

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs V Williams Town Clerk/RFO

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

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

Tel: 01495 292817

e-mail: clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk

Dear Member,

You are summoned to attend a hybrid meeting of the Town Council to be held at **5:30pm on Tuesday 28th July 2026** at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.

If any member of the public wishes to attend the meeting, please contact the Town Clerk at the above e-mail by 3pm on 28th July 2026 for details of how to access the meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Town Clerk

AGENDA

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

To receive: David Leech, Deputy Chief Executive, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council with an update on The Deal.

- 1. Members were to receive the presentation – Please see copies of the presentation attached.**
- 2. Questions were to be invited at the end of the presentation.**
- 3. Members were requested to ask only one question each – if time allows AND with permission of the Chair, a second question may be asked.**
- 4. Members were reminded that there was to be no discussion or exchange of points of view between Members and that all dialogue was to be directed through the Chair.**

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.

1. Apologies:

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

2. Town Mayor's Communications:

The Town Mayor's communications for July 2026.

3. Questions from the Public:

To receive any questions from the public regarding matters on the agenda (please note this is limited to 10 minutes).

4. Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held 30th June 2026 (pages 16 – 23):

Members are 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:

5. Minutes of the Events Committee held 30th June 2026 (pages 24 - 25):

Members are 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:

6. Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee held 14th July 2026 (pages 26 – 30):

Members are 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:

7. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held 14th July 2026 (pages 31 – 34)

Members are 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:

8. Correspondence

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

a) Rafi Abbas re: Community Positivity (copy attached – for information/consideration):

Email from Rafi Abbas.

9. Application to the Community Grant Fund:

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

No applications were received to this date.

10. Members Updates:

Members are invited to inform and provide updates in respect of any recent activities and/or concerns.

11. Task & Finish Group Update:

Follow on for any business that may arise from the Task & Finish group from the 24th July 2026.

Item 4

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs V Williams Town Clerk/RFO

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Minutes of the hybrid Meeting of the Town Council held at 6:00pm Tuesday 30th June 2026 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 JP, Town Mayor, presiding
Councillors G Morvan(r); D Hillman; C Hillman; D Wright; A Fryer; M Williams(r); L Emanuel;
L Higgins; M Evans & S Howlett

In attendance: V Williams Town Clerk/RFO
Mr K Rowland, Assistant Officer

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chair informed of the procedures to be taken in the event of an emergency. **Resolved** to note the information received.

The Chair took time to explain the postponement of this meeting originally scheduled for the 23rd June 2026. Due to the death of a local resident, the meeting was postponed out of respect to the tragic circumstances and one minutes silence was held to pay tribute to her. Cllr Higgins stated they were disappointed that so few Councillors were able to attend St. Peters to speak with those affected and hoped they would be available for the last opening.

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.

1. Apologies:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence received and to formally resolve to accept. **Resolved** to note apologies received from

2. Town Mayor's Communications:

The Town Mayor gave an update regarding the month of June.

The Town Mayor stated that they had conducted an interview with BBC Wales News to pay tribute to the young girl who had passed away and gave condolences on behalf of Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council.

The Town Mayor also mentioned they had visited Blaina Library and was impressed with how community driven it is and the options that it provides to residents such as BGCBC contacts and advice for youth employment.

Resolved to note the information received.

3. Questions from the Public:

To receive any questions from the public regarding matters on the agenda (please note this is limited to 10 minutes).

No questions from the public were received.

Resolved accordingly

4. Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held 28th April 2026 (pages 165 - 169):

Members are 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 167 Item 9b) – Members requested a letter of thanks be sent to Ms A Edwards and Tredegar Town Council for their assistance in helping with the Internal and External Audits.

Page 168 Item 12 – Standing Orders to be updated that mobile phones and recording devices should not be allowed in a meeting unless responsibly needed for the meeting by members.

Resolved that the minutes be approved

5. Minutes of the Events Committee held 28th April 2026 (pages 170 - 172):

Members are 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 170 – Present: Should read 'Vice Chair Presiding' not Chair presiding.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

6. Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee held 12th May 2026 (pages 173 – 175):

Members are 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.

7. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held 12th May 2026 (pages 176 – 180)

Members are 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 177 Item 3d) - Member enquired about contacting an electrician to add outlet at St Peters Church for Xmas lights. It was mentioned NBTC contractor R Dunham was to explain what was needed so that it could be costed appropriately.

Page 179 Item 7 – The Chair of Finance and General Purposes gave an update regarding the meeting held 25th June at Brynmawr Town Council. Member stated that all present were unified in and that losing so many Councillors would be a detriment to residents of all Town/Community Council areas. The member had received an email from the Town Clerk of Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council to say an error had been made due to decisions being made when it had been expressed there should not have been but the member was clear no decisions had been made, only to send a letter to the Leader of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. A meeting with the 5 Assembly Members would also potentially be desired.

A member also stated that other members of N&BTC should be more present at events throughout the area.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

8. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council held 26th May (pages 1 - 6):

Members are 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 5 Item 13 – should read ‘Deputy Leader of the Council for 2026/27’.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

9. Minutes of the Task & Finish Group held 27th May 2026 (pages 7 – 8):

Members are 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:

Title should read 'Hybrid meeting of the Task and Finish Group'.

Page 8 Item 2. Members feel another Task and Finish group should be set up to start projects talked about during this meeting.

An update was enquired into the following:

Video: Member felt that the video was to be about youths in the local area and to highlight what they wanted, but others understood it was for the youths to contribute to its creation with an outside organisation and to highlight areas and groups in Nantyglo and Blaina.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

10. Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee held 9th June 2026 (pages 9 - 11):

Members are 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:

Pg 11. Red Lion: Members queried if local residents had been consulted/notified.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

11. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held 9th June 2026 (pages 12 – 17)

Members are 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:

Pg 14 Item 7. Members asked for clarity in regards to the recording of meetings. The Town Clerk and Assistant Officer stated that recordings will be available until the minutes have been resolved as being accurate and are subject to Freedom of Information.

Pg 15 Item 11a) Members queried the loan for Salem Chapel. The Town Clerk gave a figure which had been stated at a previous date and is likely to change depending on date. Members agreed to pay off the remaining loan for Salem Chapel.

Resolved that the minutes be approved and **Further Resolved** to pay off the remaining loan for Salem Chapel.

12. Correspondence

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

Additional correspondence received with permission from the chair:

a) Email from Alanna Russell, Business Support Officer, Environment & Regeneration - (copy attached – for information):

Response from BGCBC regarding the email from Amanda Lewis regarding the Cwm Farm development.

Resolved to note the information received

Additional correspondence received with permission of the chair:

b) Update regarding the meeting held at Brynmawr Town Council to discuss the Electorate Review – (copy attached – for information):

Councillor Hillman updated members. It had been a productive meeting, representation from each local council in Blaenau Gwent. All unanimous against the proposals of the Electorate Review and a letter had been sent to Blaenau Gwent CBC Leader to reflect this. Organising a meeting with the five members of the Sennedd for Blaenau Gwent was also discussed to highlight the local Council's concerns for the Electorate Review. An email was received from the Town Clerk of Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council over decisions being made as the meeting was to be 'informal' however Cllr Hillman stated that no decision had been made and was clear in the minutes sent from the Town Clerk of Brynmawr Town Council.

Resolved to note the information received.

13. Application to the Community Grant Fund:

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

Joanne Edwards, Ffrindiau'r Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg (application form attached):

Resolved to give a grant £100 to Ffrindiau'r Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg

14. Members Updates:

Members were invited to inform and provide updates in respect of any recent activities and/or concerns.

Members were disappointed that Blaenau Gwent Youth Service were unable to attend cleaning looking after planters and repotting them with fresh flowers as had been arranged but understood the situation with the organiser. Members who did attend were pleased with their progress and other members mentioned they looked lovely.

Resolved to note the information received.

15. Internal & External Audits for 2025/26

a) Report of the Internal Auditor for 2025/25 (copy attached):

Members are invited to consider the report submitted by Mr John Henry of JDH Business Services Ltd, Internal Auditor to the Town Council following the internal audit of Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council for the year end of March 31st 2026.

Actions resulting from the report;

- Use of Capital Receipts to repay the loan outstanding on Salem Chapel.
- VW highlighted the use of confidential items in meetings is limited, but not restricted to, 'Appointment, terms of service, conduct and dismissal of employees
Terms of tenders and negotiations for contracts to be entered into.
The early stages of any dispute and the preparation of cases in legal proceedings'
(SLCC -AN146 Council Meetings: Admission Of Public and Press)

VW also highlighted that the precept/budget should be included in future meetings where appropriate.

Resolved to note the information received.

b) Statutory Review of Internal Audit:

Members are invited to consider the report regarding the statutory review of the Internal Audit System of the Town Council. Members should also consider the overall performance of the Internal Auditor prior to 'signing off' the Annual Return (item 13c.v) below.

Members were happy with the audit company used and are happy to reappoint this internal auditor for the 2026-2027 financial year.

Resolved to note the information received.

c) Audit Wales (External Auditors) Annual Return for 2025/26 (copies attached):

Members are supplied with copies of other financial reports which are required by the external auditors for the purpose of the Annual Return and External Audit, to consider and if appropriate, to approve each report:

i. Cash Book Analysis.

Resolved to note the report be approved

ii. Balance Sheet as at March 2026.

Members expressed they would like confirmation what s.137 money was used for when issued.

Resolved to note the report be approved

iii. Bank Reconciliation as at 31st March 2026

Resolved to note

iv. Actual Against Budget Expenditure 2025/26

Members questioned why VAT expenditure included Christmas lights, selection boxes, planters and easter eggs.

Resolved to note the report be approved

v. Annual Return 2025/26 – Members are required to consider the Annual Return, and if appropriate, complete parts 1& 2 and approve the signature of the Town Mayor (Chair of the Council) on page 3.

Resolved to note the report be approved

16. **Annual Review of Policies of the Council 2025/26:**

Members are invited to consider, and if agree, to approve the updated policies for 2025/26.

a) Standing Orders 2025/26 (copy attached):

Addition of mobile phone policy to item1, page 4

“The use of mobile phones is restricted; all mobile phones should be silenced for the duration of the meeting unless specifically agreed by the Chair and should only be used as required to participate in the meeting.”

Resolved to note to approve the Standing Orders and **Further Resolved** to add the above to Item 1, pg 4 regarding mobile phones

b) Financial Regulations 2025/26 (copy attached):

Amend the word ‘Planning’ to ‘Purposes’ (item 3.1, page 6)

Amend the word ‘Off’ to ‘On’ (item 5.2, page 8)

Addition of ‘When acting in a responsible manner’ (item 15.5, page 20)

Resolved to approve the Financial Regulations and **Further Resolved** to make the amends listed above and **Further Resolved** to add the third point to item 15.5 on page 20.

c) Risk management Policy 2025/26 (copy attached):

Remove reference to Salem Chapel in the ‘Fire’ section (page 5)

Resolved to approve the Risk Management Policy 2025/26 and **Further Resolved** to amend the above point. On page 5.

d) *Financial Grant Policy and application form 2025/26 please note, financial amounts to be decided at meeting (copy attached):*

Members decided to update grant amounts to £200, £150, £100 and £50. These amounts have also been added to the ‘To be Considered For’ section (page 4).

Members would like proof from applicants’ grants have been used for the reason they have been applied for.

It was requested a large reusable cheque is acquired so this can be presented to successful grant applicants, to provide a more personal connection to the community when issuing grant monies.

Resolved to note to approve the Financial Grants Policy 2025/26 and **Further Resolved** to update the grant amounts to £200, £150, £100 and £50.

Meeting declared closed at 19:49 pm

Item 5

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs T Hughes Town Clerk/RFO

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Minutes of the hybrid Meeting of the Events Committee held at 19:50pm Tuesday 30th June 2026 at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.

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

Present: Councillor L Higgins, Town Mayor, presiding
Councillors G Morvan (r); D Hillman; C Hillman; D Wright; A Fryer; M Williams(r); L Emanuel;
K Jones JP; M Evans; & S Howlett

In attendance: V Williams , Town Clerk/RFO Mr K Rowland, Assistant Officer

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chair informed of the procedures to be taken in the event of an emergency. **Resolved** to note the information received.

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

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.

1. Apologies:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence received and to formally resolve to accept. **Resolved** to note apologies received from L Harris and D Finch.

2. Questions from the public:

To receive any questions from the public regarding matters on the agenda. Please note that this is limited to 10 minutes.

Resolved accordingly.

3. Correspondence:

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

a) Balsam Bashing (copy attached – for information):

Fortnightly conservation volunteering to remove the invasive plant, Himalayan balsam.

Resolved to note the information received.

b) Andrea Durban of Market Hall Cinema – (copy attached - for information):

Update regarding cinema ticket prices for the Summer Screenings funded by Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council.

Resolved to note the information received.

Additional correspondence received with permission of the chair:

c) Email from Sarah Powell regarding her sons visiting Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council for their work on planters in Blaina Square:

As a smaller meeting was preferable, Members decided that Councillors D & C Hillman, L Higgins, K Jones and G Morvan attend to give the boys a certificate and a £20 voucher each to commend them in their efforts for the local community. The date to propose to Ms Powell would be the 6th July at 11am.

Resolved to note information received and **Further Resolved** to contact Ms Powell to attend a smaller meeting on the 6th July at 11am and to obtain two vouchers worth £20 each.

d) Exhibition at Brynmawr Museum to mark Pac Nant Y Waun's 21st Anniversary:

Resolved to note information received.

At this juncture members suspended Standing Orders so that the meeting could continue past 8pm.

4. Play Sessions Delivery – Summer 2026

Members were invited to discuss providing extra Play Summer sessions for summer of 2026. Assistant Officer to provide an update.

It was proposed to fund the 5 play sessions at £1550 and to ask the organisers to hold these sessions at other locations so that no clashes with the sessions already planned for happen and that residents in different areas have more options.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** to fund an extra 5 sessions at the cost of £1550 providing other locations can be used to give residents better choice.

Meeting declared closed at 8:04pm.

Item 6

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs V Williams - Town Clerk/RFO

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Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee held on
Tuesday 14th July 2026 at 17:30pm (start time)
At the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.

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

Present: Cllr G Morvan, Leader of the Council, presiding of the presentation
Cllr K Jones JP, Chair of Planning & Highways Committee, presiding
Councillors L Harris, C Hillman, M Williams (remote), L Emanuel, M Evans, A Fryer, D Hillman, S Howlett, and D Finch.

In attendance: Mrs V Williams, Town Clerk/RFO
Mr K Rowland, Assistant Officer

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

To receive: Blaenau Gwent CBC Councillors L Winnett and J Morgan and Alun Watkins of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to give a presentation on upgrading Blaina Skate Park.

Councillor G Morvan, Leader of the Town Council chaired the presentation.

Members were reminded to note the Standing Orders relating to guest speakers:

1. Members received the presentation.
2. Questions were invited at the end of the presentation.
3. Members were requested to ask only one question each – if time allows AND with permission of the Chair, a second question may be asked.
4. Members were reminded that there was to be no discussion or exchange of points of view between Members and that all dialogue was to be directed through the Chair.

Mr Watkins began the presentation, stating that funding to refurbish the skatepark had been difficult to fund with a lack of capital. Currently looking to raise funds to obtain special contractors to upgrade the well used skatepark in Blaina. In other parks where refurbishment has happened and involved the children who frequent the park, a drop in antisocial behaviour was seen as the kids look after the area and any trouble makers were likely known by locals. Mr Watkins was hoping that Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council could contribute. If so, Mr Watkins was hoping to obtain match funding of around £20,000 to also help with the costs. Mr Watkins also mentioned 'The Deal' and how having community driven projects can invigorate and look after an area or project. A scheme was also mentioned 'Section 106 Community Infrastructure Levy where new houses built in a specific ward contribute £3000 so that new amenities can be built or maintained to accommodate the new housing.

Councillor Winnett stated that Tai Calon were match funding the contributions L Winnett and J Morgan had put in, £10,000 each so they were up to £40,000. Cllr Winnett also thank Members for cancelling the previous meeting in which they were to give this presentation out of respect for a young girl who had died that week. Cllr Morgan mentioned that with recent events doing something for the teenagers in the area would be a positive step. Cllr Winnett also mentioned that the more the public are consulted the better looked after the area will be.

Q. What is the time frame for the project?

A. As soon as money is obtained it will be started quickly.

Mr Watkins stated when ready to be started it can then go to BGCBC to put forward and commence. Play Wales has also been part of consultation. Teenagers felt left out as parks cater for younger children so important to address something for older children to use and be involved in.

Cllr Winnett commented that the Hold Up event held by BG Youth Services was planned to be held at the skatepark but due to the concerns on the safety conditions it was held elsewhere.

Cllr Williams mentioned that early designs that had been shown previously looked more like a pump track than a skatepark. Having no plans currently is a concern as N&BTC would need to know the money will be used well. He stated that people from their 20's up to people in their 40's also frequented Blaina Skatepark. Mountain Ash had a good skatepark that could be good inspiration for Blaina as it is a similar size.

Q. How much were they looking for N&BTC to contribute?

A. £20,000.

AW – Site was visited earlier that day, lower area could be developed and there was potential to go further up the banking but would make delays and consulting with Biodiversity. There is a good footprint to work with as it is. A Pump Track could be located around the Skatepark area too.

Q. Pump tracks could hold risks with younger and older kids, has this been looked into?

A. there is always some level of risk with a project like this but a lot of caution is used to mitigate as much risk as possible. Bendcrete create designs that work best for the area in terms of use and safety.

Q. Is there any money available from 'The Deal'?

A. No answer currently, usually have to have something in place. Sirhowy Valley getting much funding from The Deal but it was a Parliament decision. There may be some available for other areas of Blaenau Gwent. Two playgrounds have recently been refurbished in Blaina and Brynmawr, but physical help through volunteering not financially. 'Friends of' groups helped immensely, litter picking, painting your park schemes and offering staff. BG Youth Services had also contributed help with murals.

Q. Other grants are available, Health Board, High Sheriff etc, have these been applied for?

A. Wants to keep funding local, others can often take a lot of time to apply for and then receive. Mr Watkins will note these other organisations for potential avenues of funding.

AW – Friends of groups were used predominantly as they are able to apply for funding, and was encouraged in this practice by the previous government. They then can donate to a project.

Q. where was capitol for Ebbw Vale and Tredegar obtained?

A. Pride of Place funding.

Q. Have any other Town Councils previously contributed to similar projects of this level?

A. No collaborations previously, only through 'Friends of' groups.

Q. Response - Investing capitol into a site we do not own or control could have issues.

Councillor Fryer stated that there are constraints spending money on things we do not own.

Q. Is there time to explore a 'Friends of' group to help?

A. Because of time constraints there is not.

AW added – 31st March is the completion date, end of financial year. Internal capitol presents restrictions, need to get the ball rolling.

Q. Local residents could 'take ownership' to help their kids.

A. Asset transfers take time.

Q response – stated they meant more in an emotional ownership.

AW – Six Bells for example, used to be high in anti social behaviour but after more of the locals were involved it is well looked after and maintained by the volunteers there. Blaina Community Sports Club was provided as a great example of an asset transfer.

N&BTC members and the Town Clerk did state that money received from the sale of Salem Chapel cannot be used for projects that are not own by the Town Council and must be used on a physical item.

Cllr Morgan – Best way to spend money is on the kids.

AW – Would be happy to seek advice, and come back with an update to ensure a clear paper trail is available for Audit.

GM – Members wish to help, just have to work in the confines of the limitations held by the Audit especially in terms of a donation.

Councillor Morvan thanked Cllr's Winnett and Morgan and Alun Watkins for their presentation and that this project will be considered with caution to keep the Auditors happy.

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.

1. Apologies for absence:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence and to formally resolve to accept. Apologies received from Cllr D Wright. **Resolved** to accept the apologies.

2. Questions from the public:

To receive any questions from the public regarding matters on the agenda. There is a 10-minute allocation time for any questions from the public.

Resolved to note that no members of the public were in attendance.

3. Correspondence:

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

4. Planning Applications:

Members were invited to consider the applications listed below and, with the permission of the Chair, any further applications that may be received prior to the date of the meeting:

a) Plan Application No. P/2026/0129 60 Lancaster Street, Blaina, NP13 3EQ

Proposed two storey rear house extension.

Member lamented that many planning applications are in different formats and wondered if there was consultations with residents nearby as it could impact them.

Resolved to note no objections or representations were made.

5. Licence Applications:

Members were invited to note the application(s) **for information only**:

Additional License application received with permission of the Chair:

Alana Insley, 73 Lancaster Street, Blaina.

Temporary Street Trading consent on Saturday 1st August 2026 – various commercial traders selling food.

Premises address: Llanhilleth RFC Pitch, Colliery Way, Llanhilleth, NP132RX

Resolved to note the information received.

Meeting declared closed at 18:23pm

Signed by Town Mayor _____ .

Item 7

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs V Williams - Town Clerk/RFO

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**Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on
Tuesday 9th June 2026 at 18:25pm at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.**

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

Present: Cllr D Hillman, Chair of Finance & General Purposes Committee, presiding
Councillors L Harris, C Hillman, M Williams (remote), L Emanuel, L Higgins, M Evans, A Fryer,
G Morvan, K Jones JP, D Hillman, S Howlett and D Finch.

In attendance: Mrs V Williams, Town Clerk/RFO
Mr K Rowland, Assistant Officer

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

Declaration of Interest

Members were invited to declare matters of interest either at the beginning or at any time during the proceedings. Members are reminded that all declarations must be recorded in the book provided.

1. Apologies for absence:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence and to formally resolve to accept. No apologies were received before the start of the meeting. Apologies received from Cllr D Wright.

Resolved to note apologies accepted.

2. Questions from the Public:

To receive any questions from the public regarding matters itemised on the agenda (limited to 10 minutes total).

Resolved to note that no members of the public were in attendance.

3. 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) New Training Dates – Wendi Patience (for information/consideration – copy attached):

Members are invited to attend training courses and to email Council Office with courses they wish to attend.

Resolved to note information received.

b) Update on additional Playscheme sessions for 2026:

During a meeting with Claire Smith, Childcare and Play Manager, we discussed the play sessions Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council resolved to fund for the Summer of 2026. Claire updated that this is not just play sessions during the summer holidays, but also provides play sessions during October half term, February half term, and both weeks of the Easter break. The sessions in the summer holidays will alternate between Duffryn Park and either Winchestown or Banner Park dependant on permissions.

Claire also updated that they run a 'Paint Your Park' scheme where volunteers can paint up a local park to give it a makeover and help it feel fresh and new. They provide expert instruction, the paints and other equipment they require community groups to assist and provide manpower. Perhaps some Councillors would like to organise a get together give one of the parks in Nantyglo or Blaina a freshen up.

Member stated that it was a good deal beforehand but now with how much more we are getting for our money its exceptional value for money.

Cllr Finch also expressed interest in the Paint Your Park scheme.

Resolved to note information received.

Additional correspondence received with permission of the Chair.

Email from David Arnold re: The Deal update:

Mr Arnold enquiring if there were specific strategic issues members of N&BTC would raise ahead of he and David Leech's presentation of the Deal at the next Full Council meeting.

Member mentioned bringing up the Council referendum and had been disappointed that no response had been made from the BGCBC Leader S Thomas. Meetings are supposed to be held every quarter with members of BGCBC but none since January.

Resolved to note information received.

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 July 2026.

Member queried whether BG Foodbank was still operational as the website shows some sites no longer operating. Should we continue to donate if they are not? Members agreed that if the food bank is facing issues this should be investigated before a donation is given.

Resolved that a financial donation of £200.00 be made to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank to assist Nantyglo & Blaina residents for the month of July 2026 providing they are still operating and providing help for residents in our wards and **Further Resolved** to ask them to visit and provide an in person update.

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 that applications will need to be considered in conjunction with the current policy.

No applications were received at this date.

6. Expenditure Report for June 2026 (copy attached):

Members are invited to consider, and if appropriate approve the Expenditure Report for June 2026.

Member queried the insurance cost and if it was post the sale of Salem Chapel. The Town Clerk confirmed that it was.

Resolved that the information received.

7. Application of Petty Cash to Mayoral Fund.

A small amount of undeclared money was found in the safe and the Town Clerk deposited to the Mayoral Fund to the Mayor's chosen charity.

Resolved to use the money for donations to the Mayoral Appeal.

Members provided updates with permission of the Chair.

Member mentioned the planters and asked for other members to take ownership and to water the plants, especially in the warmer weather. A few members agreed to help out where possible in maintaining the planters.

R Dunham to liaise with Cllr Hillman to place the three planters delivering them and for Cllr Hillman to fill them on delivery so that they are ready for planting.

Members agreed to set up a Task and Finish Group to discuss Salem proceeds and the Skatepark project.

Cllr Williams mentioned he had met with a gentleman called John Pope who of his own accord and time litter picks in East Pentwyn. Would be good for the Town Council to recognise his efforts.

Meeting declared closed at 18:46pm

Signed by Town Mayor _____ .

In Memory

From rabbas4280@aol.com <rabbas4280@aol.com>

Date Sun 12/07/2026 20:55

To Clerk <clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk>

FAO: Nantyglo & Blaina Town Councillors,

In memory of 14-year-old, Lilly who was killed a few of weeks ago in Blaina, I write the following remarks.

We usually hear about the tragic news of young people engaged in acts of violence in the big cities, but in a small town like Blaina where the mural on the wall in our high street states; 'Blaina a small town with a big Welsh heart', to hear the sad news of the 14-year-old girl killed in Blaina, it makes all of us think and wonder of what is happening in our communities?

I have been motivated to write these lines after watching the recent video produced by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom, a very positive video which gives hope and optimism to all who are keen to contribute their talents and energy to connect with like minded people to work together building positive communities.

I am sharing the link for this video titled 'Building Vibrant Communities', it is a very positive account of how ordinary people in different parts in the UK are getting together in the spirit of fellowship and unity, trying to build positive local communities, at 7.00 minutes through the video a remark says; 'A community is not built by delivering services to it. A community is built when people discover their own capacity to serve'. What a true statement?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udVNIBpJ7pY>

My last remark is to ask our local town council about the efforts and steps it is thinking to introduce (or have introduced) of how to learn from this tragic case of a 14 year old person kills another 14 year old?

Kind regards,

Rafi Abbas

6 East View/Blaina.