

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber,  
Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2018 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:**                    **Councillors H. Trollope (Chair)**  
                                     **T. Smith**  
                                     **A.E. Tippings**  
                                     **D.W.A. Howells**  
                                     **G. James**  
                                     **A. Jones**  
                                     **D. Jones**  
                                     **S. Rees**  
                                     **D. Rowberry**  
                                     **S. Trollope**  
                                     **M. Turner**

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

**236) Apologies:** **Councillors E. Jones, M. Cross, P. Prosser, J. Thomas, B.G. Willis;**  
**and RFO, A. Jones**

## **237) Declarations of Interest**

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

## **238) Accounts: to consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in November 2018**

The Clerk spoke to the report and explained that the bank reconciliations were available for Members to view.

There being no queries regarding the Schedule of Accounts, all presented items were approved for payment. Transfer of funds would be undertaken in the presence of the appropriate Member and Town Clerk, which was noted accordingly.

## **239) Quotations: restoration of the War Memorial**

Consideration was given to the report of the RFO in respect of the quotations sought for the War Memorial restoration project proposed by Council. Following a brief discussion in relation to the three quotes received, Members raised the following: -

- Quote C to be removed, as unable to undertake all works within the specification;
- Dependent upon the quality of works and assurance on completion, Quote A appeared the best value for money, and if a guarantee could be given that the process would not

change;

- Details of a maintenance contract to be provided;
- A specified timescale.

It was agreed that the quotes be **DEFERRED** until the next meeting; and, the RFO remove the names on documentation and circulate quotes for Members to consider at next meeting.

### **239/1) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:**

- a) Events Sub-Committee - 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018**
- b) Civic Meeting of Council - 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018**
- c) Performance Review Sub-Committee - 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2018**
- d) Ordinary Meeting of Council - 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2018**

It was agreed that all Minutes presented be moved en bloc as a true record, with any matters arising to follow.

### **240) Matters arising from the Minutes**

#### **Events Sub-Committee - 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018**

- Page 111 amendment, to read Carl *Cuss*, not 'Cusk'.
- Cairn walk – Members wished to book the same company for transport next year, as the driver had been very accommodating and was willing to wait on site in case of a change in schedule/an emergency. It was therefore approved that Council waive financial regulations when booking transport for the 2019 event.
- Armistice / Remembrance Day event – as there could be a change in provision of Local Authority grants, this may need consideration by Town Council in the future in supporting organisations.
- WW1 Beacons of Light – thanks to Councillor Allan Jones for transporting the beacon and supplies, and to Mr. Tom Jones for his help. It had been pleasing to see so many joining Tredegar Town Council at the event.
- It was agreed to hire a van from Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> November to Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2018 to collect office furniture and to use for the switch-on.

#### **Civic Meeting of Council - 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018**

- Councillors H. Trollope, T. Smith and M. Cross to meet Friday with the Business Forum representative to discuss concerns in relation to the Business Forum; it was therefore agreed that the Clerk write after Christmas to meet with the 'top 4'.

#### **Performance Review Sub-Committee - 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2018**

- Armed Forces Covenant Fund – Clerk had attempted to complete the form online but had experienced problems with the site, but would pursue further.

#### **Ordinary Meeting of Council – 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2018**

- It was pleasing that the Deputy Lieutenant had attended Remembrance Day; the Chair said he had walked through town with him and he had been very interested in the buildings.
- Floodlighting, War Memorial – Leader to liaise with Roman Builders to ascertain if cost attached to repositioning of light; Members, who had seen the Memorial lit, however, said it was lovely and were pleased with the effect.

## 241) Chair to sign Minutes

Minutes approved were duly signed by the Mayor in the presence of Council.

## 242) Correspondence

- 1) BGCBC
- a) Planning Application C/2018/0193 4-5 The Circle: Appeal to Planning Inspectorate has been made, all representations must be forwarded by 30.11.2018 for a decision to be made by 08.02.2019.
    - Noted; no additional comments to be made.
  - b) Unauthorised change of use of land, former Sirhowy Inn, Beaufort Road – Appeal has been made to Planning Inspectorate therefore all representations must be made direct to them by 03.12.2018.
    - Noted.

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

- c) i) List of Licensing applications week ending 09.11.2018.
    - N. Caniff – Personal Licence.
    - A. Selfe – Personal Licence.
    - T. Smith – Temporary Events Notice.
    - Red Lion – Minor variation of Premise Licence. \*\*
    - Tredegar RFC Sports & Social Club – vary DPS on Premises Licence.
    - A. Waraich, 7b Castle Street – Premises Licence. \*\*
  - ii) List of Licencing applications week ending 16.11.2018.
    - A. Warwick, Fern AFC – Temporary Events Notice.
  - Further clarification requested in respect of The Red Lion and 7b Castle Street, Tredegar. \*\*
- 2) One Voice Wales
- a) P. Egan Re: Solicitor advice.
    - Noted; Members acknowledged the advice provided and agreed this would be retained on file, if required for future reference.

- b) Innovative Practice & National Awards Conference Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2019: Nomination guide and form. Closing date for entries 25.01.2019.
  - Clerk to complete nomination form in relation to Category 13, Deighton playing field
- c) Wales Audit Office Press Release: Councils need to think and act differently to sustain services in rural Wales.
  - Noted.
- d) Free Conference 04.12.2018 at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff: Building a Co-operation between Wales and the Basque Country.
  - Noted.
- e) Understanding Welsh Places: Institute of Welsh Affairs is working on a collaborative project that will create a website that presents useful, available data about places in Wales in a format that is quick and easy to use.
  - Noted; forward to Councillor A.E. Tippings.
- f) Road closure & Chapter 8 training in January 2019 at £71.00 per person, Gelligaer Community County Council.
  - Noted.
- g) First Tree Charter Day - 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, suggestions of how to be involved in celebrating Tree Charter Day.
  - Noted.

3) SLCC

Membership renewal notice £175.00.

- Expenditure unanimously agreed.

4) P. Posada

Request to participate at Christmas Lights Switch On event.

- Convey thanks but explain itinerary had already been drawn up for this year and was a very tight schedule; however, details would be retained on file should any suitable events arise throughout the year.

- 5) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Letter of thanks for the continued support shown to their Heritage Day.
- Noted.
- 6) Sea Farers Fly the Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day commemorate certificate 2018.
- Noted; to be placed on TTC website.
- 7) Arts Council Wales Lottery Consultation: Views on how they distributed funds arising from the sale of National Lottery Sales. Views can be contributed via <http://www.arts.wales/arts-in-wales/distributing-lottery-funds?diablo.lang=eng> or by attending one of the public meetings taking place at Tŷ Pawb, Wrexham (30<sup>th</sup> November), Volcano, Swansea (10<sup>th</sup> December), Riverfront, Newport (7<sup>th</sup> January 2019), Aberystwyth Arts Centre (11<sup>th</sup> January 2019) and Pontio, Bangor (21<sup>st</sup> January, 2019).
- Noted.
- 8) GAVO Funding list.
- Noted.
- 9) Office Ex-Tredegar resident, now at Bribie Cove Nursing Home, 107<sup>th</sup> birthday on 24.11.2018.
- Agreed, send an Aneurin Bevan plate and birthday card – Councillor A.E. Tippings to liaise with office to provide contact details of the son.
- 10) National Grid Team Walham to Cilfynydd refurbishment Project now completed.
- Noted; forward to Councillor A.E. Tippings.

The Clerk referred to late correspondence received, the reason being the sender had no email access, which was accepted for consideration accordingly.

- 11) Cllr A.E. Tippings Artwork: on sale at Tredegar Library, design for local charities, £20.00 each A3 Mayor's Appeal collectible really supports the Library.
- Noted, to be placed in town centre noticeboards; Chair extended thanks for thinking of the Mayor's charities.

## 11) PUBLICATIONS

War Memorials Trust Bulletin 79 November 2018; Ville D'Orvault, Orvault & Co. Nov/Dec 2018 Issue 20; Clerks & Councils Direct November 2018 Issue 120; BGCBC Road works report week ending 15.11.2018 & 23.11.2018; National Grid Team Walham to Cilfynydd overhead line refurbishment update November 2018; Communicorp Local Councils Update November 2018 Issue 223; Woodlands Trust; Newsletter Celebrate Tree Charter Day; GAVO Blaenau Gwent Armed Forces Covenant Steering Group Autumn 2018 newsletter – ***distributed to Members***: Received.

## 12) AGENDA

Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum meeting Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 at 10.00 a.m., Tredegar Library; Woodlands Trust Newsletter Celebrate Tree Charter Day. **Available for Members** – received.

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

### 243) Planning:

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

i) None received.

ii) a) List of planning applications received in week 45

b) List of planning applications received in week 46

**b) Verbal report of the Planning Committee, if any** – None received.

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

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
C/2018/0318	Mr. C. Monk 4 Walnut Close Bedwellty Gardens Tredegar	Conversion of garage to living room and insertion of a bay window, 4 Walnut Close

***No objections.***

**d) Other Planning Matters** – Members raised the issue that, if residents converted their garage to a living space, leaving only a hardstanding; this could result with increased on-street parking and roads becoming congested, particularly as many homes owned more than one vehicle.

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

- Office arrangements over the Christmas period – agreed; office to close Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 and to re-open on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2019.
- Blaenau Gwent Consultation on Public Toilets – the Local Authority were seeking views

on toilet provision, e.g. cleanliness, opening hours, etc. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Blaenau Gwent CBC to ascertain who would have access to the results on completion.

- Welsh Medium education – a brief discussion ensued regarding possible locations for school provision for Welsh Medium, which a Member said formed part of Phase 2 of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme.
- School Crossing Patrols and Street Lighting – as a result of a Local Authority report considering budget allocation, there would be a loss of some crossing patrols within the Tredegar area, namely Deighton and Glanhwy Primary Schools. Also, a decision had been made to cease street lighting within residential areas and only provide lighting on junctions. It was highlighted that concerns had been raised by factory owners who had been subject to break-ins due to lights being switched off. Council requested sight of the criteria / matrix used in reaching these decisions and access to the data collected.
- Armed Forces Day – in respect of the £500.00 donation to the RAF Association ‘Wings Appeal’, the 2167 Tredegar Squadron Air Training Corps had offered to present this cheque on behalf of Council, as the local branch for the Tredegar area (*Councillor H Trollope declared an interest in respect of this discussion*). It was therefore agreed that the Clerk ascertain the appropriate channel for payment in accordance with the Council’s approved audit procedures.
- Aneurin Bevan Day – the Clerk said that the donations, exclusive of charges levied in respect of the Festival brochure, was £160.00. The Officer enquired if this amount could now be transferred to the Mayor’s Appeal account. Members said that Council had reached a decision that monies raised at the event be held in a designated budget heading and reinvested in the 2019 event. The Clerk said that all monies received, with the exception of the donations received in respect of local organisations being invited to support the event by way of a donation or stall, had been set aside – the £160.00 related only to the initial letter of invite sent to engage local organisations, which had stated any donations would be given to charity.

It was therefore agreed that the Clerk would provide a copy of this letter to the Leader and, on verifying this information, the funds could be transferred to the Mayor’s Appeal.

- WW1 Beacons of Lights – ABF Soldier’s Charity; agreed that the monies collected be rounded up to £25.00.
- Members’ Allowance Forms – deadline given of 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2018; if any forms were outstanding, Members were asked to return the form to the RFO without delay.
- S. Iles – the Clerk had liaised with this individual, as instructed by Council, and had invited this lady to view the work undertaken in the local council environment, suggesting Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November to Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 to follow a Council cycle from preparation to completion.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.17 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair