TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at Bedwellty House on Wednesday 21st May 2014 at 6pm

Present:	**Councillor**	**G. Meredith**
		T. Smith
		A. Tippings
		B. Willis
		H. Trollope
		S. Trollope
		D. Rowberry
		R. W. Thomas
		D. Howells
		P. Prosser
In attendance:		**Clerk apologies.**

025) Apologies: **Cllrs. M. Cross, O. Price, J. Morgan, R. Watkins and G. Bowen-Knight**

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

027) To receive a presentation by Commercial Christmas regarding the 2014 lighting scheme.
A presentation was given stating the following specifications:-

- **Commercial Street:**

i. 3ft trees (attached to buildings) x 40
ii. Lamp-post motifs x 7
iii. Icicle lights at Shopping Centre x 8
iv. Cross street motif x 1
v. Light wrapped real trees x 2.

- **Queen Victoria Street:**

i. 3ft trees (attached to buildings) x 10
ii. Light wrapped real trees x 4
iii. Lamp-post motifs x 5.

- **Castle Street:**

i. 3ft trees (attached to buildings) x 28 & connecting string lights.
ii. Lamp-post motifs x 5.

- **The Circle:**

i. Lamp-post motifs x 4
ii. Light wrapped real trees x 4
iii. String lights from Clock to buildings.

- **The Clock:**

i. Curtain of colour changing lights (approx. 80 sets = 8000 LED lights).

The company continued by supplying the sealed quotation for the specifications listed above. Council thanked Commercial Christmas for the presentation and they proceeded to leave. Council agreed if no other tender is received they move to appoint Commercial Christmas as the contractor for this year's festive lighting scheme and purchase a new motif.

028) Grants:
Completed end of grant forms from Pwyllgor Apel Tredegar Appeal Committee Urdd 2015, St James Church Mothers Union and Friends of Valleys Karate Club.
Received.

(i) To consider and approve grants to Sporting and Cultural Organisations.
Bedwellty House & Park – Decision was made not to support this application due to it being a retrospective request.

Bedwellty Park Bowls Club – A grant for £200.00 was recommended and approved.
St James Church Mothers Union – A grant for £200.00 was recommended and approved.

Cllr Meredith declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.
Tredegar Crime Prevention Panel – A grant for £200.00 was recommended and approved.

Tredegar Gardeners Club – A grant for £200.00 was recommended and approved.

Cllrs Willis and Prosser declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.
Tredegar History & Archive Group – A grant for £200.00 was recommended and approved.

Information was received regarding the forthcoming Summer Camp Exchange organized by Mr G Titley, Tredegar Twinning. Council agreed in principle to support an application at £100 person child, totaling £400. The RFO is to confirm the Council's legal position with regards to supporting it and a permitted amount, if any.

(ii) To consider and approve grants to Churches and Chapels (S.137).
None received.
The RFO is to advise as to whether the amount of grant being offered can be increased due to the reduction in the number of Churches and Chapels in Tredegar.

029) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in May 2014.
The accounts were received and moved by Council.
Council requested the RFO seeks quotations for the repainting of Town Clock surrounding wall.

030) Correspondence.

1) <u>Queen's Baton Relay:-</u>

(a) S. Summers, BGCBC

(i) Reminder for the Tredegar Event meeting being held Thursday

15.5.14 at 2pm Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale.
(ii) Request for mapping of route through Tredegar asap.

Moved.

(b) D. Griffiths, BGCBC
(i) Asking if anyone from Town Council can attend the meeting and reminder that mapping/stewarding info is required. Also asking if traffic management been arranged.
(ii) Automated reminder for meeting 14.5.14.
(iii) Asking for details of the form of communications being used on the day; lost/missing children procedures; steward briefings; contingency plans.

Moved.

(c) P. Gray, BGCBC – copy of email sent to Forest Traffic Management requesting necessary road closures, cost £480.

A member queried whether it was suitable to proceed with Forest Traffic Management and after a discussion it was agreed to proceed.

(d) Mapping for Baton Relay – Party in the Park.

Moved and received.

2) BGCBC

(a) L. Squire Re: Inserts in Council Tax Bills – approx. cost is £860 for A4 size and £440 for A5.

Moved and received.

(b) Blaenau Gwent in Bloom 2014 – closing date for entries 27.6.14.

It was agreed to enter the Town Clock. Remaining forms are available for all Members.

(c) (i) Bedwellty Park Management Board constitution.
(ii) Leisure Trust – Trustees details.

Moved and received.

(d) Karin Lamb:-
(i) Re: Tredegar Classic Vehicle day 30.8.14 – any organisations that wish to participate must contact her by 16.5.14. (added to website)

Agreed to open Clock if Members are available to steward.

(ii) Request for details of singer as they wish to contact her to sing at the above event.

A Member confirmed details have already been sent.

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

(e) (i) List of licensing applications week ending 2.5.14.
(ii) List of licensing applications week ending 16.5.14.

Received.

3) One Voice Wales

(a) Re: St David Awards – none of her colleagues are aware of the nominations.

It was requested that a letter is sent to the A.M. listing the nominations submitted and ask if in the future they will consider for the shortlist more local heroes not notable celebrities.

(b) Informing the Public Community & Town Council Workshops 2014 – training available at £15 per person, various dates/venues available.

Received.

(c) Gwernymynydd Community Development Plan.

Received.

(d) Consultancy Services available.

Received.

(e) NATO Summit information event – will be circulation an event invitation shortly.

Agreed to await for more information, no affect locally.

(f) Larger Councils Conference 9th July 2014 Hafod A Hendre, Royal Welsh Showground.

Ask Councillors for availability.

4) Gala Lights

(a) Collecting equipment Monday 28.4.14.

Received.

(b) Asking whether Council has made a decision about the bespoke motif.

Requested to inform Gala Lights the motif is not required and it is to be collected within 7 days. Also request the return of the keys for the lock-up and Town Clock.

5) Gwent Police

(a) Re: Engagement Workshops – feedback from the workshops that took place during September and October. Invite to a follow up session being held 5pm on Thursday 29.5.14 in Committee Rooms 3, 4 & 5 Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.

Received.

(b) Inspector D. Morgan – Requesting to meet with Council to give a brief presentation in relation to the forthcoming NATO summit being held at the Celtic Manor in September.

Invite to attend Meeting on Wednesday 18th June 2014.

6) Cllr Smith Re: Michael Foot Prize – the winner is chasing up the presentation of a trophy. A design needs to be selected.

Agreed a suitable trophy is purchased.

7) H. Lewis Can probably have the new site ready for launch late June/early July if Council wishes to set a date for them. Current workload commitments mean he could not have it finished before then.

Received. Do a press release once site completed.

8) Myanmar Embassy Offering the 2 Chinthes as a gift from the Ambassador to Council.
Agreed to send letter of thanks.

9) Cllr G Bartlett Thank you to the Mayor, Council and staff for the retirement gift presented to him.
Received.

10) Mothers Union Invitation to Mayor & all Councillors to a family fun day at Parc Bryn Bach on Saturday 30th August 2014.
Invite to be sent to Mayor and all Members. Also advertise event on Town Council website.

11) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum
First World War Commemoration Day, Sunday 17th August 2014 starting at 10am St Georges Church followed by a parade to the War Memorial – invitation to all Members to attend.
Agreed to place a Cross. Requested invite to be circulated to all Members and added to Town Council website.

12) Abergavenny Borough Band
(i) Asking for a response to an email sent on 27.1.14 requesting the Band Concert slot of 22nd June 2014.
(ii) As they have now received notice that they have not been allocated a slot they wish to see evidence of who applied for their preferred date before them – dates offered on a first come first served basis.
Agreed a Member was to seek direct to Mr Richards.

13) Walk for Life Event:-
(a) Kidney Wales - Thanks for organising a Walk For Life Funding raising event this year.
Forward to Mayor. Requested all sponsor monies are submitted as a matter of urgency.
It was moved to support with a grant of £200.

(b) Cllr Smith Email – confirming spoken to Christine and plans have been relayed to Kevin at Hospice of the Valleys who does not see it has being a problem.
Received.

(c) Kidney Wales – 4 complimentary tickets for the Gala Dinner on Thursday 10.7.14 at 7pm Marriott Hotel, Cardiff.
Invite extended to Mayor and Deputy Mayor to attend with their partners.

14) Cllr Tippings Re: Campaign currently running on facebook, asking for Councillor to support – Cllr Tippings will offer further information.
Moved.

15) Welsh Government
(a) Consultation on Access to information on Community and Town Councils – deadline for responses is 4.8.14, further information at
http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/localgovernment/access-to-information-town-councils/?lang=en
Forward to all Members on email.

(b) New edition of the Local Government & Communities Community and Town Councils Welsh Government News has been published.
http://wales.gov.uk/topics/localgovernment/communitytowncouncils/publications/community-town-council-news-2014/?skip=1&lang=en
Forward to all Members on email.

(c) Survey of Remuneration 2013/2014.
Agenda for next meeting.

(d) Natural Resources Management Newsletter May 2014.
Received.

16) Gavo (a) Blaenau Gwent Funding Opportunities Newsletter April 2014.
Agreed to advertise on Town Council website.

(b) "Change Step" a peer mentoring service for meeting the needs of military veterans – information on service available and a referral form.
Agreed to advertise on Town Council website.

(c) Re: Observe how Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner makes this decisions – dates of decision making forum meetings at which members of the public can attend as observers, further information available at www.gwent.pcc.police.uk/transparency/strategy-performance-board/ .
Times and dates were noted.

(d) Re: Community Asset Transfer Programme – holding a presentation late June/early July for local associations regarding the Community Asset Transfer Programme.
It was agreed to request four places.
Concerns were raised with regards to the Education Dept. are considering demolishing the Thomas Richards Centre. It was agreed to write to Mr Smith and Mr Olding raising concerns over the possible demolishing of this building and to request an updated building at risk and buildings of local importance register.

(e) Making the connections database form – compiling information on local associations/groups.
RFO to complete.

17) Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
About to undertake a scrutiny study into the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Improvement Objective *Through effective partnership, facilitation, practical action and the planning function, sustainable living, social resilience and community pride will be enabled*. The study will focus on *social resilience.* Looking for 1-2 town and community Councillors to join the panel, anyone interested can register with Julia Gruffydd email:
Julia.gruffydd@beacons-npa.gov.uk or Tel: 01874 620400.
Forward to Cllr Price.

18) J. Horton RE: A CREW Small Towns: Policy & delivery Network Event, The continuing role of Retail, 11th June 2014 at The Racecourse Football Ground Wrexham.

Received.

19) Nick Smith MP "This Boy" An audience with Alan Johnson MP, May 26th 2014 at Bedwellty House from 12pm-1pm.

Poster to be displayed.

20) S. Coles Re: Twinning Towns with Featherstone – would like to hold reciprocal visits on alternative years and perhaps a rugby match.

Agreed to defer to Subcommittee responsible for Twinning matters.

21) Fresh Management Solutions
Contacting Council on behalf of Planning Aid Wales regarding the proposed changes in the planning system in Wales. Questionnaire for completion available at
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PlanningAidWales .

RFO to complete questionnaire.
Request to invite BGCBC Planning Office to present to Town Council regarding changes to planning.

22) Local Works Please support more funds for parish councils proposal – Writing on behalf of Sevenoaks Town Council asking Council to support a proposal submitted to government under the Sustainable Communities Act. The proposal is "That the government take the necessary action to allow a percentage of Business Rates to be paid direct to Parish and Town Councils for the benefit of local economic growth".

Agreed to send letter of support.

23) Christians Together Cheque of £700 for monies collected in the foyer of Morriston's Supermarket in aid of "Valleys Life After Stroke". – Letter & cheque with RFO

Request letter of thanks and a certificate is sent to all for the Mayor's Appeal 2013-14.

23**) PUBLICATIONS**
Le cens pratique #155 may 2014; Orvault#60 ma ville May-June 2014; Clerks & Councils Direct May 2014 Issue 93; Local Councils Update May 2014 Issue 173; BGCBC road works report week ending 16.5.14 and 23.5.14.
Received and available for Members.

24) **AGENDA**
All out of date agendas are available for viewing in the office.
Special Social Services and Active Living Scrutiny Committee, advance notice of meeting being held on Wednesday 4th June 2014 at 9am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Meeting of the Council, advance notice of meeting being held on Thursday 19th June 2014 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.
Received and available for Members.

031) Planning:-
Cllrs Willis and Rowberry declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

a) Officers Report
None received.

b) Applications:

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2014/0101	Mrs L Newman 5 Avenue Road Abergavenny.	Demolish existing rear single storey extension and construct new single storey extension, 13 Pochin Crescent.
No Objections.		
2014/0103	Mr A Smith Davies Homes Ltd. 1st Floor, 7 Gelliwastad Road Pontypridd.	Substitution of house types on Plots 101-103 Copper Beech Drive, land to the rear of Peacehaven (previous planning application C/2007/0400).
No Objections.		
2014/0104	Mr A Smith Davies Homes Ltd. 1st Floor, 7 Gelliwastad Road Pontypridd.	Repositioning of dwelling on Plot 147 Copper Beech Drive, land to the rear of Peacehaven(previous planning application C/2007/0400).
No Objections.		
2014/0109	Mr L Moon Sunny Bank, Princetown Tredegar.	Proposed double storey rear extension and detached double garage, Ashlea Church Street.
No Objections.		
2014/0107	Mr J Smith 21 Bedwellty Pits, Tredegar.	Two storey rear extension, 22 Bedwellty Pits.
No Objections.		
2014/0118	Mrs S Schofield 6 Rhymney Row, Trefil.	Retention of single storey detached garage, 6 Rhymney Row, Trefil.
No Objections.		
2014/0070	Mr P Thomas.	Revised elevations and plans, proposed house and garage on plot adjoining Sunny Bank, Heathfield.
No Objections.		
2014/0120	Mr J Thomas 78 Gwent Way, Tredegar.	Proposed driveway, 78 Gwent Way.
No Objections.		

2014/0123	Mrs M Burr 47 Brompton Place, Tredegar.	removal of steps, lowering of path and installation of step lift to front of property, 47 Brompton Place.

No Objections.

c) Other Planning Matters
None received.

032) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:
Matter was deferred.

033) Verbal update from relevant Members regarding ongoing events.
Agreed to arrange an Events Meeting.

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

a) Harcourt Terrace Chapel – Concerns it is being converted into a gym. Agreed to send a letter of concern to BGCBC's Heritage Officer, Planning Department and Chief Executive.
b) Letters of congratulations to:-
    - Luke Garrett – U21 World Cup Rugby in New Zealand.
    - Tredegar Youth RFC – League winners.
    - The Oak FC – League winners
    - Ironsides – League winners.
c) A member of the public raised concerns with a Member of Council regarding the lack of grass cutting at Cefn Golau cemetery. It was agreed to send a letter to BGCBC regarding this matter and also to request what is their policy on the removal of headstones.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

_____ Chair