TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at Bedwellty House to follow the Performance Review on Wednesday 15th April 2015.

Present: **Cllrs.** **G. Meredith**
T. Smith
A. Tippings
B. Willis
J. Morgan
D. Rowberry
R. W. Thomas
J. Thomas
O. Price

In attendance: **Ms. C. Keane – Clerk**
Ms. A. Jones – RFO

376) Apologies: **Cllrs: R. Watkins, H & S Trollope, G. Bowen-Knight, M. Cross, P. Prosser and M O'Sullivan.**

377) Declarations of Interest.
The Chair reminded Members to make their declaration at the appropriate time.

378) 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.

379) Performance Review: - To receive the recommendations of the Performance Review Sub Committee of council held earlier on 15th April 2015.
The recommendations of the Performance Review Committee were that the Budget against Actual figures were approved and that progress be made with regard to the Christmas lighting for 2015.

380) Grants:
Thanks received from Peacehaven Tenants & Residents Association.

a) Cultural and Sporting Grants (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19 and S.137
Hospice of the Valleys – A grant of £ 250.00 was approved.
Tredegar Angling Club – A grant of £ 200.00 was approved
Tredegar Business Forum – A grant of £ 250.00 was approved
Trefil RFC – A grant of £ 200.00 was approved – Cllr Tippings declared an interest and took no part.

b) Churches & Chapels (s.137) to consider and approve grants to Churches and Chapels – None received
A Member suggested a change to the grant system which would allow for a two tier system. People who spent their grant money with local businesses would receive more that those who spent it outside the town. It was thought that this could also relate to the hire of pitches etc from the Borough. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Borough Council to ask how many pitches and other sporting venues were available in Tredegar and how many local groups used them.

381) Accounts: To Consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in April 2015.
A copy of Bank reconciliations were available for all Members to inspect.
The RFO pointed out to Members that the annual bills for the public toilets were starting to come through. The RFO was asked to prepare a total of the Annual costs for running the Toilets. The RFO was asked to speak to the District Valuer re any possible discounts available.

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

383) To consider a motion to be put forward on behalf of Tredegar Town Council at the 2015 Annual Conference of One Voice Wales.
The motion to be put to the Annual Conference on behalf of Tredegar Town Council was agreed as follows: "That this conference call upon Government to allow Town and Community Councils to access the same grant funding as permitted to not for profit organisations and charities."

384) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:
a) Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 18th March 2015.
Received and approved as a true record.
b) Minutes of the Civic Committee Meeting of Council held on 1st April 2015
Received and approved as a true record.

385) Matters arising from the Minutes
1) Minute No. 365. Hospice – it was noted that Mr Mark Drakeford AM Minister for Health and Social Services had opened the drop in Centre in Ebbw Vale.
2) Minute No. 367 1a Fountain Inn – It was agreed to write to the owner via Cllr GM to congratulate her on the work she had carried out and offer our support. Also to write to Planning with our concerns regarding removal of stone walling from the School site.
1c) Buildings of interest listing – A Member advised that this list would be put in place in 2015.
3) Minute No 367 2) Diversion signage – there were complaints that the diversions for road closures were poor and Members were advised that the local authority would not allow different diversions for cars and lorries.

386) Chair to sign Minutes

387) Correspondence
1) BGCBC (a) i) H. McCarthy Re: Opening of STAR centre – copy of email sent to Cllr Hobbs asking her to contact Town Council direct to discuss the lack of invitation to this event.
ii) Sherelle Jago - Flying Start – Apologising for not inviting the Mayor to the opening their facility and inviting Council to visit.
Received. It was noted that only an apology had been received from Ms. Jago

(b) <u>Buildings of local interest & concern:-</u>
(i) Cllr Morgan - Copy of letter sent to Ms Healy BGCBC asking whether there has been progress drawing up this document.
(ii) Ms Healy BGCBC - Response to Cllr Morgan's letter: Preparation of the list forms part of their 2015/16 work programme and once agreed the document will be adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance.
Received. Rumours that the former Town Hall been purchased by J D Wetherspoons were quoshed. Cllr. Morgan was thanked for his diligence in pursuing the listing of buildings of Special Interest

(c) Precept 2015/16 notification (cheque with RFO).
Received.

(d) List of licensing applications week ending 3.4.15.

Received.

2) One Voice Wales

(a) Message to Leaders of Larger Councils asking them to make attending the Larger Council meetings a priority.

Received.

(b) Advance notice of Larger Councils Conference 8.7.15.

3) Aneurin Leisure Trust

(a) C. Hares Re: Alarms & info regarding vandalism.

Received. Members enquired how they could contact the Security firm if necessary.

(b) Tredegar Does the World Record 18th-19th April 2015 – invitation for groups to participate.

Received. Members to take part if possible.

4) Councillor correspondence:-

(a) Cllr Smith: Copy of request received from Cllr Watkins 8.4.15 (office closed) to purchase flowers for 65th wedding anniversary.

Details and permission were given. Money to be recouped from RFO.

(b) Cllr Price: Raising the issue of fly tipping at Manmoel/St James area.

Received. It was noted that fly tipping was a widespread issue and Members asked who best to contact – a contact at the Borough Council was given. It was further noted that the "green bag" scheme for garden waste had been re-introduced free of charge with members of the public just needing to phone to register their address.

5) Gwent Police V. Townsend Re: Meeting with TC – 20th May should be ok. Feedback on her review into incidents in Ysguborwen.

Received. Members noted that incidents were not being reported to the Police and urged members of the public to do so.

6) Hospice of the Valleys

Response to concerns raised regarding the lateness approaching Council for grant support for the Lap the Lake event. Thanks for the grant.

Received. The Council pop up banners would be displayed.

Cllr. O. Price left at this point.

7) Caerphilly County Borough Council

Re: Pen Bryn Oer, Merthyr Road, Rhymney, installation of 3 wind turbines – appeal to be heard by the Inspector on 19.5.15 at 10am Council Chamber, Pontllanfraith – representation can be made at the hearing subject to agreement.

Received. It was noted that there had been Council involvement in the initial agreement of a joint payment to local Town and Community Councils.

8) South Wales Fire & Rescue Service

Asking for the promotional campaign enclosed to be displayed via any social media networks Council utilises.

Received.

9) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum

Agenda meeting Thursday 16th April at 9.30am Tredegar Library.

Received.

10) MrFlag The Official MrFlag Commemorative Victory Europe Flag VE Day 8th May 2015.

Received. It was agreed to purchase and to request permission from the House Manager to fly.

11**) PUBLICATIONS**
BGCBC Road works report week ending 17.4.15; Ville D'Orvault le cens pratique #164 April 2015, Orvault ma ville #64 April – June 2015; One Voice Wales The Voice Issue 26 2015.
Available for all Members

12) **AGENDA**
Executive Wednesday 22nd April 2015 at 11am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Democratic Services Committee Monday 20th April 2015 at 10am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Democratic Services Committee Monday 20th April 2015 at 10am – Report for Agenda item no. 8(a); Education & Skills Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 21st April 2015 at 2pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Social Services & Active Living Scrutiny Committee Thursday 16th April 2015 at 10.30am Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Executive Wednesday 22nd April 2015 – removal of agenda item no. 14.
Available for all Members.

388) Planning:

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

b) Verbal report of the Planning Committee if any – No Objections

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
2015/0125	Mr P Bevan 18 Maes Morgan, Nantybwch, Tredegar.	Construct 2 storey four bedroom dwelling, 19 Maes Morgan.

No Objection – although it was noted by Members that the whole estate was in a poor state and it was agreed to write to the Planning Department questioning the state of the infrastructure.

d) To consider other planning matters - none

389) Matters of Local Interest or Concern
a) Sportz R Us – a launch at Venue 2 on Tuesday 28th April at 6pm available Members urged to attend or to send their apologies.
b) It was noted with sadness that Mrs Edith Jones who had recently attained her 100th birthday – had passed away,
c) It was noted that the bench at the start of the Bryn Oer Tramroad had been demolished by a gritter during winter and no one had taken responsibility. With the 200th Anniversary of the Tramroad this year it was agreed to chase up a replacement.
d) Game On – A Police initiative with young people to be rolled out across the Borough once again.
e) HOV dualling – Members welcomed the imminent opening of the new stretch – but were alarmed at the quality of the tarmac on the section from Tredegar to Merthyr, considering its age.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.45pm

_____Chair