

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs T Hughes - Town Clerk/RFO

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Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held via a remote meeting at 1.30pm on Tuesday 13th July 2021

A meeting to which members of the public were entitled to attend.

Present: Councillor G Morvan, Chair of the Finance & General Purposes
Committee, presiding
Councillors D Hillman; C Hillman; K Jones; K Jenkins; M Williams & L Harris

In attendance: Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk / RFO
Mrs N Horner, Assistant Officer

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Town Clerk informed that there were no members of the public in attendance. **Resolved** to note the information received.

Declaration of Interest

Members were invited to declare matters of interest either at the beginning or at any time during the proceedings. Members were reminded that all declarations must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that Declarations of Interest were received from Councillor G Morvan (item 5a) and D Hillman (item 2e).

1. Apologies for absence:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence and to formally resolve to accept.

Resolved to note that apologies were received from Councillors G Watkins & L Emanuel.

Resolved to accept the apologies received.

2. Correspondence:

Members were invited to consider the listed correspondence, plus with the Chairman's permission, any urgent information that may be received prior to the date of the meeting.

a) One Voice Wales – (for information)

i Remote Training Sessions for July 2021:

Resolved to note the information received.

ii E-mail informing of Free Webinars about Scams in July 2021:

Resolved to note the information received.

- iii E-mail informing of Consultation on Qualification of Clerks in Wales Regulations:
In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that as the Town Clerk already held an appropriate advanced qualification, the consultation and any proposals did not affect the Town Council.

Resolved to note the information received.

- b) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board – (for information):

- i Vaccination updates for weeks commencing 28/06/2021 and 05/07/2021.

Resolved to note the information received.

- ii Spotlight on.... Cancer Services.

Resolved to note the information received.

- c) Information Commissioner's Office – (for information):

Certificate of Registration of Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council for 2021/22.

In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that there was no legal requirement for Town & Community Council to have a named Data Protection Officer.

Resolved to note the information received.

- d) Tenovus Cancer Care – (for information):

Letter of thanks and safe receipt of recent financial donation received and information regarding the engraved leaf to mark the donation made.

Resolved to note the information received.

Councillor D Hillman declared an interest in item 2e.

Resolved that Councillor Hillman remain in the meeting to provide additional information regarding the project.

- e) Mutual Gain – (for information):

Information leaflet re: funding re: recovery from Covid for Blaenau Gwent.

Councillor Hillman additionally informed that many local organisations had been informed of the project and the funding available (£250,000 to support local organisations) and groups/organisations could apply for up to £10,000. Councillor Hillman also informed that he would query if Town & Community Councils were able to apply for funding and would provide an update at a future meeting.

Resolved to note the information received.

Additional correspondence received with permission of the Chairman:

- f) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board – (for information):

E-mail informing of IWN Collaborative meeting for 21st July 2021.

The Town Clerk informed that this e-mail had been circulated to Members.

Councillor D Hillman informed that he had attended a meeting with the Health Board regarding Well-being and Covid.

Resolved to note the information received.

3. IT Requirements:

Members were invited to consider the attached report and information in respect of the Town Council's IT requirements.

The Town Clerk informed that an officer from SRS (Shared Resource Services – IT for Blaenau Gwent CBC – whilst in the Institute for the Library IT) informally commented that he also agreed that the Town Council offices required updated, professional grade computers. The Town Clerk also informed that Melrose IT had much experience in public sector IT and had an excellent knowledge of the legislative requirements Town & Community Councils were subject to.

Councillor D Hillman agreed with the report and stated that appropriate equipment was required to provide professional support.

Resolved that a total of three quotations be sourced in respect of both the necessary IT equipment and service agreement.

4. S.137 donations (Local Government Act 1972 & Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:

As previously resolved, Members were invited to consider making further financial donations to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank to assist residents of Nantyglo and Blaina for the month of August 2021.

Members agreed that the money donated to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank was being spent appropriately. It was agreed to check and confirm that Blaenau Gwent Foodbank had provided appropriate recognition and publicity in respect of the donations made by the Town Council.

Resolved that an amount of £200 be donated to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank for the month of August 2021, to assist residents within Nantyglo and Blaina.

5. Application to the Community Grant Fund:

Members were invited to consider the listed application(s), plus with the Chairman's permission any additional applications that may be received prior to the date of the meeting. Members were also reminded of that applications will need to be considered in conjunction with the current policy.

Additional application with permission of the Chair:

Councillor G Morvan declared an interest in item 5a.

Resolved that Councillor Morvan remain in the meeting but not take part in any discussion. **Additionally Resolved** that Councillor D Hillman, Town Mayor, Chair item 5a.

a) Retired Police Dogs of Gwent:

Members had previously resolved that additional information be requested in respect of this application.

The Town Clerk informed of advice received which provided for making a donation if the Council so agreed. The Town Clerk also read out an e-mail received from Lisa Winnett (Treasurer of Retired Police Dogs of Gwent) which detailed how the dogs would be helped

and how the dogs had previously assisted the communities of Nantyglo and Blaina.

Resolved that an amount of £100 be donated with a letter informing that this was the maximum amount the Council's own grant policy allowed.

6. **Salem Chapel:**

Members were invited to consider the attached inspection report:

- **June 2021:**

Members were additionally informed that a ground floor window of Salem Chapel had been broken. This had been reported to Gwent Police and Mr R Dunham had been informed to make good the window as appropriate.

The Town Clerk informed that Mr Dunham had secured the window and ordered replacement glass. Gwent Police had also investigated but reported that there was no CCTV of the area of the window and as such no evidence regarding the perpetrator could be found.

In response to a query, the Town Clerk confirmed that Mr R Dunham had secured and 'made good' the window.

Resolved that the report be approved and **Further Resolved** that a Task and Finish Meeting in respect of Salem Chapel take place at 1pm on Tuesday 20th July 2021.

7. **Confidential Information:**

The following item(s) might contain information that was of a confidential or personal nature and was therefore exclusive to Members of the Town Council only. (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960). Councillor D Hillman explained the item confidentiality motion for the benefit of newer Members. **Resolved** that the motion be agreed.