

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at Bedwellty House on
Wednesday 3rd June 2015 at 6pm

Present: **Councillor** **J. Thomas**
 T. Smith
 A. Tippings
 R. Watkins
 M. Cross
 J. Morgan
 B. Willis
 D. Rowberry
 M. O'Sullivan
 R.W. Thomas
 P. Prosser

In the absence of the Mayor who was at another function the Deputy Mayor took the Chair.

In attendance: **Ms. C.M. Keane – Town Clerk**

041) Apologies: **Cllr G. Meredith, H. Trollope, S. Trollope, G. Bowen-Knight, D. Howells and O. Price.**

042) To welcome Mr Phil Diamond to give Dementia Friends Awareness training.

Members welcomed Mr. Diamond who gave an interesting training session during which all Members both participated and also took away much information about how to help those who may be suffering from dementia and also to help those who care for people who are suffering.

It was noted that Tredegar is working towards being a dementia friendly town.

Members were invited by Mr. Diamond to spread the word amongst groups and organisations throughout the Town and that he would gladly attend to provide training to others.

043) To receive applications for Cultural/Sporting Grants.

Completed end of grant forms from Tredegar History & Archive Society,

Bedwellty Park Bowls Club – A grant of £200.00 was recommended.

Reliance Bus Preservation Society – A grant of £200.00 was recommended.(it was agreed to engage for the Open Doors event)

Tredegar Gardeners Club – A grant of £200.00 was recommended.

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

None Received.

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

044) Planning:-

a) to consider an Officer's Report

List of Delegated Items determined between 17th March 2015 and 15th May 2015.

C/2015/0080 Plots 131-136 Larch Lane proposed replan reduction in dwellings from 6 to 4	Approved
C/2015/0054 12 Laburnum Avenue Retention of shed and change of use of land to garden	Approved
C/2015/0036 Plot 2A Maes Morgan Two storey detached house and parking for 3 cars	Approved

C/2015/0073 Land to Southern End of Tredegar Business Park outline application for development of industrial units Finally disposed of.

C/2015/0102 38 Waundeg Construction of wheelchair access and external lift Approved

C/2015/0071 Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Ind Est discharge of condition 7 structural design certificate re C2012/0327 erection of single turbine and associated enclosure Condition discharged

C2015/0099 Plots 9-15 Walnut Close Peacehaven replan reduction in dwellings from 5 to 4 Approved

C2015/0033 Land at Marion Close off Victoria St Detached dwelling with all associated access and groundworks Approved

C2015/0094 1 Meadow Crescent Scwrfa Retention of single storey detached garage Approved

C2015/0109 Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Ind Est Discharge of Condition 19 insurance declaration of planning permission C/2012/0327 erection of single wind turbine and associated enclosure condition discharged

C/2015/0151 Land adjoining Sunny Bank House Heathfield To remove condition 4 5 6 of planning permission C/2011/0267 relating to the requirement for code for sustainable homes Approved

C/2015/0055 6 Pencoed Single storey outbuilding for storage of garden equipment Approved

C2015/0062 1 & 2 Commercial Street Change of use to D1 for a veterinary clinic Approved

C2015/0082 88 St James Way Georgetown Single storey extension to front and first floor extension to rear Approved

C2015/0059 Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Ind Est Discharge of condition 13 external finish condition discharged

C2015/0058 Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Ind Est Discharge of condition 27 shadow flicker condition discharged

C2015/0093 Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Ind Est Discharge of Condition 11 condition discharged

C2015/0064 Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Ind Est Discharge of Condition 6 condition discharged

C/2015/0070 Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Ind Est Discharge of Condition 10 condition discharged

C2015/0110 Unit 29 Tafarnaubach Ind Est Discharge of Condition 12 condition discharged

C/2015/0084 Plots 75/76 Copper Beech Drive Peacehaven replan reduction 3 to 2 plots Approved

C2015/0016 Bedwellty Park Discharge of condition 3 sample materials condition discharged

C/2015/0122 Plot of land at Heathfield Discharge of condition 11 obscure glazed screen detail of planning permission C/2014/0070 (reserved matters application in relation to C/2011/0267 – dwelling) condition discharged.

b) Verbal Report of the Planning Committee – it was agreed that where possible the Committee would attempt site visits.

c) Applications:

App No	Applicant	Proposal
C2015/0176	Mr David Simmons 7 Oliver Jones Crescent	Retention of single storey detached shed with flat roof.
No Objections		
C/2015/0180	Mr Mark Dowdeswell 11 Rhyd Terrace	2 storey garage with shed below
No Objections		
C/2015/0181	Mr Ian Morris 1 Cross Brook Cottages Trefil	Demolition of existing semi-detached cottage and associated out buildings and the construction of a new detached two storey house
No Objections as such, but Members asked for clarification on the planning decision relating to the design.		

d) Other Planning Matters - None

045) Correspondence.

1) Tredegar Business Forum

Thanking for grant notification and welcoming the opportunity to meet with our Events Committee to discuss their event in August.

Received - at this point the Delegates Report was taken. It was agreed that contact be made with local groups such as the Moose who have helped cover Town Council organised events in the past to see if they could also help. Following some discussion it was agreed to meet with the Business Forum as soon as possible to clarify what practical help Council could offer.

It was also agreed that a list of events be circulated to Members seeking their commitment.

2) A. Tippings (Tourism BGCBC)

Re sponsored Walk in conjunction with Carillion and the Borough Mayors Appeal. The walk had been rearranged to 19th July 2015. TTC to arrange Sponsor forms and Certificates.

Cllr Tippings ran through the details which had been confirmed so far. There would be three different lengths of route 2,4 and 6Kms and the safety and first aid arrangements were being undertaken by Carillion. Various food stalls would be available as well as items of plant for children to explore. A stall would be required for the Mayor's Appeal (Valley Sands) who would benefit from funds raised on the day, together with the Borough Mayor's Appeal (Velindre Hospital and Ysbyty'r Tri Chwm) It would be a unique opportunity for all those involved and Members were urged to promote the event widely and obtain sponsorship.

3) Kidney Wales Foundation

Invitation for 2 to lunch in Cardiff Bay on Friday 3rd July at Life Science Hub in the Bay at Noon.

Received. It was agreed that the Mayor and Consort attend – details of total raised to follow.

4) Aneurin Bevan UHB RE THE GENERAL HOSPITAL

Informing Council that recent activity by the Fire Rescue Service was part of a training exercise and not a response to a major fire.

Received. Members were relieved that there had been no incident and the Clerk was instructed to write to the Health Board asking if residents and Town Council could receive prior notice on any future occasion.

5) Commemorative Benches

- a) David Ogilvie: Offering £535 + Vat per bench.
- b) Anne Ingram Peacehaven TARA: Confirming that they would be delighted to have one of the Commemorative Benches sited on the Estate.
- c) Tai Calon Hefina Rendle: Agreeing to pay half the cost of the replacement benches at St Georges Court and Peacehaven

All items received. Members were delighted that the benches had been welcomed and thanked Tai Calon for their generous offer, it was agreed to check whether the works proposed at the War Memorial (Lighting and Tarmac) together with the costs of the Benches might be funded via the Heritage Lottery Funds allocated to the First World War. It was agreed to Agenda this as a separate item for discussion.

6) Cllr. D. Howells Standing down as a Member of the Planning Committee.

This matter was deferred.

7) Nantyglo & Blaina TC Notification of new Mayor – Cllr John Watkins Mayoress Mrs K A Watkins and Deputy Cllr George Petrie.

Received – letter of congratulation to be sent.

8) Planning Aid Wales

- a) Notification of free planning training workshop for Community and Town Councillors on 29th June in Brecon – Elim Church Centre 10am – 1pm
- b) Angharad Hobbs Advising of the Training Workshop taking place in Bedwellty House on Monday 29th June 2015 at 6.30pm

Received – it was noted that Town Council had 2 free places for the event – interested Members to contact.

9) OVW a) Larger Councils Conference 8th July at Hafod a Hendre Royal Welsh Showground.

Received, the Leader, Clerk and Cllr Cross to attend.

- b) Link to Consultation on Protecting Community Assets launched by Welsh Govt Copy available in Office

Received.

- c) Registration of Members Interests – attaching a form to be developed by Town Council for individual use.
- d) Re Register of Interests – stating that Council does NOT need to complete the form circulated earlier and that interests recorded at meetings should be made in writing before or immediately after the meeting which are then kept as a register for public inspection and available on the website which should then be regularly updated.(copy of the full requirement given to each Member)

Received – Noted by Members,

10) Cllr T. Smith Response to letter from Severn Wye Agency re the hosting offer.
Received. The relevant information was received by Members.

11) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks Report 29/5-05/06/15 Panorama de Presse Some details of the Twinning visit.

12) AGENDA

Social Services Scrutiny Committee rescheduled to Tuesday 23rd July: General Licensing Committee to be held in Council Chamber EV on Tuesday 2nd June at 10am: Planning Committee to be held in Council Chamber on Thursday 4th June at 2pm

046) To confirm Wednesday 15th July as a presentation evening date.

Following discussion it was agreed to change to the date to Wednesday 22nd July 2015 a non-meeting night.

047) Matters concerning Bedwellty House and Park.

- a) Town Council Notice Board – Members asked that the bins near the Notice Board be emptied more regularly or moved so that they did not obstruct the Board or take up a disabled parking space.

The Clerk had provided an update on outstanding matters relating the House which follows:

Clerks Report to Council

The Mayors Parlour: I am delighted to report that I have received a response from Able Touch regarding progress with the Parlour. They plan to begin work week commencing 15th June 2015.

I have spoken to Mr. Williams who has assured me that the work will take approximately 3 days. I have spoken to the House Manager regarding recent incidents in the Parlour for which she has apologised. She has assured me that these have been addressed with members of her staff and will not re-occur. Vandalism has also taken place in the Parlour as a result of the building being left open to the public on the first Bistro night last night. This is being dealt with.

The War Memorial: Flood Lighting – the delay has been caused due to staff changes at Borough level. The Manager is in contact with Mr. David Watkins who has assured her that he will chase it up. This is the responsibility of Town Council.

Tarmac – is the responsibility of the Trust.

However I have suggested to Cath, the House Manager that she gets a price for the tarmac and the lighting and comes back to us as soon as possible.

Assembly Room: Cath, the House Manager has offered her apologies and assures me that the pictures will be re-hung, together with those remaining shortly. There is now a maintenance person at the House for one day a week.

Artefacts: This is also the case with these.

On a positive note the roof to the Bandstand is being painted this week.

Christine Keane

Town Clerk

3rd June 2015

Members discussed the items above and although the assurances made by the House Manager relating to the Parlour were accepted it was agreed that the door be locked and that Senior Members meet with the House Manager to re-inforce Council's position regarding the rooms and artefacts. As in Correspondence item 5 it was agreed to seek information from the Heritage Lottery Fund relating to works to the Memorial.
Ref: The Bandstand – Clerk was instructed to stop works to the Bandstand until fully clarified.

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

- a) Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales – A joint conference was held with SLCC, with the Leader and Clerk attending. Leighton Andrews AM was the guest speaker and was firmly in favour of the Charter agreement and wanted feedback from Town and Community Councils regarding levels of co-operation between Councils. It was agreed that the JCLC put a question to Borough Council at the next Consultation.
- b) Tredegar Twinning – The Leader and former Mayor reported on a very successful visit to Orvault during which it was agreed that gifts should be given only on special occasions or every 10 years. The reception had been exceptionally warm and the Mayor of Orvault had been present at all Civic occasions. The venues for the civic receptions were far improved. It was noted that they participate in a similar “Game On” series of events as in Tredegar and there are to be moves to bring the youth of the two towns closer.
- c) School Governing Bodies
St Joseph's – a new assistant head was in place and a School Council had been formed and representatives had attended Governors meeting.
Bryn Bach Primary – Good reports had featured in the press. It was noted that the police were mounting a speed campaign on the road outside the school.
Glanhowy – our new representative was now in place.
- d) Tredegar Crime Prevention Panel - Unfortunately our representative was not at this Council Meeting, but he had reported bad feeling towards Town Council. It was agreed to ask him if he would like Council to pursue this matter.
- e) Tredegar Business Forum – as already reported in Minute No. 045 item 1.
- f) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum – It was reported that there was to be the unveiling of a plaque in Parc Bryn Bach to mark the crash site of a Bomber – Clerk to check if the Mayor had been invited.
- g) VVP/ Tredegar Heritage Initiative – a display was taking place in the Town Centre with plans for the work planned. Members encouraged to attend.

049) Matters of Local Interest and concern.

- a) **Shon Sheffrey Reservoir** – It was agreed to pursue a visit by Town Council to view the works at the Reservoir.
- b) **Bandstand** – It had been reported that there had been problems, once again, accessing the power in the Bandstand and an urgent alternative needed to be sought. Suggestions were made.
- c) **Valleys Life After Stroke Group** – A visit by Mr Alun Davies AM was to be made to Roderick Hill Court the following Friday at 10 am – Members encouraged to attend.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

_____ Chair