

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held  
remotely via Microsoft Teams / hybrid  
on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillors E. Jones (Chair)  
D. Jones  
T. Smith  
A.E. Tippings  
D.W.A. Howells  
G. James  
A. Jones  
P. Prosser  
S. Rees  
D. Rowberry  
M. Turner  
G. Walters  
B. Willis

**In attendance:** Clerk – Ms. C. Price  
RFO – Ms. A. Edwards

**266) Apologies.** Councillors M. Cross, K. Phillips, H. Trollope, S. Trollope

## **267) Declarations of Interest**

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

## **268) To receive any verbal recommendations of all Sub-Committees / Working Party held prior to this meeting of Council**

No Sub-Committee or Working Party meetings had been held prior to Council.

## **269) To consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in May 2021**

The RFO spoke to the report and explained that the bank reconciliations, valid to date, were available for Members to view on request.

- **Tender for Insurance** – RFO to present to Special Meeting of Council scheduled for the following week.

There being no further queries regarding the Schedule of Accounts, presented items were approved for payment. The RFO asked that the four signatories liaise in respect of signing of the cheques for payment and the transfer of funds, as approved by Council, to be undertaken in the presence of the appropriate Member (remotely) and Town Clerk, which was noted accordingly.

**270) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:**

- a) **Publicity Sub-Committee – 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2021**
- b) **Civic Meeting of Council – 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2021**
- c) **Performance Review Sub-Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2021**
- d) **Ordinary Meeting of Council – 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2021**

A Member proposed an amendment (page 187, 4ii); however, this this was not seconded and therefore;

It was agreed that all Minutes be moved en bloc, as presented, as a true record.

**271) Chair to sign Minutes - at earliest opportunity in accordance with WG Legislation and Guidance**

To be duly signed by the Chair, adhering to safety regulations and relevant restrictions, at the earliest opportunity – Chair to liaise accordingly.

**272) Correspondence**

- 1) BGCBC
  - a) D. Wheelock Re: Information about RBL Centenary in Gwent. Centenary is May 2021 but RBL are looking to hold an event in person in 2022.
    - Noted.
  - b) K. Rees Re: Proposed removal of telephone boxes. Comments on the removal of the box from The Gwent Shopping Centre to be received by 02.07.2021.
    - Noted; on due consideration, Members felt the data indicated the telephone box was used almost daily and, perhaps it could be retained if only for emergency telephone calls. However, if the telephone box was removed, British Telecom should place a public notice in the booth itself, providing a full explanation of removal.

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

- c) S. Northall Re: Decision notification on the new 210-place Welsh Primary School and Co-located childcare provision. On 21.04.2021 Executive Committee determined that the proposal in the Statutory Notice be implemented.
- Council had carried out a thorough debate during consultation, presenting good grounds for feedback and seeking a response to points of concern. It should be noted, therefore, that Council had done their utmost to defend existing schools within Tredegar.

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

- d) 1) List of applications received, week ending 23.04.2021.  
2) List of applications received, week ending 30.04.2021.  
i) The Red Lion – variation of Designated Premises Supervisor. *Concerns were raised over possible illegal activity in the vicinity; it was considered this should be reported to the Police for investigation.*  
3) List of applications received, week ending 30.04.2021.  
i) Ashvale Stores – Transfer of premises licence & variation of Designated Premises Supervisor. *A Member assumed the current proprietor was retiring and that a congratulatory letter should be sent.*  
ii) M. J. Meats, car park Dukestown Club – Street Trading Consent.
- Noted.

A Member expressed concern that Councillors undertaking a dual role were being asked to relay messages to the Local Authority on licensing matters, as he did not see this as part of his role. Every Member had the opportunity to pass information to Blaenau Gwent direct and he would be unwilling to do so, unless received in writing and the information was evidence-based.

- 2) One Voice Wales
- a) Live Webinar: Your Town, Your Future, Town Centre Regeneration Event Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 via Zoom 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon.
  - b) Public Health Wales: Community-led Action project. Covid-19, help us to learn lessons from the community led response in Wales.
  - c) Help with a Bevan Foundation initiative: What do you love about the valleys?
    - Noted; forward to Members via email.
  - d) Strategic Asset Management Leadership free training course, 28.05.2021 at 10.00 a.m.
    - Noted.
  - e) World Refill Day 2021: seeking stories as part of a Refill Heroes mini-series of blogs / videos for social media.
    - Noted; forward to Members via email.
- 3) Open Doors
- Registration for the annual Open Doors festival is now open: Deadlines for Open Doors 2021 is 1<sup>st</sup> July for registration and event dates are 1<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September.
- Noted; present to Events Sub-Committee in June to agree a date.
- 4) Integrated Wellbeing Network
- a) Volunteers week 2021: we need your support! Asking for a virtual “thank you” to all the brilliant volunteers.
    - Noted; forward to Members via email.
  - b) EYST Wales invitation to consultation sessions on the Welsh Government’s proposed Race Equality action plan
    - Noted.
  - c) Participatory Budgeting – Community Involvement – Planning Group: Recruiting community members to be part of the planning group, looking for 20-30 residents to sign up
    - Noted.

## 5) PUBLICATIONS

Tredegar Wellbeing newsletter issue 3 – added to website & Twitter; Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Vaccination Update, issue 14/15/16/17 – added to website & Twitter; Blachere Illuminations helps councils go green; Communicorp Local Councils Direct Issue 250 May 2021; IWN Sharing of service information. List of partners; Get Help Stay Safe leaflet: information and support for older people experiencing abuse.- added to website: Welsh Government Electoral Reform Newsletter Issue 14: Blaenau Gwent Wellbeing Champion Newsletter, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition – added to website; Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council Annual Plan 2021/22; Citizens Advice Caerphilly Blaenau Gwent News Spring Edition 2021; ABUHB Spotlight On.....Urgent & Emergency Care Newsletter Issue 1 – added to website & Twitter; Melo update & Mental Health Awareness week 10-16.05.2021; Communicorp Clerks & Councils Direct May 2021 Issue 135 – ***distributed to Members***: Received.

## 6) AGENDA

None received.

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

### 273) Planning:

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

ii) a) List of planning applications received in week 16

b) List of planning applications received in week 17

**b) Verbal report of the Planning Committee, if any:** None received.

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

<b>App. No.</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
C/2021/0102	Mrs. H. Ramsey Oakdale Cottage 36 Newton Road Goytre, Pontypool	Single storey rear extension, 104 Vale Terrace.
<b>No objections</b>		
C/2021/0103	Mr. A. Rahman Maes-y-coed Guest Pontmorlais West Merthyr Tydfil	Conversion of former offices to 11 room bed & breakfast facility with residential unit, associated parking provision, internal and external alterations and decking – Former Job Centre, Coronation Street.

*Observations:* a Member considered this a 'loaded' topic, judging by comments made on social media, and he therefore sought the views of his Colleagues. Following a brief discussion, whereby Members' concerns were aired, the Clerk emphasised that Council could only respond to the details

outlined in the application, and could not pre-empt any alternative use, and cite only associated Planning Conditions to the application presented.

**Deferred for further consideration.**

C/2021/0108 Mr. L. Davies Construction of an attic roof extension, 2 Cefn Parc.  
51 Whitworth Terrace  
**No objections** Tredegar

C/2021/0110 R. Jones Proposed development of two detached dwellings, boundary enclosures and associated works, 25 and 26 Maes Morgan, Nantybawch.  
LRM Planning Ltd  
**No objections** 22 Cathedral Road  
Cardiff

C/2021/0116 Mr. & Mrs. T. Morgan Proposed change of use from redundant public house to create a single-family dwelling house (reinstating its original use), single storey extension, partial demolition of single storey structures, construction of canopy roof and associated alterations, Rhyd Hall, The Rhyd.  
13 Copper Beech Drive  
**No objections** Tredegar

**No objections:** a Member considered it a shame to be losing this facility, particularly as there were not many gathering places in that area.

C/2021/0117 Mr. R. Davies Rear single storey kitchen/dining extension, 100 Ystrad Deri.  
100 Ystrad Deri  
**No objections** Tredegar

C/2021/0126 Dr. W. Hurst Extensions to the existing store with internal reconfiguration and modernisation works including alterations to associated access and parking arrangements, Lidl Gelli Road.  
Lidl GB Ltd  
**No objections** Waterton Industrial Estate  
off Cowbridge Road  
Bridgend

C/2021/0133 Mr. & Mrs. N. Parry New detached dwelling (replacement for previous approval C/2016/0225) land to east of Whitworth Terrace.  
36 Commercial Street  
**No objections** Tredegar

C/2021/0135 Mr. S. Hiles GAP Proposed new access stairs and associated works, The Fir Tree Inn, Poplar Road.  
Architectural & Engineering Design Services  
**No objections** 22 Ty-Isaf Bungalows  
Penyrheol

C/2021/0138 Mr. A. Ransome Two storey extension to rear, 28 Arnold Place.  
28 Arnold Place  
**No objections** Tredegar

**d) To consider other planning matters:** None received.

## 274) Matters of Local Interest or Concern (by prior notice)

- Phillipa Hunt, A.M.– a Member had received an email from the Assembly Member, who had outlined issues impacting on environmental work being undertaken at St. James' reservoir – discarded gas cylinders, syringes, litter, general ASB, including setting fires. It was agreed that Council support these concerns by seeking an increased Police presence in the area and inform Community Safety (BGCBC); Councillor Gerran Walters would continue to liaise with the A.M. on behalf of Council on any matters of concern.
- Town Clock – a Member expressed concern that the covering of roundels with traffic cones was not sufficient protection. Another Member supported the concerns; she had spoken with the crew before work had commenced, suggesting the roundels be covered with sandbags and boards and these should be covered immediately.

Council agreed that the roundels were an important feature within The Circle but some concern was expressed that sandbags could prove a trip hazard, as although a good suggestion, would be outside the works area. Also, it was noted that any damage caused to the roundels would be the responsibility of the Contractor.

It was therefore agreed that stronger representation was needed to the Contractor, as Project Manager, to ensure the protection of these roundels, as stipulated within the tender specification: Clerk to action.

- Queen's Platinum Jubilee – to be held June 2022; Members should consider how Council would mark this event; a Blaenau Gwent-wide project was intended, with the gathering of digital stories.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.37 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair

