

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at Bedwellty House on
Wednesday 1st July 2015 at 6.30pm.**

Present:	Councillor	T. Smith
		R. Watkins
		B Willis
		J. Morgan
		H. Trollope
		D. Rowberry
		S. Trollope
		P. Prosser
		M. O’Sullivan
		R. Watkins

Also Present: Ms Keane – Clerk

084) Apologies: Cllrs: G. Meredith, J. Thomas, A. Tippings, D. Howells,
R W Thomas, G. Bowen-Knight, M. Cross, O. Price, D. Howells.

Cllrs. Morgan H Trollope and Smith expressed an interest in the following due to the location of Mr Nelsons building being within the area benefitting from impending grant funding.

085) To welcome Mr Nelson who will give an overview of local pharmacy services.

Mr. Nelson was thanked by all Members for volunteering to come in to Council and explain the recent changes to pharmaceutical services in the area.

He explained that he had been in business in Tredegar for 31 years and owned three pharmacies – two in Tredegar and one in Caerphilly. He outlined the many services which his pharmacies provided – needle exchange schemes, medicine use reviews, smoking cessation, supervising methadone usage, discharge medicine reviews, flu injections, taking back waste medication and offering a 24/7 palliative care service across Gwent.

He stated that the pharmacy could not open without a pharmacist being present and was delighted to state that he had never had to close at any time even due to bad weather. His pharmacies also offered a free delivery service in the area.

Stock supplies had been a major issue – Mr. Nelson explained that stock supplies were rationed by suppliers – with some exporting pharmaceuticals abroad. The brands which were given out by Pharmacists were dictated by the NHS.

Members complimented Mr. Nelson on the quality of his staff and their knowledge of their customers. He was thanked for the Service given to the people of the town over so many years and then he left the meeting.

086) To receive applications for Cultural/Sporting Grants.

Cultural and Sporting Grants (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19 and Local Government Act 1972 s.137)

Bedwellty Park Ladies Bowls – a grant of £200.00 was recommended.

Tredegar Athletic Football Club – a grant of £200.00 was recommended.

Cllr P. Prosser declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Tredegar History & Archive Society – a grant of £200.00 was recommended.

087) *To receive and consider applications for Grants to Churches & Chapels (S.137).*

None received.

088) To consider items for the Consultation with Town and Community Councils to be held on 30th July 2015 – items for inclusion by Noon on Monday 20th July 2015.

No items were put forward prior to the Meeting however at the meeting the effect on local authorities of the early termination of Wind Farm Subsidies was suggested.

Cllrs Rowberry and Willis declared an interest in the Planning items and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.

089) Planning:-

a) OFFICERS REPORT

Planning Report:

C/2015/0159 Detached house & garage (Revised Scheme), Former Scouts Hall, Scrwfa Road – Recommendation to **grant** application.

C/2015/0181 Demolition of the existing semi-detached cottage and associated out buildings and the construction of a new detached two storey house, 1 Cross Brook Cottages, Trefil - Recommendation to **refuse** application.

List of Delegated Items determined between 18th May 2015 and 15th June 2015

2014/0290 Construction & operation of a 20MW gas fired standby power plant, Unit 6 Tafarnaubach Ind. Estate, Tredegar – Finally disposed of.

2015/0117 One three bed & one four bed detached dwelling with elevated patio areas over garaging, Lakelands Merthyr Road – Refused.

2015/0133 Kitchen extension, 2 Aneurin Rise – Lawful Development Certificate Granted.

2015/0154 Retention of boundary fence, 41 Tynewydd – Approved.

2015/0131 Construction of sun room, 47 Vale Terrace – Approved.

2015/0158 Application for a non-material amendment to amend condition 2 of planning permission C/2014/0176 (drainage submission timescale) Plot 3 Upper Charles Street – Approved.

2015/0118 Proposed external refurbishment 14-18 Upper Salisbury Street – Approved.

2015/0113 Proposed external refurbishment 24-27 Upper Salisbury Street – Approved.

2015/0153 Retention of replacement garage, 7 Highfield Close – Approved.

b) Verbal Report of the Planning Committee - some queries were raised regarding 2015/0161 and whether it was in keeping with the surroundings. 2015/0232 the use of the “workshop” to be for domestic use only.

c) APPLICATIONS

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2015/0161	Ms J Newcombe Pen Ay Byd, Dan Y Bryn, Trefil.	Revised plan for proposed loft extension, Pen Ay Byd Trefil.
Some concern whether the scale of the development was suitable for its rural setting.		
2015/0217	Mr S Hancock 17 Gwent Way, Tredegar.	Single storey front porch (retention),
No Objections		
2015/0220	Dr M Ashraf Silverdale, Magor Road, Langstone, Newport	Retention of change of use to office to ground floor, 2 bed flat to first floor & 2 bed flat to second floor and three storey extension to rear, 20 Castle Street.
No Objections		

2015/0232	Mr & Mrs Davies 18 Penybont, Tredegar.	Shed/workshop.
Concern regarding the use of the Workshop and whether this will be for commercial use.		
2015/0233	Mr R Hughes 29 Fields Road, Tredegar.	Residential development (outline – maximum of 5 units) land rear of Willow Court.
No Objections		

d) Other Planning Matters

C/2014/0342 Retention of change of use of open land for use as a builders yard including the creation of a new access & erection of a 2.4m high boundary fence & gates, land adjacent to Brynheulog, Pochin Tredegar – Appeal submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. Any further representation regarding this application must be submitted direct to the Planning Inspectorate by 28th July 2015.

Members reported on the Planning Aid Training which had taken place in Bedwellty House, but felt that it was not largely relevant.

090) Correspondence.

- 1) BGCBC a) Re: Memorial – details of alternative methods to reinstate the flood lighting with costs ranging from £350 to £4,000.

Received – still awaiting information – to be pursued.

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

- b) List of licensing Applications week ending 19.6.15.
Received.

2) One Voice Wales

- a) Re: Shale Gas & Hydraulic fracturing in Wales – A briefing note for One Voice Wales June 2015.

Received

- b) Dates of final training modules for this period.
Received Interested Members to contact the Office.

- c) Wales Efficiency Strategy Consultation – final strategy consultation being held between 17.6.15 & 9.9.15

<http://gov.wales/consultations/environmentandcountryside/the-development-of-an-energy-efficiency-strategy-for-wales/?status=open&lang=en>

Received Interested Members to contact.

- d) Various Public appointment opportunities.
Received Interested Members to contact.

- e) How service user experience can improve strategic direction & services.
Received

- f) Agenda Annual General Meeting of Gwent Valleys Partnership Area Committee Tuesday 7th July 2015 at Cwmbran Community Council office and nomination form for Chair/Vice Chair. (copied for relevant Members)

Received

- g) Collect & Management of Devolved Taxes.
Received

- h) Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs Chief Executive vacancy, closing date 28.7.15.
Received Interested Members to contact.

i) Call for Honours Nominations (Birthday 2016).

Received. Members discussed a number of options and agreed to put forward a candidate. They noted that Mr. Albert Skeates had received the British Empire Medal. Thanks were given to Members who had researched information supporting his award.

3) Pierre Cornlouer Home for Veterans – Thank you for support shown to them.
Thanks were received.

4) Dŵr Cymru Re: Visit to Shon Sheffrey Reservoir – Wednesday 29th July 2015, requesting a suitable time.

Received. It was agreed to contact all Members to seek a suitable time.

5) Gavo a) Gwirvol funding opportunity.

Received. Information passed on to Members.

b) Funding surgery: Thursday 9th July at Newtown Community Centre, 10am to 4.30pm.

Received. Information passed on to Members.

c) Award night is on 6.11.15 in Ebbw Vale Institute. Confirming £250 as sponsor for the Inspirational Award.

Received. There was some discussion relating to the history of Town Council involvement with the awards and it was agreed that an agenda item be raised to discuss all future funding arrangements.

6) Lilys Florist Response to offer of PMR quoting for sign.

There was a discussion about the degree of damage caused and the amount claimed was considered to be inappropriate and it was agreed that the same sum should be paid as for the previous claimant and that the matter be considered closed.

7) Peter Watkins-Hughes A guideline to the costs involved in making the “grass Fire” film and an explanation of why, because of the special effects required, it will be more expensive than films previously made.

Received. Following a great deal of discussion it was agreed that Council were unable support the project.

8) item removed

9) Community Health Council

Review of In-Patient Falls in hospitals in the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area.

Received. It was agreed to check whether the figures had increased or dropped which was not made clear in the review.

10) R. Draper Poetry/Spoken work event in aid of Alzheimer’s Foundation, Venue 1 on 11th September 2015 – request to advertise the event and invitation for a representative to attend.

Received. It was agreed that the Leader attend together with Cllr Trollope in his capacity as Dementia Champion for the Borough and that the Mayor be asked to check his diary.

11) M. Davies Merthyr Tydfil artist who has created woodcuts of inspirational figures throughout history including Nye Bevan. Artwork is currently available to buy & is wondering whether Council would be interested.

Received. Members agreed to look at the possibilities.

12) CLAS Cymru Requesting to meet to discuss Southend allotments

Received. Clerk to contact.

13) Cllr. H. Trollope

Putting forward Ebony Thomas, a pupil at Tredegar Comprehensive School as a candidate for the Tony Gregory Award.

14) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Road works report week ending 26.6.15 & week ending 3.7.15; Ombudsman Annual Report 2014/15; Communicorp Clerks & Councils Direct July 2015 Issue 100; One Voice Wales - Key findings and the World's largest lesson.
Available for all Members

15) AGENDA

Special Education, Active Living & Learning Scrutiny Committee Monday 22nd June 2015 at 2pm Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale; Joint Education, Active Living & Learning & Social Services Scrutiny Committee Monday 22nd June 2015 at 10.30am Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale; Social Services Scrutiny Committee Thursday 25th June 2015 at 10am Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale; Executive Wednesday 1st July 2015 at 11am Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale; Special Audit Committee Tuesday 30th June 2015 at 9.30am Council Chamber, Ebbw Vale.

091) Matters concerning Bedwellty House and Park. (to receive a verbal report of the Events Co Meeting held prior to this.)

A verbal report was received (see previous Minutes) It was agreed that a meeting take place with the House Manager to discuss future events.

It was agreed that Louise Thomas and Mark Turner and Rhianan Meredith, outstanding volunteers on the day be given a thank you gift. It was also agreed to make a presentation to Sophie White and Macey Wren who sang in the morning.

It was further agreed that due to the poor weather and low turnout that Town Council make up any shortfall between monies raised on the day to a sum of £1000 to be donated to the Wales Homes for Veterans charity. It was further agreed that the cost effectiveness of the event be looked at and the future of the event be considered.

It was agreed to contact the Charity to see if they had a small gift which they might also want to contribute.

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

- i. School Governing Bodies – A number of queries and concerns were raised by Members regarding the checks needed to site on the Board of Governors of a school. It was noted that schools adopted different policies for completing the checks and it was suggested that all schools adopt the same policy. Clerk to check that details of Governor changes had been received. Members noted too that school results were adversely affected by the lack of a full Board of Governors.
- ii. Tredegar Business Forum – Council had discussed with the Business Forum involvement in their Classic Car Event on 29th August between 10am and 3pm. Council to put road closures in place and open the Clock from noon til 2pm. It was agreed to consult with the Councillor who would be providing transport for the road closures before final agreement could be made.
- iii. Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum – a trip was being organised to the Morgan Car Factory

093) Matters of Local Interest and concern.

There were none.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Cllr. D. Rowberry put in her apologies for the next Meeting.

_____ Chair.