

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber,  
Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at 6.30 p.m. (6.42 p.m.)**

**Present: Councillors H. Trollope (Chair)**

**T. Smith  
A.E. Tippings  
M. Cross  
D.W.A. Howells  
G. James  
E. Jones  
P. Prosser  
M. Turner  
P. Waldron  
B. Willis**

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

**330) Apologies: Councillors J. Thomas, T. Gregory, A. Jones, D. Jones,  
G. Meredith, D. Rowberry and S. Trollope**

**331) Declarations of Interest.**

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

**332) To receive Mayor's report, as appropriate**

The Mayor had extended her apologies due to work commitments, which were unavoidable.

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

There were no recommendations arising from the Events Sub-Committee held immediately prior to the meeting; however, the Chair reported the following actions that were ongoing: -

- Armed Forces Covenant - Councillor M. Turner to liaise with Helen Cunningham
- NHS 'Question Time', location, Clerk to provisional book hall at Tredegar Comprehensive School
- National coverage at 70 - due to culmination on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, major PR opportunity to tag on TTC events within Tredegar (Chair to liaise with AET)
- Chair and Leader to meet with Police / Safety Advisory Group if appropriate in respect of security, etc.

- Classic Car event; Clerk to email Business Forum representative to ascertain if taking place this year

The update of the Chair, for an on behalf of the Events Sub-Committee, was noted accordingly.

### **334) Grants:**

#### **a) To receive and consider grants to Sporting and Cultural organisations**

Gymfinity Gymnastics Sports Academy – Any financial assistance received would be used to purchase a new fast tumble track.

**2016/17 Dec'16 CQ No. 705520 £200.00:** *Approved £200.00*; Members said the Sports Academy were excellent ambassadors for the town.

Hospice of the Valleys – To assist with the costs relating to the holding of the annual 6 Mile Race at Parc Bryn Bach on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018. Asking if Council would consider sponsor of the Bronze Level at a cost of £250.00.

**2016/17 March'17 CQ No. 705566 £375.00 (maximum amount) :** *Approved £250.00*; the Deputy Mayor confirmed he would be delighted to attend if the Mayor was unavailable to attend the event.

Teenage Cancer Trust – Any financial assistance received would be used to support our current and new services available at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff.

**2016/17 March'17 CQ No. 705561 £100.00:** *Approved £100.00*.

Tredegar Ironsides RFC – To buy First Aid equipment to ensure safety of the team members.

**2016/17 March'17 CQ No. 705571 £200.00:** *Approved £200.00*.

*Councillor T. Smith declared an interest in the following application and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*

Valleys Life After Stroke Group – To continue to provide support to stroke survivors and their carers. Hold regular coffee mornings and day trips. Most costs incurred by the group relates to room hire. Admin and travel.

**2016/17 March'17 CQ No. 705571 £200.00:** *Approved £200.00*.

Wales Air Ambulance – To continue to provide their dedicated Children's Wales Air Ambulance service.

**2012/13 March'13 CQ No. 704556 £200.00:** *Approved £200.00*.

#### **b) To receive and consider grants to Churches & Chapels (s.137) - Grants as of 1.4.17 now max £300.00**

Central Baptist Church – To assist with the costs relating to the renovation works in the kitchen area. The Church continues to open its doors to/for community use.

#### **No grants issued during the last 6 financial years.**

- A Member referred to costs incurred for previous work to build stud wall partitions, and the Chapel was now really in need of funding; Council was therefore requested to consider the application under conditions of a special grant, which was agreed. *Approved £500.00*.

Ebenezer Welsh Congregational Church – To assist with the costs relating to the continued works in the kitchen area of the vestry to allow the Church to continue to open its doors to/for community use.

**2016/17 March'17 CQ No. 705579 £225.00: Approved £300.00.**

*Councillor A.E. Tippings declared an interest in the following application and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*

Horeb Chapel – To assist with the costs relating to the cleaning and redecorating of the exterior. The Chapel continues to open its doors to/for community use.

**2016/17 March' 17 CQ No. 705577 £225.00: Approved £300.00.**

Sardis Chapel – To assist with the costs relating to the redecorating of the exterior. The Chapel continues to open its doors to/for community use.

**2016/17 March' 17 CQ No. 705578 £225.00: Approved £300.00.**

*Councillor B. Willis declared an interest in the following application and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*

Saron Congregational Church – To assist with the costs relating to the renewal of render of the walls. The Church continues to open its doors to/for community use.

**2013/14 Sept' 13 CQ No. 704635 £200.00: Approved £300.00.**

Trinity Spiritual Church – Fitting of security bars to all the windows. The Church continues to open its doors to/for community use.

**2016/17 March 2017 CQ No. 705569 £225.00: Approved £300.00.**

A Member said that as Blaenau Gwent only held one meeting per year for grants currently, there could possibly be ongoing problems going forward.

The Chair suggested that the RFO could possibly draft a proforma, outlining the need to evidence community use by churches and chapels; the Clerk assured Members that all grant applications received had evidenced such use; also, that the RFO would undertake a review of all budget headings to ascertain if virements would be required.

Members acknowledged the number of grants submitted and the Chair emphasised grants should be submitted in a timely manner throughout the year rather than waiting until the financial year end.

### **335) Correspondence**

1) BGCBC

a) A. O'Leary Re: Notice for the Boundary Review.

- A Member had expressed concern TTC had not been informed of the process and what recommendations were made for Blaenau Gwent. The Corporate Support Manager had clarified that Tredegar Town Council had been invited to a presentation but no Members of this Council had attended. A Member said he had

been invited to sit on the County Borough with Councillors John Morgan and Steven Thomas regarding discussions relating to the Borough. He said he would expect another formal procedure in respect of town and community councils for further discussion, as no discussion had ensued, to date, in relation to town councils.

- b) P. Amos Re: Standards Committee, Community Council Member. Confirming no objections to the system of rotation, Tredegar Town Council's nominated representative Cllr Jacqueline Thomas is eligible to fill this position first.
  - Forward to Councillor J. Thomas.
- c) S. Jones re: Winning with Social Media. Workshop being held 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 between 9.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. at Ebbw Vale Institute.
  - Noted.

*Councillors T. Smith and B. Willis declared an interest in the following items and took no part in the discussions or voting thereon.*

- d) List of Licensing Applications week ending 25.02.2018.
  - i) D.R. Jones – Personal Licence.
    - Noted.

2) One Voice Wales                      Data Protection Toolkit. Regulations, within Council, to be in place by 25.05.2018.

- Noted.

3) Local Democracy &                      Guidance for Principal Councils in the Review of  
Boundary  
Commission for  
Wales    Communities.

- A Member considered this was coterminous, as County Borough changes with Town Council wards could create an overburden on Tredegar as a result.

4) Welsh Government                      a) Funding support available in 2018-19 for the initial setting up of joint arrangements with three core themes of community engagement, increasing citizen participation and engagement in local democracy. Closing date 20.04.2018.

- Forward to Councillor A.E. Tippings.

- b) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales invite to Clerks only to a round table discussion event on its remuneration framework at Abergavenny on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
- Clerk to attend.
- 5) Wales Audit Office
- Copy of Financial Management and Governance in Local Councils 2016/17. - ***copied to RFO***
- Noted.
- 6) Cllr T. Smith
- Nominations for Special Achievement Awards.
- A Member had received requests for three names who the public wished to put forward for a civic award. In addition, a gentleman had suffered with a suspected heart attack, during the recent inclement weather - emergency services had been contacted and a neighbour who was a nurse was in attendance, one individual had made arrangements for the gentleman to be transported to access the highway, and then be taken by a 4x4 vehicle to hospital.
- Members supported all nominees put forward by the public and recognised the need for the appropriate documentation to be completed; it was therefore agreed, Leader to complete nomination forms for all four individuals.
- 7) Cllr G. Meredith
- Letter requesting approval for extended leave.
- It was agreed that the correspondence be considered under exempt conditions, due to possible discussion in relation to the personal circumstances of an individual.
- 8) Kidney Wales Walk for Life
- April to June 2018. Invite to participate in this annual event.
- Noted; passed to Deputy Mayor, Councillor H. Trollope, to action.
- 9) S. Clipstone
- Open Doors registration is open until 01.06.2018 with events to run between 1<sup>st</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.
- Members said this was usually held the first weekend in September; agreed, to take place on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2018.

- 10) Keep Wales Tidy                      Information on how town/community councils can work in partnership with Keep Wales Tidy.
- Noted; congratulations were extended to Councillor A.E. Tippings and participants in undertaking a clean-up of the Trefil area. The Clerk advised Councillor Tippings to contact the office if she wished any details of the event to be updated on the Little Heroes website.
- 11) E Monroe                                Brynmawr Musical & Panto Society: asking for any financial support.
- Regrettably Members felt unable to support the production, due to the current financial climate and increasing demand to provide services on limited resources.
- 12) National Grid                         Walham to Cilfynydd update on the proposed works.
- Noted.
- 13) R Taylor                                Chartist Heritage Project Development Officer, closing date 16.03.2018.
- Noted.

#### 14) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 02.03.2018; Ville D'Orvault, Orvault & Co March/April 2018 issue 16; Communicorp Clerks & Councils Direct March 2018 Issue 116.

– ***distributed to Members***: received.

#### 15) AGENDA

Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at 10.00 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at 10.00 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Environment, Regeneration and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at 9.30 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Executive Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at 9.30 a.m. Executive Room, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special General Licensing Committee Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2018 at 10.00 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Meeting on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00 a.m. Tredegar Library.

**Available for Members** – received

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

### 336) Planning:

#### a) Officers Report – Information Only

##### List of Delegated Items determined between 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 and 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018:

C/2016/0147 Application for the discharge of condition 5 & 7 of planning application C/2001/0063 submission details of all landscaping works and samples of external facing and roofing materials, 9 Church Street, Tredegar – *Condition Discharged*.

C/2017/003 To retain the raised patios with wooden boundary fence to rear garden and raised decking to the side of dwelling, Bedruthan The Rhyd, Tredegar - *Approved*.

C/2018/0034 Application for non-material amendment of condition 1 of planning permission C/2015/0181 revised plans to omit the sun lounge at the rear and alter the rear elevation to enclose the dining/kitchen area, 1 Cross Brook Cottages, Trefil - *Approved*.

C/2017/0318 Retention of garden shed, 16 Brangwyn Road, Tredegar - *Approved*.

C/2017/0277 Construction of a new ramped access to the frontage of an existing educational building, Thomas Richards Centre, Dukestown Road, Tredegar – *Approval*.

##### Planning Applications Report:

C/2017/0143 Proposed residential development (18 dwellings) with associated highways and parking provision for adjacent dwellings (Outline), land at Ashvale Sports Club, Griffiths Gardens, Tredegar – *Recommending planning permission refused*.

C/2018/0001 Partial demolition and rebuild of existing dwelling, raising of the main roof and two storey rear extension, Upper Hiran Fach Farm, Crown Avenue, Tredegar - *Recommending planning permission refused*.

- ii) a) List of planning applications received in week 05.
- b) List of planning applications received in week 06.
- c) List of planning applications received in week 07.
- d) List of planning applications received in week 08.
- e) List of planning applications received in week 09.

#### b) Verbal Report of the Planning Committee

##### c) Applications

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
- C/2018/0056	Mr. A. Illari Rothwell House Dukestown Road Tredegar	Outline planning for single detached dwelling, plot adjacent to 7 Arches Close.
-	No objections	
C/2018/0047	Mr. A. Jahanfar Castle Street Dental Practice 24-25 Castle Street Tredegar.	Change of use from domestic (c3) to dental practice (D1), 23 Castle Street.
-	No objections; however, a Member expressed his disappointment in the loss of the New Look store.	

C/2018/0050	Mr. R. Mercieca Evolve Architecture 200 Worle Parkway Worle	Proposed Advertisements: fascia panel shortened and painted for projecting sign, 1 internally illuminated fascia, 1 internally illuminated projected sign, 2 A1 window poster frames with illuminated edging, 100 Commercial Street.
- No objections	Weston-super-Mare.	
2018/0052	Mr M Haskell Malia, Reservoir Road Ebbw Vale.	Two semi-detached houses with garages and parking, land adjoining 2 Sirhowy Houses, Dukestown Road, Tredegar.
- No objections		

**d) Other Planning Matters** - None received.

**337) Updates regarding Bedwellty House and Park—any issues to have been previously reported direct to the House Management personally**

- Park gates - a Member said he had reported the gates at the play area being unlocked, and had spoken to House Manager as this was not acceptable and emphasised these should be locked; Clerk to write to House Manager / Trust, together with a copy of the Police. Another Member suggested that a presentation could be made to pupils of Tredegar Comprehensive School in respect of ongoing issues within the Park, with representatives of the Park, Tredegar Town Council and the Police in attendance.
- Council congratulated the House staff on ensuring paths were cleared, commending all their hard work; however, it was sad to see continuing vandalism, particularly around the garden area and long shelter.

**338) 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** – a Member referred to the change of Mayor's reception - this had now been moved prior to 'get together'
- e) School Governing Bodies** – *Bryn Bach Primary School / Deighton Primary School / St. Joseph's Primary School / Glanhowy Primary School*: no Governors meetings had taken place since last reported at Civic Council - Glanhowy and Deighton were to be held the following day
- f) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum** – no meeting but this Forum would now revert to a Friday morning
- g) Tredegar/Ebbw Vale Crime Prevention Panel** – no meeting, most recent had been cancelled
- h) Tredegar Business Forum** – no meeting



**i) VVP / Tredegar Heritage Initiative** – no meeting as such, but a Member had been informed by an Officer that the application for proposed funding in relation to the Aneurin Bevan Stones had been rejected by Lottery Funding. However, the Silent Valleys Trust still wished to provide funding support, and the Member enquired if Tredegar Town Council would be willing to lend support also - Council, of course, would need some indication of the monies required for such a project. Alternatively, this could be a reduced scheme; the Member suggested Town Council could agree to support in principal.

### **339) Matters of Local Interest or Concern (by prior notice)**

- Friends of Bedwellty Park had asked that Town Council be kept apprised of matters relating to proposed redundancies within Bedwellty House, whereupon a Member provided a brief update accordingly.
- Write to Blaenau Gwent regarding road clearance during inclement weather conditions, commending the hard work undertaken, as Tredegar Town Council recognised and expressed support of the Highways Team. A Member added that the help received in the Trefil area had been exceptional.
- Tredegar Operatic Society – concern had been relayed to a Member that their annual production could be in doubt; as the Operatic, who paid for use of the Beaufort Theatre, had been notified of a 100% increase in hire charges to the previous year. The Member said that the Operatic did not apply year on year and proposed that TTC consider support, as appropriate. It was therefore agreed that a grant of **£200.00** be **approved, in principal**, subject to all appropriate financial documentation being supplied to TTC as required.
- Quiz Wizards - the final had been held the previous Wednesday, First prize had been awarded to Welsh Wizards and all three cash prizes had been returned to be donated to the Mayor's Appeal. The quiz organiser had presented a comprehensive speech but had expressed disappointment that the Mayor had not attended any of the events. The Member said that a gift was normally presented to the organiser at the Finals and therefore sought approval for this to be purchased to express Town Council appreciation for his hard work over the previous thirty-five years. The Mayor's Consort confirmed that the Mayor had already purchased a gift for the organiser, but unfortunately, due to circumstances in her workplace, had been unable to attend these events. He also considered a special acknowledgement could be extended to thank the organiser at the Council's presentation evening. He assured Council that the Mayor had been greatly disappointed she had been unable to attend the Final of the quiz, due to inclement weather conditions. Members suggested that perhaps better communication was needed in the future in respect of representation at such events.

### **340) 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**

Moved, the meeting was closed to the public, whereupon:

Consideration was given to Member correspondence in respect of a leave of absence request. Following discussion and careful consideration of the content of the letter; it was unanimously agreed that the request be approved (Clerk to write).

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 7.54 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair

