

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

Mrs T Hughes Town Clerk/RFO

Council Offices, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina NP13 3BN

Swyddfa'r Cyngor, Sefydliad Blaenau, Y Stryd Fawr, Blaenau, NP13 3BN

Tel: 01495 292817 e-mail: [clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk)

## **Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held via a remote meeting at 1.10pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021.**

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

**Present:** Councillor K Jenkins, Chair of Events Committee, presiding  
Councillors G Morvan; D Hillman, C Hillman, K Jones & L Harris

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

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chair informed that a five-minute break would take place at the end of the Events Committee meetings and prior to the Meeting of the Town Council. The Chair advised all in attendance to end the call at that time and re-dial in.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

The Town Clerk informed that no members of the public were 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. Please note that all declarations of interest must be recorded in the book provided.

**Resolved** to note that Cllr's K Jenkins and L Harris declared a personal interest in point 4a and it was agreed for both to leave the meeting when item is being discussed.

#### **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 Councillor M Williams, L Emanuel and L Harris.

**Further Resolved** to note information 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: Assistant Officer confirmed that no correspondence had been received.

### a) Western Power Distribution – (for information):

Temporary Unmetered Connections for Festive Lighting Christmas 2021/2022.  
The Assistant Officer informed that this information was for the Christmas Light Contractor to complete.

**Resolved** to note information received and **Further Resolved** for the Christmas Light Contractor to complete.

### b) The Seafarers Charity – (Email for information).

Email thanking for helping public awareness and a certificate of participation.  
Members suggested that it would be nice to get the certificate put in a frame.

Assistant Officer confirmed that certificate was displayed on Town Council's website.

**Resolved** to note information received.

- ## 3. **Banners:**
- Permission had been sent to BGCBG for the allocation of banners on lampposts for around Nantyglo and Blaina.  
A discussion ensued regarding how much permission that Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council requires, where other councils seem to just get things done. The Assistant Officer confirmed that no reply as yet from BGCBG and another email would be sent as a matter of emergency.

**Resolved** to note information received and **Further Resolved** for the Assistant Officer to send another email to prompt BGCBG for the permission to place banners on lamp posts.

*Councillor K Jenkins declared a personal interest in this item and left the meeting*

## 4. **In Bloom:**

The winning entries were discussed at previous meeting; however, meeting was not quorate to ratify the winning entries. Members were requested to ratify the results so participants could be notified of outcome.

### a) Gavin Trinder, Abergavenny Garden Centre:

List of the winning entries was received from the judge, Mr Gavin Trinder.

Assistant Officer confirmed that she had received an email from Cllr Williams giving his comments on the judging, which supports Gavin Trinder's recommendations.

All present agreed that the following winners recommended by Gavin Trinder, Abergavenny Garden Centre were as follows:

- Margaret Dutson - Individual House and overall winner
- Ruby Mae Bunning – Junior Gardener
- Michael Knapp – Open Space

- Julia Croc – Individual Allotment
- Blaen y cwm school – school
- Holy Trinity St Anne's Church – Place of worship
- Marilyn Lukings – Hanging baskets / Window boxes
- Janet Healy – Street

Members agreed that as the entries were all exceptional this year that all participants were to receive a highly recommended certificate and plaque.

*Cllr K Jenkins and Cllr L Harris re- joined the meeting at this juncture.*

A discussion ensued regarding how best to give the awards out and it was suggested that as it is not a meeting, a presentation event could take place in the chamber. Clerk and Assistant Officer to risk assess the room to see if restrictions permit and would advise Council with the outcome.

**Resolved** to note information received and **further Resolved** for Clerk and Assistant Officer to risk assess the chamber. **Additionally Resolved** that the list of In Bloom winners and 'Highly Commended' entrants be ratified as above.

#### a) **Christmas Tree:**

Local installer- Russel Dunham was approached with regards to placing a temporary Xmas tree in the centre of Blaina square and he confirmed that the area was not suitable and that he would not carry out the work as the paving slabs are too unsafe to secure guide ropes. Additionally, he advised that the area would then need to be fenced off, and this could result in the risk and possibility of the young people climbing up fences. His recommendations were to purchase a real Christmas and plant it to the North side of Blaina Institute on the grassed area, from that area he would also be able to connect lights from the Institute.

A discussion ensued regarding the position of the Christmas Tree at the North side of the premises. Members believed that the viewing of the tree would be somewhat restricted as it would only be seen from the bottom of High Street at the mini round about. Suggestion put forward that as Christmas was approaching quickly, that for this year maybe Council could just consider putting solar power lights on the trees that are already there. A further suggestion was also for a Christmas tree to be planted at the rear grounds of St Peters Church facing High Street.

**Resolved** to note information received and **Further Resolved** for the Assistant Officer to speak with the Christmas Lights contactor regarding placing solar lights for existing trees on Blaina Square and to purchase solar lights if so. **Additionally Resolved** for the Assistant Officer to enquire if permission would be granted to plant a tree in the grounds of St Peters Church, Blaina.

#### b) **Christmas events:**

Members requested for item to be re-agenda at previous meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding the possibility of the four local Primary Schools taking part in the annual Christmas Carol Concerts. As it was still half term, there was not a response from the schools to date however, it would seem to be very unlikely due to the increase in Covid cases in the area.

Members also suggested that if schools could be contacted to see if Town Council could donate selection packs for each child within the four local Primary Schools and to establish a good time for delivery.

A discussion ensued regarding a Santa Sleigh, and it was confirmed that was not an option this year due to having no support from Gwent Police regarding road closures and an escort.

**Resolved** to note the information received and **Further Resolved** for the Assistant Office to contact local school to ascertain if selections packs could be received and to source a suitable date for delivery.

**c) Planters:**

Chair would like members to discuss the possibly of purchasing larger planters

a) Quotes for larger planters provided by Chair

Firstly, Chair announced that all 8 conifers have now been stolen from the planters in the area and asked if Cllr Williams could put an article in the press and if a mention of the theft be put on BGFM radio station.

Chair explained that he had received a company name that Brynmawr Partnership had used to purchase their large planters, but he had not successful in finding the company on the internet. Cllr Hillman offered to speak with Cllr Hodgins (of Brynmawr Town Partnership) to find out the details.

Chair also confirmed that he had been speaking to a local carpenter, David Seal who has offered to make planters for Town Council. Cllr Harris explained that Mr Seal only uses up cycled materials that were going to landfill, Mr Seal would vanish or paint planters, fix planters by screwing them to either floor or next to the item to the side.

Chair and Cllr Hillman would go and look at items that has already been made and placed by Mr Seal and would report back at next meeting.

**Resolved** to note the information received and **Further resolved** for Cllr Hillman to speak with Cllr Hodgins to ascertain the company name of planters. **Additionally Resolved** that Chair & Cllr Hillman would visit areas to view planters made by Mr Seal.

**Meeting declared closed at 14:10**

Item no. 4

# 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 via a remote meeting at 2.10pm on  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

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

**Present:** Councillor D Hillman, Town Mayor, presiding  
Councillors G Morvan; C Hillman; K Jenkins; L Harris & K Jones JP

**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 no members of the public nor press were in attendance. **Resolved** to note the information received.

### **Declaration of Interest**

Members are 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 Councillors L Emanuel & M Williams (who might join the meeting later due to work commitments). **Further Resolved** to accept the apologies received.

### **2. Town Mayor's Communications:**

The Town Mayor's communications for October 2021.

The Town Mayor informed that both he and the Mayoress, Councillor Carole Hillman had recently attended Brynmawr outdoor market to raise funds for the Mayor's Appeal but that it had been a quiet day due to the cold weather. The Town Mayor also informed that his Civic Sunday service took place on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at St Peter's Church, Blaina which was attended by Members, family friends, the Lord Lieutenant of Gwent and the High Sherriff of Gwent and his wife. The Town Mayor added that the event was thoroughly enjoyable and a great success and he thanked all Members for attending and helping with the event.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (pages 56 – 62)**  
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:
- p.58 should read 'to' not 'top'.
- p.60 should read 'would not be comparable'.
- p.60 (9b) Councillor D Hillman informed that he would continue to query points with the IRPW on behalf of Nantyglo and Blaina.
- Resolved** that the minutes be approved.
4. **Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (pages 63 - 66)**  
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:
- p.65 (4) Councillor D Hillman informed that the video application submitted by the Town Council was not shown in full due to a 'glitch'.
- Resolved** that the minutes be approved.
5. **Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021 (pages 67 - 69)**  
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:
- p.68 (3) should read 'adverse possession'.
- p.68 (4) The Town Clerk informed that the resolution should read 'no objections be made but a representation be made in respect of the applicant being a Member of Parliament for Blaenau Gwent.
- Resolved** that the minutes be approved.
6. **Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021 (pages 70 – 75)**  
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:
- p. 71 – Minutes were numbered incorrectly – p.71 should read p.70 etc – minute book to be amended.
- p.71 – should read 'Assistant Officer'.
- p.72 (2aii) – clarification re: resolution – Councillor D Hillman was not a member of OVW.

p.72 (2dii) – it was confirmed that there had not been any response from other Town Councils for meeting. Councillor D Hillman informed that old paperwork evidenced Blaina as a town centre within Blaenau Gwent and that he would make this point at the forthcoming liaison meeting with Blaenau Gwent CBC.

p.73 (3) – there was a need to query if there was a policy regarding attendance allowance for Town Councillors with OVW.

p.74 (6 & 7) – resolution should read 'that reports be approved'.

**Resolved** that the minutes be approved and **Further Resolved** that the Town Clerk query policies regarding Attendance Allowance with Once Voice Wales.

## 7. 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) Older People's Commissioner for Wales (for information)  
Taking Action Against Ageism Training for Stake Holders.

It was noted that the information was in Welsh only.

**Resolved** that the English version of the e-mail be sent to all Members.

- b) Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council – (For information):  
Patients Voice News Bulletin.  
Councillor Morvan stated that the bulletin item regarding staff at the Grange contradicted well documented concerns regarding safety and staff shortages. Councillors D & C Hillman stated that they too had made similar comments at a meeting of the Community Health Council.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

- c) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board – (for information)  
Spotlight On – Children's Healthcare Services.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

- i) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board - Blaenau Gwent - Integrated Wellbeing Network (for information):

Minutes of the IWN Collaboration Meeting.

It was commented that there didn't appear to be any hub set up for the Nantyglo and Blaina area and that it would also be beneficial for the Town Council to be involved.

**Resolved** to note the information received and **Further Resolved** to request that Councillor D Hillman be invited to the next IWN meeting in December.

- ii) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board- Email (for information)  
Virtual Coffee Morning and resources on health/wellbeing.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

- iii) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board- Email (for information)  
Vaccination Updates – Weekly Progress 11<sup>th</sup> Oct – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

- d) One Voice Wales – (for information)  
Model Local Resolution Protocol for Community and Town Councils.

Councillor Morvan stated that the amended policy was very similar to the protocol already adopted by the Council.

**Resolved** that the amended Model Local Resolution Protocol for Community & Town Councils be adopted by the Council.

- i) One Voice Wales – (for information)  
Remote Training sessions taking place in October 2021.

**Resolved** to distribute the training dates for November 2021.

- e) Melo – (for information)  
October Newsletter.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

*Additional correspondence received with permission of the Chair:*

- f) Gavo (for information):

E-mail re: Thriving & surviving – Dealing with life after cancer.

**Resolved** to note the information received **Further Resolved** to send the information to all Members.

## 8. **Town Council Vacancies:**

Members were invited to consider the attached application received in respect of a previously advertised vacancy in the Blaina Ward for co-option to the Town Council:

Members were reminded of the Council's Standing orders in respect of co-option.

- Kevin Rowland.

The Town Clerk informed that of the 8 ballot papers sent to Members a total of 7 had been received.

**Resolved unanimously** that Kevin Rowland be co-opted as a Member of the Town Council for the Blaina Ward.

## 9. **Application to the Community Grant Fund:**

Members were invited to consider the listed application(s). Members were also reminded that applications would need to be considered in conjunction with the current policy.

None received to date.

**Resolved** accordingly.



**10. Licensing Applications:**

Members were invited to consider the listed application(s).

- a) Applicant: Alun Lewis 12 Clos Gwaith Der, Ebbw Vale, Gwent  
Details of application: Application for temporary events notice for sale of alcohol for 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021 (Licencing Act 2003)  
Premises: Blaina Cricket Club, The Pavilion, Central Park, Blaina.

**Resolved** that no comments or objections be made.

**11. Members Updates:**

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

None received.

Meeting declared closed at 2.55pm

Date of next meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

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## **Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee Meeting held via a remote Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 1.00pm**

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

**Present:** Councillor D Hillman, Acting Chair of Planning & Highways Committee, presiding  
Councillors G Morvan, M Williams, D Hillman, K. Jenkins, C. Hillman, L Harris &  
K Rowland

**In attendance:** Mrs T Hughes – Town Clerk / RFO

Due to the absence of the Chair of the Planning & Highways Committee, it was **Proposed and Resolved** that Councillor D Hillman chair the meeting.

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

The Acting Chair welcomed and introduced Councillor Kevin Rowland to his first meeting of the Council as a co-opted Member for the Blaina Ward.

### **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 of interest must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that no such declarations were received.

#### **1. Apologies for absence:**

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

**Resolved** to note that apologies were received in respect of Councillors L Emanuel; K Jones JP and Mrs N Horner, Assistant Officer.

**Further Resolved** to accept the apologies received.

#### **2. Correspondence:**

Members are 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.

3) **Email:** from One Voice Wales – Regarding Gwent Valleys Area Committee – Presentation. *(For information)*.

In response to a query, Councillor Morvan agreed to query possible available funding at the next One Voice Wales Gwent Valleys Area Meeting.

In response to a comment made regarding litter not being collected by Blaenau Gwent CBC, it was stated that when Councillor Morvan and his grandson undertook routine litter picking within Nantyglo and Blaina it was often noticed that litter would re-appear within half an hour of an area being cleaned. It appeared that litter was the result of too many individuals and not because Blaenau Gwent CBC was not litter picking etc on a regular basis.

Councillor D Hillman congratulated Councillor Morvan and his grandson again on their efforts on regular litter picking within the community.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

b) **Email:** from One Voice Wales – COP Cymru 2021 – Tool kit for stakeholders (For information).

**Resolved** to note the information received.

c) **Email:** from Veronika Brannovic TCBC – Climate Ambassadors for an opportunity to be involved in supporting climate change. *(For information)*.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

d) **Email:** from Rafi Abbas – Offer for *Crocus Bulbs* *(For information)*.

In response to a query, it was agreed that the Town Clerk check if the bulbs were offered free of charge and if so, to accept to be planted for the benefit of the local community.

**Resolved** to query if the bulbs were offered free of charge and **Further Resolved** to accept the bulbs if free of charge.

3. **Planning Applications:**

Members are invited to consider any further applications that may be received prior to the date of the meeting.

Planning Application No: C/2021/0305 – 51 Part Street, Blaina, Gwent, NP13 3EE.

Two storey extension at rear of dwelling.

In response to a query the Town Clerk confirmed that planning regulations and building control no longer required a corridor or similar separating a toilet from a kitchen. It was also noted that similar extensions had already been erected nearby.

**Resolved** that no representations or objections be made.

**4. Licence Applications:**

Members are invited to consider the application(s):

None received to date.

**Meeting declared closed at 13:25**

86 (21/22)

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

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Tel: 01495 292817 e-mail: [clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk)

## Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held via a remote meeting at 1.25pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

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

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

In attendance: Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk / RFO

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

Councillor Morvan took the opportunity to welcome Councillor K Rowland to the Council.  
Councillor Rowland stated that he would do his best to serve the local community.

### 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 no such declarations were received.

### 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 L Emanuel; K Jones JP and Mrs N Horner, Assistant Officer.

**Further 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)

Remote Training Sessions for November & December 2021.

Councillor Jenkins informed of his interest in attending training and it was requested that he e-mail the Town Clerk with details of the modules and dates he would like to attend.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

b) Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council – (for information):

Poster informing of Global Entrepreneurship Week 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

c) Janette Knapp– (for information):

E-mail confirming safe receipt of recent grant donation and thanks to the Council.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

d) Gwent Integrated Well-being Networks – (for information):

Newsletter – November 2021.

Both Councillors Morvan and C Hillman had previously attended the mental health training offered and would recommend the training to others and that advanced mental health training would be welcomed. Councillor D Hillman informed that many more applications had been received in respect of the participatory budgeting than had been successful.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

*Additional correspondence received with permission of the Chair:*

e) One Voice Wales – (for information):

E-mail re: Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 – concerns regarding cost and practicalities of implementing multi-location meetings. Members were informed that the Town Clerk had completed the survey on behalf of the Council.

A member requested a copy of the completed survey, The Town Clerk informed that the survey had been completed electronically but would enquire if a copy could be made available.

The Town Clerk also informed that Orbits IT had inspected the chamber with a view to enabling hybrid meetings to take place although the information regarding options and prices had not yet been received. Members agreed that this needed to be resolved as soon as possible.

**Resolved** to note the information received. **Further Resolved** to enquire if a copy of the completed survey could be made available and **Additionally Resolved** to contact Orbits IT to query about the options and prices regarding 'hybrid' meetings.

f) Welsh Government – (for information):

E-mail letter regarding consultation into second homes.

It was agreed that this e-mail would be sent to Members.

**Resolved** to note this information received and **Further Resolved** to send a copy of the e-mail to Members.

### 3. **Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales:**

Members were invited to consider the attached report in respect of additional determinations contained within the IRPW's annual report and if appropriate make any comments.

The Chair informed that as per the Internal Auditor's advice, Council was required to resolve the three determinations listed below:

- Determination 45: **Resolved** that the Council would pay travel costs claimed in accordance with the rates and conditions contained within the IRPW report.
- Determination 46: **Resolved** that the Council would re-imburse subsistence payments claimed in accordance with the rates and conditions contained within the IRPW report.
- Determination 47: **Resolved** that the Council would pay financial loss payments claimed in accordance with the rates and conditions contained within the IRPW report.
- Determination 41: **Resolved** for information only, no decision was required by Council.

### 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 November 2021.

In response to a query the Town Clerk informed that it had been requested that Blaenau Gwent Foodbank publicise the donations made by the Town Council as per the terms and conditions of the grant policy.

**Resolved** that a donation of £200 be made to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank in respect of residents from Nantyglo and Blaina for the month of November 2021.

### 5. **Counter signatory to Bank Accounts:**

Following the recent resignations etc of a number of Members, current Members were requested to consider and approve a Member as an additional counter signatory for the Town Council's bank accounts. This was to ensure adherence to the Council's standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

The Chair informed that the Council currently had two counter signatories but required three counter signatories for bank accounts.

Councillor Keith Jenkins was **Proposed, Seconded** and **Resolved** as an additional counter signatory in respect of the Council's bank accounts.

### 6. **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 would need to be considered in conjunction with the current policy.

a) **Brynmawr Rotary:**

Members considered the application and the following comments were made:

- Not all sections of the application form were completed although the information was contained within the accompanying e-mail.
- In response to a comment to reject the application on the basis that the Rotary had adequate finance to fund the initiative and that the Town Council provide assistance to the local Foodbank it was commented that it would appear petty to reject the application as it would specifically assist local residents at Christmas time.
- The maximum amount the Council could donate (as per the Council's Grants Policy) was £100.

**Resolved** that a financial donation of £100 be made and **Further Resolved** to request information regarding the number of people the initiative assisted in Nantyglo and Blaina in 2020 and 2021.

7. **Salem Chapel:**

Members were invited to consider the attached inspection report:

- October 2021:

Queries / comments were invited:

In response to a query the Town Clerk informed that the building was generally deteriorating but there were no obvious additional changes to the untrained eye.

**Resolved** that the report be approved.

8. **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). **Resolved** that the motion be approved.



**Tracy**

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**From:** Latham, Christopher <Christopher.Latham@gwent.police.uk>  
**Sent:** 10 November 2021 15:40  
**To:** Latham, Christopher  
**Subject:** Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner - council tax precept engagement  
**Attachments:** Blaenau Gwent ENG.jpg; Blaenau Gwent Welsh.jpg

Good afternoon all.

We are currently engaging with residents in Gwent on the police council tax precept for 2022/23, as well as asking some other questions about residents' experiences with Gwent Police.

I have some draft copy below and some social media tiles attached – if you can share on your channels and ask your members to do the same, and encourage people to take part, that would be great.

Thanks as always for your support!

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent, Jeff Cuthbert, is asking residents to have their say on policing in Gwent.

To have your say visit <https://budget22-23.questionpro.com>

Mae Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throsedd Gwent, Jeff Cuthbert, yn gofyn i drigolion leisio eu barn ar blismona yng Ngwent.

I rannu eich barn, ewch i: <https://budget22-23.questionpro.com>

**Chris Latham**

**Swyddog Cyfathrebu ac Ymgysylltu / Communication & Engagement Officer**

Ffôn / Tel: 07970005133

Swyddfa Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throsedd Gwent / Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent  
Pencadlys yr Heddlu / Police Headquarters, Croesyceiliog, Cwmbran, NP44 2XJ.

Ewch i'n gwefan am fwy o wybodaeth: [www.gwent.pcc.police.uk](http://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk)  
Visit our website for more information: [www.gwent.pcc.police.uk](http://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\* Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a byddwn yn ateb yn y Gymraeg. Os hoffech dderbyn gohebiaeth o hyn ymlaen yn y Gymraeg neu os ydych wedi cael eich gwahodd i gyfweiliad neu gyfarfod a hoffwch ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg, danfonwch e-bost at: [cymraeg@gwent.police.uk](mailto:cymraeg@gwent.police.uk). Darperir gwasanaethau cyfieithu. We welcome correspondence in Welsh and will reply in Welsh. If you would like to receive future correspondence in Welsh or if you have been invited to an interview or meeting and would like to use the Welsh Language, please email: [welsh@gwent.police.uk](mailto:welsh@gwent.police.uk). Translation services are available. Heddlu Gwent. Mae'r wybodaeth yn yr ohebiaeth

COMISIYNYDD YR  
HEDDLU A THROSEDD

# GWENT

POLICE AND CRIME  
COMMISSIONER

Have your say on  
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Blaenau Gwent

[www.gwent.pcc.police.uk](http://www.gwent.pcc.police.uk)





HEDDLU  
GWENT  
POLICE

DANGOS Y  
DRWS I DROSEDD



WE DON'T  
BUY CRIME

*Hem no Tacii*

We Don't Buy Crime Department  
Gwent Police

NANTYGLO & BLAINA

November 2021

- 8 NOV 2021

TOWN COUNCIL

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you as clerk of your Community Council to invite you to work with us to address acquisitive crime within your locality.

We understand the impact that acquisitive crime, including burglary and theft, can have and we are committed to protecting our communities against these crimes.

Please find attached an information leaflet detailing some of the work of the **We Don't Buy Crime** Team, our acquisitive crime taskforce, and how we hope to work with you in the near future to continue this work through our **Safer Neighbourhoods** strategy.

We are happy to arrange a presentation to you and your community council members to provide further information about the scheme and answer any queries you may have.

To arrange this, please contact the team at [wedontbuycrime@gwent.police.uk](mailto:wedontbuycrime@gwent.police.uk)

Kind regards,

Inspector Hannah Lawton

We Don't Buy Crime Lead  
Gwent Police



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POLICE





**WE DON'T  
BUY CRIME**



**HEDDLU  
GWENT  
POLICE**

# **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS**



COMISIYNYDD YR  
HEDDLU A THROSEDD

POLICE AND CRIME  
COMMISSIONER



**@GP\_WDBC**

**[www.gwent.police.uk](http://www.gwent.police.uk)**

Trowch drosodd am fersiwn Cymraeg.

2015\_62

## INFORMATION



**We Don't Buy Crime** is a new department within Gwent Police tackling acquisitive crime throughout the Local Authority areas of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen, with the support of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

We are aware that acquisitive crimes - those in which the offender receives a material gain - including burglary, robbery and theft harm our communities. A person's home and possessions often carry an emotional attachment and when crime interferes with this, it can have a long-lasting impact on its victims. Gwent Police are committed to protecting people from these crimes.

**We Don't Buy Crime** demonstrates this commitment by taking an innovative approach to reducing and disrupting the market for stolen goods, whilst protecting your home and possessions by making them less attractive to the would-be criminal.

We work with second hand retailers and have developed processes to ensure traders adopt best practice, whilst working with our local policing teams to identify stolen goods, identify offenders and make it harder for them to benefit from crime.

Information about these dealers is recorded on a unique portal which assists in identifying which dealers are at more risk of receiving stolen property.

A key function of the portal allows officers to send stolen property email alerts to stores across the force area, allowing us to work more efficiently and effectively to protect our communities.

We also have a number of assets which we deploy as "capture"

vehicles and items across the force; this has proved an extremely successful tactic in identifying offenders and securing convictions against them.

We have formed partnerships with local businesses and communities with a common goal of reducing crime. We work closely with our Neighbourhood Policing Teams and SmartWater to make use of the latest technologies to fight crime, by ensuring that property in homes is marked appropriately and that signage is displayed accordingly.

By working with partners, we are looking to property mark as many households as possible to create **We Don't Buy Crime Safer Neighbourhoods**, to significantly reduce the risk of burglary and theft across communities.

As a community council, we invite you to join us in this approach.



## WHY USE SMARTWATER TO PROTECT HOMES AND POSSESSIONS?

This approach is supported by a variety of academic research. For example, when interviewing burglars about the best deterrent, SmartWater outscored all other forms of crime deterrent.

SECURITY MEASURE	SCORE OUT OF 10
SmartWater	8.3
High visibility police patrols	7.4
Ink-dye tags	7.2
Access control systems	6.9
Window Grills	6.7
CCTV	6.2
Burglar/Intruder alarms	6.0
Cased merchandise	5.9
Electronic tagging	5.0
Security guards/Store detectives	4.9
Property marking	4.8
Mirrors	3.9
Perimeter fencing	3.8

The above highlights the impact that marking property with SmartWater can have.

All officers and second-hand retailers within Gwent are provided with a UV torch to detect the presence of SmartWater, using it when searching suspects and property and also when goods are brought in for sale.



## WHAT IS SMARTWATER?

SmartWater is a water based solution which contains a unique forensic code.

Each pack contains its own individual forensic signature; by marking property with SmartWater, if an item is stolen it is more likely that we can trace that item back to its rightful owner.

This also helps to link offenders to a crime, with a 100% conviction rate in court cases where SmartWater is used as evidence.

SmartWater is extremely effective as a deterrent to criminals; research shows that 74% of acquisitive crime offenders would not break into a property with a SmartWater sign on display.



## WHAT IS A WE DON'T BUY CRIME SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD?

**We Don't Buy Crime Safer Neighbourhoods** are towns and villages where every resident has the opportunity to mark their possessions free of charge with SmartWater. This is supported by deterrent street signage (large warning signs at the key entry and exit routes and smaller repeater signage throughout the area).

The purpose of this is to let any would-be criminal know that if they commit crime, they are more likely to get caught and less likely to profit from their criminality, due to the wider work also being completed.



## DOES THIS PARTICULAR APPROACH WORK?

The We Don't Buy Crime approach originated in the West Mercia Police area where, since the inception of the scheme five years ago, they have recorded:

- a reduction in burglary by between 30 – 50%
- a significant reduction in both robbery and other criminal offences
- analysis evidenced that crime was not displaced and that a diffusion of benefits was found up to 750M from the areas using SmartWater
- a survey sent 6 months after distribution found more than half of respondents reporting feeling safer as a result of their property being treated with SmartWater.

We believe that by creating **We Don't Buy Crime Safer Neighbourhoods**, we will be able to significantly reduce not only acquisitive crime but also the fear of crime. This can only be made possible by working in partnership with local people and community councils.



# POTENTIAL COST OF PROPERTY MARKING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The cost involved in implementing this scheme includes the property marking kits (offered at a reduced rate agreed as part of 'We Don't Buy Crime' at £9.95) and the associated signage.

Based on our previous experience we would recommend that those interested in adopting this initiative make their cost prediction on approximately 75% of the homes in the area will be marked.

The work being completed by the We Don't Buy Crime department across the force area provides support for this approach; from our work with second-hand retailers, the checks our officers are making in relation to SmartWater, our work with partners, victims and businesses, to the analytical capabilities of the team and daily review of all acquisitive crime across the force area; we provide a collaborative and holistic approach to tackling these types of crime.

We will fund the cost of the metal deterrent signage throughout the Safer Neighbourhood area and also assist you in coordinating the implementation of the scheme, providing resources to do this.

We strongly believe that by preventing crime from happening in the first place, we can reduce the distress, concern and impact caused. By working together, we can continue to make our communities and neighbourhoods safer.

To become a **We Don't Buy Crime Safer Neighbourhood** or for more information, please contact us at, **WeDontBuyCrime@gwent.police.uk**







Hem 76

CIC Aneurin Bevan  
Ty Raglan  
Parc Busnes Llantarnam  
Cwmbran NP44 3AB

Aneurin Bevan CHC  
Raglan House  
Llantarnam Business Park  
Cwmbran NP44 3AB

## **MEETING OF ANEURIN BEVAN COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL**

An Executive Meeting of Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council will take place at 10.30 am, via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council is a statutory organisation representing the public who use the National Health Service. Our meetings are open to the public and local people are invited to attend. There will be an opportunity for people to raise issues of concern directly.

Members of the public also have the right to inspect or be given copies of agenda papers which are available at the meeting. If you would like to receive a copy of the papers in English or Welsh prior to the meeting or if you would like to attend and require simultaneous Welsh translation, please contact the address below within 7 days of the meeting.

If you would like to know more about our work, please contact us at:

Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council  
Raglan House  
Llantarnam Business Park  
Cwmbran  
NP44 3AB

Tel: 01633 838516

Email: [Enquiries.AneurinBevanCHC@waleschc.org.uk](mailto:Enquiries.AneurinBevanCHC@waleschc.org.uk)

**Jemma McHale**  
**Chief Officer**

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**Cadeirydd / Chair:** Alan Davies

**Prif Swyddog / Chief Officer:** Jemma McHale

**E-bost / E-mail:** [enquiries.aneurinbevanchc@waleschc.org.uk](mailto:enquiries.aneurinbevanchc@waleschc.org.uk)

**FFÔN/Tel:** 01633 838516

# Hoffech chi / Would you like to...

- Ddysgu mwy am golli pwysau mewn ffordd iachus / Learn more about a healthy way to lose weight
- Dod yn fwy gweithgar / Become more active
- Cael cefnogaeth a syndiau i helpu newid eich arferion bwyta / Get support and ideas to help change your eating habits

Os ydych, dylech ymuno / Then why not join...

## Bwyd Doeth am Oes Foodwise for Life



Rhaglen 8 wythnos i helpu chi rheoli eich pwysau mewn ffordd iachus /  
An 8 week programme to help you manage your weight the healthy way

Sesynau hwylus a chyfeillgar sy'n cynnwys amrywiaeth o bynciau  
defynyddiol i'ch cefnogi a'ch annog / Fun and friendly sessions which cover  
a range of useful topics to support and encourage you.

- Maint dognau / Portion sizes
- Symud mwy! / Moving more!
- Ymdopi gyda llwygfa a blys  
Dealing with hunger & craving

- Labeli bwyd / Food Labels
- Goresgyn rhwystrau / Overcoming barriers
- Gwell addasu nag aberthu!  
Swop it don't stop it!

If you would like to take part in the programme please  
follow the below link to complete a referral form.  
**Weight Management Service - Aneurin Bevan University  
Health Board (nhs.wales)**

You can also speak with the ABUHB Healthy Weight  
Team for more details: 0300 303 5759



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Nutrition Skills for Life™



Sgiliau Maeth am Oes

# Looking After Me & You - Carers Course

24m no. 7ccij



## Free Carers Course February 2022

**Are you interested in joining a virtual group for a 6 week course  
to support you in your caring role?  
All from the comfort of your own home on Zoom**

### **Forthcoming Virtual Courses:**

**Looking After Me & You**

**Every Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February till 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 10.30am**

Currently all our courses are being delivered virtually, until we can return to community centres. All EPP courses are led by trained tutors, who live with a health condition or care for someone with a health condition. **For more info or to book a place on a course, contact**



Find us on Facebook to keep up-to-date with new courses etc.

Search: **education programme for patients** or @EPPGWENT on Twitter



## Tracy

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**From:** Tracy Gilmartin <tgilmartin@onevoicewales.wales>  
**Sent:** 03 November 2021 11:10  
**To:** Tracy Gilmartin  
**Subject:** FW: Welsh Government defibrillator fund - opportunities for SaLC Partners  
  
**Importance:** High

For your information and attention / Er eich gwybodaeth a'ch sylw

**From:** Danielle Walsh (NHS Wales Health Collaborative) <[Danielle.Walsh@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Danielle.Walsh@wales.nhs.uk)>  
**Sent:** 25 October 2021 16:05  
**To: Subject:** Welsh Government defibrillator fund - opportunities for SaLC Partners  
**Importance:** High

**Sent on behalf of Glenda Davies, SaLC Communication Manager:**

Recently the Welsh Government announced an additional £500k funding to improve public access to defibrillators and consequently survival rates from Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest.

The money has been allocated to the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WAST) to purchase the defibrillators and they are to be distributed to community groups in conjunction with Save a Life Cymru.

*To receive one of these defibrillators the applicant must agree and confirm to fulfil the following criteria:*

- 1) identify, with rationale, the best place to site a defibrillator (there currently should not be a defibrillator within 500m of the proposed site)
- 2) have purchased or fundraised for a heated defibrillator cabinet and it has been installed on an external wall in an area which is accessible 24/7
- 3) have an electricity supply so that the defibrillator is maintained at the right temperature, to prevent the battery and pads from deteriorating
- 4) ensure the defibrillator will be available for public use 24/7
- 5) register the defibrillator on The Circuit database
- 6) appoint a defibrillator guardian (to ensure regular maintenance)
- 7) have a backup guardian to cover absence
- 8) ensure they hold CPR and defibrillation awareness sessions for individuals involved in the organisation/group

We believe that SaLC Partners can provide that much needed support to applicants who are looking to source heated defibrillator cabinets and providing CPR /defibrillation training for their communities.

We are asking for your support to share this information with any community groups you have a relationship with and to share our posts on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

The application process is simple and can be accessed on [www.gov.wales/save-a-life-cymru](http://www.gov.wales/save-a-life-cymru)

**Ar ran Glenda Davies, Rheolwr Cyfathrebu Achub Bywyd Cymru:**

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

Mrs T Hughes - Town Clerk/RFO

Council Offices, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina NP13 3BN

Swyddfa'r r Cyngor, Y Stryd Fawr, Blaenau NP13 3BN Tel: 01495 292817

e-mail: [clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk)

## **Mayoral Expenditure Budget - November 2021**

### **Introduction:**

Members will be aware of the discussions regarding the Mayoral Expenditure Budget at the recent Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### **Report:**

Members will recall considering the request to increase the Mayoral Expenditure Budget from £400 pa to £600 pa (an annual increase of £200) and are advised of the following:

- In discussing the proposal Members were concerned if the current & / or future Mayors need to declare an interest. Enquiries to Blaenau Gwent CBC's Monitoring Officer has stated that there is no need for any Member to declare an interest in this item.
- Members acknowledged that the Mayoral Expenditure Budget is no longer adequate due to the increased costs, particularly for the food/catering sector.
- Members are informed that Mayoral duties have resumed following the easing of Covid 19 restrictions and following the provision of Mayoral Expenditure for both the Annual Meeting of the Council and Civic Sunday, the existing budget of £400 pa is not adequate.
- As at November 2021, the existing Mayoral Expenditure Budget has now been fully utilised. Furthermore, there is no budget available for any additional Mayoral events, if required.
- The current underspend reported as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 provides adequate reserves for the proposed increase in the Mayoral Expenditure budget.
- It is recommended that the proposed increase of £200 be funded from the General Reserve account.
- Members are advised to note that the Mayoral Expenditure Budget is allocated for the position and is not a personal budget, hence the reason as to

why there is no requirement for any present or future Mayor to declare an interest.

- To avoid issues of conflicts of interest, it is not recommended that any amount be claimed retrospectively from this budget.
- To comply fully with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations it is not recommended that Standing Orders be suspended when considering financial matters.
- Members are informed that advice from both the Councils' Internal Auditor and the Monitoring Officer at Blaenau Gwent CBC has been sought.

**Recommendation:**

That Members consider the report and approve that the Mayoral Expenditure Budget increase by £200 from £400pa to £600pa. It is additionally advised that the increase of £200 as outlined be funded by the General Reserves.

Tracy Hughes  
Town Clerk /RFO  
November 2021