

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, Bedwellty House on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillors E. Jones (Chair)  
T. Smith  
A.E. Tippings  
D.W.A. Howells  
G. James  
A. Jones  
K. Phillips  
S. Rees  
D. Rowberry  
J. Thomas  
H. Trollope  
M. Turner  
G. Walters  
B. Willis

**In attendance:** Clerk – Ms. C. Price  
RFO – Ms. A. Jones

**270) Apologies. Councillors D. Jones, M. Cross, P. Prosser and S. Trollope**

## **271) Declarations of Interest**

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

## **272) To receive Mayor's report, as appropriate**

The Mayor informed Council of the passing of Hilda Barwell; Council observed a Minute silence as a mark of respect.

A Member said that Hilda had not been connected with Town Council as such, being Secretary of the Blaenau Gwent Council for the Disabled for thirty plus years, and had been essential in getting disabled toilets opened in Blaenau Gwent, and ensured keys were available, then Councillor Gaynor James' shop had taken up the mantle. He said that, without Hilda, Blaenau Gwent would not be as far in front on disability issues.

The Mayor said that the Remembrance events had gone well; Members of Council had visited the Senedd; the Mayor and Leader had accepted an award for the Town Clock 'Be Proud of your Community'. In respect of the Christmas lights switch-on, the Mayor extended thanks to Members for making the event such a success; also, she had attended an event with the Moose Ladies last night, who had high praise for the lights.

**273) To receive any verbal recommendations of the Finance and Staffing Sub (02.12)**

## **and the Policy Sub-Committee held prior to this meeting**

It was agreed that the following recommendations, presented to the Civic Meeting of Council, be approved accordingly:

### **Finance and Staffing Sub-Committee**

- recommend to Council to accept G. Adams Construction;
- instruct RFO to pursue references;
- undertake a virement in 2019, if necessary, or to set appropriate budget in 2021/2021, to cover works

### **Policy Sub-Committee**

- Churches and chapels to complete grant application but remove financial element, i.e. remove requirement for sight of accounts / most recent bank statement.

## **274) Grants:**

**a) To receive and consider grants to Sporting and Cultural organisations** None received.

**b) To receive and consider grants to Churches & Chapels (s.137)**

None received.

## **275) Correspondence**

- 1) BGCBC                      a) J. Brooks Re: New Planning Enforcement Policy.  
- Forward to Planning representatives

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

- b) i) List of Licencing applications, week ending 15.11.2019  
Cllr Smith – Temporary Events Notice, Town Clock.  
Cllr Smith - Temporary Street Trading Consent, Town Clock.  
ii) List of Licencing Applications, week ending 22.11.2019.  
- Noted.

- 2) One Voice Wales      a) Welsh Government: The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2019 publications now available.  
- Forward to Cllr M. Turner

- 3) Aneurin Bevan University      a) K. Cross Re: Formal Meeting of Council. Response to points raised at meeting.

- Health Board:
- b) K. Cross Re: DEWIS Drop in and enter your activities session Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 at 10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. Cwm Library.
  - c) K. Cross Re: Integrated Wellbeing Network, workforce development questionnaire, complete and return by 20.12.2019.
    - Noted, circulate to Members; request evening session for training course.
- 4) Welsh Government
- a) Consultation: A more equal Wales, commencing the Socio-economic Duty. Consultation closes 17.01.2020.
    - Forward to Cllr M. Turner
  - b) Discretionary Expenditure Limit for 2020-2021: Appropriate sum under section 137 (4) (A) of the Local Government Act 1972, £8.32 per elector.
    - Noted.
- 5) SLCC
- Membership renewal notice - ***Approval of payment required.***
- Expenditure approved accordingly.
- 6) Social Farms & Gardens
- Welsh Government request for information: Allotments.
- Noted; Clerk to complete
- 7) Tredegar Twinning Association
- New secretary is Kim Williams.
- Best wishes to L. Price, thanks for the hard work over the years.
- 8) Baskerville Security Services Ltd.
- Stewarding/security services available.
- Retain on file; pass to House Manager for information
- 9) Alzheimer's Society Cymru
- Thanks for support and update on how they have been helping the community.
- Forward to Cllrs E. Jones and D. Jones.
- 10) Christmas Lights Switch On feedback:
- a) J. Carter: Wonderful lights.
  - b) Cllr Tippings: At the WI Christmas Fair the ladies' feedback on the Christmas Lights was they look magical.
  - c) C. Evans: Beaufort Choir enjoyed it immensely.
  - d) J. Thomas: Enjoyed the well organised event and it had a lovely atmosphere, looking forward to participating again next year.

- Noted.

## 11) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 29.11.2019 & 05.12.2019; Communicorp Local Councils Update Issue 235 December 2019 – **relevant item copied for Member**. Received.

## 12) AGENDA

None received.

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

## 276) Planning:

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

ii) a) List of planning applications received in week 46.

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

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

<b>App. No.</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
C/2019/0311	Mr. T. Farrup Eurocaps Ltd. Crown Business Park Tredegar	Creation of embankment and reprofiling of spoil areas resulting from recent extension works with associated landscape, Eurocaps Ltd., Crown Business Park

**No objections**

C/2019/0315	Mr. J. Davies Sunnyview, Gelli Road Tredegar	Front dormer and side window in pine end, 7 Meadow Crescent,
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**No objections**

d) **To consider other planning matters** - None received.

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

- A Member raised a concern that Aneurin Leisure should ensure the lights were on when Bedwellty House was open for events at night, as the driveway was in complete darkness and dangerous for pedestrians.

## 278) Delegates: to receive and consider reports from Delegates to Outside Bodies and the recommendations of Sub-Committees / Working Parties:

- Joint Committee of Local Councils** – No Meeting
- Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales** – No meeting
- One Voice Wales Larger Councils and AGM** – No meeting

**d) Tredegar Twinning** – meeting November, trying to fund places for French visitors to do activities, 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary look for hosts, 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2020, after Easter. Looking to put on events for Six Nations, small fee for refreshments, let us know.

**e) Pen Bryn Oer Community Fund** – all applicants receiving funding had now been awarded, and open for next round of funding (four months left). Tredegar pot oversubscribed, had to turn down really good Tredegar projects. Full list available, press release.

**f) School Governing Bodies** – *Bryn Bach Primary School*: School Improvement Plan was progressing well, virtually new Heads throughout Tredegar, who were re-joining in the Cluster work, classed as exemplar, helping to raise standards across the County Borough, more work being done between Primary and Comprehensive Schools, to make the transition more seamless. Information on new curriculum had been delayed, guidelines been withdrawn. Meeting at Celtic Manor Thursday for update, and raise concerns.

*Deighton Primary School*: Cluster categorisation, Blaenau Gwent was one of the best in S.E. Wales; seen as a leading light.

**g) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum** – No meeting

**h) Blaenau Gwent CAB** – funding been cut for next year, money from CAB had previously come out of transition fund from Alun Davies, A.M.: no money next year but sure this would be challenged

**i) Tredegar / Ebbw Vale Crime Prevention Panel** – informed by Vice-Chair there was a rigorous process for representatives to participate on the Panel

**j) Tredegar Business Forum** – meeting next week, had received a letter from Central Fish Bar in respect of a complaint against the Business Forum

**k) VVP / Tredegar Heritage Initiative** – meeting Friday in TA, positive, good news scaffolding on NCB, owner on board; advertising TA; problem with 10 The Circle, being resolved, new owners Coalfields Regeneration Trust; work on 11<sup>th</sup> December The Circle scaffolding, frontage being done; 6 The Circle acquired, same owners as The Cambrian, revamping next year; only problem the Library front was now ‘out of character’; money going forward to look at rest of Tredegar, Commercial Street and dialogue with owners of the shopping precinct.

No. 10 The Circle – Councillors K. Phillips and P. Prosser had met with Coalfields Regeneration, seeking input: basic idea for downstairs on interactive display on white boards, room available for showing of films, displaying of surgical instruments / medical artefacts.

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

- A Member asked that clarity be sought from Blaenau Gwent CBC in respect of the parking bays located in The Circle: Council was informed that the Local Authority would be going out to consultation now, proposing the following – retaining the bus stop outside Coral’s; review double yellow lines; parking bays for one hour duration with designated return; taxi rank at 10 The Circle, remove double yellow lines, one hour duration; NCB similar arrangement; fishing shop, retain bus stop / double yellow lines. A Member referred to Market Street and agreed the parking bays were of issue, he had contacted BG Parking Officers, made no progress, to date. He had sight of the Health Board report from Highways, but no problems were stated. In respect of developing the Hospital car park, movement of big lorries down Market Street had been noted, and he thought Council had been informed this would not happen; he therefore suggested a meeting was needed, as a Council, with Ian Cole.
- CelebrateNationalLottery25 - grant £1,000 deadline February, AET to send link to RFO

to complete application for V.E. Day celebrations.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.16 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair