TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at Bedwellty House on Wednesday 1st May 2013 at 6pm

Present:	**Councillor**	**A. Cotton**
		T. Smith
		M. Cross
		A. Tippings
		B. Willis
		H. Trollope
		S. Trollope
		D. Rowberry
		R. W. Thomas
		D. Howells
		P. Prosser
		O. Price
In attendance:		**Ms. C.M. Keane – Town Clerk**
Also Present:		**Invited guests.**

001) Apologies: **Cllrs. G. Bowen-Knight, M. O'Sullivan, H. Woolf, J. Morgan and T. Gregory**

002) Thanks and Appreciation by Cllr. A. Cotton, Mayor 2012 – 2013.
Cllr. Cotton announced this his Appeal had raised over £5000 and that it was his privilege to have been Mayor for the Homecoming event for Mark Colbourne MBE. He thanked his colleagues for their support and wished the incoming Mayor well.
Colleagues responded by thanking him and he had grasped the nettle and had undertaken his duties introducing the work of the Council to young people and for raising the profile of his charity the John Hartson Foundation.

003) To Elect a Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2014.
Cllr Tom Smith was proposed and seconded – there were no other nominations and Cllr Smith was elected unanimously with Members welcoming the chance for another younger Member of Council to take office.

004) Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the incoming Mayor.
The Mayor read the acceptance of Office and duly signed – it was then confirmed by the Clerk.

005) To receive any communication the Mayor may wish to lay before Council.
The Mayor, Cllr Smith, congratulated Cllr. Cotton on his year in office. He thanked his colleagues for their confidence in him and that he would do his best to fulfil the role of Mayor with their help and the support of the staff.

He then announced that he had selected Valleys Life after Stroke as his charity. This Charity is based in Tredegar and affiliated to the National Stroke Association. As a group they believe in life after Stroke – providing practical and emotional support to those who had suffered a stroke and their family and carers. His Mother, Mrs Elayne Niblett was to be his consort for the year supported by Cllr. Smith's partner Lynne.

006) To Elect a Deputy Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2014.
Cllr. Ryan Watkins was proposed and seconded and, there being no other nominations, was duly elected unanimously. He then completed his declaration of Office which was ratified by the Clerk and was duly installed as Deputy Mayor.

007) To Elect a Member as Leader of Council until the Annual Meeting of Council 2014.
Cllr. Andrew Cotton was proposed and seconded and, there being no other nominations, was duly elected unanimously. He thanked Members for the role stating that he had "big shoes to fill". He commended Cllr. Cross on the excellent job that he had done.

008) To Elect a Member as Deputy Leader of Council until the Annual Meeting of Council 2014.
Cllr. Alyson Tippings was proposed and seconded and, there being no other nominations, was duly elected unanimously with much praise from Council for the sterling work that she undertakes on behalf of the Town Council.
At this point Cllr. Cross the outgoing Leader thanked Cllr. Tippings for her help and support and that he was sure that as the longest serving Member she would be of great support to Cllr. Cotton. He commented on the young leadership that the Council was fortunate to have.

009) To approve that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leader and Deputy Leader are ex-officio members of all Council Committees and sub-committees with voting rights.
This was agreed unanimously

010) To receive and confirm the Standing Orders of Tredegar Town Council.
This was agreed unanimously as approved by the previous administration.

011) To receive and confirm the Financial Regulations of Tredegar Town Council.
This was agreed unanimously as approved by the previous administration by a show of hands.

012) To appoint Barclays Bank plc as the Council's Bankers (existing)
This was agreed unanimously as approved by the previous administration by a show of hands.

013) To Authorise the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Leader and Deputy Leader of Council with the Clerk and RFO to sign cheques on behalf of Tredegar Town Council.
This was agreed unanimously as approved by the previous administration by a show of hands.

014) To consider any Urgent correspondence

a) Cadw — Notice of final grant payment of £851 (copy Annette); Inspector is content with the Maintenance Programme but requests that the pointing which has suffered frost damage is redone during the Summer months.

RECEIVED. It was agreed to write to Cadw and thank them.

b) N. Smith MP — Holding a food bank collection, in conjunction with Trussell Trust, on Friday 10.5.13 Asda, Nantyglo between 2.30pm & 3.30pm. Looking for volunteers to help.

RECEIVED. Members noted that the Food Bank scheme was expanding in the area and all Members available were asked to attend.

c) Kidney Wales Foundation

Offer of 4 complimentary tickets for the Walk For Life Gala Dinner 27th June 2013 at the Cardiff Marriott Hotel. Confirmation of acceptance is to be received by 20th May 2013.

RECEIVED. Members were thanked for their contribution on the day and reminded to return outstanding sponsor money as soon as possible. The Mayor stated that he wished to invite Mr and Mrs Latham as representatives of Christians Together to the dinner as his guests. This was in appreciation of the money that had been raised by Christians Together both at the Walk and also at a bucket collection at a local supermarket. This suggestion was warmly welcomed by all and they were wished a pleasant evening.

015) To consider any Urgent Planning Applications – None Received.

016) To set the Mayor's Allowance (£1050) and to authorise payment of the allowance.

This was agreed unanimously as approved by the previous administration by a show of hands.

017) To appoint a Civic Committee (all Members of Council).

This was agreed unanimously and so moved.

018) To appoint ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL to the Performance Review Committee to meet quarterly.

This was agreed unanimously and so moved.

019) To Confirm the following sub-committees and to appoint Members to serve on them until the Annual Meeting of Council 2014.

a. **Civic Sub-committee**

Cllrs.	A. Cotton	(Leader)/ (Chair)
	T. Smith	(Mayor)
	R Watkins	(Dept mayor)
	A E Tippings	(Dept Leader)
	R W Thomas	
	D Rowberry	
	D Howells	
	H Trollope	

b. Events Sub-Committee

Cllrs	T Smith	(Mayor)/ (Chair)
	R Watkins	(Dept Mayor)
	A Cotton	(Leader)
	A E Tippings	(Dept Leader)
	M Cross	
	H Trollope	
	T Gregory	
	R. Thomas	
	O. Price	
	H. Woolf	

c. Heritage Sub-Committee (encompassing Bedwellty House and Park, the Assembly Room Picture Gallery, Tredegar War Memorials and Tredegar Town Clock) With plenary powers up to £500.

Cllrs.	A E Tippings	(Dept Leader)/ (Chair)
	T Smith	(Mayor)
	R Watkins	(Dept Mayor)
	A Cotton	(Leader)
	J. Morgan	
	D. Howells	
	S. Trollope	
	D. Rowberry	
	P. Prosser	
	B. Willis	

d. Finance & Staffing Sub-committee

Cllrs	H. Trollope	(Chair)
	T. Smith	(Mayor)
	R Watkins	(Dept Mayor)
	A Cotton	(Leader)
	A E Tippings	(Dept Leader)
	D. Rowberry	
	D. Howells	
	O. Price	
	M. O'Sullivan	

e. Appeals Committee

Cllrs.	R. W Thomas (Chair)
	M. Cross
	P. Prosser
	G. Bowen-Knight
	T. Gregory
	H. Woolf
	S. Trollope
	J. Morgan
	B. Willis

f. Policy Sub-Committee- All Members of Council

Chair the Mayor Cllr. T. Smith

g. Community, Youth and International Sub-committee

Cllrs A. Cotton (Leader) (Chair)
T Smith (Mayor)
R Watkins (Dept Mayor)
A E Tippings (Dept Leader)
D. Rowberry
O. Price
T. Gregory
G. Bowen-Knight
J. Morgan
S. Trollope

h. To appoint Members to represent Tredegar Town Council on the Bedwellty Park Management Board with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

Cllrs T. Smith (Mayor)
J. Morgan
D Rowberry (Reserve)

The Chair of Committees and Sub-committee to be elected at the first Meeting of that Committee/Sub-Committee and to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2014.

020) To confirm the appointment of Mr C James as the Internal Auditor until the Annual Meeting of Council 2014.

Confirmed and agreed unanimously.

021) To appoint Members to serve on the following outside bodies:

a. JOINT COMMITTEE OF LOCAL COUNCILS/CONSULTATION WITH TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCILS COMMITTEE

Cllrs T Smith (Mayor)
A Cotton (Leader)
M. O' Sullivan
B. Willis
The Clerk- Ms C M Keane

b. GWENT VALLEYS ONE VOICE WALES

Cllrs A. Cotton (Leader)
M. O'Sullivan
M. Cross
The Clerk - Ms C M Keane

c. TREDEGAR TWINNING

Cllrs. T Smith (Mayor)
A E Tippings (Dept Leader)
D Rowberry
B Willis

d. SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

Bryn Bach	Cllr D Howells
Georgetown	Cllr. R Watkins
Deighton	Cllr. S. Trollope
St. Joseph's	Cllr. M. W. O'Sullivan
Glanhowy Infants & Juniors	Cllr M.O'Sullivan

e. BLAENAU GWENT COUNCIL FOR THE DISABLED

Cllrs. H. Trollope
S. Trollope
G. Bowen-Knight
B. Willis

f. PARC BRYN BACH MANAGEMENT

Cllrs O. Price
R. Thomas
J. Morgan
P. Prosser
M. O'Sullivan
T. Smith (Mayor) (Reserve)

g. TREDEGAR YOUTH CAFÉ

Cllr. G. Bowen-Knight

h. BLAENAU GWENT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

Cllrs T Smith (Mayor)
H Trollope
D. Howells (Reserve)

i. COMMUNITIES FIRST BOARD

Cllrs D. W. A. Howells
D. Rowberry

Please note that this is now in an advisory capacity only.

j. TREDEGAR CRIME PREVENTION PANEL

Cllr. R. W. Thomas

k. TREDEGAR BUSINESS FORUM

Cllr. T. Smith (Mayor)
O. Price

l. BLAENAU GWENT REGENERATION FORUM

Cllr J. Morgan
O. Price (Reserve)

m. BLAENAU GWENT HERITAGE FORUM

Cllrs T. Smith (Mayor)
P. Prosser
B. Willis

n. BLAENAU GWENT HARPS PROJECT

Cllr J. Morgan (currently in abeyance)

o. TREDEGAR HERITAGE

Cllrs	T. Smith	(Mayor)
	A Tippings	(Dept Leader)
	J. Morgan	
	P. Prosser	
	D. Howells	
	M. O'Sullivan (Reserve)	
	R. W Thomas (Reserve)	

p. One Voice Wales

Cllr A Cotton (Leader)

022) To agree the presentation of the Aneurin Bevan Prize, in conjunction with Tredegar Comprehensive School.

It was agreed to present the prize to the best student in a science subject (previously also, this student had gone on to study medicine.)

023) To confirm the pattern and timings of Meetings of Council.

These were confirmed unchanged.

At the conclusion of the Meeting flowers were presented to the outgoing and incoming consorts and everyone was invited to join the Mayor in the Carriage Room.

_____ Chair