TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber Bedwellty House Tredegar, on Wednesday 16th April 2014 at 6.40 p.m.

Present Cllrs: **T. Smith**
R. Watkins
A. Cotton
A. Tippings
D. Howells
D. Rowberry
H. Trollope
O. Price
P Prosser
M O'Sullivan
M. Cross
B. Willis
J C Morgan
G. Meredith
G. Bowen-Knight

Also Present: **Ms C M Keane – Clerk**
Mrs A Jones - RFO

378) Apologies Cllrs. T. Gregory, S. Trollope and R W Thomas

379) Declarations of Interest
The Mayor reminded Members to make declaration as and when required.

380) To consider the exclusion of the Press and public by virtue of the matters to be discussed under the provisions of the LGA 1972 Schedule 12a.
This was agreed**.**

381) To receive a verbal report and any recommendations of the Performance Review Committee held prior to this Meeting.
The recommendations of the Performance Review Committee were accepted and the RFO was thanked for her explanations of point considered.

382) To re-open the Meeting to the public.
This was agreed.

383) To receive a verbal report of the Civic Sub-Committee meeting held earlier in the Miners Room and receive recommendations.
The recommendations of the Civic Sub Committee were agreed and approved.

To consider and approve grants to sporting and cultural organisations, Churches & Chapels (s.137)
Grants were approved to the following:
Re-Liance Bus Preservation Group – £200.
Tredegar Angling Club - £200.
Sirhowy Tenants & Residents Association – £200

384) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in April 2014.
The accounts were received and payments agreed. Bank reconciliations were available for all Members.

385) To receive a verbal update on a meeting of the Bedwellty Park Management Board held on 9th April 2014.
It was noted that Cllr Morgan had declared an interest at the start of the Meeting and had left. It was noted that Cllr. Prosser was present in his role as a member of the Historical society. There was a heated discussion during which the Clerk who had stated formally that she was present only as a member of public was required to state that costs for the room were to be met by Council from funding which had been in place for some time. The Clerk stated on a number of occasions that the question of costs was a separate issue and had nothing to do with the purpose of this meeting which was to consider the planning application, which was eventually agreed.
Members agreed that any work undertaken on the room would enhance the whole building and it was agreed that officers be given plenary powers to resolve. It was noted too that the future of the Management Board was itself under consideration with the move towards Trust status.

386) Correspondence
1) BGCBC (a) 2014-15 Precept. – cheque banked.
Receipt had been noted.

(b) (i) L. Squire Re: Website Grant – Successfully application, cheque will be issued within next few days.
(ii) Website grant of £500 received – cheque banked.
Received with thanks. A Member asked for an update on the new website which was given.

(c) <u>Re: Planning application for Mayor's Parlour:-</u>
(i) L. Taylor – Conditions must be discharged before works commence.
(ii) D. Watkins – All suppliers/contractors will need to be vetted/approved by our technical services section.
(iii) F. Olding – Need to discharge the conditions with L. Taylor.
(iv) K. Stowers – Her understanding of last week's board meeting was that the application had been rubber stamped and representatives of Town Council had been asked to bring in depth report including costings, etc to next meeting to be discussed.
Received

(d) D. Ware Re: Rural Development Plan 2014-2020, Expression of Interest to establish a Local Action Group – Letter from Welsh Government confirm their application has been successful at the first stage of the process.
Received

Cllr Rowberry declared an interestand took no part in the following:

(e) (i) List of Licensing Applications week ending 28.3.14.
(ii) List of licensing applications week ending 4.4.14.

2) One Voice Wales

(a) Re: Area Committee Meetings 2014/15 – request for contact details of 2 representatives for these quarterly meetings.

To be supplied.

(b) European Parliament elections across Wales 22.5.14, registration deadline is 6.5.14, further information available at www.aboutmyvote.co.uk .

It was agreed that a meeting be arranged with the Borough to discuss.

(c) Clean Coasts Week 10th-18th May 2014, sponsored by McDonald's Restaurants Ltd. Flagship events being held all over Wales – list of places/dates/times/point of contact attached.

Received

(d) Re: BBC I Wales are looking for people living in interesting homes throughout Wales who would like to try a home swap holiday and take part in a new series.

Received.

3) Myanmar Embassy London
2 x Chinthes.

Received with thanks

4) Gala Lights Re: Bespoke motif – reoffer to sell to Council for £450.00.

It was agreed to cost a new motif.

5) Royal Welsh Confirming booking for AFD 29.6.14.

Received. A number of other items were discussed.

6) SLCC Joint SLCC/One Voice Wales Conference at Venue Cymru, Llandudno on Thursday 15th May 2014 - £59 + Vat for Members.

Received. Interested Members to contact

7) Torfaen CBC Greater Gwent (Torfaen) Pension Fund – Invitation to session on drafting & publishing Employer Policies on 29.4.14.

Received.

8) N. Smith MP Next surgery at Tesco Ebbw Vale on Friday 25th April 2014 at 3-4pm – added to our website & in noticeboard.

Received.

9) Cllr Smith Letter from Hospice of The Valleys regarding them granting permission to Roma Fundraising to contact companies on their behalf with the specific intention of raising funds for the Hospice through the medium of advertising.

Received.

10) P. Latham Christians Together collected £650 for the Mayor's Appeal at the bucket collection on Friday 11.4.14 at Morrisons Supermarket.

Received it was agreed to send a letter of thanks.

11) D. Manning-Lee Asking for Council's help to disband the rumours that the Tredegar St John's Ambulance branch has closed down. He has confirmed that there are lorries parked on the site because the owner of them does not have anywhere else to park them but the rumours that the building has been turned into a garage are completely untrue.

Received.

12) Shelter Cymru Due to the shortage of sufficient funding they are unable to expand their current provision to enable surgeries to be delivered in Tredegar at the present time.

Received.

13) Tai Calon Re: Land adjacent to Mountain Air – attached plan and asking if we can indicate the area to which our query relates to.

Information to be supplied.

14) Public Correspondence:-

(a) Mrs K Armstrong Re: Punch House ABC (Boxing Club) – Mr M Armstrong (Chairman & Head Coach) has passed away and they wish to continue Mike's good work in the community by continuing to run the club. Asking if Council would offer a letter of support for the club to enable them to apply for grants.

Members noted the death of Mr. Armstrong with sadness and praised him for the efforts he had made on behalf of the Club. It was agreed to offer continued support.

(b) P. Morgan Jones
(i) Thanks from him & his wife for the 60th Wedding Anniversary flowers from Council.
(ii) Re: Mayor's Parlour – Complaint about planned expenditure.

Noted.

15) Brecon Beacons National Park
Planning Obligation Strategy – Consultation Draft available from 10.4.14 to 5.6.14 at http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/the-authority/planning/strategy-and-policy/planning-obligation-strategy-consultation .
Received

16) Gavo (a) DWP Update information, http://www.gavowales.org.uk/welfare-reform .
Received

(b) Funding update: Blaenau Gwent's Armed Forces Community Covenant – Clerk seeking further information.

Received

(c) Ebbw Vale Deaf Club, Coffee Morning on 2nd May 2014 in the Vestry. Christchurch, Ebbw Vale from 11am to 2pm.

Received

17) In the Pink Charity "A Midsummer's Walk" Sunday 22nd June 2014 starts 8am Llanfoist & 8.30am Gilwern, finishes at Llangynidr. £10 registration fee, copy of form attached or can register online at www.pinkwalks.co.uk .

Received, interested members to contact.

18) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Road works report week ending 11.4.14 & 18.4.14; Ville D'Orvault le cens pratique #154 April 2014; Ville D'Orvault Bordereau d'envoi Press cuttings March 2014; One Voice Wales Re: Environment Wales Newsletter.

19) AGENDA

Social Services & Active Living Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 16th April 2014 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Executive Wednesday 16th April 2014 at 9am Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Wednesday 23rd April 2014 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Democratic Services Committee Wednesday 23rd April 2014 at 11am Committee Room Nos. 3 & 4 Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Environment, Economy & Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee Thursday 24th April 2014 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.

387) Planning:

a) To consider an Officer's Report (if received)

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2014/0073	BGCBC Baldwin House Ebbw Vale.	Outline application for development industrial units on Southern end of Tredegar Business Park.

No Objections, there were suggestions that the access to the site could be made through the Bridge Street site, thus reducing traffic through the Town Centre.

2014/0078	Mr C Davies Forest Edge, Whitworth Terrace Tredegar.	Change of use of land to garden curtilage with reprofiling works,.

No Objections

c) To consider other planning matters – there were none

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

a) Minutes of the Events Committee of Council held on 19th March 2014
b) Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19th March 2014.
c) Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held on 2nd April 2014.

The above minutes were received and adopted as a true record.

389) Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Events Co 19th March – Minute No 341 – It was agreed to make progress regarding a new supplier.

b) Ordinary 19th March – Minute No 356 – A Member agreed to contact Featherstone on behalf of Council.

c) Civic Meeting 2nd April – Minute No. 360 – It was agreed to chase up the local policing policy.

390) Chair to sign Minutes.
This was done.

391) Matters of Local Interest or Concern (by prior notice)
It was noted that a £1m grant had been awarded to the Town Centre as a result of the Vibrant Places bid. It was agreed to write and congratulate Officers and assure them of our co-operation.
Climate Change Phase II Project – a possible launch to be made at the Welsh Assembly

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.

_____Chair