

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held remotely via
Microsoft Teams / hybrid on Wednesday, 7th July, 2021 at 6.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors **G. James (Chair)**
S. Rees
A.E. Tippings
D.W.A. Howells
E. Jones
K. Phillips
P. Prosser
D. Rowberry
J. Thomas
H. Trollope
S. Trollope
M. Turner

In attendance: Clerk – **Ms. C. Price**

057) Apologies. Councillors **T. Smith, M. Cross, A. Jones, D. Jones, G. Walters and B. Willis**

058) Declarations of Interest

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

059) To receive Mayor's report, as appropriate

The Mayor had presented the gift to Tredegar resident, Mr. Doug Price, on celebrating his 100th birthday, who had a lovely day with many visitors throughout. Also, the Deputy Mayor had attended the Barbarian Bowls event at Bedwellty Park, Tredegar, which had been well-attended. The work undertaken to the bowls green was commendable.

The Mayor reported the tragic passing of the daughter of Councillor Bernard Willis, to Cath Hares on the loss of her father, and Councillor Tommy Smith for his grandmother. Council observed a Minute silence as a mark of respect; sincere condolences were extended to the families.

060) To receive the verbal recommendations of all Sub-Committees / Working Party held prior to this meeting of Council

It was agreed that the following recommendations of the Sub-Committee meetings held prior to Council be approved:

Tredegar Public Facilities Sub-Committee – 6th July, 2021

It was agreed that a further meeting of the Public Facilities Sub-Committee be held on

Monday, 12th July, 2021 at 9.30 a.m. in order to discuss technical data, to be supplied by G. Adams Construction, in respect of the illumens / arc span.

Civic Sub-Committee – 7th July, 2021

- **Coalfields Regeneration Trust – recommendation of £200** - exceeding Start Up grant, as Members felt the nature of this project would have a beneficial impact on the community as a whole, due to the involvement of other local associations; it would be used to direct them to other groups in the area, increasing tourism footfall for others also.
- **Retired Police Dogs of Gwent – recommendation of £100** - identified that these dogs, whilst in active duty, served and protected our community and there were currently active dog handlers resident in Tredegar, who in the future may/would become owners of their retired dogs.
- **Chloe's Community Cupboard – recommendation of £200** - exceeding Start Up due to the recent expansion to two shops, one being used for the distribution of free second-hand school uniforms, which would also be undertaken via 'pop-up' shops in the community.
- **Dukestown Football Club** - no contact had been made; therefore the RFO would contact the Club again, with a further invite to attend a meeting.

Update on entrance door to the Town Clock: Councillors T. Smith, A.E. Tippings and B. Willis had met with Tredegar Fabrications to discuss the issue; the door was hanging low due to wear and tear of the hinges. A number of options were considered – grinding the bottom of the door, grinding the lip, drilling out the hinge or replacement of the door as a whole. The representative was reluctant to undertake the work due to the door being 200-year-old cast metal; he had therefore agreed to consider the work needed and respond to Council with the best option and approximate cost. He also expressed he would appreciate any guidance from Cadw, having the appropriate expertise in this field.

The Member said that the least damage could be caused by drilling out the hinge as the first option and riveting new hinges; however, in respect of costing, this could be difficult to estimate as further damage could be caused during works as the metal could prove brittle.

061) Grants:

a) To receive and consider grants to Sporting and Cultural organisations

Gwent Defibbers - Any financial assistance received would be used to purchase a new battery for the cardiac science defibrillator in town.

2019/20 June'19 CQ No. 845 £200.00: *Approved accordingly.*

b) To receive and consider grants to Churches & Chapels (s.137) - Grants as of 01.04.2017 now max £300.00 *(before awarding a grant Council must be satisfied the grant is being given for non-religious purposes with the building being for community use)* – None received.

062) Correspondence

- 1) BGCBC
 - a) List of applications received, week ending 11.06.2021.
 - i) A. & J. Local Store – Premises licence.

- ii) J.M. Thomas – Personal Licence
- b) List of applications received, week ending 18.06.2021.
- c) List of applications received, week ending 25.06.2021.
 - i) Parc Bryn Bach – Street temporary trading consent 01 - 28.07.2021.
 - ii) Parc Bryn Bach – Street temporary trading consent 29.07 - 26.08.2021.
- Noted.
- d) S. Cargill Re: Play sessions. Requesting to use Deighton field on the afternoons of 28th July and 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th August, between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m.
 - Noted; Council was pleased to approve such use and offer support.

2) One Voice Wales Welsh Government on Power to Trade: One Voice Wales response 11.06.2021.

- Noted: circulate to all Members.

3) G. Badham Thank you to Council for the allocation of a defibrillator in the North of Tredegar

- Noted.

4) PUBLICATIONS

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Vaccination Update, issue 23 & 24 – added to website & Twitter; J. Parkers Wholesale Catalogue Autumn 2021; OVW News update regarding significant changes to ePIMS; OVW Introducing Rachel Carter as the new OVW Local Places for Nature Officer; OVW, Older People’s Commissioner’s newsletter; BGCBC Publication: Armed Forces Annual Report; GAVO Voluntary Voice 2021 newsletter; OVW Climate Change Newsletter June 2021; RNIB, Finding volunteer befrienders for RNID – added to website & Twitter; Communicorp Local Councils Update Issue 252, July 2021; OVW, The All Wales Public Service Graduate Programme, apply now; OVW, WISERD June 2021 newsletter; Caerphilly County Borough Council, 2nd replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035, Call for Candidate Sites, deadline for submission is 31.08.2021; ABUHB, Care during the Coronavirus survey – added to Twitter/website

– ***distributed to Members***: Received.

5) AGENDA

None received.

063) Planning:

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

- ii) a) List of planning applications received in week 21
- b) List of planning applications received in week 22.
- c) List of planning applications received in week 23.
- d) List of planning applications received in week 24.
- e) List of planning applications received in week 25.
- f) List of planning applications received in week 26.

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

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

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
C/2020/0196	Mr. M. Sullivan 21 Heol Waen Ebbw Vale	Re-consultation: construction of two pairs of two-storey semi-detached houses and one two-storey detached house, land adjacent to Fairfield.
No objections		
C/2021/0197	Mr. A. Jenkins Rhyd Developments School House Llanellen	Outline planning permission for construction of dwellings at Pochin Works, Newport Road, Tredegar. Variation of Condition 1.
No objections		

d) **To consider other planning matters** – Planning Appeal: C/2020/0282 Maes Y Dderwen, 5 bedroom supported living unit and associated works: Councillors B. Willis and T. Smith had been tasked with compiling a response on this matter in line with their dual role to both the Town and County Borough.

064) Updates regarding Bedwellty House and Park / Parc Bryn Bach - any issues to have been previously reported direct to the House Management / Aneurin Leisure personally

None received.

065) Delegates: to receive and consider reports from Delegates to Outside Bodies and the recommendations of Sub-Committees / Working Parties:

- a) **Joint Committee of Local Councils** – No meeting
- b) **Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales** – No meeting
- c) **One Voice Wales Larger Councils and AGM** – a Member had been nominated, together with the Chair and Vice of the SALC, Save a Life Cymru and Welsh Ambulance Service and other medical representatives, by OVW in respect of a piece of work by Welsh Government to rollout defibrillator provision, to ensure public accessibility and teach CPR to communities. Therefore, a small working party had been established to look at the initiative for the provision of a network of defibrillators across all local councils in Wales. Agreed: to convene a meeting of the Defibrillator Working Party to ensure Council

remained proactive in the maintenance of defibrillators and training provision.

d) Tredegar Twinning – regular joint meetings were being held between the new members and Mayor of Orvault, facilitating more engagement than previously. There was a photographic event being undertaken via social media with an art exchange being arranged and a leaflet being produced to encourage young people to join.

e) Pen Bryn Oer Community Fund – the fund was currently open for applications, with a deadline for closing of 1st September; Members were welcome to make any community groups aware of this funding.

f) School Governing Bodies – Bryn Bach Primary and Deighton Primary Schools to meet within a week.

g) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum – Councillor Prosser was still not being invited to attend, with a maximum of six allowed due to capacity; it was suggested that those allowed to attend should be rotated to prevent exclusion. Council was informed that Janet Karn had retired on taking up another position in the library service.

h) Blaenau Gwent CAB – No meeting

i) Tredegar Business Forum – No meeting

j) VVP / Tredegar Heritage Initiative – to be held imminently.

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

- Time capsule – a Member was pursuing the matter with The Grange, where the time capsule was currently being stored, and had taken up the matter with Alun Davies, A.M., to ask that the capsule be returned to Tredegar. Agreed: Clerk to write in support.
- Where the storage of museum items with the Borough – artefacts had previously been stored by the County Borough Council, museum representatives would like to visit the storage facility and retrieve certain NHS-related items. Council was informed that such items had been stored in Abertillery Sports Centre – an open day had been arranged by the former Heritage Officer with formal groups invited to take up ownership of the items; therefore, items in storage had been redistributed to affiliated museums. Councillor Tippings agreed to liaise with the appropriate BG Officer to enquire of any items remaining.
- Querying whether there will be parking charges in the main car park in town as new signs up – Blaenau Gwent was undertaking a review of parking, and had erected signage outlining that motorists should park properly within each parking bay; there was no intention of levying parking charges at this time.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.39 p.m.

_____ Chair