

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

Mrs T Hughes Town Clerk/RFO

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 25th February 2020 at the
Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina**

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

Present: Councillor K Jones, Town Mayor
Councillors G. Morvan, L. Emanuel, D. Hillman, K. Jenkins, C Hillman,
T. James, L. Harris & K. Treharne

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

Declaration of Interest

Members were invited to declare matters of interest either at the beginning or at any time during the proceedings. Please note that all declarations of interest must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that no such declarations were received.

1. Apologies:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence received and to formally resolve to accept. **Resolved** to note that apologies were received from Cllr R. Abbas & C. Bridgeman.

Further resolved to accept the apologies received.

2. Town Mayor's Communications:

The Town Mayor informed that there were no attending events for the reporting period.

Resolved to note the information received.

3. Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held 28th January 2020 (pages 133 - 138)

Members were invited to consider the above minutes and if appropriate to approve them as an accurate record of proceedings.

a) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

Closing date should of read Monday 2nd March.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

4. **Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 28th January 2020 (pages 139 - 144)**

Members were invited to consider the above minutes and if appropriate to approve them as an accurate record of proceedings.

a) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

Page 142 - Correction – Cllr D. Hillman is an associate member, not a non-active member

Page 143 - Correction – Cllr D. Hillman & Cllr C. Hillman took part within the Budget Meeting at Blaenau Gwent CBC.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

5. **Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee Meeting held 10th February 2020 (pages 145 - 148)**

Members were invited to consider the above minutes and if appropriate to approve them as an accurate record of proceedings.

a) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

6. **Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held 10th February 2020 (pages 149 - 152)**

Members were invited to consider the above minutes and if appropriate to approve them as an accurate record of proceedings.

b) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

Correction - Page 150 - Cllr D. Hillman confirmed that "League of Friends" will be looking to expand in Nantyglo & Blaina

Correction - Page 151 – Should include "and not for purpose"

Correction – Page 152 – Should read "The Task and Finish Group" also on page 152 – amendment to the word would to "should"

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

7. **Correspondence:**

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

a) Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council:

E-mail – Notification of change of date of forthcoming quarterly Liaison Meeting to 22nd April 2020.

Resolved to note the information received.

- b) Aneurin Bevan Health Board– (for information):
E-mail and poster informing of 'Talk Health'.
Resolved to note the information received.
- c) Community Health Council – (for information):
Notice of a Meeting of the Aneurin Bevan Health Council on 27th February 2020.
Cllr D Hillman & C Hillman declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item. **Resolved** that Councillors D Hillman and C Hillman to remain in Chamber as the item was for information only.
Resolved to note the information received.
- d) Tredegar Town Council – (for information):
Invitation to the Town Mayor in respect of 'Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth'.
The Town Mayor Councillor K Jones confirmed that he would attend the event.
Resolved to note the information received.
- e) One Voice Wales – (for information):
- i. Minutes of the Gwent Valleys Area Committee held on 21st January 2020.
A discussion ensued regarding the fees of One Voice Wales, however, it was deemed to renew membership as the professional help and support proved invaluable.
Cllr K Treharne left the meeting at this juncture.
Resolved that the Council renew their membership of One Voice Wales for 2020/21.
- ii. News Bulletin – February 2020.
Resolved to note the information received.
- f) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales:
Draft supplementary report – The Principles relating to the Reimbursement of Costs of Care.
Resolved to note the information received.
- g) Wales Audit Office:
Consultation on future arrangements for Community Councils in Wales.
Resolved that the Town Clerk responds to the consultation on behalf of the Town Council.
- h) Greater Gwent (Torfaen) Pension Fund:
E-mail request that monthly pension contributions are paid directly to the Pension Fund bank account.

Town Clerk informed members that HMRC had also previously informed that they would prefer BACS payment, however, it was not currently mandatory. A discussion ensued regarding an increasing number of organisations were requesting BACS payments. The Council could investigate options of BACS Payments, however, the Town Clerk informed members that audit opinion advised of caution in respect of online banking facilities.

Resolved that online banking facilities and the provision of payment via BACS and all relevant diligence be investigated and reported to Council.

Additional correspondence received with permission of the Chair:

i) **One Voice Wales:**

E-mail informing of a Consultation event in respect of re-cycling and the Welsh economy

Resolved to note the information received.

8. Subscriptions:

Members were invited to consider the Town Council's membership for 2020/21 in respect of One Voice Wales.

Members discussed the cost of the subscription and considered if this justified the service and benefits received from One Voice Wales. The additional cost of training charged by One Voice Wales was considered to be very high and should be included within the subscription fee. This was also considered true in respect of the specialist advice provided. Members were informed that when the Town Council did not renew their membership (in 2017) it had proved very difficult to obtain and access necessary information and notifications and that the Town Council had benefitted from much specific advice as a result of requests to One Voice Wales. Additionally it was added that as approximately 600 of over 700 Community and Town Councils in Wales were members, the Town Council would not have an effective voice if it was not a member of One Voice Wales.

Resolved that the subscription to One Voice Wales for 2020/21 be renewed.

Councillor K Treharne left the Chamber at this juncture.

9. Council Committee Meetings – April 2020:

Members were invited to re-consider the proposed date of the Committee Meetings for April 2020. The scheduled date for the meetings was Monday 13th April 2020 which was Easter Monday.

Resolved that the meeting be re-scheduled for Wednesday 8th April to commence at 7pm.

10. Induction Training for all Members:

Members were reminded that Induction Training for all Members had been arranged to take

place on Monday 2nd March 2020 at 11am and Wednesday 4th March 2020 at 12noon at the Town Council Chamber.

Training received and Town Clerk was commended by members for her outstanding work in devising an informative session. Town Clerk to liaise with the members who were not able to attend to rearrange an alternative date.

Resolved to note the information received.

11. 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 might be received prior to the date of the meeting. Members were also reminded that applications will need to be considered in conjunction with the current policy.

a) *None received to date.*

Resolved accordingly.

12. Planning Applications:

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.

a) Plan Application No. C/2020/0292 – 39 Lower Coed Cae, Nantyglo:

Demolition of existing dwelling and garage and construction of a replacement dwelling and detached four bedroomed house in existing garden area with associated works.

Resolved that no representations or objections be made.

13. Licensing Applications:

Members are 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.

None received to date.


Resolved accordingly.

14. Members' Updates:

Members were invited to inform and provide updates of any recent activities and/or concerns:

Members thanked the Assistant Officer for the production of informative local maps for both Nantyglo and Blaina.

Resolved to note the information received.


20/8/20

