

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held via Microsoft Teams / hybrid on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillors A.E. Tippings. (Chair)  
A. Jones  
M. Turner  
A.E. Evans  
L. Thomas Evans  
G. Jones-Griffiths  
D. Rowberry  
J. Thomas  
P. Tolley  
H. Trollope  
G. Walters

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

**296) Apologies.** Councillors K. Phillips, G. Badham, E. Jones, S. Mavar, S. Trollope and K. Waldron

## **297) Declarations of Interest**

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

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

It was agreed the proposals of the Events Sub-Committee held prior to Council be accepted and approved accordingly:

- The Calendar of Events 2026 be approved accordingly and published within the public domain
- T2520 – ongoing actions be progressed accordingly.

## **299) To consider the Budget Against Actual figures to the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2025**

The RFO spoke to the report, as at the third quarter and taking into consideration anticipated spend for the final quarter, providing an explanation of under and overspends. These figures had been received by Council as part of the budget-setting process completed by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2025, but no narrative had been supplied at that time.

The information shown in 'Pink' indicated how the budget heading met the variances in excess of £100.00 / 15% and therefore required an explanation. The Officer had also offered explanations for some variances that did not meet the parameters, but felt an explanation was needed.

Consideration was thereupon given to the proposed Recommendations contained within the report, which were approved unanimously:

- **Stationery & Equipment** – virement of £600.00 from ‘Insurances’
- **Postage & Petty Cash** – virement of £150.00 from ‘Insurances’
- **Town Clock ‘Energy’** – virement of £100.00 from ‘Town Clock Insurance’
- **Town Clock ‘Maintenance fees / repairs’** – virement of £1,190.00 from ‘Town Clock Garden Surround’
- **Grants** – virement of £200.00 from ‘Grants – Sporting / Cultural’
- **Publicity** – virement of £100.00 from ‘Special Projects / Events’

### **300) To consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in February, 2026**

The RFO spoke to the report and explained that the bank reconciliations, valid to date, were available for Members to view at the meeting or upon request in the office, which was noted accordingly.

- The information was split to reflect items that were for ratification only and the payment method applied, i.e. Debit Card, plus cheque and Direct payments for the month.
- BGCBC ‘fridge collection’ – the amount of £6.90 related to ‘Bulky Waste collection’, unfortunately the Local Authority had informed Council this was a residential service and that the Town Council was considered as ‘trade’, even though the RFO had explained that Tredegar Town Council was a ‘not for profit’ organisation.
- Hospice of the Valleys ‘Go Yellow’ and ‘Bronze Level sponsorship’ - £75.00 and £250.00 respectively had been allocated up to the maximum amount that remained available to the Hospice of the Valleys during a financial year [£375.00]; as £50.00 had already been allocated for the Christmas Jumper Appeal.  
In response to a comment raised, the RFO confirmed that the organisation could apply again for funding in the new financial year.
- Blaenau Gwent Otters – an additional grant had been awarded to the Otters by Council in the sum of £1,000.00.
- Section 137 payments in Schedule of Payments – Resolution of Council: In pursuance of the power conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, expenditure up to £121,947.61 was approved in relation to the above £175.00.

There being no further queries regarding the Schedule of Accounts, presented items plus the additional amounts reported were approved for payment. The RFO asked that the designated signatories liaise in respect of the transfer of funds and authorisation of the online payments, as approved by Council, to be undertaken in the presence of the appropriate Member and Town Clerk, which was noted accordingly.

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

- a) **Performance Review Sub-Committee - 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2026**
- b) **Civic Meeting of Council - 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2026**
- c) **Performance Review Sub-Committee - 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2026**
- d) **Ordinary Meeting of Council - 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2026**

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

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

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

### 303) Correspondence

- 1) BGCBC
- a) A. Watkins Re: Grass cutting and 2026 / 2027. SLA will increase by 2% to £7,023.00. **Confirm if Council wishes to accept new rate.**
    - Agreed: expenditure approved accordingly.
  - b) S. Edmunds Re: Official opening, Ysgol Gymraeg Tredegar. Passed the comments on to the event organiser and assures Council that no slight was intended. Will arrange a visit if Members of Town Council wish.
    - Following a discussion with an Officer of BGCBC, the Leader had asked the Clerk to write to the Cabinet Member expressing disappointment that Town Council had not received an invitation to the official opening of the School. The Member felt that all elected Members within Tredegar should be informed of any events within their area and had outlined the breakdown in communication and suggested this evidenced his reluctance in Council signing the Town and Community Councils' Charter.
  - c) i) L. Sage Re: Draft Tenancy at Will and List of Works, Tredegar Recreation Ground.  
ii) L. Sage Re: Draft Tenancy at Will and List of Works, Tredegar Recreation Ground. Further update on the works being actioned.
    - Noted.
  - d) A Tippings Re: St Davids Day. Asking whether she should inform the schools to contact us to discuss transport or are TTC organising it?
    - A discussion ensued regarding if Tredegar Town Council would like to support this joint event by providing transport across all Schools within the Tredegar area to access activities in Bedwelty House arranged via Aneurin Leisure and BGCBC;

Whereupon, in respect of allocation of the grant monies and arrangements:

It was agreed that Councillor Alyson Tippings liaise with the schools in respect of transport, to be organised by each individual school on their own behalf, for six Primary Schools with a contribution up to £165.00 maximum per school.

2) Aneurin Leisure

Re: Concern, Lord Tredegar portrait. Unable to have the picture on display at all times but would assist with its movement on to the empty wall at the rear of the Council Chamber which would ensure it is visibly at all times and protect it from potential damage.

- A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the memorabilia / heritage items in Bedwellty House.

Council expressed sincere concern as to the treatment of the items in storage and on display. For example, it was considered that the portrait of Lord Tredegar should be on display at all times and not removed when events, such as weddings, were held in the Assembly Room.

Whereupon it was agreed that Council write to Cadw to ascertain responsibility for appropriate care / storage, with an invitation extended to visit and the Director of the Aneurin Leisure Trust.

3) Cllr P Tolley

Re: Potholes in Blaenau Gwent. Request we shared BGCBC's message regarding potholes.

- Noted; share Local Authority link for information on TTC social media.

4) Blaenau Gwent  
Heritage Forum

Update on how the group promote and celebrate the culture/heritage of Blaenau Gwent. To help foster relationships they are extending an invitation Members to attend their monthly committee meetings which are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 10am Tredegar Library.

- Noted. Councillor A.E. Tippings as delegate and Councillor A. Jones as Reserve.

5) Welsh Refugee  
Council

Re: Request to speak at Council. Paul Shackson, Communications Manager, wishes to speak in relation to a campaign running called 'Behind the Headlines' which exists to tackle misinformation around asylum and refugees.

- Noted; Council welcomed the opportunity.

- 6) Hospice of the Valleys
- a) Great Festive Dress Up 2025 donation certificate £50.00.
    - Noted.
  - b) Re: Go Yellow Day for Hospice of the Valleys, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026. Save the date and consider participating.
    - Noted: £75.00 agreed unanimously, as detailed within the Schedule of Accounts for payment [Agenda Item].

## 7) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 13.02.2026 & 20.02.2026; OVW Commissioner's Newsletter: February 2026; BGCBC Re: New and Upgraded Grassroots Sports Facilities to get Wales Active GOV.UK – ***distributed to Members***: Received.

*Councillors. D. Rowberry and J. Thomas declared an interest in the following item and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.*

### 304) Planning:

- a) i) List of planning applications received in week 05
- ii) List of planning applications received in week 06

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

<b>App. No.</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
P/2026/0022	Mrs. C. Hares Aneurin Leisure Trust	Resurfacing of part of courtyard, Bedwellty House and Park.
<b><i>No objections</i></b>	Bedwellty House & Park Morgan Street Tredegar	

- c) **To consider other planning matters** – None received.

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

- Twinning: storage of tables and chairs above the public toilets area.
- Public Conveniences – cameras not recording, this issue needed to be resolved as soon as possible; also, a Ladies cubicle was closed. The Deputy Mayor said that he had ordered the parts required for the remedial work required and hopefully this would be done in the next week or so.
- Town Clock: Lighting – Clerk to pursue accordingly, i.e. four corner posts and floodlights.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.02 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair