

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 20th November, 2019 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors D. Jones (Chair)

T. Smith
A.E. Tippings
D.W.A. Howells
G. James
A. Jones
K. Phillips
P. Prosser
S. Rees
D. Rowberry
G. Walters
B. Willis

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

By invitation: Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
BG Integrated Well-being Network:
Service Lead IWN Blaenau Gwent, Kathryn Cross
Engagement Officer, Victoria Price

250) Apologies. Councillors E. Jones, M. Cross, J. Thomas, H. Trollope, S. Trollope and M. Turner

Welcome extended to Councillor Gerran Walters, who was attending his first meeting of Council following co-option.

251) Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members to make their declarations as and when necessary.

252) Service Lead for Integrated Well-being Networks in Blaenau Gwent, Kathryn Cross: in attendance to speak on her role and how best able to work together with Council

The Chair welcomed the Service Lead IWN Blaenau Gwent, Kathryn Cross, and Engagement Officer, Victoria Price, BG Integrated Well-being Network representatives to the meeting, who was in attendance to explain how the integrated well-being network would work and respond to any questions raised.

The representatives explained that mapping was currently being undertaken across the County Borough, primarily focussed on the Brynmawr and Tredegar areas within Blaenau Gwent.

- Aim: develop a place-based approach to improving well-being for the whole population
- Place-based collaborative
 - Neighbourhood environments contribute to the well-being of people living there
 - Working collaboratively with partners in communities, buildings relationships and working together better to make best use of resources
- Deliver services and support - working co-productively with people, building on their strengths to find their own solutions and connecting primary care teams to well-being resources
- Resources for Community Well-being – healthy living, secure home and finances, working learning and participation, mental well-being provision – connected well-being support and services
- Community Based Hubs – connect people with health and well-being resources, activities and other people;
Linking hubs in the community to improve their well-being role and access the right services and support
- Easy access to well-being information – providing ways for people to access reliable well-being information through: family, friends or a service; a link worker; a hub in the community; technology, including DEWIS Cymru
- Long-term Outcome – better health and well-being for the population, reduced inequities in health
- Workforce development being able to support people holistically and appropriately signposting to well-being support in their community
- Community Champions - building on the knowledge and skills of community members to improve individual and community well-being

The representatives were looking to get on board various parties - such as sports centres, town / community councils' staff and Members, who would have knowledge of the area, to work together with the Network staff to share information with the community.

A Member said that he had attended an event, which had been very interesting, but was aware of issues in promoting Clubs in the public domain – when promoting the Over 60s Club, Aneurin Leisure Trust had not allowed the display of posters in noticeboards in the Library or at Parc Bryn Bach, only events relating to the Trust. This was one of such issues experienced by community groups, however local businesses had been very supportive. Another Member said that Tredegar Library allowed community groups to place promotional literature in a folder in the Library, but Members said that the public needed to be aware of that folder in order to work. It was noted that the Welsh Libraries Trust had decided not to display posters in libraries.

The Engagement Officer referred to DEWIS Cymru and actively encouraged community groups and the public to use this tool to input information. Staff attended workshops and surgeries to sit with individuals to input information and a training event was to be held in Cwm Library – the representatives would be happy to arrange such a training session in Tredegar Library, if Council so wished, requiring access to approximately eight computers, in order to help promote the website to work together in going forward.

In respect of a question raised relating to the accuracy of DEWIS Cymru, the Service Lead said that a feature unique to this website was that an email would be sent every six months, informing the individual who had placed the information that the post was about to expire unless notified to continue display – after four reminders the entry would be hidden from view. When placing events, the website encouraged entries bi-lingually however there was an English resource.

Members welcomed the excellent work being undertaken, whereupon the Chair extended the thanks of Council to the representatives for attending and sharing this information, which was greatly appreciated.

The Service Lead IWN Blaenau Gwent and Engagement Officer thereupon left the meeting.

253) To receive any verbal recommendations of the Events Sub-Committee held immediately prior to this meeting

It was agreed that the following recommendations, presented to the Civic Meeting of Council, be approved accordingly:

- Expenditure agreed for recommendation:
Christmas cards and mug for winner of the Christmas Poster competition;
cheques awarded for First, Second and Third placement in respect of the Window Dressing competition; and,
gifts of appreciation for participants within the event
– delegated powers to top 4, subject to ratification of full Council.
- Medical cover £42.00: expenditure recommended for approval of Council
- Clerk to purchase a gift for each Residential / Care Home up to a maximum of £5.00 per home;
- Clerk to ascertain expressions of interest in respect of transport provision;
- that a calendar of events would be considered and agreed at the appropriate time.

254) Accounts: update from RFO; and

The RFO highlighted salient points in the update to Members:

- Internal Auditor Recommendations: Audit Report 2018/2019 – the RFO drew Members attention to the attached spreadsheet, which outlined progress to date and intended course of action for each recommendation, which was accepted accordingly.
- Utility Aid – Town Clock increased.
- Chartered Surveyor – there would be associated costs, a full structural survey would identify issues, for instance, with the roof / lighting. Members expressed concern the cost could be more than the cost of painting; the RFO said that Council would specify what was to be looked at / what works to be carried out. Due to Listed Buildings consent, the Clock would have to be done the same colour; there was no ‘patch test’ information on file from Capita Symonds; a Member said that the Clock had been listed in 1995 and had previously been painted blue.

It was therefore decided that this issue be referred back to the Finance and Staffing Sub-Committee, and a meeting convened as soon as possible, to move progress.

The recommendations, as contained within the report of the RFO, were thereupon agreed accordingly:

- Utility Aid – remain with the current suppliers, due to the reasons stated within the report; and
- Town Clock – to be referred to a meeting of the Finance and Staffing Sub-Committee, for further consideration.

To consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in November 2019

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

Councillor T. Smith declared an interest in the following item and took no part in decision or voting thereon.

- Arts Council of Wales event – the RFO said £198.00 of income had been raised from ticket sales. St. Josephs' RC Primary School had been happy with the event, providing excellent feedback. A fee of £200.00 had been levied to Council for the production at this School venue, and the Officer enquired if Council wished to return some / all of ticket sales. Members had no issue with ticket sales being returned as a token of appreciation and to encourage schools to participate in the future as host venues. Upon a vote being undertaken it was agreed that all ticket sales be returned to St. Josephs' RC Primary School (Councillors T. Smith and A.E. Tippings abstained from the voting process undertaken.)
- Theatre Siluri – a Member referred to the chartist play 'Under Milk Wood', suggesting a community venue, e.g. Stocktonville, could be identified to host this production: agreed to agenda for a future Events Sub-Committee.

There being no further queries regarding the Schedule of Accounts, all presented items were approved for payment. Transfer of funds would be undertaken in the presence of the appropriate Member and Town Clerk, which was noted accordingly.

The RFO left the meeting at this juncture.

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

a) Events Sub-Committee - 2nd October, 2019

b) Working Party 'Defibrillators' - 2nd October, 2019

c) Civic Meeting of Council - 2nd October, 2019

d) Working Party 'The Lodge' - 9th October, 2019

Amendments; remove Councillor T. Smith from apologies, as listed under attendance, which was correct;

Amend sentence to read "It was therefore agreed Working Party to meet Mr. M. Howland and the architect at The Lodge – MC to liaise".; and

Amend recommendation "Working Party to meet Mr. M. Howland and the architect at The Lodge."

e) Civic Sub-Committee - 16th October, 2019

f) Performance Review Sub-Committee - 16th October, 2019

g) Ordinary Meeting of Council - 16th October, 2019

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

256) Matters arising from the Minutes

Working Party 'The Lodge' - 9th October, 2019

- The Lodge was an important piece of work, the Chair had documents in respect of feasibility, shape and redesign. The Architect suggested resolutions, e.g. access to toilet / kitchen facilities for disabled, the problem perceived was not as problematic as first thought. If progressed, Council would need costings in respect of feasibility. The Project could work if Council was allowed to place an extension on building, however this may not be appropriate, as Listed Buildings of different grades were subject to appropriate criteria.

Ordinary Meeting of Council - 16th October, 2019

- A Member had met with the Police last Sunday, re-acquainting attendees with three pinch points where work could be envisaged; however, she had been downhearted by the response to email landowner of quarry, and not felt the Police had been interested in pursuing.
- Letter of thanks to Alan Davies, A.M., Kelly, and their guide – Richard, who was multilingual (French-speaking, information could be passed to the Twinning Association).

257) Chair to sign Minutes

Minutes approved were duly signed by the Mayor in the presence of Council.

258) Correspondence

- 1) BGCBC
 - a) K Cross Re: Blaenau Gwent Integrated Wellbeing Network in Tabor Centre, Brynmawr 17.12.2019 from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m., booking essential.
 - Record, ongoing over years, not seem to be completed, waste of money
 - b) L Sage Re: Community Grant Funding opportunity link.
 - Noted; circulate to Members

Councillors T. Smith and B. Willis declared an interest in the following item and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.

- c)
 - i) List of Licencing Applications, week ending 01.11.2019
 - ii) List of Licencing Applications, week ending 08.11.2019
 - 1) The Queen Vic – Temporary event notice & Sale of Alcohol.
 - 2) Tredegar Miners Heritage Group – Small Society Lottery Licence.
- 2) One Voice Wales
 - a) SuDS: Proposed amendment to The Sustainable Drainage (Enforcement) (Wales) Order 2018.

- b) Presentation from Gareth Kiddie at Larger Council's Committee.
 - Noted; forward to Councillors DJ/KP/GJ
 - c) Representing the interests of people in the NHS in Wales: Our Plans and Priorities in 2020-21.
 - Noted; circulate to Members
 - d) Section 6: The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty. Compliance from Town Councils required.
 - Noted; forward to Councillor D. Jones
- 3) Welsh Government Written Statement for the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill presented to the National Assembly for Wales.
- Noted; welcome
- 4) Brynmawr Town Council Request for agenda items for next JCLC meeting 26.11.2019.
- Noted; welcome
- 5) S. Arnold Sirhowy Hill CIC Eco Base Project: summary and update on the project – **summary copied for all Members**
- Noted; Climate Change
- 6) Seafarers UK Fly the Red Ensign Certificate of Commemoration – **added to website**
- Noted
- 7) N. Evans Re: Recreation Ground. Asking where the plaque on the main stand as gone.
- Noted; forward to BG
- 8) Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council Orthodontic survey – **added to website**
- Noted; welcome
- 9) GAVO
- a) GAVO Gwent Volunteer Management Network Tuesday 26th November 2019: Invite to attend this free informal learning event 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. at Llanhilleth Miners Institute.
 - b) Invite to Gwent Archives tour/overview event on 25.11.2019 at 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

- c) Consultation on the proposed Equality Objectives for 2020-2024, consultation ends 6th December, 2019.

- Noted

10) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 15.11.2019 & 21.11.2019; Ville D'Orvault, Orvault & Co. Nov/Dec 2019 Issue 26; Communicorp Clerks & Councils Direct November 2019 Issue 126; Older People's Commissioner for Wales: Commissioner's Newsletter Special Bulletin – **added to website**
– **distributed to Members**: Received.

11) AGENDA

Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Meeting agenda 15.11.2019 at 10.00 a.m.
Tredegar Library – **available for Members**: received.

Councillors T. Smith and B. Willis declared an interest in the following item and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.

259) Planning:

a) i) **To consider an Officer's Report (if received)** None received

- ii) a) List of planning applications received in week 43.
b) List of planning applications received in week 44.
c) List of planning applications received in week 45.

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

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

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
C/2019/0296	K Jones 75 Rhoslan, Sirhowy Tredegar	Change of use from shop (ground floor) to café, replacement shop front and roller shutter and windows to upper floors, 38 Commercial Street.
No objections		
C/2019/0299	Mr & Mrs J Jenkins 12 Marion Close Tredegar.	Construction new detached dwelling on vacant plot in established housing settlement including access, parking and landscaping, Plot 12 Marion Close.
No objections		
C/2019/0301	Dr A U Khan Craig-Y-Nos	Ground floor outbuilding extension to garage for garden

Pochin Crescent
Tredegar

store, Craig-Y-Nos, Pochin
Crescent

No objections

C/2019/0307

Coalfields
Regeneration Trust
Unit 3 Maritime Office
Woodlands Terrace
Maes-y-coed
Pontypridd.

Establish use classification as:
Class D1 on ground floor for
heritage centre, Class B1 use on
upper floors for office use, and
associated external alterations
and new shop front as previously
approved. 10 The Circle.

No objections

C/2019/0309

Mr R Morgan
4 Charles Street
Tredegar.

Detached house with detached
double garage, land adjoining 10
Charles Street.

No objections

d) To consider other planning matters – None received.

260) Matters of Local Interest or Concern (by prior notice)

▪ **Office arrangements over the Christmas period**

The Clerk referred to the office over the Christmas period, confirming both members of staff had sufficient holidays remaining if the Council wished to close the office from Tuesday, 24th December, 2019 to Thursday, 2nd January, 2020. It was agreed that staff liaise with the Leader accordingly.

- The Leader said there had been a delay on the installation of the Christmas lighting, if not undertaken over the weekend, works would commence on Monday, 25th November, 2019.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.26 p.m.

Chair