TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber in Bedwellty House on Wednesday 22nd January 2014 to follow Performance Review.

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

270) Apologies Cllrs: **A. Cotton O Price T. Gregory G. Meredith G. Bowen-Knight M. O'Sullivan S. Trollope**

271) Declarations of Interest
The Mayor reminded Members to make declarations as and when required.

272) 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

273) To receive the recommendations of the Performance Review Meeting held prior to this regarding the setting of the Precept for 2014/15.
It was agreed to accept the recommendations of the Performance Review Meeting and to agree a standstill budget for 2014/15.

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

275) <u>Cultural and Sporting Grants (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19 and S.137</u>
Tredegar Ironsides RFC – A Grant of £200 was agreed.

<u>Grants to Churches and Chapels</u>
Ebenezer Welsh Congregational Church – A Grant of £200 was agreed.

276) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in January 2014.
It was noted that Bank Reconciliations were available for all Members to inspect.
The Accounts as previously inspected by Members were approved.

277) To Receive Inspector Thomas to respond to questions put by Members of Council previously.
The Inspector was welcomed by Members and then answered questions previously put by Members.
CCTV – he reported that Officers found it advantageous and was used to pre warn officers of incidents. The incident with the smashed windows in Tredegar had not resulted in any arrests due to there being insufficient evidence. He did inform Members that a Police Officer was sometimes sent to the Control Room at key times.
Crime figures. It was noted that there seemed to be more confidence in local police and that the way crime was recorded had changed to more accurately reflect the current situation.
Off road riders. Joint meetings with Dyfed Powys police were to be held. A Member invited Police Officers to join him at his property on a Sunday to see how many cyclists and 4x4 vehicles used the road to gain access to the mountain. Members had noted that there seemed to be more organised groups of 4 wheel drive vehicles coming from outside the local area and they were encouraged to keep a log of events and possibly obtain registration numbers.
Double yellow lines. Yet again a number of areas were highlighted. Ongoing problems in the Circle and other parts of town were brought to the Inspectors attention, as was a lack of signage at the bridge over the Sirhowy near Glanhowy School and the garage. He agreed to look at the signage issue.
Congratulations were passed to Insp. Budden and Sgt. O'Brien and the Inspector withdrew.

278) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:
a) Minutes of the Events Sub Committee Meeting of Council held on 16th December 2013
b) Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18th December 2013 - **inquorate**
c) Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on 8th January 2014.
d) Minutes of the Performance Review Meeting of Council held on 15th January 2014.- no matters arising
e) Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held on 15th January 2014.
The above Minutes were received and recorded as a true record.

279) Matters arising from the Minutes
1 -a) Events 16th December – the Clerk expressed her thanks to Cllr. Tippings for getting the list of names for the Baton carriers together at very short notice.
2 -c) Extraordinary Meeting on 8th January 2014 – Members agreed that the service supplied by Gala Lights had not been acceptable and that Council would seek legal advice from One Voice Wales before responding.
3 – e) Civic Meeting 15th January 2014 – Minute No 251 (1) c –Parlour it was agreed that all members of the Management Board should speak for the planning application and that all Borough Members should speak in favour at the Planning Meeting.
4) Minute 251 (1) h – QBR – it was agreed to prepare press releases in advance for the Baton Carriers with a note that there was a time embargo.
5) Minute no 257 (iii) Parents had been reminded that no dogs were allowed on ANY school property.
6) Minute no 258 (b) Young Firefighters – a possible collaboration with the Young Firefighters and Tai Calon was agreed with a view to extending allotments available.

280) Chair to sign Minutes.
The Minutes were signed.

281) To receive a verbal report of the Events Committee meeting of Council held on 22nd January 2014.
A verbal report was given re-iterating the possible visit of the Ambassador and Military Attache. It was also reported that the World War II memorabilia was to be replaced as soon as the Bert Westacott exhibition came down. Details of events planned by Blaenau Gwent Heritage which included a Service and Parade on 17th March together with 19 different events which were proposed for Bedwellty Park.
Details of the proposals for the Baton Relay were also discussed, with a report that timings of the event would all depend on the timings of the flight into Cardiff. It was agreed that the Town Centre Manager and all shopkeepers should be encouraged to support the event. The event being organised in the Park by the House Management would centre around the involvement of local schools and schoolchildren.
A previous project suggested by Fr. John Davis at the Armistice Service in November 2013 for a mural in the Shopping Centre had been put to the Head of Art in Tredegar Comprehensive and she had agreed to take on the project. It was suggested that other schools also be invited take part.

282) To Receive and agree the Allotment Policy for Council.
The policy was largely agreed subject to the following amendments/additions:
a) to ascertain the number of plots per site.
b) to include the erection and removal of buildings
c) that a dated and written waiting list be kept, which would be available to Councillors on request.
d) That telephone numbers and contact details be available on the Town Council web-site
e) That each allotment site have an elected committee.
f) to add an additional aim that sites be run in an environmentally friendly and sustainable manner, with children and schools being actively encouraged to take part and with a provision for smaller plots to be available.
Members discussed the provision of allotments in other areas of the town.
It was agreed unanimously that the charge per full size plot for allotments should be £10.

283) Correspondence.

1) BGCBC (a) M. Howland Re: The Lodge – Thanks for confirming Council do not wish to proceed with an Interest in the Lodge; also reminder of the offer to meet a few Members to discuss the Area Review.
Received. Clerk to make arrangements.

(b) Re: Bedwellty Park Management Board – confirming meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th February 2014 at 5pm. Any items for the agenda is to be forwarded to Dione Morris asap.
Received – it was agreed that previous items relating to the pictures in the Assembly Room, Burma Memorial display be raised.

Cllrs. Cross and Morgan declared an interest in the following item:
(c) (i) List of Licensing Applications week ending 10.1.14 & 17/1/14
Received.

2) One Voice Wales

Cllrs Rowberry and Willis declared an interest in the following item:

(a) "Have your say on changes to the Planning System", 2 consultation documents are available at http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/planning/draft-planning-wales-bill/?lang=en responses to be submitted by 26.2.14.

Received

(b) Wales in Bloom questionnaire – Asking for feedback from past entrants on how they can develop the campaign.

Received

(c) As per Gwent Area Committee, link to Welsh Government Community Facilities Fund, going live from 4.2.14.

Received

3) Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Town & Community Council Training 2014 – Invitation to attend a meeting between 5pm & 6.30pm, provisional dates & venues supplied in email. Confirmation of attended the a meeting must be sent by 4pm Friday 28.2.14.

Received – copied to Cllr OP

4) Wales GSI

The Commission on Public Service Governance & Delivery will be submitting its final report to the Welsh Government 20.1.14 and the report will be available to download via the Welsh Government website.

Received – more commonly known as the Williams report.

5) GAVO

Blaenau Gwent Voluntary Sector Network meeting Tuesday 18th February 2014 at 9.30am Ebbw Vale Learning Action Centre.

Received

284) PUBLICATIONS

Glasdon Leaflet on litter bin products; BGCBC Road works report week ending 24.1.14; One Voice Wales The Voice Winter 2013/14 Newsletter x 2 copies; GAVO WCVA & Gwirvol workshop 30.1.14 at 10.30am Gavo Offices, Newport – chance to meet with funding members from these two organisations; GAVO Funding updates.

Available for Members

285) AGENDA

Special Executive 17.1.14; Environment, Economy & Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee Thursday 30th January 2014 at 2pm – CANCELLED; Executive 29th January 2014 – Cancelled; Social Services & Active Learning Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 22nd January 2014 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Executive 17th January 2014 – Report for agenda item No. 4; Audit Committee Tuesday 28th January 2014 at 9.30am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.

Available for Members

Cllrs Willis and Rowberry declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.

286) Planning:

a) To consider an Officer's Report – None Received

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2014/0013	United Welsh Housing Assoc. Unit 13 Y Borth Beddau Way, Caerphilly.	Construction of 23 dwellings and associated works, former Sirhowy Infants School, off Rhoslan.

No Objections – it was agreed to seek clarification about Section 106 Community Benefit payments and also provision for alternative play areas.

2014/0018	C Kemp & T Cooper 2 Lakeside Close, Tredegar.	Full planning for proposed new dwelling, Plot 20 Maes Morgan, Nantybwch.

No Objections

c) To consider other planning matters – None Received

287) To receive a list of members of the public nominated for Civic Awards.

The list was received and nominations agreed to be presented on Wednesday 19th February 2014.

288) Matters of Local Interest or Concern

a) Georgetown Primary School – 1st Fairtrade School – it was agreed to write with congratulations.
b) It was noted that both Insp Mark Budden and Sgt Petrie were leaving Tredegar Police Station and that letters be sent. It was agreed to invite the new Ch. Insp. To meet Council.
c) Tredegar Ironsides issued (via a Councillor) an invitation to the Mayor to visit a match and to make a bucket collection for his appeal.
d) St David's Awards – Members noted that those put forward by Town Council did not feature in the list of official nominations, which included a number of well-known celebrities, and the Clerk was asked to contact One Voice Wales to see if other Town and Community Councils who had nominated people had been similarly disappointed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

_____Chair