

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held via Microsoft Teams / hybrid on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillors **G. Evans (Chair)**  
**M. Turner**  
**A.E. Tippings**  
**G. Badham**  
**E. Griffin**  
**A. Jones**  
**E. Jones**  
**D. Rowberry**  
**J. Thomas**  
**H. Trollope**  
**S. Trollope**  
**C. Walters**

**In attendance:** Clerk – Ms. C. Aherne

## **044) To Elect a Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2024:**

### **Thanks and Appreciation by outgoing Mayor 2022 / 2023, Councillor G. Evans**

A Member proposed that Councillor Glyn Evans be nominated, to remain in situ, as Mayor. This nomination was seconded and unanimously supported; Council was well aware of the Member's commitment and dedication to the role over the previous year.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Glyndwr Evans was thereupon unanimously elected to the role of Mayor.

The Mayor accepted the role, as he was here to serve the people of Tredegar as Mayor of the town.

## **045) Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the incoming Mayor:**

### **Chain of Office to be handed over and Consort's Chain to be exchanged**

Declaration of office to be duly signed by the Mayor; as the Mayor remained in situ, an exchange of Chain of Office was not applicable.

## **046) Apologies Councillors K. Phillips, P. Cornlouer, B. Rees, K. Waldron, and G. Walters**

## **047) Declarations of Interest**

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

## **048) To receive any communication the Mayor may wish to lay before Council**

The Chair said the Mayor's Appeal for 2022 / 2023 had been in support of the Hospice of the Valleys; £2,300.00 had been raised. In terms of raising monies for the charity, the Mayor

was dependent on public support and little had been received other than Ashvale Club.

This year, he announced he would like to support Mind Cymru and he would make arrangements for a personal approach to every single business in the town to deliver a letter, asking that a donation be made. This was a good charity that would welcome this money and appreciate such financial support.

**049) To agree a Mayor's Allowance, not exceeding £500.00, and authorise payment; and: Approve the Mayoral Civic budget of £815.00**

The Chair said he wished to decline payment of his Mayoral Allowance of £500.00. The Mayoral Civic Budget was agreed unanimously.

**050) To receive the verbal recommendations of all Sub-Committees / Working Party held prior to this meeting of Council**

It was agreed the recommendations of the Events Sub-Committee held prior to Council be approved accordingly:

- Pop-up Banner promoting events and walkie talkies provided for stewards; expenditure approved
- **Armed Forces Day**  
AFD Poster competition (Winner, Highly Commended and Commended): - certificates for all winning entries and a £20.00 voucher for the overall winner awarded First Prize
- **The Bevan Festival / Aneurin Bevan Day**  
Agreed: purchase of Bevan Festival polo shirts to commemorate the NHS@75, for those stewarding at the Armed Forces / Aneurin Bevan Day events, design and approval of expenditure delegated to Senior Members in order to progress

Dr. Kate Grant – art exhibition in Bedwellty House; it was agreed that Tredegar Town Council would meet the expenditure in respect of the transportation costs

**051) Grants:**

**a) To receive and consider grants to Sporting and Cultural organisations (under the provision of the Local Govt. Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 s.19 and Local Government Act 1972 s.137)**

Thanks from Tredegar Angling and Hospice of the Valleys.

Tredegar Cricket Club – Any financial assistance received would be used to cover ground rent which has increased from £65.00 to £80.00 per match.

**2022/23 June'22 CQ No.326 £200.00 - *Approved accordingly***

**b) To receive and consider grants to Churches & Chapels (s.137) - *Grants as of 01.04.2017 now max £300.00 (before awarding a grant Council must be satisfied the grant is being given for non-religious purposes with the building being for community use) – None received.***

## 052) Correspondence

*Councillor A.E. Tippings declared an interest in the following items and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.*

- 1) BGCBC
- a) C. Jones Re: NHS@75. Producing a bilingual commemorative programme that celebrates our heritage and lists all the events that are planned. Limited advertising space, first come first served basis, and 5,000 copies will be produced for regional distribution. Rate card provided.
    - It was agreed that TTC reserve a full page (A5 portrait) at a cost of £100.00, and the design be delegated to the Leader and Deputy Leader in order to meet specified deadlines.  
**(Fwd to Cllr C. Walters)**
  - b) A. Tippings Re: NHS@75 brochure. Request to use the Bevan Festival logo.
    - Approved.

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

- c) List of applications received, week ending 12.05.2023.
  - i) Temporary Event Notice 20.05.2023 – The Cambrian  
Residents and the Tamarind Restaurant had expressed serious concerns in respect of The Cambrian Inn, tickets had been sold and their guests had filled up The Tamarind car park and areas of Lower / Upper Salisbury Street, and the restaurant had lost business that night. Altercations had taken place in front of The Cambrian, and also at the rear between staff of The Cambrian and The Tamarind. Members suggested that Blaenau Gwent CBC needed to investigate the events of that night and prevent such issues happening again.
    - List of applications received, week ending 19.05.2023.
      - i) Transfer premises licence – The Railway Tafarn.
      - ii) Vary the DPS to Nicola Shankland – Dukestown Workingmen’s Club
    - List of applications received, week ending 26.05.2023.
      - i) New Premises Licence – Tredegar General Store & Post Office

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

ii) Temporary Street Trading consent  
01-30.06.2023 – Parc Bryn Bach

ii) Temporary Street Trading consent  
01-31.07.2023 – Parc Bryn Bach

- Noted.

2) One Voice Wales a) One Voice Wales' Innovative Practice Conference: Facing the Challenges of a Demanding Future. 05.07.2023 at The Royal Welsh Showground, £60.00 per delegate.

- Unfortunately, the Awards Conference was arranged for the National NHS Day and, as this was the anniversary 'NHS@75', Members were already committed to celebratory events in honour of Aneurin Bevan and the NHS.

Therefore, TTC would be extending apologies on this occasion.

b) Free Event 13.06.2023, 12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m: Applying for the Community Ownership Fund.

- Noted.

*Councillors E. Jones and A.E. Tippings declared an interest in the following items and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.*

3) K. Williams Asking if Council will pay for either Alyson or Ellen to attend the Orvault exchange this year in place of the Mayor.

- The Clerk suggested a number of options for consideration: Council agree a contribution; if so, whether a maximum amount for one Member only, or to be split equally between the two Members who attended the exchange visit.

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that clarification be sought on precedence and this be subject to further consideration of the appropriate Sub-Committee.

4) Cllr Turner ABUHB are asking for NHS related 75<sup>th</sup> birthday knitting / crochet "yarn bombs" within the community and photos to be emailed to them by 28.06.2023 for website sharing.

- Forward to Councillors A.E. Tippings and C. Walters (shared via Twitter for local groups)

- 5) A. McKenna Re: Action Mesothelioma Day. Asking if the Clock can be turned blue on 07.07.2023 to support this Day.
- Noted: agreed, Councillor M. Turner to light up the Clock.
- 6) H. Lewis Offering to meet with Council to discuss website rebuild.
- It was agreed that Council accept the offer of a meeting, as there could be a need to undertake a complete rebuild of the website – Council would consider purchase of a SSL at that time.
- 7) S. Browning Re: Willows Club. Asking if Council are aware of any empty properties they can move the Club into.
- TTC had no buildings within their remit; refer to Blaenau Gwent CBC.

#### 8) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report, week ending 26.05.2023, 02.06.2023 and 09.06.2023; Communicorp Local Councils Update Issue 273: June 2023.

– ***distributed to Members***: Received.

*Councillors E. Jones, D. Rowberry and J. Thomas declared an interest in the following item and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.*

#### 053) Planning:

- a) i) List of planning applications received in week 20
- ii) List of planning applications received in week 21
- iii) List of planning applications received in week 22

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

App No	Applicant	Proposal
C/2023/0111	Mr. Darren Hillman Crown Garage Merthyr Road Tafarnaubach Tredegar	Proposed development at: Crown Car Rental, Merthyr Road, Tafarnaubach, Tredegar – Proposed single storey garage constructed in confines of existing car garage compounds

#### ***No objections***

C/2023/0118	Mr. J. Leddington 3 Rhoslan Tredegar	Demolish existing social club and erect (2 pairs) of semi-detached 3-bed dwellings with off-road parking, The Willows Club,
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Church Street: variation of design.

**No objections**

**c) To consider other planning matters –**

In respect of concerns raised relating to Planning Application C/2023/0108 '*Proposed development at: Ambay Service Station, Willow Court, Nantybwlch, Tredegar – Proposed alterations and extension to existing Texaco Petrol Service Station building to provide additional retail space at ground floor level and ancillary staff accommodation and storage facility at first floor level*': in addition to relaying the concerns of Council for the attention of the Planning Committee, Members asked that these observations be forwarded to the appropriate Building Control Officer of BGCBC emphasising the serious concern Council had in respect of the risk to health and safety.

**054) Updates regarding Bedwellty House and Park / Parc Bryn Bach - any issues to have been previously reported direct to the House Management / Aneurin Leisure personally**

- A Member said that Aneurin Leisure had held a meeting with staff and the play area had been part of discussion.

**055) To confirm the following Sub-Committees and to appoint Members to serve on them until the Annual Meeting of Council 2024:**

**a. Civic Sub-Committee**

Councillors M. Turner (Leader) (Chair), G. Evans (Mayor), K. Phillips (Deputy Mayor), A.E. Tippings (Deputy Leader), E. Jones, D. Rowberry, H. Trollope

**b. Events Sub-Committee**

***Amendment: (To incorporate j. Publicity Sub-Committee and Website Working Party)***

Councillors A. Jones (Chair), G. Evans (Mayor), K. Phillips (Deputy Mayor), M. Turner (Leader), A.E. Tippings (Deputy Leader), J. Thomas, H. Trollope, C. Walters

**c. Heritage Sub-Committee (encompassing Bedwellty House and Park, the Assembly Room Picture Gallery, Tredegar War Memorials and Tredegar Town Clock) with plenary powers up to £500.00**

Councillors M. Turner (Leader) (Chair), G. Evans, (Mayor), K. Phillips (Deputy Mayor), A.E. Tippings (Deputy Leader), A. Jones, H. Trollope, G. Walters

**d. Finance & Staffing Sub-Committee**

***Amendment: (To incorporate k. Budget Working Party)***

Councillors H. Trollope (Chair), G. Evans, (Mayor), K. Phillips (Deputy Mayor), M. Turner (Leader), A.E. Tippings (Deputy Leader), G. Badham, E. Jones, B. Rees, G. Walters

**e. Appeals Committee**

Councillors A. Jones, D. Rowberry, J. Thomas S. Trollope, K. Waldron, C. Walters

**f. Policy Sub-Committee - All Members of Council**

Councillor G. Evans (Mayor) (Chair)

**g. Community, Youth and International Sub-Committee**

***Amendment: (To incorporate Tredegar Twinning Association)***

Councillors M. Turner (Leader) (Chair), G. Evans (Mayor), K. Phillips (Deputy Mayor), A.E. Tippings (Deputy Leader), E. Jones, D. Rowberry, H. Trollope, S. Trollope, C. Walters

**h. One Voice Wales Climate Change Adaptation Programme**

Councillors G. Evans (Chair) (Mayor), K. Phillips (Deputy Mayor), M. Turner (Leader), A.E. Tippings (Deputy Leader), E. Griffin, A. Jones, D. Rowberry, J. Thomas

**i. Public Facilities Sub-Committee**

***Amendment: (Encompassing Tredegar W/C Facilities, Deighton playing field and Sirhowy Community Garden, Allotments and the Town Clock surround)***

Councillors A. Jones (Chair), G. Evans (Mayor), K. Phillips (Deputy Mayor), M. Turner (Leader), A.E. Tippings (Deputy Leader), E. Griffin, H. Trollope

**056) 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** – this had been a successful visit, there was a new Mayor in place since last October, who was a 'breath of fresh air'. Various actions included setting up a new football team for Welsh, French and German nationalities (boys only, at present). The whole trip went well, however older members were in decline and new members were needed. Learning English was a priority for the French however our school no longer taught French. The meeting went very well and French counterparts wished to be involved in the Children's Film Festival, with arrangements for the winning entries to be sent to France, to be shown in the cinema in Orvault. Council had presented a gift of two oak trees. The two parties were very much together, understanding each other's interests and what each had to offer, e.g. participating in a Football Festival Tournament and Orvault had a running club whose members would undertake a half-marathon.

**e) Pen Bryn Oer Community Fund** – all successful grants had been announced and the next round of funding applications closed in September, for discussion October.

**f) School Governing Bodies** – Bryn Bach Primary: new Head in place, i.e. Mr. Matthew Oliver, youngest Head within the EAS; Councillor Chris Walters was now the School Governor representative on behalf of TTC.

**g) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum** – The Forum provided talks on the second Thursday of each month; the next lecture was the following week, to be provided by Dr. Helen Jones in relation to "Women's History".

**h) Blaenau Gwent CAB** – No meeting.

**i) Tredegar Business Forum** – the flowers were all planted and the TTC cleaning operative would undertake watering.

**j) VVP / Tredegar Heritage Initiative** – a Member, once again, reiterated there was no formal representation for Tredegar Town Council since being reconstituted as a new group; it was agreed that the Clerk write to BGCBC.

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

- Stationary Bike production – Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2023, 4.00 p.m. at the Little Theatre, Tredegar; Members were invited to attend.
- Siloh Baptist Uniting Church, 225 Years of Worship – at Siloh Church on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 at 2.30 p.m.: Leader to attend representing TTC.

- Vegetable / plant giveaway – Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2023, at Thomas Ellis Way.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair