

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber,
Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 1st November, 2017 at 6.30 p.m.**

Present: **Councillors H. Trollope (Chair)**
 T. Smith
 A.E. Tippings
 T. Gregory
 D.W.A. Howells
 G. James
 A. Jones
 D. Jones
 E. Jones
 P. Prosser
 S. Trollope
 P. Waldron
 B.G. Willis

In Attendance: **Town Clerk – Mrs. C. Price**

186) Apologies: **Councillors J. Thomas, M. Cross, D. Rowberry and M. Turner**

In the absence of the Chair, Councillor H. Trollope undertook proceedings for the meeting.

187) Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members to make their declarations as and when necessary.

188) To receive Mayor's report, as appropriate – none received

189) To receive any verbal recommendations of the Events Sub-Committee held immediately prior to this meeting

The following recommendations arising from the Events Sub-Committee were reported for consideration, and approved accordingly.

- J Cotton Audio to be utilised for all sound equipment requirements for Remembrance event – agreed to delegate powers for Mayor/Deputy, Leader/Deputy to approve expenditure
- transport provision provisionally booked for the Cairn walk on 11th November, 2017; agreed to delegate powers for Leader and Deputy Leader to approve expenditure
- provision hi viz jackets; Clerk to contact Sue Woodward to purchase hi viz jackets featuring the TTC logo.
- Aneurin Bevan Day - Tredegar Heritage Initiative offer of support to this event, promotional materials to include the HLF logo; agreed accordingly

190) Grants:

a) To receive, consider and approve grants to Sporting and Cultural organisations

Cymru Creations:

– End of Grant Form; and

– Looking for funding to enable them to provide volunteering and training opportunities during their projects which gives people the chance to not only learn new skills relating to all film production but also to improve core skills such as literacy, numeracy and IT.

Previous – 2016/17 Dec'16 CQ No. 519 £100.00. Approved £200.00

Tredegear Camera Club – Any funds received would be used for the running costs of their venue and items required to produce images such as paper, ink.

Previous – 2016/17 June'16 CQ No. 408 £200.00. Approved £200.00

Tredegear and Rhymney Golf Club – Any funds received would be used for the purchase of 18 winter tee mats.

Previous – 2016/17 Jan'17 CQ No. 536 £200.00. Approved £200.00

b) To receive, consider and approve grants to Churches and Chapels (s.137) - None received.

Members requested a list of all churches/chapels eligible for grant funding and those outstanding who had not submitted an application for 2016/2017.

191) Correspondence

1) BGCBC – M. Howland a) Lodge Building: no problem with a time extension and will contact us when they can obtain access to view.

– Members wished to visit, Clerk to pursue.

– S. Brown b) Re: Former Aneurin Bevan Care Home – whilst temporary permission for use of yard as a car park has been granted the Local Planning Authority are unable force operatives at the site to use the car park.

– It was noted that the road would be closed on Sunday, 5th November, 2017.

Councillor B Willis declared an interest in items c) and d) and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.

– F. Olding c) Re: Brinore Tramroad Surveying Mound. Unable to comment due to this being the subject of a live planning enforcement case.

– Jonathan Brooks d) Bryn Oer Surveying Mound, Trefil

– A Member queried if the surveying mound was

included on the List of Buildings at risk, as considered a 'feature' not a building, as there could be a need to consider a list for the protection of features to avoid such a loss.

– C. Engel

- e) TPO Plan for trees at Southend Allotment, no TPO'd trees within Vale View Allotment, post code/grid ref needed for Milefield Allotment

– Noted; Councillor A.E. Tippings to ascertain exact location, as requested by the Arboricultural Officer (BGCBC).

– A. O'Leary

- f) i) Bill for administering of local elections in May
ii) 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales – Revised Proposals from the Boundary Commission for Wales (attached – map)

– Noted.

– A. Tippings

- g) The Citadel - link: bbc.co.uk/programmes

– Noted; Councillor A.E. Tippings outlined the details of these five radio programmes.

- h) Roadworks Report Friday, 27.10.2017 to 03.11.2017

– Noted.

Councillors T. Smith and B. Willis declared an interest in the following item and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.

- i) Licensing applications w/e 20.10 and 27.10.2017
i) M. Tarr, Personal Licence
ii) D. Dann, change of address on Personal Licence
iii) D. Dann, Kidz R Us – change of address Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor

– Noted.

2) OVW

- a) Gwent Valleys Area Committee: asking for suggestions of a suitable venue to be used for meetings in this area, as Bedwellty House no longer available on a Tuesday evening, also asking for each Council to confirm the evening of their own meetings.

- Noted; The Moose Hall, Tredegar and the STAR Centre, Sirhowy – Clerk to liaise.
- b) Larger Councils meeting 18.10.2017: further information from Cadw.
 - Noted; forward to Members.
- c) Consultation on town and village greens, closing date for responses 02.02.2018,
<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/registration-town-and-village-greens>
 - Noted; forward to Members.
- d) Capturing Planning in Images: Competition to Picture Wales.
 - Noted; forward to Members and to be placed on TTC website.
- e) Consultation on proposed amendments to Local Authorities (Capital Financing and Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003, closing date for comments 12.01.2018.
 - Noted; pass to RFO.
- f) Invitation to Tax Forum meeting Monday 06.11.2017 at Conwy 12.00 noon – 2.00 p.m.
 - Noted; pass to RFO.
- g) Local Approaches to poverty reduction: The Well-Being of Future Generations Act and Public Service Boards, consultation letter available at <http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mg/ConsultationDisplay.aspx?id=281&RPID=1509491563&cp=yes>
 - Noted.
- h) Thriving and Sustainable Gwent Newsletter 20.10.2017
 - Noted.
- i) Burial Charges for Children – information re: Memorandum of Understanding

– Noted; not applicable to Tredegar Town Council.

- j) Scheme to promote closer working with local government – publication of Revised Local Government Scheme 2017

– Noted.

- k) Wales Centre for Public Policy
Advising on the 1st November, 2017 the PPIW's communications functions will transfer to the Wales Centre for Public Policy.

- l) Module 9 – Code of Conduct Training, Cwmbran Community Council, Torfaen, Monday, 13th November, 2017

– Noted.

3) GAVO

- a) BG We Want – Engagement Event – 22nd November, 2017

– Noted; forward to Members.

- b) Finance Officer: closing date for applications 10.10.2017

- c) Triage Support Worker: closing date for applications 10.10.2017

– Noted.

4) Zurich Insurance

Advising of Local Community Advisory Service (LCAS)

– Noted.

5) St. John Ambulance – D. Manning-Lee

Request for information in respect of Christmas Lights switch-on event through his advisory role

– Noted.

6) Head, Deighton Primary School

Christmas poster competition - request for extension in respect of judging

– Noted.

7) City Illuminations

Details of lighting installation

– Concerns were raised in respect of lack of notice prior to decorations being installed and some health and safety issues; Town Council was unhappy with the quality of some of the trees and decorations facing wrong direction; these needed to be installed correctly. LITE had been contacted in respect of removing any cable ties to trees and replacing with expandable bands to allow for growth; Councillor H. Trollope had liaised with the Arboricultural Officer to ensure there was no issue with the lighting for the current year. A Member raised an issue that all lights be switched on simultaneously, which had not been the case the previous year.

8) Pierre Cornlouer

AFD donation SAMA Wales 82

– Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that Tredegar Town Council would add any shortfall to monies raised at the Armed Forces Day event in order that a donation of £500.00 be awarded to SAMA Wales 82.

Members emphasised the need to publicise Armed Forces Day as widely as possible to build upon the event, year on year, referring to the major event hosted and funded by Caerphilly County Borough Council.

9) PS Neil Pigeon

Parking operation – feedback following query by member of the public

– Noted; a Member said that he had spoken with the Sergeant, informing him it was the remit of the Local Authority to place markings on the highway, who should be contacted in respect of enforcement matters.

The Clerk said that the Police had expressed an interest in attending another meeting of Council whereupon it was agreed that Inspector Thomas and Sergeant Pigeon be invited to attend the next Ordinary Meeting of Council on Wednesday, 15th November, 2017.

10) Mr./Mrs. Walkley &
Ms. Sidoli

Re: Milefield Allotments – rat infestation

– the following points were noted: Blaenau Gwent

CBC offered a free rodent service; it would be difficult to identify the origin of a rat infestation; rubbish being left in the rear lane and on pavements, sometimes up to two weeks before the collection date, was an issue; allotments were expected to abide by the Allotments Policy agreed with TTC in respect of livestock; a recent inspection had been undertaken and no evidence of a rodent problem had been evidenced. Clerk to respond.

11) Brecon Beacons
Tourism

Tourism Meeting – 7th November, 2017, The Baskerville Hall, Clyro – 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

– Noted.

12) Brecon Beacons NPA

Weekly list of planning applications – 13th and 20th October, 2017 **forwarded to Cllr Turner**

– Noted.

13) Member
correspondence
– T. Smith

a) Concerns re: early installation of Christmas lighting without prior notification

– Noted; covered under discussion at correspondence item 7.

– T. Smith/A. Tippings

b) Office computers

– Noted; Councillor A.E. Tippings to update Leader / office.

– T. Smith

c) Concern re: Christmas lights on in Commercial Street on 29th October, 2017

– Noted; covered under discussion at correspondence item 7.

16) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 27.10.17; OVW October 2017 News Bulletin; Clerks & Councils Direct November 2017 Issue 114; Local Councils Update November 2017– **distributed to Members**: received.

17) AGENDA

Planning Committee 2nd November, 2017 – CANCELLED; Environment, Regeneration and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee Monday, 30th October, 2017 at 9.30 a.m. Executive Room, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Education and Learning Scrutiny Committee Friday, 27th October, 2017 at 10.00 a.m. Executive Room, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Meeting of the

Council Thursday, 26th October, 2017 at 10.30 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring), 6th November, 2017 at 9.30 a.m.; Democratic Services Committee, 7th November, 2017 at 11.00 a.m.; Statutory Licensing Committee, 7th November, 2017 at 1.55 p.m.; General Licensing Committee, 7th November, 2017 at 2.00 p.m.

Available for Members – received.

Councillor B Willis declared an interest in the following items and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.

192) Planning:

a) To consider an Officer's Report (if received)

List of Delegated Items determined between 28th August, 2017 and 18th September, 2017:

C/2017/0211 Temporary change of use (until April 2018) of former Council Yard for car and van parking in association with the construction of residential development on the site of the former Aneurin Bevan Care Home, The Crescent - *Approved.*

C/2017/0215 Proposed hardstand, 'Brigadoon' Grampton Crescent, Tredegar – *Approved.*

Planning Applications Report:

C/2017/0071 Detached dormer bungalow, land opposite 4 & 5 Picton Road, Tredegar – Recommendation to *GRANT* subject to conditions.

b) Verbal report of the Planning Committee, if any – Noted received.

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
C/2017/0300	Mr. T. Griffiths Mountain View Abertysswg Mountain Road	Retention of existing house and part retention of garage (modifications to roof) - Mountain View, Abertysswg Mountain Road, Cefn Golau.
- No objections	Cefn Golau, Tredegar.	
C/2017/0301	Mr. Winter 28 Copper Beech Drive Tredegar.	Form an entrance porch to front utilising an existing tiled canopy, 28 Copper Beech Drive
- No objections		

d) To consider other planning matters – Noted received.

193) Updates regarding Bedwellty House and Park - any issues to have been previously reported direct to the House Management personally

- Christmas Fair - Members welcomed the activities ongoing in Bedwellty House, as it was lovely to see the House full of the public
- Members expressed concern in respect of vandalism to the flowerbeds, which was so detrimental to all the good work being undertaken in the Park – Friends of Bedwellty intended to write to the Trust proposing further use of anti-vandal paint, which had

proven successful around the community kitchen garden

- Clerk to liaise with the House Manager in respect of exhibiting the poster entrants awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd, and Highly Commended, in the Christmas Poster Competition.

194) Delegates: to receive and consider reports from Delegates to Outside Bodies and the recommendations of Sub-Committees/Working Parties:

a) Joint Committee of Local Councils – no meeting

b) Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales – the Leader, Councillor T. Smith, and Councillor E. Jones had attended. Discussion had ensued in respect of One Voice Wales becoming a limited company; however, concerns had been raised in respect of pensions, with questions raised by the Welsh Assembly and elected Members in respect of liability. RFO to write to OVW to enquire as to current position.

c) One Voice Wales Larger Councils and AGM – no meeting

d) Tredegar Twinning Association – meeting scheduled for Monday, 6th November, 2017

e) School Governing Bodies – *Georgetown Primary School*, no meeting;

Bryn Bach Primary School, the new teacher was an excellent appointment, being a local girl with a good background in sports. The School had been awarded the Green Flag, which delighted the Eco Council, pupils were actively involved in the maintenance of the grounds, were attempting to acquire a flag pole and intended approaching Carillion. At the AGM, Alyson Tippings had been voted as Chair, with Diane Rowberry being awarded the role of Junior Vice Chair on being re-elected by Blaenau Gwent as the LEA representative. There still remained a vacancy on the governing body for the Town Council representative and this needed to be agendaed for a future meeting – Members should liaise with the Clerk if wishing to be considered;

Glanhowy Primary School, Tommy Smith was the LEA governor with David Howells as community governor;

St. Joseph's RC Primary School, the acting Head had now been appointed as the permanent Head. LEA/County Borough Councillor – governing body to write to Julie Parry.

f) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum – a Member said that, unfortunately, concerns had been raised in respect of the quantity of food at the buffet provided for their Heritage Day.

g) Tredegar/Ebbw Vale Crime Prevention Panel – the Leader, Councillor T. Smith, had attended the last meeting; he considered that a change was needed in the chairmanship as the meetings were not proving effective and he encouraged Members to attend. His Colleague agreed with the comments; he said that as there were only two Tredegar representatives, the meetings appeared focused towards Ebbw Vale at present and more support was required for Tredegar.

h) Tredegar Business Forum – no meeting, a Member said that the Business Forum representative had now recuperated from ill-health and the Business Forum relocated in Aneurin Bevan House, together with the Credit Union and Coalfields Regeneration, which was good news. The Leader emphasised that the Business Forum needed to liaise with Town Council to ensure Members were aware of all meetings.

i) VVP/ Tredegar Heritage Initiative – meeting scheduled for November, Town Council

awaiting notification on date.

- j) Allotment Association** – a visit had been made to the Allotments by Councillors M. Cross and T. Smith, together with the Clerk, to undertake an informal inspection. Vale View was in very good condition, with all plots cleared and ready to be replanted; Southend was in a poor condition with overhanging trees, which needed to be addressed to alleviate issues due to the impact on some of the plots. Members had been unable to access Milefield as the gates had been locked – this also appeared to be in poor condition, with a number of plots needing to be tidied up. A revisit would be made to Milefield Allotments and the Clerk would thereupon write to each Allotment, outlining the findings of Council.

195) Matters of Local Interest or Concern (by prior notice)

- Gymfinity Gymnastics – request to use TTC mic and two speakers for ‘Spectacular’ event in December, which was agreed accordingly.
- It was agreed that the SAMA representative(s) be invited to attend next meeting of Council, to be presented with a cheque prior to commencement of the agenda as a result of monies raised at the Armed Forces Day event.
- Christmas Poster competition – approval for expenditure for prizes was agreed accordingly, i.e. cash x 2 1st Prize, selections boxes x 7;
- Clerk to contact Neighbourhood Sergeant Pigeon to ensure appropriate protocol in place to respond to illegal events, should such an issue occur in the Trefil area.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

_____ Chair