TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at Bedwellty House on Wednesday 5th June 2013 at 6.00pm.

Present:	**Councillor**	**T. Smith** **A. Cotton** **R W Thomas** **D. Rowberry** **H. Trollope** **B. Willis** **J Morgan** **P. Prosser** **M. Cross**
In attendance:		**Ms. C.M. Keane – Town Clerk** **Mrs. A. Jones – RFO**

042) Apologies: **Cllrs. R. Watkins, A. Tippings, G. Bowen-Knight, T Gregory, D. Howells, M. O' Sullivan, S. Trollope and O. Price.**

043) To consider the exclusion of the Press and Public by virtue of the matters to be discussed under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12a and the Data Protection Act 1998.
This was agreed.

044) To receive a verbal report and the recommendations of the Civic Sub Committee Meeting held in the Miners' Room prior to this.
a) To consider an application by Gwent Police – the recommendation of the Civic Sub- Committee was to support the application regarding the skate park. It was agreed that the Town Council support the project to either move the skate park into Bedwellty Park or to make improvements to safety in the current location. The sum of £500 was agreed as soon as the project was agreed and up and running.
b) To consider the application by Tredegar Moose No. 1 Ladies Circle -the recommendation of the Civic Sub-Committee to agree a start up grant of £100 was agreed unanimously.
c) To consider the application by St James Church mothers Union - the recommendation of the Civic Sub-Committee to agree a start up grant of £100 was agreed unanimously.

045) Cultural and Sporting Grants (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19 and Local Government Act 1972 s.137
No thanks received.

Completed Financial Assistance Project form from Tredegar Thespians and Tredegar Operatic Society.

Cllrs. D. Rowberry and H. Trollope declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.
Hospice of the Valleys – a grant request for £250.00 was recommended.

Cllr. P. Prosser declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.
Tredegar History & Archive Society – a grant request for £200 was recommended.

Grants to Churches and Chapels
None received.

Grants to be Approved for payment from Meeting held 15th May 2013:-
Tredegar Methodist Church – £200 grant recommended.
Tredegar Christians Together - £200 grant recommended.
Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum - £200 grant recommended.
Re-Liance Bus Preservation Group - £200 grant recommended.
Tredegar Gardeners Club - £200 grant recommended.
Tredegar Quilting Circle - £200 grant recommended.
The Oak Football Club - £200 grant recommended.
The above items were agreed en-bloc by a unanimous show of hands.

046) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in May and amalgamated with June 2013.
The RFO explained the amalgamation of accounts. It was noted that bank reconciliations for all accounts were available for Members inspection.
Tredegar Historical Archive Society were thanked by Council. Details of the bank mandate were given by the RFO. It was noted that the new Civic gifts (clocks) were much appreciated by their recipients.
Cllr Cross arrived at this point.
The RFO pointed out that the Internal Auditor would be present at the next Meeting to sign off the accounts and that a good turnout would be appreciated.
Payments to the bands were noted and the RFO confirmed that they would not be released until invoices had been received following their performances in the Park. At this point a number of complaints which had been received by stewards at the concerts, relating to catering, were received by Council. It was agreed to monitor this situation.
Thanks were given to the RFO and she then withdrew.

Declarations of interest were received from Cllrs. Rowberry and Willis who took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.
047) Planning
a) To consider an Officer's Report
List of Delegated Items determined between 15th March 2013 to 22nd May 2013:-
C/2012/0376 Outline planning application for detached dwelling, plot of land at Ebenezer Street – Approved.
C/2013/0061 Change of use from flat over shops to office over shops with new rear car park and associated retaining wall, 39/40/40a Commercial Street – Approved.
C/2013/0057 Installation of 5 stainless steel figures representing historical people of Tredegar as part of the Homfray Trail, Bedwellty Park – Approved.
C/2013/0049 Installation of 3 stainless steel figures representing historical people of Tredegar as part of the Homfray Trail, Yard Level & Car Park – Approved.

C/2013/0050 Installation of 1 stainless steel figure representing historical people of Tredegar as part of the Homfray Trail, grass verge between Commercial Street & Gwent Way – Approved.
C/2013/0076 Outline planning permission for 1 dwelling, land adjoining 74 Walter Steet – Approved.
C/2013/0051 Installation of 1 stainless steel figure representing historical people of Tredegar as part of the Homfray Trail, next to Chartist Plaque Monument St. Lukes Road – Approved.
C/2013/0052 Installation of 1 stainless steel figure representing historical people of Tredegar as part of the Homfray Trail, verge adjacent to Crown roundabout St Lukes Road – Approved.
C/2013/0053 Installation of 1 stainless steel figure representing historical people of Tredegar as part of the Homfray Trail, verge near entrance to Health Centre Park Row – Approved.
C/2013/0087 Retention of detached garage and store to the rear, 69 Park Hill – Approved.
C/2013/0055 Retention of garage, 67 Ashvale – Approved.
C/2013/0085 Part conversion of existing garage to living accommodation including extension to link dwelling with garage, 10 St James Park – Approved
C/2013/0102 Single storey bedroom extension to rear of dwelling and internal adaptions for disabled persons use, 139 Ystrad Deri – Approved.
C/2013/0089 Proposed single storey bedroom extension to existing bungalow, 19 Ystrad Deri – Withdrawn.
C/2013/0100 To install external wall insulation to front, side elevation and rear of the property, 25 Alexandra Terrace – Approved.
C/2013/0101 To install external wall insulation to front, side elevation and rear of the property, 31a Whitworth Terrace – Approved.
C/2013/0116 Conversion of integral domestic garage to disabled bedroom and shower room facilities, 28 Arches Close – Approved.
C/2013/0063 Detached house with parking, land off Lower Salisbury Street – Recommends planning permission be GRANTED
C/2013/0096 Single storey front extension, first floor side extension and double garage extension to existing garage, 91a Charles Street - Recommends planning permission be APPROVED.
THE ABOVE ITEMS WERE RECEIVED AND NOTED EN BLOC.

b) APPLICATIONS

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2013/0152	Mr K Burr 2 Ashvale, Tredegar	Erect detached domestic garage at rear of Property.

NO OBJECTIONS

2013/0156	Mr R Regan 5 North Avenue, Tredegar	Two storey rear extension and timber decking area.

NO OBJECTIONS

2013/0164	Mr A Smith Davies Homes Ltd 1st Floor, 7 Gelliwastad Road Pontypridd	Retention of detached dwelling and conservatory and temporary use of integral garage as Sales Office, Plot 1 (house No. 2) Copperbeach Drive, Peacehaven

NO OBJECTIONS

c) Other Planning Matters

Planning Application C/2013/0062 Re-notification:- Circuit Of Wales motorsports facility, land north of Rassau Industrial Estate – CD containing responses to all queries and requests for information plus support appendices.
Comments to be submitted within 21 days of date of letter (15.5.13).
Received and noted. The disc was available to all Members at the Office.

048) Correspondence

1) BGCBC (a) Consultation Town/Community Councils pre meeting Thursday 20th June 2013 at 2pm Committee Room 4.
RECEIVED AND NOTED

(b) Bedwellty House & Park:-
(i) K. Stowers, Manager - Response to list of Concerts – will keep tea room open until 5.30pm.
RECEIVED AND NOTED – complaints that were received relating to catering to be monitored.
(ii) K. Stowers, Manager. Re: Culvert – Will be investigating the best long term solution and report the outcome to the Management Board as & when appropriate.
RECEIVED AND NOTED
(iii) Reception. Tredegar Hill Casket – gentleman stated that his father-in-law built the Casket and is requesting we make a record of his father-in-law's name which was Horris Clarke.
RECEIVED AND NOTED – we noted that it should be Horace and that confirmation would be sought.

Cllrs. Cross and Willis declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.
(c) (i) List of Licensing Applications week ending 17.5.13.
(ii) List of Licensing Applications week ending 24.5.13.
RECEIVED AND NOTED

2) One Voice Wales Email
(a) Larger Councils Conference 10th July 2013 Hafod a Hendre, Royal Welsh Showground, £30 per delegate. Booking form and agenda attached.
RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was explained why we came under the Larger Councils and it was agreed that the Leader(if available) and Cllr. Thomas would attend (info to both)

(b) 2013 Conference and AGM Saturday 5th October 2013 at Royal Welsh Showground, Built Wells, £65 per delegate.
RECEIVED AND NOTED. The move to Builth was welcomed and it was agreed that two should attend (Leader and Clerk if available)

(c) Details of their collaborative partnership with Commercial Christmas – special deals available to OVW members.
RECEIVED AND NOTED – to be kept on file.

3) Armed Forces Day:-

(a) Lt S Ward - Confirming the Band of the Royal Welsh for Armed Forces Day.

RECEIVED AND NOTED. This was warmly welcomed

(b) Tredegar & District Floral Art Society – Unable to participate this year. Have enclosed a donation of £50.

RECEIVED AND NOTED. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks.

(c) Cllr Thomas asking whether as a result of what happened in London will the security forces need to be made aware of our event.

Noted. The Clerk informed Members that local Police Officers had been made aware of the event via e-mail, post and in person. A Member made the Council aware of a neighbor who had had a tattoo in support of H4H and that he would send details so that he could be invited to AFD to help raise funds. Members also pointed out the need to have the area around the Ware Memorial cleaned, at which point the Clerk informed Members that tributes had been laid to Drummer Lee Rigby. It was also agreed to remind the Manager of the commitment to rectify the problems with the tarmac and to ask for progress. It was noted that the planting around the Bandstand was a little sparse. It was agreed to contact the Friend of Bedwellty Park and the Volunteers to ask if they would be available to help on AFD. Members also suggested that those who volunteered to help Town Council at various events should receive some sort of recognition. Another Member also said that he would try to get the WRU Trophies again.

Cllr Morgan arrived at this point.

4) Orvault Visit:-

(a) Cllr A Hobbs. Commending the Mayor and his consort for the way they represented Tredegar and the Town Council during the recent visit to Orvault.

RECEIVED. With thanks. (to be put on web)

(b) Cllr T Smith - Forwarded email he had received from L. Price thanking him for participating in this year's twinning trip and how well he portrayed an image to be proud of to the French.

RECEIVED. With thanks. (to be put on web)

(c) L. Price - Copy of article from Orvault regarding the recent Twinning visit.

RECEIVED. With thanks.

5) Town Clock Planting:-

(a) Green Shoots - Offering services for gardening.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to ask them to contact Council urgently.

(b) Cllr Smith enquiring about the planting of the Clock and Cllr Tippings requesting plants to be ordered asap.

See 5(a)

6) Mayor Changes:-

(a) Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council - Cllr M. James is Mayor, Cllr C. Bridgeman is Deputy Mayor and Cllr D. Tucker as Leader.

(b) Community Council of Abertillery & Llanhilleth – Cllr Jim Roles is Mayor, Cllr Smith is Deputy Mayor.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to invite them to AFD.

7) Knight Frank Response re Trefil.

This was noted. Mr Smith pointed out that the area beyond the barrier is designated as a bridleway – this raised comments that it was the only bridleway capable of taking 20 ton lorries throughout the day. It was agreed to put these questions to the BBNP representative when he attended Council.

8) Kidney Wales Information on dialysis numbers for Blaenau Gwent.

RECEIVED. It was noted that 5 people from Tredegar, 4 from Abertilllery and 6 people from Ebbw Vale used the hospitals travel service to attend dialysis in various location from Merthyr to Cardiff and Newport. Members noted that this treatment would be carried out 3/4 times per week and that these numbers did not reflect those who used their own transport. This made statements by the Health Board that there would be insufficient number for a dialysis unit at Ebbw Vale questionable. It was agreed that this information be passed to the AM.

9) Bridget Stadden Stroke UK

If people want to buy T shirts on the sponsored walk Saturday 10th June they will cost £3 each.

RECEIVED. Members sponsored a fellow Member to take part.

10) Mrs Lewis Asking for financial support for her daughter who has been given the opportunity to audition for the National Youth Brass Band of Wales.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to send a letter of congratulations but that Council could not offer individual financial support.

11) Cllr Price Welsh Government Re: - Consultation - Remote attendance at Council Meetings.

RECEIVED. It was noted that this would be difficult and costly.

12) Barbara Berry Group of children from Georgetown school will be performing Welsh folk dancing with the Orpheus on 16.6.13 in the bandstand. Asking whether it would be possible for them to do a bucket collection at that time to raise funds for the Eisteddfod Yr Urdd which is being held in Llancaiach Fawr, Nelson 2015.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to support and to allow the collection – the children to be dtewarded by the organisation.

13) RTPI Cymru Details of a proposed Wind Energy Seminar in Wales at Carno on Thursday 20th June also visit to Carno II wind farm.

RECEIVED. It was noted that this had received much publicity and that an added aggravation was the need for pylons to carry the power.

14) Commission on Devolution Wales

Dates and venues of the programme of public engagement events taking place across Wales to obtain views on the current devolution settlement.

RECEIVED. Info available for Members.

15) Alun Davies AM Minor Injuries use it or lose it – in noticeboard.

RECEIVED.

16) Gavo (a) BBC Children in Need Funding Surgery Thursday 27th June 2013, Gavo Office, Brynmawr – to apply for an appointment project proposals must be submitted to Mandy Moore no later than Wednesday 19th June 2013.

RECEIVED. Forwarded to interested organisations.

(b) Community Justice Cymru Conference at University of South Wales, Newport on 26th June 2013.

RECEIVED. Interested Member to contact the Clerk.

049) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Road works report week ending 24.5.13; The Green Valleys Newsletter Spring 2013; Brecon Beacons National Park Action for Tourism Issue 19 Summer 2013 & Fforest Fawr Geopark News Issue 13 Spring 2013; BGCBC Road works report week ending 31.5.13 & amendments; Ville D'Orvault Bordereau d'envoi Press cuttings April 2013; BGCBC road works report week ending 7.6.13; Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Link to agenda for meeting 11.6.13; One Voice Wales Link to Consultation Draft Guidance Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 Part 7: Communities & Community Councils - http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/localgovernment/lg-measure-2011-part-7/?lang=en ; Communicorp Local Councils Update June 2013 Issue 163; Welsh Water Seeking public help to track down private pumping stations – notice in noticeboard; One Voice Wales Welsh Affairs road and rail links; One Voice Wales Re: - government Public Consultation Future management of private water supply pipes.

AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS

050) AGENDA

Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Thursday 23rd May 2013 at 9.30am Tredegar Library; Special Audit Committee Thursday 27th June 2013 at 10.30am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Licensing Committee Tuesday 4th June 2013 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee Monday 3rd June 2013 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee – RESCHEDULED to Tuesday 4th June 2013 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Execuive Wednesday 5th June 2013 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Education & Skills Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 11th June 2013 at 2pm RESCHEDULED to Monday 17th June 2013 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Meeting of the Council Wednesday 12th June 2013 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Advance notice of Special Meeting of the Council on Wednesday 26th June 2013 at 1pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.

AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS

051) To consider items for the inclusion on the agenda of the next Consultation meeting between Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and members of the JCLC. (Minor injuries service at Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan/Ambulance Service & Dialysis)

RECEIVED. It was agreed to forward these items and to make sure that Members had the information on dialysis numbers available.

052) Matters concerning Bedwellty House and Park

RECEIVED. The problems with the fountains and leaks in the ponds were highlighted and it was mentioned that this issue had been raised repeatedly with the Management Board. The problems with troughing were noted. It was agreed that there should be more accountability from Officers. It was agreed to agenda ongoing problem for the next Management Board meeting.

053) To discuss the list previously issued relating to celebrations of the 100th Anniversary of the birth of the late Michael Foot on 23rd July 2013.

It was agreed to defer this to a Meeting of the Event Sub Committee to be arranged as a matter of urgency.

054) Delegates: To receive and consider reports from Delegates to Outside Bodies and the recommendations of Sub-Committees/working Parties.

i. Tredegar Twinning – The thanks and comments by twinning were noted with thanks and it was noted that younger member were being attracted, with great interest being shown in France.
ii. School Governing Bodies
   Bryn Bach Primary – Worries over the roadworks were ongoing and that attendance records were exemplary.
   Georgetown – had also had exemplary attendance.
iii. Parc Bryn Bach Management Committee – Members noted a number of ongoing problems and it was agreed to invite the Management to give a presentation to Council to find out if they are giving value for money. It was agreed that Cllr. Cross should replace Cllr Morgan on the Board.
iv. Tredegar Youth Café – Members noted that they were struggling and it was agreed that they did an excellent job and that Council should support their investment in younger people.
v. Communities First Board – it was noted that they were now fully staffed and ready to make progress and had already had a successful event in Bedwellty Park.
vi. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum – there had been a mix-up with dates.
vii. Tredegar Heritage – It was agreed to ask them to meet with Council Heritage Committee and that there had been an exhibition in town regarding the proposed regeneration which Council had not been informed of.

055) Matters of Local Interest and concern

It was noted that next week was Carers Week and that there would be a drop in session at the Library.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.35PM.

_____ CHAIR