

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber,
Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 5th September, 2018 at 6.00 p.m.**

Present: Councillors H. Trollope (Chair)

**E. Jones
T. Smith
M. Cross
D.W.A. Howells
D. Jones
P. Prosser
D. Rowberry
J. Thomas
S. Trollope
M. Turner
P. Waldron
B.G. Willis**

In Attendance: Town Clerk – Ms. C. Price

154) Apologies: Councillors A.E. Tipping, G. James and A. Jones

Councillor S. Trollope would be joining the meeting at a later juncture; a warm welcome was extended to Peter on his return to Council.

155) Declarations of Interest

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

156) Change of Order

It was agreed that the item 'Vacancy – Georgetown Ward' be considered following the presentation by the Energy Saving Trust representative, which was agreed accordingly.

157) Invitation extended to representatives of the Energy Saving Trust in respect of 'Power Up!', a partnership between Western Power Distribution and the Energy Saving Trust, regarding services offered

The Chair extended a welcome to the Trust representative, Mr. Rob Broome, who was in attendance to provide a presentation in respect of 'Power Up!', a partnership between the electricity network, Western Power Distribution, and the Energy Saving Trust.

The main aim was to help those who could be potentially vulnerable in the event of a power cut to save money and keep warm, offering a range of income, tariff and energy efficiency

support and advice across south and mid-Wales.

- The Priority Service Register ensured that Western Power was aware of anyone especially vulnerable during a power cut, e.g. those with critical medical dependency, medical dependency, communication needs, etc.
- Power Up! provided free, impartial energy efficiency advice.
- Various other schemes were available to help vulnerable customers.
- In 2017/18, the Power Up! hub in Wales supported 1,790 vulnerable customers with a collective saving of £425,425.90.

The representative thereupon responded to Members questions and provided clarity on any issues raised.

- Members suggested Power Up! link up with Blaenau Gwent Community Connectors, who looked after vulnerable people.
- Concerns were expressed in respect of clearer information needed when residents applied to Nest; Members commended the service but potential claims were often declined due to a lack of understanding in respect of terminology relating to criteria. The representative confirmed that Power Up! could provide advice and support and would be aware of criteria and whether a person would qualify before referring to Nest.
- To ensure maximum savings, the representative suggested customers undertake dual utilities with one supplier.
- The representative would provide the office with posters to be displayed in the town centre noticeboards.
- In respect of concerns of a particular resident, the representative confirmed Power Up! would undertake home visits; Councillor Rowberry to liaise direct with representative.

The Chair extended thanks to the Trust representative for a most comprehensive presentation and responding to questions raised: Tredegar Town Council would be pleased to promote the excellent work undertaken by Power Up! through Western Power Distribution and the Energy Saving Trust. Mr. Rob Broome thereupon left the meeting.

Councillor S. Trollope arrived at this juncture of the meeting (6.23 p.m.)

158) Vacancy – Georgetown Ward: nomination for consideration

The Leader confirmed that no request had been received for an election in the Georgetown Ward of Tredegar Town Council and the vacancy could therefore be filled via a co-option. On progressing in accordance with the approved process, four expressions of interest for Georgetown had been received, but only two had been eligible, subject to Party rules. Prior to selection, only one application had been received from Sean Rees, who had been selected by the Ward.

A Member thereupon recommended Sean Rees be approved as the nominated Town Council representative for the Georgetown Ward, which upon a vote being undertaken, was agreed unanimously.

159) To receive Mayor's report, as appropriate

The Mayor charity event Rugby Club, thanked Members who had attended, those who could not attend donated to the charity, special thanks to Deputy Mayor who had sold ribbons to

raise monies. Great pleasure flowers to Joyce Tamplin on 100th birthday , a women's bowls fanatic. Cheque Mini Movers, thirty young mothers and children through play making limbs stronger.

Councillor M. Cross arrived at this juncture of the meeting (6.29 p.m.)

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

The Chair of the Events Sub-Committee provided a brief update on feedback from recent events hosted by Tredegar Town Council and ongoing actions in respect of forthcoming events:

- Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday
- WW1 Beacons of Lights 11th November, 2018
- Christmas Lights switch-on

Open Doors event – the opening of the Town Clock had proven a great success, with 120 participants, however the Chair expressed disappointment with Member attendance. Without the support of the Air Cadets, there would have been problems in proceeding with the event to ensure the Council's own risk assessment was adhered to. It was agreed, therefore, that a letter of thanks be forwarded to the Air Cadets for their support.

A Member said that the Town Clerk for Blackwood had expressed an interest in climbing the Town Clock and enquired if it would be appropriate for the Clerk to attend the opening on the Thursday evening with the Air Cadets: agreed accordingly, Councillor B. Willis to liaise.

The following recommendation was presented to Council for consideration and was approved accordingly.

- It was agreed that approval of Council be sought for the purchase of up to 100 lamppost poppies for display from The Promenade, throughout the town centre, to St. George's Church.

161) Grants:

Thanks from Tredegar Ironsides RFC.

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

Georgetown District Community Association – Any financial assistance received would be used towards the cost of repairing the damaged wall.

2017/18 Oct'17 CQ No. 699 £200.00: Approved.

Royal British Legion Tredegar Branch – Any financial assistance received would be used towards the cost of the refreshments at the end of the Remembrance Sunday parade.

2016/17 March'17 CQ No. 574 £200.00: defer, Clerk to liaise with RBL representative to explain the remit of the BGCBC Halfpenny Rate and that, while the organisation would be eligible for a grant from Town Council, this could not be used for the refreshments specified.

Talking Books Wales – An all Wales charity providing a service for blind and partially sighted people. Funding would be used towards the production of audio books.

No Previous Grant. A Member said this service had been cancelled by Blaenau Gwent CBC and taken on through libraries: Approved £50.00.

Tredegar Angling Club – Any financial assistance received would be used towards the cost of the club running costs and improving the area for walking.

2017/18 June'17 CQ No. 619 £200.00: Approved.

Tredegar Cricket Club – Any financial assistance received would be used towards the cost of the game fees and costs relating to increasing the number of coaching staff.

2012/13 March'13 CQ No. 553 £200.00: Approved.

Trefil RFC – Any financial assistance received would be used to purchase general kit such as sub-suits and playing kit.

2015/16 April'15 CQ No. 172 £200.00: Approved.

Vale View Allotment Association – Any financial assistance received would be used towards the cost of clearing the allotment each year which includes hiring a skip and culling the hedge border.

2017/18 Oct'17 CQ No. 702 £200.00: Approved.

b) To receive and consider grants to Churches & Chapels (s.137) Grants as of 01.04.2017 now max £300.00 – None received

162) Correspondence

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

- 1) BGCBC
 - a) Consultation with Town/Community Councils Thursday, 6th September, 2018 rescheduled to **Thursday, 13th September, 2018** at 2.00 p.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.
 - Noted.
 - b) M. Howland Re: Elected Members – Circulation for awareness – Local Government Act 1972 – Sports Facilities Community Asset Transfer. Information for Members prior to advert in paper.
 - Concerns were expressed in relation to the Recreation Ground and considered the proposals unrealistic. Circulate to Members, for information.
 - c) Copy of Draft Order, Public Notice and relevant plan in respect of the proposal: The stopping up of Highways (land at Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate, Tredegar).
 - Noted; this development was welcomed.

- d) S. Smith Re: Responding to Planning Applications & Maximising your community influence. Training session Monday 24.09.2018 at Cadoxton Community Centre, Cwmbach Road, Neath 5.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., £35.00 per delegate.
 - Noted.

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

- e) i) List of Licensing applications week ending 20.07.2018
 - a) Tredegar Leisure Centre (Football field) – Temporary Events Notice.
- ii) List of Licensing applications week ending 27.07.2018
 - a) Parc Bryn Bach – Replace lost Licence
- iii) List of Licensing applications week ending 03.08.2018
- iv) List of Licensing applications week ending 10.08.2018
- v) List of Licensing applications week ending 17.08.2018
 - a) Albert Skeates – personal licence.
- vi) List of Licensing applications week ending 24.08.2018
 - Noted.

- 2) One Voice Wales
 - a) Notifying Council that Cllr Stephen Brooks as Chair and Cllr Glyn Smith, Vice Chair, of Gwent Valleys Area Committee. Thanks to Cllr Jacqueline Thomas for her interest in this matter.
 - Noted.
 - b) SLCC Conference at Llandudno 05.09.2018 with key presentation from the Independent Remuneration Panel.
 - Noted.
 - c) Welsh Government “Call for Evidence” to explore ways for the planning system to assist in increasing the delivery of new homes in sustainable locations in line with the commitment in its national strategy ***Prosperity for All.***
 - Noted: circulate to Members.
 - d) Connecting Communities in Wales Transport Innovation Networks project.

- Noted.
- e) Job Opportunity: Mid & West Wales Development Officer, closing date 18.09.2018.
 - Noted.
- 3) Aneurin Leisure

S. Hughes giving an update on the overhanging trees and the full tree inspection undertaken.

 - Noted.
- 4) A. Tuck

Apologies for not attending presentation evening, letter only arrived 18.07.2018.

 - Noted: to be retained for future Awards presentation evening.
- 5) Cllr A.E. Tippings

Civic nomination form.

 - Nomination supported and approved accordingly
- 6) Welsh Government

Planning Inspectorate letter regarding the application Wauntysswg Farm.
Response by 06.09.2018.

 - Noted.
- 7) S. Bees

Proposed fee for 2018/19 audit (increase of £50.00).

 - Approved unanimously.

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

- 8) Cllr T. Smith

Dudley's quotation for War Memorial works - **ratify**

 - The quote was being presented following lack of response to quote request (no response from two / one unable to undertake the work). A meeting had been held to discuss proposal of works provisionally and an agreement to approved dependent on quote provided.

The sum quoted was thereupon considered and approved accordingly.
- 9) C. Rundle
 - a) Poppy wreaths: silk and will eventually rot away but the black plastic centres will not. They are currently reviewing mass producing biodegradable ones.
 - Noted; TTC happy to continue with product as previous years.

- 10) Contact Radio Communications Ltd.
- i) Invoice for mic lapel lost on hire.
ii) Confirming invoice for mic lapel lost on hire received and to be presented to September meeting of Council for payment.
- Approved unanimously.
- 11) Gerraint Jones Griffiths
- Lead Ambassador, Engage to Change – request to speak at formal meeting of Council (powerpoint presentation attached).
- Agreed; invite to be extended to attend Council in November.
- 12) Aneurin Bevan Day
- a) Cllr H. Trollope: Letter from Vaughan Gething, A.M. congratulating Town Council for Bevan Day – **added to website**
- b) Nick Smith, M.P.: Well done to everyone, great event.
- Noted.
- 13) Pastoral area of Immaculate Conception, Tredegar
- Invite: 70th Anniversary of NHS celebration, 10 October 2018, 7.00 pm Mass in All Saints Church followed by light refreshments.
- Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ellen Jones, and Councillor Jacqueline Thomas to attend.
- 14) Cllr T. Smith
- Stating that without support of Air Cadets the Open Doors event would have been unable to continue based on six Members to man the Clock.
- Noted; as discussed under Minute No. 160).
- 15) H. Farr
- Night Out scheme / Young promoter project – interest to work with TTC again.
- Noted; Leader to liaise with Glanhwy Primary School.
- 16) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum
- Heritage Day “Celebrating Women of the 20th Century” Saturday, 20th October, 2018 at 9.30 a.m. Ty Ebbw Fach, Six Bells. Tickets £15 (including buffet and tour of the Guardian) – **added to website**
- Councillors Ellen Jones, and Jacqueline Thomas hoping to attend.

- 17) H. Woolf Copy of email sent to Aneurin Leisure regarding the condition of the children's play area at Parc Bryn Bach – ***note: received in July***
- Noted.
- 18) GAVO Innovation of Justice meetings.
- Noted; forward to MT.
- 19) Cenin
Renewables Welsh developer working to generate renewable electricity sustainably: Planning a three wind turbine scheme on Manmoel Common.
- A brief discussion ensued whereby some Members expressed concerns in respect of locating of wind turbines.
- It was agreed, therefore, that the organisation be invited to a meeting of Council in December to speak on the scheme.

20) PUBLICATIONS *Out of Date Publications are available in the office for viewing.*

J Parkers Wholesale Catalogue Autumn 2018; Communicorp Local Councils Update Issue 220 August 2018: Received

21) AGENDA

Out of Date Agendas are available in the office for viewing.

Education and Learning Scrutiny Committee Monday, 3rd September, 2018 at 9.30 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Special Executive Wednesday, 5th September, 2018 at 9.30 a.m. Executive Room, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Audit Committee Tuesday, 11th September, 2018 at 9.30 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale; Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring) Monday, 10th September, 2018 at 10.00 a.m. Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale. Received

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

163) Planning:

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

Planning Inspectorate Appeals Update September 2018:

C/2017/0143 Land at Ashvale Sports Club, Griffiths Gardens, Tredegar – *Appeal allowed and costs awarded to appellant.*

List of Delegated Items determined between 18th June, 2018 and 17th August, 2018:

C/2018/0139 Refurbishment of front elevation of existing property to restore masonry features, replace windows and provide new shop front and canopy, 12 The Circle, Tredegar – *Approved.*

C/2018/0093 (Retrospective) Installation of a modular self-service launderette facility within the demise of Ambay Service Station, Nantybawch, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0120 Retain existing storage containers, to be clad in timber frame external wall system, with slated roof pitched at 20 degrees, rear of 35-36 Castle Street, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0111 Discharge of Conditions: 6 – Construction Method Statement, 11 – Timescale for landscaping works of planning permission C/2014/0238 (C/2014/0238 – Outline planning for construction of dwellings), Former Pochin Works Site, Newport Road, Tredegar – *Conditions Discharged*.

C/2018/0123 Single storey garage, 45 North Avenue, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0171 Application for non-material amendment of planning permission C/2016/0231 for: 1. Minor adjustment of plot levels to plots 5 to 12; 2. Sheds relocated plots 5, 6, 9, 12 and 14; 3. Planting zone shown at boundary adjacent plot 12 and consequent minor adjustment of position of units 11/12; 4. Minor amendment to roof design of Plot 1 (bungalow); 5. Substitution of clay block paving instead of previously approved concrete paving slabs to front paths and half battered kerbs to car parking spaces adjacent to paths. (C/2016/0231 – Residential development of fourteen dwellings (social housing) and associated site works), Cartref Aneurin Bevan, Ashvale, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0001 Partial demolition and rebuild of existing dwelling, raising of the main roof and two storey rear extension, Upper Hirgan Fach Farm, Crown Avenue, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0172 Rear single storey extension and dormer to rear, Sunnyside, Western Crescent, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0197 Rear extension, 16 Martindale Close, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0199 Domestic garage, 67 Vale Terrace, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0133 First floor rear extension for bedroom/bathroom and external staircase, Craig-y-Nos, Pochin Crescent, Heathfield, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0201 Conservatory to rear building, 84 Gwent Way, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0175 Retention of change of use from post office (ground floor) to a residential dwelling and proposed walls and pillars, 61 Ashvale, Tredegar – *Approved*.

C/2018/0140 Refurbishment of front elevation of existing property to restore masonry features, replace windows and provide new shop front and canopy, 13 The Circle, Tredegar – *Approved*.

Planning Applications Report:

C/2018/0193 Change of use & conversion of an existing garage to a residential unit (including raising of the roof to create an additional floor), 4-5 The Circle, Tredegar – *Recommending planning permission granted with conditions*.

- ii) a) List of planning applications received in week 29
- b) List of planning applications received in week 30
- c) List of planning applications received in week 31
- d) List of planning applications received in week 32
- d) List of planning applications received in week 33
- d) List of planning applications received in week 34

b) Verbal report of the Planning Committee if any

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

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
C/2018/0213	Mr. G. Smith 13 Cefn Parc Tredegar	Proposed two storey extension to the rear of the dwelling, 13 Cefn Parc.
<i>No objections</i>		
C/2018/0238	Mr. P. Smith Vaughan Bros Penuel Funeral Home Harcourt Terrace Tredegar	Extension to existing garage, Penuel Funeral Home.
<i>No objections</i>		
C/2018/0249	Mrs. S. Ferrari 1 Harford Gardens Tredegar	Proposed renewal application for detached 4 bedroom dwelling with garage and 3 parking spaces, land north of 1 Harford Gardens.
<i>No objections</i>		
C/2018/0250	Mr. J. Leddington 3 Rhoslan Tredegar	Carry out crown reduction of 30%, Willows Social Club, Church Street.
<i>No objections</i>		
C/2018/0260	Ms. L. Whittaker Studio 9 Advanced Treatments 101 Commercial Street, Tredegar	Retention of change of use to clinic for beauty treatments including laser, IPL treatments, beauty treatments, semi-permanent makeup, body piercing and electrolysis at ground floor only, 101 Commercial Street.
<i>No objections</i>		

d) To consider other planning matters – None received

164) Consultation on the revision of Statement of Policy on the Gambling Act 2005 - copy previously circulated to Members, as per decision of Council

Council raised no comments for submission.

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

- Lack of security, any individual could gain access to the Park after hours via the top entrance. A Member confirmed that BGCBC was hoping to meet with Bobby Bolt, whereupon the Clerk confirmed that Aneurin Bevan University Health Board representative, Ms. Bolt, had accepted an invitation to attend the Ordinary Meeting of

Council in September.

166) 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** – Councillors T. Smith and A. Tippings had attended the August meeting.
- e) **Pen Bryn Oer Community Fund** – meeting
- f) **School Governing Bodies** – *Bryn Bach Primary*: there was a new Headteacher. *Deighton Primary, Georgetown Primary, Glanhowy Primary, St. Joseph's Primary*: no update, due to August recess. Also, the Headteacher of *Tredegar Comprehensive School* had given notice and the post advertised accordingly. It was agreed that a letter of congratulations be sent on the GCSE results achieved.
- g) **Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum** – no meeting
- h) **Blaenau Gwent CAB** – no meeting
- i) **Tredegar / Ebbw Vale Crime Prevention Panel** – discussion had ensued in respect of opening hours of Tredegar police station, which was also being considered for enforcement in Ebbw Vale; a meeting called with the Police and Crime Commissioner; concerns regarding the way complaints were displayed on Twitter; seeking to gain support for CCTV cameras throughout town centres; a violent attack had occurred in the town centre, there was a need to raise awareness; Police needed to invest monies. In response to a question raised, the Clerk confirmed that a letter outlining Members' concerns had been sent to the Inspector, with a copy to the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner.
- j) **Tredegar Business Forum** – Councillors T. Smith and H. Trollope had attempted to attend a recent meeting, but the café had been locked; however, no notification had been received as to the meeting being cancelled: Clerk to write seeking clarification. The Forum was considering investment in respect of the town centre planters, as these fixtures were coming to the end of their life span. The Forum would be contacting the Council, therefore, in respect of a joint venture to seek funding to replace the planters with a more durable material, e.g. plastic. The Forum paid Bedwellty House per annum to maintain the hanging baskets and planters. Regeneration of The Circle was ongoing. The issue of the shopping centre needed addressing, as there appeared to be some difficulty in attracting investment.
- k) **VVP / Tredegar Heritage Initiative** – no meeting

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

- Concerns were raised in respect of the extensive amount of broken glass in the vicinity of Tredegar town centre on weekends - apparently this appeared to be from drinking glasses and glass bottles that have been taken from drinking establishments the previous evenings. It was suggested that a charge could be levied against offending licensed premises to undertake a clean up of this debris.

A Member suggested that a request for covert surveillance could be pursued in order to identify culprits. Following on from the last PubWatch meeting, one establishment had offered to place a camera to face one of the offending premises, however Council could not be seen supporting one establishment against another.

Members therefore enquired of the Alcohol Free / No Drinking zones in the area and sought clarity in respect of the responsibility of licensed premises, to ascertain what was enforceable and / or contravened requirements. Clerk to write.

- Crockery bearing Town Council logo – the Friendship Club offered their thanks for this gift and confirmed the crockery was already in use.
- Y Cwtch – Mayor expressed thanks on behalf of Council to Councillors P. Prosser and S. Trollope for helping to clear the Cwtch during recess.
- In response to a proposal made, Council endorsed their support of Tredegar Museum displaying appropriate items on behalf of Tredegar Town Council, which were currently stored in the Cwtch.
- Town Centre ‘deep clean’ – Clerk to write to appropriate Local Authority Officer to ascertain why the area not cleaned as expected.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.51 p.m.

_____ Chair