

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held via Microsoft Teams / hybrid
Wednesday, 15th March, 2023 at 6.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors **G. Evans (Chair)**
A.E. Tippings
M. Turner
G. Badham (6.35 p.m.)
A. Jones
E. Jones
B. Rees
J. Thomas

In attendance: RFO – Ms. A. Edwards

312) Apologies. Councillors **K. Phillips, P. Cornlouer, D. Rowberry,**
H. Trollope, S. Trollope, K. Waldron, C. Walters and G. Walters
Clerk – Ms. C. Aherne

313) Declarations of Interest

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

314) To receive any verbal recommendations of all Sub-Committees / Working Party held prior to this meeting of Council

It was agreed that the report of the Working Party be approved.

- **King Charles III Coronation Cross-Party Working Group**
- Window Dressing – Town Council to provide prizes. Business Forum to discuss at their next meeting.
- Floral planting of Clock – Coronation was too early in the year therefore proposed to keep planting for the “NHS at 75” celebrations.
- Flags – B.G.C.B.C. Town Centre Manager to provide bunting for Town Council to decorate the Town Clock; it was noted that Town Council did not have the resources to erect bunting throughout the town. Bedwellty House would decorate their Bedwellty Town Clock to match the Town Clock.
- Aneurin Leisure –
 - Decorating Bedwellty House and Parc Bryn Bach with bunting.
 - Delivering a school painting competition to paint portraits of the new King.
 - There would be a lifesize cut out of the King for selfies.
 - Themed Afternoon teas – ‘Fit for a King’
 - Sunday, 30th April, 2023 – communal Garden Party. Visitors could bring their own or purchase from the tearoom. Large garden games would be available free to use for visitors.

Artwork, from the last Coronation, previously used around the Town Clock would be displayed at Bedwellty House.

Cllr G. Badham joined the meeting at this juncture (6.35 p.m.).

315) To receive the Internal Auditor's Interim Report and actions update

The RFO spoke to the report and explained the actions being proposed:

Point 1: Completed with insurance fidelity cover increased free of charge this year but June renewal would see an increase in charge by £20.00-£30.00.

- Point 2 & 3: Matrix based model risk assessment had been obtained from One Voice Wales and work would commence to transfer Council's current document into this format along with the recommendations.
- Point 4 & 5: Draft policies had been created for Council to consider at a Policy Sub-Committee. The RFO stated that IRPW also advised Councils to have a policy for Member's Allowance and this had been incorporated into these proposed policies.
- Point 6: The allotment charges were given.
- Point 7: The Clerk would be updating the Committees list accordingly.
- Point 8: CCTV policy needed to be completed.
- Point 9: External and internal privacy notices needed to be completed and published accordingly.
- Point 10: Discussions were ongoing in relation to this contract.

Members approved the report and the actions progressed to date. It was agreed to arrange an Allotment Association meeting in April 2023 to review the current fees.

316) To consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in March 2023

The RFO confirmed the bank reconciliations, valid to date, were available at the meeting whilst also available with all other financial documents during office hours for Members to view, which was noted accordingly.

There being no queries regarding the Schedule of Accounts, presented items were approved for payment. No transfer of funds, as approved by Council, was required in respect of payment, as sufficient funds were available in the appropriate account.

317) Request for Nominations for the King's New Year 2024 Honours. Nominations to be submitted no later than Friday, 31st March, 2023

Two nominations were proposed: nomination one was fully approved; and, nomination two was approved with one abstention.

318) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:

- a) Events Sub-Committee – 1st February, 2023
- b) Civic Sub-Committee – 1st February, 2023
- c) Civic Meeting of Council – 1st February, 2023
- d) Joint Finance and Staffing & Public Facilities Sub-Committee – 15th February, 2023

- e) Policy Sub-Committee – 15th February, 2023
- f) Ordinary Meeting of Council – 15th February, 2023

It was agreed that all Minutes presented be moved as a true record.

319) Chair to sign Minutes - at earliest opportunity in accordance with WG Legislation and Guidance

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

320) Correspondence

- 1) BGCBC
 - a) J. Hall Re: Lease of land at Beaufort Close. Copy of draft lease and suggests instructing a solicitor to work on our behalf to complete the necessary actions.
 - b) J. Hall Re: Lease of Deighton Sports Ground. Copy of draft lease and suggests instructing a solicitor to work on our behalf to complete the necessary actions.
 - It was agreed, for both points a) and b), the RFO contact One Voice Wales asking if they offered a solicitor service. If they declined, the RFO was instructed to contact a local business; and to also inform BGCBC of our intentions to obtain legal representation. Any Member, with a legal knowledge, was invited to view the documents in the office if they wished.
 - c) S. Cargill Re: Requesting to use the Deighton Playing field on Wednesday 12.04.2023 between 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. for an Easter Break play session.
 - Approved and RFO to write to confirm with the standards terms/conditions of use.
 - d) i) List of applications received, week ending 24.02.2023 and 03.03.2023.
ii) List of applications received, week ending 10.03.2023.
 - 1. Variation of Designated Premises Supervisor – Home Bargains
 - 2. Temporary Event Notice 08.04.2023 – Dukestown Club
 - 3. Temporary Event Notice 18.03.2023 – Dukestown Club
 - Noted.

- 2) One Voice Wales
- a) Re: Membership renewal. Increase had arisen due to the number of dwellings in Tredegar rising from 7,273 to 7,302 and also there was an increase, below inflation, in the cost per dwelling from 0.36p to 0.39p.
 - Received.
 - b) Re: Ministerial Town Centre Action. Town Centres Position Statement will be published after Easter recess alongside a Written Ministerial Statement from the Minister for Climate Change.
 - Noted.
 -
- 3) Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
- Carbon Literacy training for town councils: online launch event 20.03.2023, registration required.
 - Noted: forward to Councillor M. Turner.
- 4) Parkinson's Cymru
- Asking if Council will light the Town Clock 'blue' on 11.04.2023 for World Parkinson's Day.
 - Noted: Councillor Turner agreed, in principle, to light up the Clock making Members aware, in the current circumstances, only half would be lit. The RFO to contact G. Adams for an update on floodlight repairs.

Councillors J. Thomas, E. Jones and G. Badham declared an interest in the following item, 5a, and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.

- 5) Residents' correspondence
- a) K. Williams Re: Waundeg community. Asking for advice and help in preventing Tai Calon building homes on a piece of land which was "gifted" to the community and is currently used by children to play on. They would like the area to be a proper play area as the current play area is in a secluded place which needs children to cross a busy road and there are concerns are "bad" people being able to prey on the children there.
 - It was agreed to investigate "ownership" of the land with the RFO instructed to write to Tai Calon asking what were their plans and if they had any evidence of ownership.
 - b) T. Williams Re: Asking for assistance with ongoing traffic problems in Parkville.
 - Following discussions on how parking and access is an area of concern throughout Tredegar, it was agreed that the RFO write two letters to BGCBC Highways: one letter addressing Mr. Williams' request and the

second letter highlighting the wider issue of the streets not being suitable for the volume of vehicles, could more one-way systems be considered.

6) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report, week ending 10.03.2023 & 17.03.2023; OVW, Consultation launched on new registration rules for all bird keepers in Great Britain; OVW, Taxi & private hire vehicle Bill: Consultation open until 01.06.2023, <https://www.gov.wales/taxi-and-private-hire-vehicle-wales-bill-white-paper>; IWN, BGCBC Active Travel consultation event Wednesday 22.03.2023 at General Offices 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Ebbw Vale Sustainable link: Received.

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

321) Planning:

a) To consider List of Planning Applications received- Noted

- i) List of planning applications received in week 09
- ii) List of planning applications received in week 10

b) To consider Planning Applications submitted for Council's observations -

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
C/2023/0054	Mr. D. Morgan Pentwyn Cottage Railway Terrace Trefil	Replace existing side extension with new two-storey extension and provision of front porch, canopy and external alterations, Pentwyn Cottage, Railway Terrace.

No objections

c) To consider other planning matters - None received

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

- Civic Nominations: Council approved, in principle, two town traders for their long service to the community and an under-16s Welsh footballer.
- Council approved the storage of folding tables, chairs and gazebos by Tredegar Business Forum upstairs at the public conveniences. The RFO was instructed to write confirming this and inform them items would be stored at their own risk.
- Members were asked whether they knew if the VE celebration images in the hallway were taken by a 'Ronald Parfitt'. It was agreed to ask Martin Jenkins if he was aware of who took the photographs and to check the rear of the display for a name.
- A Member raised a resident's concern that the Right of Way between Feeder Bank Road and Scwrfa Road was being blocked by trees cut down in neighbouring properties. It was agreed to write to BGCBC reporting this issue.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.21 p.m.

Chair