

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 held on Monday 9th March 2020 at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina

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

Present: Councillor G Morvan, Chair
Councillors: Councillors: R. Abbas, K. Jones, G. Watkins and T. James

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. Members were reminded that all declarations must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that the Town Clerk declared an interest in item 6c.

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 D Hillman, C Hillman, K Treharne, K. Jenkins & C. Bridgeman. **Further Resolved** to note the apologies received.

2. 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) One Voice Wales – (for information):

i Minutes of the Larger Council's Committee Meeting held on 5th February 2020.

Chair attended meeting at Hafod Y Hendre, Buith Wells. Sophie Howe was the guest speaker who was instrumental in protesting against the ring road at Newport. A slide informing of the presentation was due to be circulated to member Councils but was yet to be received.

Resolved to note the information received.

- ii. E-mail informing of One Voice Wales / SLCC Joint Event to be held on 20th May 2020.

Information received. Discussion ensued regarding Town Clerk as all the relevant qualifications and that training could be made available for Assistant Officer.

Resolved to note the information received.

- b) Wales Audit Office:

Consultation: Future Audit Arrangements for Community Councils in Wales.

Resolved to note that the Town Clerk had already responded to the consultation on behalf of the Town Council

3. **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 of that applications would need to be considered in conjunction with the current policy.

- a) Blaenau Gwent Rhythm and Ukes:

The Town Clerk informed that a donation had been paid to the group in the current financial year (2020/21) but that the Committee could make the resolution to be paid in the forthcoming financial year commencing April 2020 in order to comply with the Council's Financial Grants policy.

Cllr Abbas announced that this is the first ever Ukes Festival in Blaenau Gwent and suggested a £100 donation.

Cllr Watkins reiterated that Blaina Institute Trust Fund had an application process so that local organisations/ groups can apply to for funding. Clerk confirmed that local groups were often made aware of this information.

Resolved that a financial donation of £100 be made in April 2020. **Further Resolved** to invite group to future meeting of the Council to provide information of their forthcoming event.

- b) Hospice of the Valleys:

Members agreed that the Hospice of the Valleys provides a vital service for people within Nantyglo and Blaina as well as Blaenau Gwent.

Resolved that a financial donation of £100.00.

4. **Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales:**

Members were invited to consider the annual report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales in respect of payments to Members of Community and Town Councillors.

Members' attention was drawn to table 10 on pages 48 and 49 of the report (*Members were informed that the full report was placed in the Chamber for information*). Members were informed that some decisions required resolution prior to the Annual Meeting of the Council when Council positions and representatives would be resolved.

Resolved to note the information received.

5. Salem Chapel:

Members were invited to consider the attached inspection report:

- February 2020.
Questions were invited – none received.

Resolved that the report be approved.

6. 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)

