMMITTEE OF LOCAL COUNCILS/CONSULTATION WITH TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCILS COMMITTEE

Cllrs	R. Watkins	(Mayor)
	T. Smith	(Leader)
	M. O' Sullivan	
	B. Willis	
	Ms C M Keane	(Clerk)

iii. GWENT VALLEYS ONE VOICE WALES

Cllrs	T. Smith	(Leader)
	R. Watkins	(Mayor)
	M. O'Sullivan	
	Ms C M Keane	(Clerk)

iv. TREDEGAR TWINNING

Cllrs.	R. Watkins	(Mayor)
	T. Smith	(Leader)
	A. Tippings	(Deputy Leader)
	B. Willis	

v. SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

Bryn Bach	Cllr D. Howells
Georgetown	Cllr R. Watkins
Deighton	Cllr S. Trollope
St. Joseph's	Cllr M. O'Sullivan
Glanhowy Infants & Juniors	Cllr M. O'Sullivan

vi. PARC BRYN BACH MANAGEMENT

Cllrs R. Watkins (Mayor)
R. Thomas
J. Morgan
P. Prosser
M. O'Sullivan
T. Smith (Reserve)

vii. BLAENAU GWENT COUNCIL FOR THE DISABLED

Cllrs. H. Trollope
S. Trollope
G. Bowen-Knight
B. Willis

viii. TREDEGAR YOUTH CAFÉ

Cllrs G. Bowen-Knight
G. Meredith

ix. BLAENAU GWENT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

Cllrs R. Watkins (Mayor)
H. Trollope
D. Howells (Reserve)

x. TREDEGAR CRIME PREVENTION PANEl

Cllr G. Meredith

xi. TREDEGAR BUSINESS FORUM

Cllr. T. Smith
O. Price

xii. BLAENAU GWENT REGENERATION FORUM

Cllr T. Smith (Leader)

xiii. BLAENAU GWENT HERITAGE FORUM

Cllrs P. Prosser
B. Willis

xiv. TREDEGAR HERITAGE

Cllrs T. Smith (Leader)
A. Tippings (Deputy Leader)
J. Morgan
P. Prosser
M. O'Sullivan (Reserve)
R. Thomas (Reserve)

xv. ONE VOICE WALES CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROGRAMME

Cllrs T. Smith (Leader)
A. Tippings (Deputy Leader)
R. Watkins (Mayor)
J. Morgan
O. Price

xvi. BLAENAU GWENT RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Cllr R. Watkins (Mayor)

022) To agree the presentation of the Aneurin Bevan Prize and Michael Foot Prize, in conjunction with Tredegar Comprehensive School.

It was agreed to present the Aneurin Bevan prize to the best student in a science subject (previously also, this student had gone on to study medicine.) and the Michael Foot Prize to the best student in an arts subject.

023) To confirm the pattern and timings of Meetings of Council.

These were confirmed unchanged.

024) Any other Business.

Reminder that there is a Events meetings regarding the Queens Baton Relay on Thursday 15th May 2014 at 10am in Bedwellty House.

At the conclusion of the Meeting flowers were presented to the outgoing and incoming Consorts and everyone was invited to join the Mayor in the Carriage Room.

_____ Chair