

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber,
Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 6th September, 2017 at 6.00 p.m.**

Present: **Councillors J. Thomas (Chair)**
 H. Trollope
 A.E. Tippings
 M. Cross
 D.W.A. Howells
 G. James
 A. Jones
 D. Jones
 E. Jones
 P. Prosser
 D. Rowberry
 S. Trollope
 M. Turner
 P. Waldron
 B. Willis

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

Also Present: **Heddlu Gwent Police**
 Inspector Amanda Thomas
 Neighbourhood Sergeant Neil Pigeon

123) Apologies: **Councillors T. Smith, T. Gregory and G. Meredith**

124) Declarations of Interest.

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

125) To welcome Inspector Amanda Thomas, the newly appointed Officer responsible for Tredegar, who was in attendance to respond to any issues of concern raised

The Chair starting the meeting in the absence of the Mayor, Councillor J. Thomas, welcomed Inspector Amanda Thomas, the newly appointed Inspector for Tredegar and her Colleague. Councillor J. Thomas arrived at this juncture (6.04 p.m.).

The Inspector introduced PS Neil Pigeon, who had been appointed Neighbourhood Sergeant for the Tredegar and Ebbw Vale areas, in addition to PS Matthew Briggs who was now Neighbourhood Sergeant for the Brynmawr and Abertillery area. The Inspector provided a brief background in respect of her twenty-two years in the force, particularly

within CID, and as Reactive Inspector for the whole of Gwent for the past twenty months, which she believed would prove most beneficial in her new role.

PS Neil Pigeon explained that he had been in the force for nineteen years, as Sergeant since 2007 and within the Custody Unit for a two year period from 2014; 2007/2014 he had been part of the Response Team for Blaenau Gwent and therefore had good knowledge of the area. Both Inspector Thomas and PS Pigeon had only been in post for five weeks. The Officers thereupon invited Members to raise any issues of concern and responded accordingly.

- **Market Street and surrounding area** - concerns were raised in respect of the anti-social behaviour of youngsters, the back of the hospital and in the vicinity of the chip shop; also parking issues with patrons parking partially across the junction. A Member had seen police witnessing such problems but taking no action. Members were aware of poor incidences of parking throughout the Tredegar area.

The Inspector explained that Officers in patrol cars would be responding to a response call and any issues should be directed to the Neighbourhood Sergeant, who would then task Officers appropriately. The Inspector would work in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Team on all local issues and a running log retained of all complaints received, evidencing the response, times of visits, what action had been taken and when. The Inspector would be holding two-weekly Tasking Meetings, with all details included within a tasking document, for instance a traffic enforcement operation had been undertaken recently in Ebbw Vale. If an Officer was sent in response to a call, the Inspector assured Members she would expect appropriate action taken and the Officer to keep the complainant updated.

PS Pigeon suggested that Members could email any concerns direct to his own address and he would then be able to provide feedback.

- **Illegal Parking** - Members raised issues in respect of parking in Blue Badge bays, bus stops, causing congestion in the town centre by parking in loading/unloading bays; this had been a cause of concern for some three/four years with no apparent resolution by previous Inspectors for Tredegar. A Member raised a particular concern, where two PCSOs had witnessed an incident of traffic congestion outside Bargain Booze and had merely laughed but taken no action.

The Inspector said that should Members have photographic evidence of such incidents, these should be emailed to the Neighbourhood Sergeant; also, the public could follow the work of the police force on Twitter.

Councillor M. Cross joined the meeting at this juncture (6.19 p.m.)

Members expressed concern that work of the previous Inspector had been deemed inadequate and felt that the police had lost the support of the public over the last three years. It was also noted that there could be a downside to advertising where there was a police presence, e.g. the police had been present at Tafarnaubach when an incident had occurred in the town centre. Town Council acknowledged cutbacks in respect of the police force and enquired of the number of PCSOs for Tredegar, only being aware of PCSO Mike

Davies, who they highly commended for his work and visible presence in the community. Members also emphasised the need for the Inspector/police to be aware of community leaders, such as tenants and residents' associations.

The Neighbourhood Sergeant assured Members that he had spoken with his PCSOs and emphasised engagement as a top priority and engagement in community events was ongoing. He had already met with Ebbw Vale elected Members and would now wish to meet up with Tredegar Members. He outlined the six PCSOs covering the Tredegar area and promised to supply appropriate contact emails to the Town.

Council office to be publicised on the website. The Sergeant was encouraged by the feedback in respect of the work PCSO Mike Davies and would inform him of the Members' comments. The Inspector said that, in addition to publicising contact information on the Town Council website, this was available on the Gwent Police website also, in addition to promotion on Twitter, Facebook and engaging with the public through the Inspector's weekly blog in the Gwent Gazette.

- **Drug use** - Members said that the sale and use of drugs was blatant; the Inspector acknowledged the issues in respect of drug use, as this problem was rife throughout Britain. Unfortunately, although the police may not be able to act upon one piece of intelligence, it was important to refer any information to the PCSOs in order to build a case. She informed Council that activity was to be staged throughout the October/November period. The Neighbourhood Sergeant added that once information was gathered, then a warrant could be obtained on a property, as there was a need to present evidence to the courts.

- **A4048 Tredegar to Blackwood** - a Member referred to statistics and the increase of road traffic accidents year on year. The Town Council had lobbied the local Assembly Member to flag up the volume of traffic using this highway and sought the support of Gwent Police to add strength to the argument to bring this section of road up to standard. The Inspector said that she would take these concerns to Traffic Management to be input into statistics as a 'red' site, which could be targeted to site a speed watch camera.
- **Vandalism, Ystad Deri** - a Member referred to an attack on elderly householders, whereby on reporting the matter to the police had been informed "sorry, no Response Officers were available". The Neighbourhood Sergeant said that regular meetings were held with Tai Calon as part of their partnership with the police. He was aware of the issues at Ystad Deri and was hopeful that CCTV footage would identify those responsible. He would speak with the Ward Officer to liaise with the residents direct to take appropriate action with a view to identifying the culprits. The Inspector added she was unhappy with the response from Control, as there should be a queuing system, and informed Council there was a recruiting operation being undertaken to increase the number of police officers over the next eight/ten months.

A Member referred to an issue reported by a former Councillor, on having his wallet stolen, expressing concern that no action had been taken because she had been a known repeat offender. Tredegar Town Council had attempted to follow up when a crime was caught on camera but had been informed that a response could not be compiled on hypotheticals, which the Member considered infuriating and offensive. The Neighbourhood Sergeant was aware of the inquiry and the action taken, which he reported briefly for Members' information. The Officers were informed of the Cairn walk and the switch-on of the Christmas lights organised by Tredegar Town Council; Officers were welcome to join these events.

- **Safer crossing, Heads of the Valleys Road** - Members outlined a number of traffic incidents and considered this was a dangerous area for school children walking to school; the Casualty Reduction Officer had identified this area, and generally in the vicinity of Bryn Bach School, for enforcement. Work would be ongoing with the Crime Prevention Panel to consider this stretch of road in respect of issues such as parking, speeding, etc. and the Panel would engage to get appropriate representatives on board.

The following points were discussed briefly:

- response or a date of return imperative from Officers when reporting an issue via an answer machine or by email
- situation in respect of pushbikes provided for Officer use
- burglary - statistics not only related to dwellings but also to garden sheds and garages also; the Inspector was aware of suspects in the area when considering what was most prevalent as part of the tasking process. She briefly outlined a recent case in the Tredegar where an individual was traced and arrested following a crime, due to the Response Team being aware of past criminal offences; also a disqualified driver who was consequently prevented from driving and the vehicle confiscated.
- the Neighbourhood thereupon briefly outlined the work being undertaken by the Cadro Officer covering Blaenau Gwent, who was based in the Tredegar area -

figures in respect of anti-social behaviour was encouraging having decreased from 2016. Dispersal Orders were in place for the town centre and the Force were looking at the benefit of Open Spaces Orders in Tredegar.

The Mayor said that the Inspector's predecessor had offered Members to join the Neighbourhood Team to volunteer for a night shift, some Members had expressed an interest but received no feedback; Members to liaise with PS Neil Pigeon to arrange process. She thereupon thanked the Officers for attending and hoped they enjoyed the discussion.

126) To receive Mayor's report, as appropriate

The Mayor thereupon presented her report on recent activities:

- July

Methodist church service - was a lovely service with a great welcome from the congregation. It was a pleasure to be invited to their service and to meet the congregation.

Also, the Mayor had the pleasure of cutting the ribbon on the newly branded family shopper; this invite came via Facebook and she was more than happy to attend.

- August

Presented the defibrillator to Fresh Active along with Councillors A.E. Tippings and M. Turner. Followed by cheques to Ladies Bowls, Tredegar Heritage Forum and the Parchment Group on the same afternoon, due to her availability, again a great welcome from all groups. It was truly wonderful to meet so many people from Tredegar who give up their time for the groups and were actively seeking new members for each forum.

Unfortunately the Mayor was unable to open the Rainbow Run in Bryn Bach Park, due to other commitments that day. However she understood it was a great day and they raised a great deal of awareness and money. The Mayor had to place thanks to Councillor H. Trollope for stepping in on her behalf.

Which led the Mayor on to the Tredegar as one day which fell the day after the Rainbow Run at Tredegar recreational ground; upon checking with the office and there was no formal invite from this forum for the Mayor to attend in this event. Therefore, Town Council had no formal council representation at this event. It was another great community run event and it shows how much community spirit we have in Tredegar. Well done to everyone for their hard work to organise these two events.

So far for September the Mayor had helped out in the Clock along with Councillors B. Willis, A.E. Tippings, T. Smith, H. Trollope, P. Waldron and P. Prosser, the Mayor believed everyone would agree we had a great day and met some wonderful people, young and old, with a special mention to the lady who had a kidney transplant eight months ago, Justine Jones, and to Mrs. Pat Davies, a lady who has climbed the Clock twenty-one times. The Mayor had presented a cheque to the decoupage group who met weekly in Tredegar Library. On Sunday 3rd of September, Tredegar Town Council flew the Red Ensign flag in commemoration of those brave men and women who lost their lives at sea

and all those merchant navy personnel who brave the elements of the sea today. Thanks to all that attended on Sunday.

All the groups were looking for members and details could be found on the Tredegar town council website.

In addition, forthcoming events were noted, i.e. Golf Day/Race Night at Tredegar & Rhymney Golf Club on 30th September, 2017, £10.00 per person for the golfing and £7.00 for the evening only.

Finally, the Mayor had made an unscheduled visit to the Catholic Church as it had been brought to her attention that Father Edmunds was leaving and undertaking his last service at the Church. She had thereupon contacted the Leader and presented a gift on behalf of Council for his dedication to the community.

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

The Deputy Leader outlined the recommendations for consideration of Council.

- The schedule of stewards for the event was of great importance and, as highlighted by the Chair of the Events Sub-Committee, this needed to be in place in advance;
- Remembrance Events – clarity needed on arrangements at the Cairn, Tafarnaubach and town centre to ensure adequate Member cover at all three events
- Arrangements to progress purchase posy/wreaths for the events, including an additional two wreaths with a New Zealand armed forces themed centre piece
- Clerk to progress actions arising in respect of the Christmas Lights switch-on event, i.e. testing, installation, switch-on
- Christmas Window Competition – agreed to be judged by Mayor and Deputy Leader on Thursday, 23rd November, 2017
- Propose that Christmas Eve visits be held Saturday, 23rd December, 2017 – Clerk to check availability with Mayor and Tredegar Orpheus Male Voice Choir
- Agreed participation with Arts Council for Wales in respect of the Sherman Theatre production, who had agreed to subsidise costs incurred with Town Council. Also, as part of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Young Promoters Project, Deighton Primary School to be the recipient of a seven-week activity project.

128) Grants:

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

Gwent Area Association Welsh Pony & Cob Society – Wishing to purchase a laptop to be used for powerpoint presentations and training of younger members. *(Councillor M. Cross declared an interest)*

Previous – 2015/16 March'16 CQ No. 352 £200.00 – Approved £200.00

Ladies Circle Moose International No. 1 Lodge – Wishing to purchase kitchen items such as cutlery, sandwich makers, plates, oven mitts etc.

Previous – 2016/17 Oct'16 CQ No. 464 £200.00 – Approved £200.00

b) To receive, consider and approve grants to Churches and Chapels (s.137)

Grants as of 01.04.2017 now max £300.00

Bethania Chapel – Would utilise any funding given for their fortnightly coffee mornings and promotional links with the community to attract more users to the coffee mornings/groups held at the chapel.

Previous – 2016/17 Feb'17 CQ No. 548 £225.00 – Approved £300.00

Castle Street Congregational Church – Would utilise any funding given for their new Noah's Ark Parent and Toddler group being run on Wednesday mornings – equipment such as toys, batteries, arts/crafts, refreshments for attendees.

Previous – 2016/17 Oct'16 CQ No. 466 £225.00 – Approved £300.00

Immaculate Conception of the Roman Catholic Church – Funding towards repair work and painting inside of the Church.

Previous – 2016/17 Oct'16 CQ No. 467 £225.00.

Recommend seeking clarification on how this building is used by the community.

The Clerk sought clarification on whether the premises was used for activities for the benefit of the wider community – Members confirmed this was the case, with the Mayor particularly aware of luncheon clubs and coffee mornings being hosted in the building –

Approved £300.00

129) Correspondence

1) BGCBC

- a) Advance notice of Consultation with Town/Community Councils meeting Thursday 21st September 2017 at 2.30pm Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.
Request for items for inclusion on the agenda to be submitted no later than 12 noon on Monday, 11th September, 2017.

- Noted; a Member suggested CCTV update and was informed this had already been presented as an agenda item.

- b) J. Brooks Re: Land to the rear of Rock House, Georgetown – Caravan has now been moved off the land but now sited on land adjacent the highway which is Council owned land. The Council's Estates Department has been notified accordingly and he will also contact the owner direct to determine the future intentions for the caravan.

- Noted.

- c) A. Evans: Response to concerns raised regarding the Tredegar roundabout on the Heads of the Valleys.

- Noted; Councillors Tippings, Rowberry and Cross

had attended a meeting since receiving the response and suggested the views may now have changed, as a result of visiting the site. The local Assembly Member was fully supportive of Town Council's concerns in respect of safety in relation to this area; pursue with appropriate Officer and copy to Welsh Government accordingly.

d) Blaenau Gwent In Bloom:

i) Clock – Third place in the Public/Private Building category.

ii) Blaenau Gwent In Bloom Presentation at the General Offices, Ebbw Vale on 19th September, 2017 at 12.30 p.m., invitation for four people.

- Noted.

e) Cenotaph:

a) M. Stent: Insists TTC finds another power source for the War Memorial lighting etc.- **forwarded to Leader/Deputy, Mayor/Deputy on 03.08.2017**

b) Cllr Smith: Confirming met with contract 03.08.2017 and another route has been sourced so recommends not contacting other parties at the moment until plans are confirmed, can use posts on the Deighton field too saving Council money.

c) Roman Builders: Quotation for revised lighting work at War Memorial.

- Noted.

f) Deighton & Sirhowy:

a) M. Howland: Suggestion of a two-year licence for Sirhowy to match the Deighton. Recommends waiting for the revision of the CAT policy with regards to the potential of a freehold transfer.

b) M. Howland: Sirhowy Garden – has now received the grant of a two year licence, asking Town Council to confirm the area and boundaries on the attached map that they wish to take on; will also speak to their solicitor about also placing Deighton on the same two year licence as the initial one year licence is now ending - **forwarded to Leader/Deputy, Mayor/Deputy**

c) Cllr Smith; Cllr H Trollope - Happy for both to go on same licence until a freehold decision can be made.

- Noted.

- g) P. Amos Re: FOI request
 - i) Response regarding CCTV query.
 - ii) Information in response regarding the enquiry relating to financial assistance provided to Town/Community Councils.

- Noted.
- h) The Ombudsman's Casebook Issue 29 plus One Voice Wales' Model Local Resolution Protocol for Town Councils.

- Noted.

- i) Invitation to the "Social Life" Play Conference multi-agency event, Monday, 25th September, 2017 from 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. at Bedwelty House. Booking essential.

- Noted.

- j) List of Licensing Applications week ending 01.09.2017.
 - i) Gemma Morris: Personal Licence.

- Noted.

2) One Voice
Wales

- a) Notice and booking form for Conference and AGM Saturday 30.09.2017, discount available if booked by 01.09.2017. – ***forwarded to all reps for their views – Cllrs Smith and Thomas not available***

- Noted.

- b) Reform of Data Protection Legislation.

- Noted.

- c) What's stopping you from being an A.M.? Online survey and dates of focus groups but you must register to be part of the focus group.

- Noted; forward electronically to Members.

- d) "Our Valleys, Our Future" plan available at <http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/communities/taskforce-for-the-valleys/our-valleys-our-future/?lang=en>

- Noted.

- e) Heritage Impact Statements in Wales: As of 1st September, 2017 the Heritage Impact Statement will replace the Design and Access Statement in the application process for listed building consent.
- Noted.
- f) Cymraeg 2050 grant scheme: funding for new and innovative projects to increase use of the Welsh language, closing date 22.09.2017.
- Noted.
- g) National Development Framework information from the Welsh Government.
- Noted.
- h) Want to protect the planet and people? New resources for guidance available.
- Noted.
- i) Consultations:
- i) Electoral Reform, closing date for responses 10.10.2017
<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/electoral-reform-local-government-wales>
- ii) The proposed Autism (Wales) Bill, comments by 20.11.2017.
- iii) BS5709 Gaps Gates & Stiles now open to public comment until 19.09.2017, available at <https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com>
- Noted; i) forward to Councillor A.E. Tippings, and ii) to Councillor S. Trollope.
- j) Seminars:
- i) Welsh Audit Office Good Practice Exchange calendar of events.
- ii) Building a New Local Economy in Wales Wednesday, 18th October, 2017 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. at Cardiff City Stadium
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/building-a-new-local-economy-in-wales-tickets-36510760668>
- iii) Using alternative delivery models to deliver public services, Swalec Stadium on 22nd November, 2017 between 9.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m., *need to register for event.*
- Noted; forward to Councillor T. Smith.

- 3) BDO Annual Return 31.03.2017: "Audit completed and there were no matters which came to our attention which required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report". Information on advertising completion of the audit.
- Noted, the Annual Return was approved and accepted by Council; this was welcomed and congratulations extended to the Officers concerned.
- 4) Gwent Police
- a) Confirming they have now spoken direct to Mr. Thomas and informed him of the process taken and the decisions made.
 - it was noted that Mr. Thomas had stated this had not reached a satisfactory conclusion.
 - b) Working Together for Safer Communities Conference at Rodney Parade, Newport on Wednesday, 27th September, 2017 from 12.00 noon to 3.30 p.m. – **book a place by 22.09.2017**
 - Noted.

Councillor A.E. Tippings declared an interest in the following item and took no part in discussion thereon.

- 5) A. Tippings Request for Council to sponsor (£30.00) a floral display at Horeb and Sardis Chapel's Harvest Thanksgiving and Flower Festival.
- Noted and agreed accordingly.
- 6) C Walters Opening of the Town Clock – expressing thanks.
- Noted.
- 7) Lite Ltd Email : Outlining how the real trees are wrapped in town and confirming new rep for us is his colleague Paul Taylor who is looking after the South Wales region - **forwarded to C. Engel BGCBC**
- Noted; Clerk also to pursue compensation for Christmas lighting removed resulting from felling of trees opposite Lidl's.
- 8) Cllr H Trollope Nominating Rio Weed for an award – gymnastics.
- Noted and agreed accordingly.
- 9) SLCC Regional Training Seminar "Ensure your council is compliant in 2017 and beyond" on Wednesday

22.11.2017 Holiday Inn Bristol Filton.

- Noted; Clerk to ascertain if Seminar content relevant to Wales.

10) J Lapping

Email

i) Asking if Council can sponsor the Rainbow Warrior Walk and could the Mayor/Deputy Mayor attend.- **forwarded to Leader/Deputy, Mayor/Deputy**

ii) Invoice for bouncy castle at Rainbow Warrior event. – **Council approval of provisional agreed sum.**

- It was noted that the event had raised approximately £17,500.00; the proposed £80.00 donation in support of the event, received during the August recess, was approved in retrospect.

11) Welsh
Government

Clustering: Funding to support the initial setting up of Joint Arrangements, includes application form and guidance.

- Noted.

12) Resident
correspondence

a) Gemtime: Open invitation to all Members to their 20th year in business celebration on Saturday, 16th September, 2017 from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

- Noted.

b) C Griffin: Asking if Council would consider building a new skate park in Tredegar.

- Noted; to be passed to BG under their remit.

c) D Griffiths: Asking whether someone as looked at his email below sent 22.07.2017 -“FAO: Cllr G James – Asking for help regarding the proposed change of bus stops for the Deighton School children – **forwarded to Cllr James**”

- Noted; following a brief discussion, it was agreed that a letter be forwarded to the bus company.

13) Cllr Smith

a) Response from S. Smith, BGCBC Planning regarding discussions on the Truck Shop.

- Noted.

b) Raising enquiring from Aneurin Leisure Trust about Town Council possibly siting a defibrillator at Bedwellty House. - **Cllr Thomas & Cllr H Trollope: Suggests everyone should submit their request in**

writing and maybe a criteria should be established due to the rising interest in having one.

- Noted.

14) Future Generations Commissioner for Wales

Report on “Well-being in Wales: Planning today for a better tomorrow – Learning from the well-being assessments”.

- Noted.

15) National Grid Team

Overhead line refurbishment briefing meeting prior to improvements: meeting will take place on 28th September, 2017 at 7.00 p.m. Canolfan Soar, Merthyr Tydfil.

- Noted.

16) N. Harvey

Red Ensign Day: thank you for participating and request to forward them a photograph from the ceremony as they intend to create an online album.

- Noted; forward to Councillors T. Smith and A.E. Tippings.

17) SMART Mentoring C.I.C

Information on the service they will be delivering in Blaenau Gwent.

- Noted; the Deputy Mayor had attended the launch and considered this an outstanding service. It was agreed that an invitation be extended to attend a meeting of Council.

18) Planning Aid Wales

Training:

i) “Pre-application Consultation, Maximising your community influence” Tuesday, 1st November, 2017 at 2.30 p.m. St. Michael’s Centre, Abergavenny £35.00 per delegate.

ii) Community Engagement in plan-making, Monday, 25th September, 2017 at 11.45 a.m. Swansea, £80.00 per delegate.

- Noted.

19) R. Taylor-Davies

Invitation to the Valleys That Changed the World Autumn networking event at Big Pit, Blaenavon on 14th September, 2017 between 10.00 a.m. & 1.00 p.m. plus optional underground tour.

- Noted; Councillor A.E. Tippings was attending in her BG role and would be happy to share her transport.

- 20) Shelter
Cymru
- Blaenau Gwent Housing Advice Service: Tuesdays 10.00 a.m.-12.00 noon drop in sessions at Abertillery Library and 1.00 p.m.-4.00 p.m. drop in sessions at the Ebbw Vale Action Centre.
- Noted.
- 21) Alun Davies,
A.M.
- Dates of advice surgeries in Blaenau Gwent.
- Noted; to be publicised on TTC website.
- 22) Arts Council
of Wales
- i) Shows available through the Night Out Scheme over the Winter/Christmas period.
ii) How the Night Out Scheme works.
- Noted; consideration at future Events Sub-Committee.
- 23) GAVO
- i) Link to the Community Facilities Programme.
ii) Funding update.
- Noted.
- 24) Brecon
Beacons
Sustainable
Destination
Partnership
- Brecon Beacons Tourism News: Ambassador Scheme Autumn 2017.
- Noted.

25) PUBLICATIONS

Ville D'Orvault, Orvault & Co Sept/Oct 2017 Issue 13; Federation of City Farms Community Gardens August 2017 newsletter; Environment Cymru August 2017 newsletter; Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Community Update Autumn 2017; BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 08.09.17; Latest news from Natural Resources Wales; J Parker Wholesale catalogue Autumn 2017; One Voice Wales, Older Peoples Commissioner for Wales 2017 Summer Newsletter – **added to website**; Latest Annual Review 2016/17 Consumer Council for Water; Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council Annual report 2016/17; Communicorp Local Councils Update August 2017 Issue 209.

– **distributed to Members**: received.

26) AGENDA

Corporate Overview Scrutiny Information Pack – September 2017 cycle; Special Environment, Regeneration and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 14th September, 2017 at 10.00 a.m. Executive Room, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Social Services Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 7th September, 2017 at 9.30 a.m. Executive Room, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Joint Scrutiny Committee Monday, 11th September, 2017 at 9.30 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.

– **distributed to Members**: received.

130) Planning:

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

List of Delegated Items determined between 5th July, 2017 and 25th August, 2017:

C/2017/0062 Lawful development certificate for the installation of a maximum 4.8mw diesel powered peaking plant with associated infrastructure to solely supply energy to Liberty Tubes, Tafarnaubach Ind. Est., Tredegar – *Lawful Development Certificate granted.*

C/2017/0150 First floor 7 The Circle, proposed replacement emergency exit stairs at rear, replacement windows and raise main roof; Ground floor 41A Castle Street, proposed raised storage platform at rear – *Approved.*

C/2017/0188 Proposed first floor bedroom, ensuite extension at rear of dwelling, 7 Avalon Terrace, Tredegar – *Approved.*

C/2017/0189 Proposed first floor bathroom extension at rear of dwelling, 107 Charles Street, Tredegar – *Approved.*

C/2017/0184 Construction of two reinforced concrete support columns to elevated walkway between flats 113-121 & 55-63 St. Georges Court, Tredegar – *Approved.*

C/2017/0186 First floor rear extension, 7 Ladies Row, Tredegar – *Approved.*

Planning Applications Report:

C/2017/0194 Change of use from B2 (manufacturing) to D2 (gym) with associated external alterations and additional car parking, Units 2a & 2b Sirhowy Ind. Est., Tredegar – Recommendation to GRANT subject to conditions.

b) Verbal report of the Planning Committee, if any

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
C/2017/0211	Mr. I. Dunn R&M Williams Ltd. Williams House West Point Ind. Estate Penarth Road, Cardiff.	Temporary change of use (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, Council Yard, The Crescent.

**Forwarded to C&W members, response by Wednesday 02.08.2017.
No Objections**

C/2017/0215	Mr. L. Phillips Brigadoon Grampten Crescent Tredegar.	Conversion of front garden to off-road parking for 2 vehicles of dimensions 5800x4800mm, finished in block pavements laid on sharp sand and MOT type 1 sub-base - Brigadoon, Grampten Crescent.
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**Forwarded to Sirhowy members, respond to office by 09.08.2017
No Objections**

C/2017/0236 Mr. J. Evans Single storey side extension
7 Ashville and front porch and attic
Tredegar. conversion - Jesmond Dene,
Park View.

Forwarded to C&W members. No Objections

Councillor M. Cross declared an interest in the following application and took no part in the discussion thereof:

C/2017/0240 Mrs. G. Thomas Change of use of land and
Pentwyn, Trefil associated landfill operation
Tredegar. using inert material to raise
the level of ground for the
purpose of grazing horses -
Pentwyn Farm, Trefil.

**Forwarded to Sirhowy members: No objections to the proposal.
“However, the residents have grave concerns over the condition of
the road and the number of heavier lorries currently using it. This
increase will exacerbate the problem. Can BG address this? Whilst
the planning application has no details of operational hours/days, I
expect this to be set in planning conditions.”**

C/2017/0241 Mr. S. Davies Relocate bin store - Maes Y
Shaw Healthcare Dderwyn, Charles Street,
1 Links Court Tredegar.
St. Mellon's, Cardiff.

No objections

C/2017/0242 Miss P. Thomas Crown reduction and removal
Cranford, The Rhyd of deadwood on lime trees,
Tredegar. fell to ground level (or pollard
if no felling consent) and treat
stumps on 3 lime trees –
Cranford, The Rhyd,
Tredegar.

Forwarded to Georgetown members. No responses.

**No objections – but Members would support crown reduction, rather
than felling, if possible.**

C/2017/0247 Mr. P. Lewis Extension to gable wall for
Elmhurst garage & utility areas - 17
17 Harford Street Harford Street, Tredegar.
Tredegar

Forwarded to Sirhowy members. No Objections

C/2017/0248 Mr. M. Skinner Change of use for existing
Ron Skinner and Sons industrial unit to car sales
The Car Showroom area (including demolition
Tafarnaubach existing buildings and
Tredegar landscaping); change of use

for existing highway to car sales area including remodelling topography and landscaping; provision of portakabin buildings for ancillary use to car sales; provision of covered walkways and modified building access ancillary to car sales use, land adjacent to Ron Skinners and Sons, Tafarnaubach.

No objections

C/2017/0249 Mr. A. Jenkins
Rhyd Developments
School House
Llanellen.

Outline planning permission for construction of dwellings at Pochin Works, Newport Road in accordance with the outline planning application submitted to Council subject to the conditions specified under C/2014/0238 – site access/layout/landscaping /infrastructure.

No objections

Councillor G. James declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion thereof:

d) To consider other planning matters.

- i. Unauthorised siting of storage container attached to the rear elevation of no. 35 Castle Street, Tredegar - Appeal had been lodged against the Enforcement Notice and any comments to be submitted direct to the Planning Inspectorate by 14th September, 2017.
- ii. Unauthorised siting of storage container and construction of concrete support base to the rear of no. 36 Castle Street, Tredegar – Appeal had been lodged against the Enforcement Notice and any comments were to be submitted direct to the Planning Inspectorate by 14th September, 2017.

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

The Deputy Leader extended her thanks to Steven Hughes, Aneurin Leisure Trust, for all his help during the Merchant Navy Day event, particularly as this had been during a very busy period for the House.

Ongoing issues in respect of security/criminal activity within the Park – a small delegation of Members to meet with appropriate House members of staff to discuss a way forward and strengthen communications with the local police – it was agreed that the following Members attend, Councillors M. Turner, T. Smith, A.E. Tippings and G. James.

132) 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** no meeting
- c) **One Voice Wales Larger Councils and AGM** no meeting
- d) **Tredegar Twinning Association** no meeting
- e) **School Governing Bodies** congratulations were extended to Tredegar Comprehensive School on their Key Stage 4 results
- f) **Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum** no meeting
- g) **Blaenau Gwent CAB** no meeting
- h) **Tredegar/Ebbw Vale Crime Prevention Panel** no meeting
- i) **Tredegar Business Forum** no meeting
- j) **VVP/ Tredegar Heritage Initiative** no meetings but pleasing to note the new STAR Centre being handed over, but no official opening as yet
- k) **Allotment Association** no meeting

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

– none received

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.42 p.m.

_____ Chair