

# TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Civic Meeting of Council held via Microsoft Teams / hybrid on  
Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:**                    **Councillors K. Phillips (Chair)**  
                                     **E. Griffin**  
                                     **M. Turner**  
                                     **A.E. Tippings**  
                                     **A.E. Evans**  
                                     **A. Jones**  
                                     **E. Jones**  
                                     **S. Mavar**  
                                     **G. Meredith**  
                                     **D. Rowberry**  
                                     **J. Thomas**  
                                     **H. Trollope**  
                                     **S. Trollope**  
                                     **K. Waldron**  
                                     **G. Walters**

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

**135) Apologies Councillor G. Badham**

**136) Declarations of Interest**

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

**137) To receive Mayor's report, as appropriate**

The Mayor provided an update on events since last attending a meeting of Council:

“June 2024

- 24.06 Last week, I was privileged to present a Nye Bevan plate as a gift to a special education school in Legnica, Poland. We took a break from our busy filming schedule to visit a complex of Special facilities for young people, where we were greeted with a specially performed music event. Wonderful to see the amazing work the school doing.
- 24.06 This week it was a privilege to attend the opening of the new film club in the EVI, Ebbw Vale. Wonderful to see the opening film being 'Valley of Steel' by Made in Tredegar.
- 30.06 Every year, we celebrate Armed Forces Day here in Tredegar and it was wonderful turnout at Bedwellty Park. A truly inspirational experience getting saluted by the Royal Welsh Regimental Band.

July 2024

- 05.07 Great turnout today by Tredegar people for the unveiling of the NCB Memorial Gates at Parc Bryn Bach, it was an honour to be invited to this wonderful event. Well done to Ken Sullivan and his team for all their hard work.
- 06.07 It was a pleasure to meet Mr. Reardon and his family this weekend, who celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. A warm welcome was extended to myself as I presented him with a card and small gift from Tredegar Town Council.
- 07.07 Even with a damp start to the day, it was good to see a nice turnout for Bevan Day at Bedwellty Park. The speeches were held in the Tredegar Town Council Chamber instead of the Bandstand and what rousing speeches they were ...
- 12.07 I was invited to attend the Hospice of the Valleys Corporate Thank You event today, held at Bedwellty House. It was wonderful to receive, on behalf of Tredegar Town Council, a certificate of thanks from the Hospice of the Valleys.
- 12.07 A busy day, but managed to fit in my monthly visit to Woffington Residential Home. I enjoy these visits and it is always good to see my friend, Mrs. Green.
- 14.07 Week 8 of our Summer Band Concerts in the Park and it was a pleasure to introduce Tredegar Orpheus Male Voice Choir. Thank you to all the bands and choirs taking part in this year's season, they have been amazing.

#### August 2024

- 10.08 It was an honour to be asked to open the Afternoon Tea Family Fun-day Fundraiser for Breast Cancer at the Bedwellty Bowls Pavilion today.
- 22.08 On behalf of Tredegar Town Council, it was a privilege to present grants to two of our local community groups, Tredegar Angling Club and Gwent Defibbers.

#### September 2024

- 28.09 Last Saturday, I had my first Mayoral event, the performance of 'Albert' by Richard Harris, supported by the Gelligaer Thespians, at The Little Theatre – donations to the Mayor's Appeal (Chloe's Cupboard and Parkinsons UK) raising £558.80.
- 29.09 I was invited to the home of Br. Brian Pearce of Georgetown on his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday."

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

No Sub-Committee meetings had been held prior to Council; however, a meeting with Members of the Local Authority, immediately preceding Council, had been rescheduled due to the number of apologies received.

### **139) 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)**

Bedwellty Park Bowls Club - Any financial assistance received would be used towards improving the lighting in the pavilion.

**2023/24 Oct'23 CQ No. 558 £200.00 - Approved accordingly**

Tredegar Moose Ladies Circle - Any financial assistance received would be used to repair seating and the removal of some seating near the stage to expose radiators.

**2023/24 Dec'23 CQ No. 598 £200.00 - Approved accordingly**

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

Tredegar Twinning Association - Any financial assistance received would be used towards the associations running / admin costs.

**2022/23 Nov'22 CQ No. 398 £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***

## **140) Correspondence**

### 1) BGCBC

a) N. Jones Re: Green area on Sirhowy Hill, Tredegar. Email from Sirhowy Ward Members of BGCBC expressing their gratitude to the contractors who are maintaining the green area on Sirhowy Hill; it looks very neat and tidy and we are very grateful that it is being maintained so well.

- Noted; pass on to the Grounds Maintenance Team who care for the area.

b) D. Wheelock Re: Council's Peer Assessment, One TCC Representative at focus group (week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> November).

- Noted; Leader, as TTC representative, to liaise in respect of participation.

c) J. Clare Re: P/2024/0210 TPO Southend. Tree Officer requesting further Information.

- The Clerk referred to the queries outlined in the correspondence and sought permission to seek tenders of a suitably qualified tree surgeon regarding advice to determine what remedial works were necessary: agreed accordingly.

A Member said that she and a Colleague had visited the allotment sites and compiled a report – the Clerk confirmed this information had been attached to the TPO planning application. The Member would be happy to meet a BG Officer on site if needed.

*Councillor D. Rowberry declared an interest in the following item and took no part in discussion.*

d) i) List of applications received, week ending 13.09.2024.

1) New premises licence – 13 The Circle.

List of applications received, week ending 20.09.2024.

- 1) Transfer premises licence – The Castle Hotel.
- 2) Temporary Street Trading Consent – Tredegar Sports Centre Grounds.

ii) List of applications received, week ending 27.09.2024.

- 1) Temporary Event Notification, open air cinema – Tredegar car park rear of Gwent Shopping Centre.

- Noted.

2) One Voice Wales

Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024: Publication of consultation paper. Closing date for responses 13.12.2024.

- Noted; forward to Councillor A. Jones.

3) Welsh Government

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Section 62D and Section 62F

The Developments of National Significance (WALES) Regulations 2016. Application by CENIN Renewables for the Development of a Wind Farm of up to 5 Turbines up to 180 metres maximum tip height and associated infrastructure at Land at Cefn Manmoel Common, East of Manmoel Road, Ebbw Vale, Application Ref: DNS/323981. Suspending the determination period of the application to allow the Welsh Ministers further time to consider the application.

- Noted.

4) S. Overton

Re: Gazebo quote. £120.00 for 8 gazebos plus rechargeable lights plus the staff will stay, £10.00 then per extra gazebo – **Council to approve expenditure.**

- Council considered the quote competitive and the gazebos had been better quality than those hired in recent years, which appeared to be coming to the end of their shelf-life. It was suggested that 6m x 3m was required to accommodate two stalls per gazebo: Clerk to liaise, with delegation to Senior Members to accept quotation and approve expenditure, if appropriate.

5) Konica Minolta

- a) No longer accepting payments by cheque, offering other methods of payment – **This is the second company to confirm they no longer accept**

**cheques, Council may want to now give consideration to setting up dual online payment authorization; the RFO and one or two of the names signatories as the second person.**

- Council accepted Option 1, payment by BACS.

## 6) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report, week ending 27.09.2024; OVW Mentrau Iath project information; OVW Re: Next Pethau Bychain Meeting, Making space for reptiles 15.10.2024 – ***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.*

### 141) Planning:

- a) i) List of planning applications received in week 38
- ii) List of planning applications received in week 39

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

<b>App. No.</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
C/2024/0143	Mr. L. Phillips Glan Yr Afon Dukestown Road Tredegar.	Conversion of outbuilding to annexe and proposed garages, Glan Yr Afon, Dukestown Road.

***No objections***

C/2024/0240	Mr. & Mrs. A. Waldron Glyn Terrace Garage Site Glyn Terrace	Proposed residential development to provide 3 dormer bungalows, including access, services and landscaping, Former Glyn Garage Site, Glyn Terrace.
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***No objections***

- c) **To consider other planning matters** – None received.

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

- None received.

### 143) 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** – The Leader said that discussion had ensued in respect of:

The issue of undertaking structural lamp-post testing; he had informed the meeting that

Tredegar Town Council, along with other organisations, should not be paying as this was the responsibility of the Local Authority – it was agreed this issue be taken away for further consideration.

One suggestion related to town and community councils contributing to CCTV; Members had enquired how many cameras were located across the County Borough and how this would be apportioned. The Local Authority were due to start the budget-setting process and would come back to town and community councils with proposals in the not too distant future.

In response to a question raised, the Leader confirmed the CCTV was working and the picture quality was better than previously; there were thirteen cameras in Tredegar. This proposal had been presented to town and community councils, and others, across Wales suggesting a contribution to pay for CCTV coverage.

**b) Gwent Valleys One Voice Wales** – No meeting.

**c) One Voice Wales Larger Councils and AGM** – The Leader had needed to submit apologies.

**d) Tredegar Twinning** – A successful Cheese and Wine event had been held at the Orpheus Hall; lots of active young new members had joined the Association, it was nice to see this rejuvenation and there was always room for more.

**e) Pen Bryn Oer Community Fund** – Next meeting to be held in October.

**f) School Governing Bodies** – Bryn Bach Primary: Members were invited to join the Governing Body as TTC representative to fill the existing vacancy – Councillors A.E. Tippings and G. Badham were already Governors outside the remit of their Town Council role; Georgetown Primary: Annual Meeting held the previous week, whereupon school targets had been discussed.

**g) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum** – The Day School lecture would be ‘Crime and Punishment, featuring Ladies of the Night in Swansea’ - £17.50 for admission, including tea / coffee and buffet, 10.00 a.m. til 4.00 p.m.

**h) Tredegar Business Forum** – Meeting cancelled.

**i) VVP / Tredegar Heritage Initiative** – Nothing to report since the last meeting; however, for information, work was progressing on the NCB.

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

- Town Clock planting – there was a need to weed the area in John's absence; also, the need to remove the begonias – was Council keeping or donating them, e.g. to Friends of Bedwellty, the Business Forum or another project; how were the tulips Council kept from last year - were Council ordering more or donating them.

Members felt that Council should be replanting, rather than spending on new planting each year; however, it was suggested that these could be donated to groups such as Sirhowy Community Centre or Cefn Golau community garden.

Agreed: Councillor A.E. Tippings to check quality of bulbs stored in the public conveniences and report back.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.17 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair