

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Reporting of decisions and recommendations -  
Civic Meeting of Council held Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 at 6.30 p.m.**

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

**In attendance:** Clerk – Ms. C. Aherne  
RFO – Ms. A. Edwards

**To Elect a Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2023.  
Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the incoming Mayor.  
(Chain of Office and Consort's Chain to be handed over)**

The Chain of Office was presented to the Mayor, and flowers and the Consort's Chain to the incoming Mayoress: Mayor received the acceptance of Office, which was duly signed in the presence of Council.

**To Elect a Deputy Mayor to serve until the Annual Meeting of Council 2023.  
(Chain of Office will be given to the incoming Deputy.)**

A Member proposed that Councillor Kevin Phillips be nominated to the role of Deputy Mayor; this nomination was duly seconded.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Kevin Phillips was unanimously elected to the role of Deputy Mayor: Deputy Mayor received the Chain and acceptance of Office, which was duly signed in the presence of Council.

**Apologies. Councillors P. Cornlouer, E. Jones, B. Rees and K. Waldron**

### **Declarations of Interest**

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

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

The Mayor welcomed everyone to his inauguration; it was an honour and a privilege to be elected to the role as Mayor of Tredegar town, he extended thanks to his wife for being Lady Mayoress: he promised to carry out the role to the best of his ability with due diligence. He thanked all fellow Councillors for being elected and special thanks to his friend, Jacqueline Thomas. Jacquee told him where to go and when, as the Member had done it all before, and he would have looked like a 'lost sheep', but Jacquee pointed the Mayor in the right direction. Two other ladies he wished to thank, the Town Clerk - Clare and Finance Officer – Annette, without their help and information / advice, he would not be able to do as Council expected him to do.

### **To receive any verbal recommendations of all Sub-Committees / Working Party prior to this meeting:**

It was agreed the following recommendations be approved accordingly.

- **Finance and Staffing Sub-Committee - 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2022**

- Blachere Illuminations be approved as the successful contractor to undertake the Christmas lighting display on behalf of Tredegar Town Council.
- The success of the Kickstart Placement Scheme was noted; it was agreed that Council support the Local Authority in expressing an interest to participate in any apprenticeship programme undertaken.
- It was agreed that
  - the extension of hours of the RFO, currently at twenty-two hours per week, be maintained and the Contract of Employment be amended accordingly;
  - the staffing appraisal would be undertaken with staff; and
  - a review of the existing Contracts of Employment be undertaken: appropriate Members to sit down with staff / Union representation initially to commence negotiations; report back to the Finance and Staffing Sub-Committee for deliberation, and a formal recommendation to Council.

#### **049) 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)**

St. John Ambulance Cymru – **£500.00 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.**

*Councillors D. Rowberry and H. Trollope declared an interest in respect of items relating to 'Licensing' and took no part in discussion or voting thereon*

#### **Correspondence**

Items of correspondence were received and noted accordingly.

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

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

This was agreed unanimously: Mayor to liaise with the RFO in respect of payment arrangements.

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

**095) To agree a Leader's Allowance, not exceeding £500.00, and authorise payment.**

The Leader wished to decline payment, as she was in full-time employment and would not wish such a payment to cause any confusion; however, it was not her intention that this should impact on the decision of future Leaders, nor the Mayor, whose role differed to that of the Leader being mainly administrative.

This was agreed unanimously.

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

## **Planning:**

List of planning applications received in week 24

List of planning applications received in week 25

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

<b>App. No.</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
C/2022/0171	Extension to Trefil Quarry for mineral working comprising limestone extraction and future restoration, open land north of existing Trefil Quarry.

**Observations:** A Member suggested that, as this was a substantial application, she would respectfully ask that a written report be compiled, to be fed back to next Council; it was agreed that the Leader undertake the report. Following discussion, it was proposed that the feedback arising from the report be forwarded not only to Blaenau Gwent CBC but the Brecon Beacons NPA, as the quarry and surrounding area was in their remit also.

A Member had attempted to view the planning application electronically but had been denied access to the site, which had been blocked: Clerk to clarify with the Local Authority as the application should be within the public domain. Also, in respect of concerns raised, it was agreed that Council ask the Local Authority to check that existing planning conditions relating to the Trefil Quarry were being adhered to.

C/2022/0177	Two storey side extension and front & rear Dormers, 18 Bush Bach.
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**No objections**

C/2022/0185	Proposed terrace of three properties with associated car parking and external works, land between 12A Queen Victoria Street and Springfield Cottage.
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**Observations:** Visibility splays of 2.4m x 43m was noted under section 7.0 'Highways' – a Member sought clarity as to where that opening would be placed due to a safety aspect, with parking currently on one side, as introducing double yellow lines would make the situation worse with residents being unable to park.

**Other Planning matters** – None received.

**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**
- b) **Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales**
- c) **One Voice Wales Larger Councils and AGM**
- d) **Tredegar Twinning**

- e) Pen Bryn Oer Community Fund**
- f) School Governing Bodies**
- g) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum**
- h) Blaenau Gwent CAB**
- i) Tredegar / Ebbw Vale Crime Prevention Panel**
- j) Tredegar Business Forum**
- k) VVP / Tredegar Heritage Initiative**

Updates received and noted accordingly.

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

There were no matters of interest or concern received.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 6.37 p.m.

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