

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber,  
Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 at 6.30 p.m.**

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

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

**269) Apologies:** Councillors G. James, A. Jones, D. Jones, S. Rees, D. Rowberry,  
J. Thomas, S. Trollope, M. Turner

## **270) Declarations of Interest**

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

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

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

- Clerk to enquire of the Safety Advisory Group of the use of a silent generator at the switch-on event and to ascertain costings and battery-operated LED lights be purchased for evening events;
- Agreed: independent judging of Christmas Window Dressing Competition, rather than elected Members;
- agreed that a letter be forwarded to the Head of Tredegar Comprehensive School outlining concerns raised.

The Remembrance events and Christmas Lights switch-on had been a great success; thanks were paid to all those who had participated.

## **272) Accounts: to consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in December 2018**

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

- Royal Air Force Association – this payment related to a donation by Council to supplement monies raised at the Armed Forces Day event.
- Christmas Lights – RFO sought approval to cancel this cheque and issue replacement, prior to next Schedule of Payments, on receipt of invoice outlining credit accrued and upon dismantling of decorations at close of current three-year contract. ('Top 4' to be notified accordingly)

It was agreed that the Christmas lighting contract be reviewed as soon as possible in order for the RFO to seek tenders; Members asked that references of similar works undertaken be requested to support the tender document.

- Peter Morgan Jones Award– the acrylic award had now been received and should be presented at the next Presentation Award Evening.
- Tredegar Community Band – a special grant had been awarded as Members supported the excellent work being undertaken with schools and youngsters in Tredegar and surrounding areas; an invite had been extended for the Band to participate in the Mayor's Christmas Eve visits.
- Elite Cleaning – a review of this contract would be undertaken January, as suggested within recommendations of the external auditors, and the RFO to present a report to a future meeting of the Finance and Staffing Sub-Committee for appropriate consideration. It was noted that the shopping precinct was now under the remit of new owners.
- Acute Medics – this service had been utilised for the switch-on event. Members were informed that a response from was still awaited from the St. John Ambulance in respect of their decision to decline the invite to provide emergency services at the Aneurin Bevan Day event.
- Ace Travel – this cheque had been cancelled and reissued, as the recipient was self-employed.

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

The RFO left the meeting at this juncture.

**273) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:**

- a) Events Sub-Committee - 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2018**
- b) Civic Meeting of Council - 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2018**
- c) Ordinary Meeting of Council - 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2018**

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

## 274) Matters arising from the Minutes

### Civic Meeting of Council - 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

- Quiz Wizards: a Member had been disappointed in the lack of support at the Final this year – the Quiz Wizards raised a lot of money for charities and she encouraged Members to make the effort to attend. However, another Member highlighted that the Quiz Wizards had made a conscious decision to cease support of the Mayor's Appeal following last year's Final and Council no longer sponsored these events.

## 275) Chair to sign Minutes

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

## 276) Correspondence

### 1) BGCBC

- a) Precept requirements notification date is 31.01.19
  - Clerk confirmed the deadline had been noted and budgetary meetings scheduled accordingly for Town Council.
- b) C/2018/0271 Change of use of a 4-bedroom dwelling (C3 use) to a 5-bedroom house of multiple occupation (C4 use), 18 Morgan Street – Appeal has been made. Any additional comments are to be directed to the Planning Inspectorate by 09.01.2019.
  - Noted; Clerk to submit views of Council to Planning Inspectorate objected on highways grounds and limited parking available.
- c) M Howland
  - i) Re: Community Asset Transfer Policy. Response from Executive Member, unless exceptional circumstances they are looking at a long term lease.
    - Noted; Clerk to liaise with a view to acquiring a long-term lease of 'not less' than fifty years.
  - ii) Re: Energy Surveys, Community Asset Transfer Buildings. Funding now available to undertake energy audits of buildings which have / will shortly be transferred to community control, providing a bespoke document which will enable the community occupants to take steps to manage / reduce energy and utility costs.
    - Noted.

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

- d) List of Licensing applications week ending 07.12.2018.
    - i) The Loft – Temporary Event Notice.
    - ii) L. Davies – Personal Licence.
  - Members expressed grave concerns in respect of the temporary event notice application for The Loft, Queen Victoria Street, Tredegar, as many of the problems experienced in the town centre resulted from the operations of this business, e.g. assaults, drug-taking, anti-social behaviour, underage drinking and 'lock ins' and could not support the granting of this licence.
- 2) One Voice Wales
- First Minister's new Cabinet.
- Noted; letter to Alun Davies, A.M. extending best wishes of Town Council following changes to the roles of Ministerial Cabinet.
- b) Valley Regional Park Announcement: Parc Bryn Bach will be developed as a Discovery Gateway Site.
- c) Tool kit: Maximising social value.
- Noted.
- 3) Cllr Smith
- Nye Bevan Destination: Confirming Cllr Prosser and himself will be meeting with the officer next week and a working group can be formed after initial meeting too if need be.
- This meeting had related mainly to Aneurin Bevan and his roots, background and inspirations, rather than The Bevan Festival.
- Councillor Prosser had been most helpful in relating information to the Officer, who had visited the museum, and a workshop would be held to encourage local 'buy in'. Members were welcome to participate in this event.
- Council thanked Councillors T. Smith and P. Prosser for meeting with the BG Officer.
- 4) R. Davies
- Pleasure to be compère and ask choir if they would like to participate in next
- Members expressed their grateful appreciation to the Compère who had represented Council well at the event and done an excellent job.

- 5) Cenin Enquiring whether Council has any dates in mind for a site visit at their renewables cluster Parc Stormy.
- Noted; Clerk to liaise with Mayor / Deputy and Leader / Deputy.
- 6) Keep Britain Tidy The Great British Spring Clean 2019: Great Big School Clean 22<sup>nd</sup> March to 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2019.
- Noted; circulate to schools.
- 7) Christmas Cards:  
Re-Liance Bus Preservation Group  
Myanmar Embassy  
One Voice Wales
- Noted.

#### 8) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 14.12.2018 & 21.12.2018; Communicorp Local Councils Update December 2018 Issue 224 – ***distributed to Members***: Received.

#### 9) AGENDA

Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Agenda Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00 a.m. Tredegar Library – **available for Members**: received.

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

#### 277) Planning:

**a) i) To consider an Officer's Report** - None received.

ii) a) List of planning applications received in week 48.

b) List of planning applications received in week 49.

**b) Verbal report of the Planning Committee if any**

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

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

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
C/2018/0343	BGCBC Municipal Offices Civic Centre Ebbw Vale	Construction of proposed canopy and decking area within the site of the existing school (Retention of works carried out in 2017), Deighton Primary School.

**No objections**

d) To consider other planning matters - None received.

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

- **Democratic process: format and structure of recording / reporting of formal Council / Committee meetings** - following a brief discussion, Members agreed that this format should be retained and Council were happy with the quality of Minutes. A Member said that it could be up to six weeks before Council had sight of Minutes at the start of the Cycle and she considered this too long a time period; it was therefore agreed that an action sheet could be produced to ensure Members were aware of any outstanding actions.

Councillor P. Prosser left the meeting at this juncture (7.17 p.m.)

- The Mayor extended his thanks to Council for this year, which had been excellent; he extended thanks to his Deputy Mayor for her support; to Councillors B. Willis and E. Jones for their donations to the Mayoral Appeal; thanks to the Tredegar MV Orpheus Choir and Ty Scott for their donations to his charity.
- It was agreed that a donation of £50.00 be donated to the chosen charity in lieu of flowers for former Councillor Peter Waldron.

There being no other business, the Mayor wished Council a Happy New Year and declared the meeting closed (7.25 p.m.).

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair