

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 **6:00pm on Tuesday 22nd September 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 22nd September 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.

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 August and September 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 Task and Finish Group held 24th July 2026 (pages 36 – 38):

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 Meeting of the Full Council held 28th July 2026 (pages 39 - 45):

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

b) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

6. Minutes of the Events Committee held 28th July 2026 (pages 46 - 48):

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 Task and Finish Group held 10th August 2026 (pages 49 - 53)

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

b) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

8. Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee held 8th September 2026 (pages 54 - 56):

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:

9. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held 8th September 2026 (pages 57 - 62)

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:

10. 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) Emails of thanks from Grant Applications - (copy attached – for information/consideration):

Email's received from N Horner at the Cwtch and J Williams from Hospice of the Valleys.

b) Email from BGCBC Councillor L Winnett - (copy attached – for information/consideration):

Letter of thanks for support towards the upgrade of Blaina Skatepark.

c) Email from David Arnold – Residents Survey by Blaenau Gwent CBC copy attached – for information):

11. 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.

a) Alison Lewis of Hermon Cemetery Trust (copy attached):

b) Gareth Brooks of Nantyglo Mini and Juniors (copy attached):

12. Proposal from Councillor D Hillman to recognise Stephen Bower with an award (copy attached – for consideration):

13. Members Updates:

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

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, Y Stryd Fawr, Blaenau NP13 3BN Tel: 01495 292817

e-mail: clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Task & Finish Group held at 17:30pm on Friday 24th July at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.

A meeting to which members of the public were NOT entitled to attend

(Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

Present: Councillor Des Hillman, Chair presiding.
Councillors L Harris, C Hillman, M Williams (remote), L Emanuel, L Higgins, M Evans, A Fryer, K Jones JP, D Hillman, L Higgins, D Finch, D Wright (remote), S Howlett (remote)

In attendance: V Williams, Town Clerk/RFO
K Rowland, 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 of interest must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that no declarations of interest were made.

1. Apologies for absence:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence received and to formally resolve to accept. Apologies were received from Cllr G Morvan.

Resolved to accept those apologies

2. Upgrading of Blaina Skatepark:

Members were invited to discuss the upgrade of Blaina Skatepark and to consider donating towards the cost of refurbishment.

The Town Clerk gave an update. They held a meeting with Alun Watkins to clarify some points from the previous meeting. A plan was handed out and the TC explained which land belongs to BGCBC and which areas do not, specifically the land to the other side of the basketball court which does not belong to BGCBC and is privately owned. Resurfacing of a larger area is to be done with part of

the grass area and old trees and to use the natural hill to build a ramp to be as cost effective as possible. If money from Town Council is donated, Mr Watkins said a seat on the design team would be available to a member of N&BTC and that consultations could be held at Blaina Institute for members and residents to view. They are still awaiting for an update regarding financial issues and will be in contact when more is known. Members agree that Town Council should await more information regarding the financial specifications and/or asset transfer before taking any decision to contribute money towards Blaina Skatepark.

Members debated whether it would be better to own Blaina Skatepark or not. Owning it would mean having more options to contribute financially and holding certain functions there that would be appropriate, however it does mean being responsible insurance and the people that use it. Member stated that part of the strategy by larger Councils is to connect the people with it so that they themselves will look after the area. Reserves should be kept in case of an asset transfer. If we were to lease it back to the CBC after it being transferred they may not want it. Return of investment with the 'feel good' factor being mentioned, it would be great for the youth and young adults of the area if interested in Skateboarding, but would other age groups appreciate the investment, especially if they don't have children. Another member stated that public opinion was important.

Member stated that looking after the children is important, but if something is done for the younger generation we should also look at doing something for the older generation too, even if it is by implementing a seating area for the older people to watch the youths enjoy themselves. Member stated they had done some researching on the Borough Councillors funding. They obtain £19,000 levy per year, and it can be carried over from year to year. Every six months they can donate to organisations in the local area. This money comes from a 'Play Objective Fund' which every ward gets. They all agreed to put in £8000 to help with road surfacing costs of the roads in their area. Members noted the speed at which those Borough Councillors posted about the meeting in which they had attended on social media. Another member noted that on that post residents had asked for spending to be put elsewhere.

No decision was to be made as of yet, members would want to seek advice from an expert and also hear from David Leech who would be attending a meeting the following week.

Resolved that no decision be made until we have a consultation with an expert regarding Asset Transfers and consultation with David Leech, Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director for Adults and Communities for Torfaen County Council.

2. Proceeds of Salem Chapel:

At a previous Task and Finish group, ideas were presented by Members in regard to how best use the proceeds from the sale of Salem Chapel. Members were invited to consider plans moving

forward.

Members agree to separate the list that was previously made in regards to what members wished to do with the proceeds of the sale of Salem Chapel. Cllr Finch stated that The Shed would be happy to make benches to be placed in local spots. Member also enquired about Tablets but it was noted that Members get allowances for such things. Another member stated that if bins were obtained could they be placed lower so that all residents could reach them. One idea was to fund local self defence classes for Junior School to Secondary School ages. The Town Council must act responsibly for the Audit and prioritise which ideas are most important and achievable.

The Town Clerk/RFO highlighted that the Town Council is close to setting an unlawful budget for 2027/28 as the current expenditure would take the general earmark reserves over the upper limit of recommended guidance. The recommended limit is 3-9 months running costs but we are currently at 11.8 months. Member did state that more events were to be held but lack of manpower is an issue. Another member discussed that with some of the ideas running costs would also need to be considered as these can be an issue so contracting someone to water and maintain planters and hanging baskets would be ideal. There is importance in things that are a one-off cost compared to ongoing costs when considering these ideas.

Resolved that the list be split for consideration depending on costings in regard to what the proceeds can be spent on and **Further Resolved** to set up another Task and Finish Group when needed throughout the Summer.

Meeting declared closed at 10:26am

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Item 5

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

Minutes of the hybrid Meeting of the Town Council held at 5:30pm Tuesday 28th July 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; D Hillman; C Hillman; D Wright; A Fryer; M Williams(r); L Emanuel; L Higgins; M Evans, E Singleton, L Harris, D Wright & 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.

To receive: David Leech (DL), Deputy Chief Executive, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and David Arnold (DA) with an update on The Deal.

1. Members received the presentation.
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.

Mr D Leech gave a recap on The Deal as provided at their last presentation, emphasizing to 'think differently' looking ahead and building relationships with community groups in our areas to pool resources together. Mr D Leech stated that he felt the working relationship between themselves and Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council 'was not there yet' and need to interact more to work together effectively.

Q&A

Q What are the benefits for Nantyglo and Blaina?

A. No benefits as of yet, but this is where we need to build our relationship, nominate a 'Champion' so that

we have more contact with each other.

Q. Is this a case of transferring responsibility?

A. Absolutely not. Looking to increase our capabilities by working with volunteers and community groups and doing things differently. We can achieve more with a bigger pool of volunteers and resources. If this isn't how its being perceived then we need to work better to get the message out there.

Q. The Charter between the Town/Community Councils and BGCBC doesn't seem to be working

A. We need to look into why it isn't and look into how we can fix it. Perhaps a more organised session to discuss this. We need to know what is going on with local Councils in case we need to be consulted and reported on and we haven't done that piece of work with you.

Q. We obviously need to find out what community groups are out there and who needs help. Are there other examples of what is being done elsewhere?

A. Can send some info but in Abertillery In Bloom is a good example. They can do the planters, we need you to stand out of the way so we can place planters where needed. Secondly, help us with infrastructure and thirdly was the DIY SOS day to help with the look of the town.

Q. Abertillery have been doing well, you mentioned In Bloom. We've tried to do things with hanging baskets but lamp posts aren't strong enough so we feel like we're coming up against a brick wall.

A. Could you make a list of these things for us to take a look at to see what we can help with.

Q. Lots of towns in Blaenau Gwent and Monmouth have banners on, we were denied even though the lamp posts are the same despite being told ours were not strong enough.

A. More reason to see this list and ask our teams 'Why not?'

Q. We even had schools design banners for us. Very frustrating.

A. This is why the Charter is important and why we're looking to do things differently. Previous meetings with other Town/Councils at the same meeting were not effective. Now that we have more direct contact with meetings like this we feel like we can focus on issues that are local.

Q. T&F group has been busy with a list and with new Councillors and a new Town Clerk that's probably why we're a little behind. Trying to do more with Youth Services with Play schemes so we are trying to grow things from previous years and move forward. The mechanism for interacting does seem to be missing.

A. We agree completely. We need to hold each other to account so having a point of contact we know who you can get advice from to be able to help facilitate these ideas and build the relationship. With the Youth and Play groups see if there are any local community groups that may wish to help with that. Imagine 50 volunteers helping a team of five staff how much more could be done?

Q. Worked with Town Centre Manager closely on helping with projects but feels like other towns seem to be getting more and better events, we feel like ours are less advertised and its frustrating for Town Council

A. The work Karen does is fantastic, it depends on Town Council for what we're trying to achieve in each location. Are you working with her to say 'we have a pool of resources to increase what you're doing'. In

Abertillery their event was big because a lot of volunteers helped to make it a bigger event but it falls on those volunteers. The community is wrapping around the work Karen is doing

Q. Her team is key, big event in the local park and there was a lot of space but we were not able to put a stall there.

A. I'd be disappointed if that happened again two years later. Has that happened with Blaina Food Festival?

Q. The mention of hanging baskets, We have spent a lot of money on placing planters in strategic areas to make them look lovely however sometimes the area around them doesn't look appealing, unsure who is responsible for cleaning and tidying the area like grass cutting and also plant watering.

A. What a great opportunity and perhaps this is a great way to first talk to our environment department, so lets talk about 2-3 of these and look at the land management in those areas. The community makes their effort to look after the planters and the CBC can make sure the land around is well maintained. Very important to pick that person as a point of contact between yourselves and us.

D Arnold discussed the Skate Park. Lot of routes to go down, finance colleagues may know more in terms of VAT implications.

D Leech asked how do we want that project to run? Broadly three ways. Give a grant Borough Council to maintain. Borough Council gives grant to Town Council. Asset transfer. We need to know which of those you want as they all have implications in regard to VAT, so what is your ideal outcome and how can we help facilitate.

Q. We don't feel like the trust is there as we're likely losing members due to the Electoral arrangements.

Q. Earlier meeting was to have an asset transfer then lease back to CBC, is there any legs ?

A. this is the most expensive way as its VAT-able because its commissioned and not a grant. Simpler way may be to make a contribution of the costs and not take on the ownership, or take on ownership and be responsible for its delivery.

Q. Skatepark has been difficult, had no plan or costing but they want £20,000. It didn't help when after a meeting in which Borough Councillors were in attendance of Town Council a Facebook post was made. It is important to know we are part of the planning and not just there to pay the bill.

A, Absolutely agree, need to make it achievable. Not having a plan does not make it feel like a partnership. Town Council needs to decide what they want from the project. Do the people want it, will it help anti social behaviour, provide exercise to different people? All beneficial, Borough Council also gets something out of it.

Q. We need to be more involved with Public Hubs, consensus on what residents are asking for.

A. Depends on area. Town Centres generally to make the area look better, activities for children and to counter OAP Loneliness. These seem to be the main concerns, and where can Town Council get involved? Need to get teams to work with you. The Food Festival would be a good opportunity to get public views, produce a public survey, we can even help you host that online.

David Arnold brought up the Electorate Review, saying that it was important to question it at every consultation period. They understood the frustrations but must have conversations with the Deputy Leader who has taken ownership. The Chair stated that The Deal is about more people helping but the Town Council would be losing a significant amount of members. All members were unanimous against the recommendations but it felt like nothing was getting through, all believed the figures given were incorrect.

David Leech stated he would contact Audra to check if the figures were correct, making sure questions were asked. Everything must go through the appropriate process with the elector ratio. They didn't feel there was an 'agenda'. Member stated they let like contacting the Senedd members for the area to consult with, and Mr Leech stated Town Council should do what they feel is right. The Boundary Commission is impartial.

The Chair thanked David Arnold and David Leech for coming and giving an update regarding The Deal and that they looked forward to working with them more in the future.

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 Cllr's D Finch and S Howlett.

2. Town Mayor's Communications:

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

The Town Mayor K Jones mentioned to members about the presentation with the two young men who had helped with a N&BTC planter in Blaina Square and commented on how well they had one and were setting an excellent standard for the future youths of Nantyglo and Blaina.

While strolling through town the Town Mayor happened upon an engineer who was working on CCTV cameras, who also showed him the feed from a device but did not know where the CCTV was being streamed to. The Town Mayor had also attended Armed Forces day in Tredegar and there had been a great turn out.

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 30th June 2026 (pages 16 – 23):

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:

Of note, a change to the resolution as advised by the Temporary RFO A Edwards to be Audit compliant on page 22, Item15) v.

Pg 21 Item 15. b) delete repetition of 'consider the overall'.

Pg 22 Item 15 c) iv – Change VAT on entry.

Resolved that the minutes be approved with the changes above.

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

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:

Front Page – strike 'Town Mayor' from Chair.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

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

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:

Member raised a concern over the use of initials when identifying members and guests and how titles and roles had been earned.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

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:

When a Task and Finish group is arranged for other events also to arrange a Paint Your Park Day.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

8. 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.

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

Email from Rafi Abbas.

The Chair asked whether members wanted to discuss the letter as police have asked for any matters into the case to not discussed. The Funeral had been set for 6th August and many in the local area are still sensitive to the events. Another member stated that the Bahai' Faith are keen on community and perhaps should be approached with The Deal in mind.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** to respond at a later date.

9. 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.

None received prior to the meeting.

10. Members Updates:

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

CLlr D Hillman also attended the presentation for the young men who had tended to the planter in Blaina and how well mannered they were. They also attended St Peters and wrote a tribute to Lily on behalf of the Mayor. The member also attended a course on Finance and had obtained the slides from there citing them 'extremely useful and beneficial for other members'. They had also spoken to a local business owner who has 7 properties and they were very positive for them to be painted for an event/scheme in the future.

Resolved to note the information received.

11. Task & Finish Group Update:

Members were invited to discuss any business following a Task & Finish Group from the 24th July.

The Town Clerk is to arrange an officer from BGCBC to coming in on a Task and Finish Group meeting to discuss any legal issues and concerns to contributing to the cost of Blaina Skatepark.

Meeting declared closed at 18:51pm.

Signed by Town Mayor _____ .

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Item 6

Mrs V Williams 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

Minutes of the hybrid Meeting of the Events Committee held at 18:53pm Tuesday 28th July 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, Chair of Events presiding
Councillors G Morvan (r); D Hillman; C Hillman; D Wright; A Fryer; M Williams(r); K Jones JP;
M Evans; L Harris: & D Wright.

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 Cllr D Finch and S Howlett.

Resolved that the apologies be accepted.

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.

No questions were received.

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) A Pryce of Blaenau Gwent Play Team – Summer Playscheme Dates

Member remarked that the first date was well attended with approximately 40 children in attendance.

Resolved to note the information received.

4. Cinema Screenings Update:

In 8 days all cinema tickets for Summer Screenings at Market Hall Cinema Brynmawr were collected by residents. Town Clerk to provide an update.

Member stated they had visited the cinema to see Moana and many people were handing their tickets over and that the cinema was very busy and had run out of ice cream.

Resolved to note the information received.

Cllr L Higgins declared an interest in the following item:

5. In Bloom Awards.

Members were invited to discuss the results of the judging from this years In Bloom Awards. The Town Clerk and Assistant Officer provided an update regarding the judging, and how fantastic the entries were. It was agreed that both 3rd prize winners should receive the £50 voucher for the great work they put into their entries. The awards would be best held in September or October when the schools are open so that they can visit and collect their award and also to provide some refreshments.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** that two £50 vouchers be awarded to the 3rd place winners.

6. In Bloom Awards 2027

Members were invited to discuss ideas for In Bloom 2027. As previously discussed, members wished to plan things in advance and potentially evolve the event into more than just a competition.

Members agreed to discuss this at a future Task and Finish Group.

Resolved to discuss plans for In Bloom 2027 at a future Task and Finish Group.

Additional Item with permission of the Chair:

7. Outdoor Cinema via Wonder Cinema:

The Assistant Officer provided correspondence from Wonder Cinema

Members felt this was a great opportunity to do something in the local area for residents. It was proposed and seconded to pay £500 to put this showing on at St Peters Church, Blaina. Delegated powers given to the Town Clerk to arrange and finalise with Wonder Cinema.

Resolved that Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council support the screening at a cost of £500 and **Further Resolved** to give Delegated Powers to the Town Clerk to finalise this event.

Members once again mentioned about a speaker system or ear loops to better hear other members and guests during a meeting. The Town Clerk stated that a visit to other Town/Community Councils to see how they operate and to have more plans in place for September.

A member also enquired about Identification cards, the Assistant Officer mentioned this was also being planned during the Summer recess.

Meeting declared closed at 19:11pm.

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL *Item 7*

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, Y Stryd Fawr, Blaenau NP13 3BN Tel: 01495 292817

e-mail: clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Task & Finish Group held at 09:30 pm on Monday 10th August at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.

A meeting to which members of the public were NOT entitled to attend

(Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

Present: Councillor G Morvan, Town Council Leader, presiding.
Councillors L Higgins, L Harris, D Hillman, C Hillman, L Emanuel, S Howlett, M Williams and M Evans.

In attendance: V Williams, Town Clerk/RFO

K Rowland, 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 of interest must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that no declarations of interest were made.

1. Apologies for absence:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence received and to formally resolve to accept. Apologies were received from Cllr's A Fryer and D Finch.

Resolved to accept those apologies

2. Upgrading of Blaina Skatepark:

Members were invited to discuss the upgrade of Blaina Skatepark and to consider donating towards the cost of refurbishment.

Members discussed whether investigating the costs to the upgrade of the skatepark ourselves would be beneficial to better understand what is achievable so we can give as much as possible. Members were still frustrated that no costings had been put forward. The Town Clerk stated that Alun Watkins of BGCBC and our point of contact for matters relating to the Skatepark said that while they have one company in mind they will get costs from three separate companies to be sure

of the best price based on what is achievable for Blaina Skatepark.

Member questioned that we should push back due to social media and emails as its being made to look like Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council are holding up progress, but it is so important to follow all the regulations. The community may look to blame us, but we need to get some form of costings. It was also stated that we feel very constrained by the legal issues and information that had been provided. It was also mentioned that it was a very 'political' climate currently with elections coming next year. It was felt important by members that the public should know we contribute when plans start to move forward. A plaque could be placed to publicize Town Council's involvement.

Member noted that security was also an issue, as they had previously seen a lack of parents at the skate park. Another member said it wasn't a safe area and that drugs may be dealt at the location. The Chair did however mention that these issues can happen anywhere in the area and that Police consultation will be part of the process when upgrading an area for youth involvement, especially at an area they have already worked in before like the Skatepark. Member queried whether Town or Borough Council could also contribute towards the cost of security cameras.

Resolved that the Town Clerk contact Alun Watkins and ask for 3 quotes in regard to the skatepark site and to find out how Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council can be more involved in the process and to contribute.

3. Request for contribution for Defibrillator to be located on Blaina Institute:

Members were invited to discuss contributing towards the cost of having a defibrillator on Blaina Institute.

Members agreed this was a good idea but wanted to know if maintenance and service costs had been factored in and if something could be given in writing, members agreed that Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council would pay for the cost of the defibrillator as long as Blaina Community Institute would pay for any ongoing costs.

Resolved that subject to an agreement that Blaina Community Institute would pay for ongoing costs in regard to maintenance, servicing and registration of the unit, that will pay for the initial cost of the defibrillator in full.

4. Discussion and resolution to act as point of contact for David Arnold and David Leech in relation to 'The Deal' activities:

The nominated person will maintain contact with David Leech/David Arnold and act as a point of contact, relay information to the Council Members and also put forth any queries or requests that

Town Council has in relation to 'The Deal'.

Councillors A Fryer and D Finch both nominated themselves to be the point of contact. Members agreed that both should be put forward to act as representatives for Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council and to be in contact with D Leech and D Arnold in regards to 'The Deal'.

Resolved that Town Councillors A Fryer and D Finch be the points of contact with David Arnold and David Leech to discuss The Deal.

5. Questionnaire at Blaina Food Festival:

Councillors were invited to consider the questions to be asked at the Food Festival in relation to the skate park provisions and possible other areas the community would like to see the Town Council focus on and who would be present to talk to the community on this day.

Members agree that we need to ask 'What can we do for you that you can be involved with?' Members stated that Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council had also conducted a survey recently and to look at for ideas, and that Brynmawr Town Council may also have done something asking for which street in Brynmawr the residents would like to see improved. Members should get in touch with the Clerk with feedback to finalize a survey ready for the Food Festival on the following Saturday, 15th August in Blaina. Getting a directory of local organisations and volunteer groups would be beneficial also.

Resolved to email members with ideas and to finalize a survey ready for the Food Festival on the 15th August.

6. Discussion of 'The Salem List':

Councillors were invited to discuss what points can be progressed, added and a time frame for completion of the chosen points.

Members discussed looking for venues in Nantyglo to do more for the residents there, including having a meeting there. Town Council should be doing more to work in partnership with other organisations. The Vicar at St Peters was enthused by the turnout of the Outdoor Cinema even that had taken place on the Saturday previously and would be willing to put on more events with Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council

Hanging Baskets – Need to look at how best to maintain long term and look into partnerships. If plants were plastic, maintaining would not be a problem. The Town Clerk updated Town Council that they and the Assistant Officer visited Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council who mentioned they had over 100 planters but had experience problems with how spaced out there

were in terms of locations and were looking to consolidate their planters into small groups so less stops were needed to maintain them. Must consider Nantyglo also. Could areas adopt a planter provided by N&BTC.

- Check where they can be placed.
- What lamp posts can be used.

Craft Fair/Flower Show at In Bloom –

- Speak with local allotments to see if interest in being involved
- Art and poetry, local school involvement could be pursued.
- Getting local groups and organisations involved.

Xmas Dinner for OAPS – Some pensioners have no family or are part of a group, vulnerable and need help. Need to see Town Councillors doing something positive, in both Blaina and Nantyglo. Otherwise find groups already doing such and help them.

Cinema Playscheme – Something around Bank Holiday in August would be a prime time to organise an event. Halloween was also mentioned as a possible Outdoor Cinema time, potentially involving other groups in an event at St Peters. The creation of an events calendar was also discussed.

- Reserve a date around Halloween for an outdoor cinema screening.

Youth Services – Members spoke of the disappointment that things had not worked out with BGYS. Gavo was mentioned to contact to see if N&BTC could work with them, be mutually beneficial

- Reach out to GAVO
- Video – Members feel it is best to wait on making any kind of video, unsure what N&BTC would get from it.

Flag Poles – Members queried if the flag poles by the coop could be moved to the square opposite Blaina Institute and next to the Red Lion. Square is underused, flags by the Coop is a waste of time. Tree coverage could be an issue.

Grass Roots Sports Clubs – TC would support if they apply for grants. A member suggest a specific Sports Grant to appeal more to them. It was mentioned that Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council should advertise the grants more. Members stated that s137 can also be used to give more to applicants should the £200 maximum not be enough.

- Advertise grants from N&BTC on Facebook.
- Mayoral certificate to sports clubs that do well.

Park Running – Member stated that there wasn't anything in the area.

- Contact park run organisation
- Permission from authority
- Make any other enquiries

Leaflets – Members agreed that creating any kind of leaflet would need a lot of thought and planning.

Railings – It was discussed this would be a bigger job than first thought due to the area of the railings and the amount of work needed. Some railings may not be fit for purpose either, and would need to be potentially removed. The Town Clerk reminded members to use the BGCBC app to report such things. Worth advertising the app on Facebook also.

Billboards at Sports Grounds – could cost depending on sponsorship, would need a new logo designed as current one is low quality. Member volunteered to design new logo.

Area close to Skatepark – unusable and should be removed from list.

Dog Bins – Consult with the local authority to add more and make sure collected. Consult with residents to see where best have new dog bins located.

Self Defence Classes – costing would be £500 for 30 girls on a 4 week course. Members thought this would be a great addition to the survey.

Additional Update from the Chair:

The Chair informed members that he and the Assistant Officer were to begin investigation a location for a mural to be created in Nantyglo.

Meeting declared closed at 11:03am

Signed by Town Mayor _____.

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL *Item 8*

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs V Williams - 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

**Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee held on
Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 18:00pm (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 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, E Singleton 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 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's G Morvan and L Higgins.

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.

- a) Hanging Baskets via Jack Harris Steet Lighting Technical/Monitoring Officer BGCBC (for information/consideration – copy attached):

An update regarding hanging baskets.

Members were frustrated with the response. Cllr's Fryer and Finch would seek more answers at a Partnership meeting with D Leech via The Deal.

Resolved to note the information received.

- b) Flagpole via Steph Hopkins Team Manager Development Management/Regeneration & Community Services (for information/consideration – copy attached):

An update regarding erecting a flagpole in Blaina and/or Nantyglo.

The Chair stated that it feels like more obstacles are in our way. Would be worth putting a planning application in and during the process seek quotes for flagpoles and also from Town Council contractor R Dunham.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** to obtain quotes for flagpoles and to have installed by Town Council Contractor R Dunham.

- c) Email from resident concerned about traffic and parking around The Stute (for information/consideration- copy attached):

The Town Clerk provided an update that a response had been received from Katherine Rees, Traffic Management and Road Safety at Blaenau Gwent CBC that the letter had been received and they would respond directly. Members sympathized with the resident and stated that appealing against the fine was the best course of action.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** to advise appealing the ticket in support of the resident.

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/2026/0156 DEVELOPMENT SITE 2 3 4 8 9 10 11 11A AND 12 Beech Tree Crescent, Tanglewood, Blaina, Blaenau Gwent

Alteration of approved design for detached dwelling and introduction of solar panels and externally mounted ASHP.

Chair commented this application had been seen before and first made in 2004, but was good to see progress had finally been made.

Resolved to note no objections or representations were made.

Additional Planning Application received with permission of the Chair:

b) Plan Application No. P/2026/0178 16 Club Row, Blaina, Abertillery, Blaenau Gwent, NP13 3JJ

Application for removal of condition 3 (contamination assessment) of planning permission P/2026/0098 (Proposed Change of use of land to the front of the property to residential curtilage, and Erection of an outbuilding to be used in conjunction with an approved child-minding business).

Chair noted that this was another application that had come through, although more recently.

Resolved to note no objections or representations were made.

5. Licence Applications:

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

a) Stephen Smith, 66 Lakeside Way, Nantyglo, NP23 4AL.

Renewal Street Trading application for permanent Street trading – selling food between 9am – 3pm, Monday to Sunday.

Biffs Kitchen, Howdens Car Park, Waun Y Pound Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale.

b) Sivalantharajah Thambiiah, 2 A Henwaun Street, Blaina, NP12 3DT

Application to transfer premises licence and vary premises supervisor.

Henwaun Stores, 2 A Henwaun Street, Blaina, NP13 3DT

Resolved to note the information received.

Meeting declared closed at 18:19pm

Signed by Town Mayor _____.

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Item 9

Mrs V Williams - 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

**Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on
Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 18:20pm 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, M Evans, A Fryer, K Jones
JP, S Howlett, E Singleton 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's G Morvan and L Higgins.

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) Local Nature Partnership meeting (for information – copy attached):

Agenda for the next Local Nature Partnership meeting on the 23 September.

Update: To be held at Pontypool Museum at 10am.

Resolved to note information received.

b) Community Review via Audra Williams (for information – copy attached)

Regarding the Electorate Review, a meeting is to be held with Audra Williams and Tommy Smith, the Deputy Leader and Chair of the Task and Finish group on 9th September at 9:30am. The Town Clerk V Williams and a representative for Town Council will be attending.

The Chair, Cllr Hillman stated he would be attending the meeting with the Town Clerk, and was pleased that the other Town/Community Council's would all be in attendance at the same time as 'it won't only be me shouting'. Disappointment was mentioned that One Voice Wales had not been involved in the situation, especially with how much is paid to them for a yearly fee. Another member was surprised at how small Brynmawr Town Council's precept was.

It was proposed, seconded and supported for Cllr K Jones to contact One Voice Wales for support and to question them about the lack of communication on this matter when the yearly subscription is up.

Resolved to note information received and **Further Resolved** for Cllr K Jones to contact One Voice Wales to for support on the matter of the Electorate Review.

Additional correspondence received with permission of the Chair.

c) Market Hall Cinema Steelworks Documentary:

Members were made aware of an email from Market Hall Cinema, Brynmawr, regarding a Steel on Film Roadshow screening on 18th September at 6pm.

Resolved to note the information received.

d) Letter of Thanks from resident Sarah Jones:

A letter of thanks was received from S Jones in regard to the events held in the summer put on by Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council. Their daughter and friends had grown in confidence having events to go to and really enjoyed their time with friends at the events and Ms Jones looks forward to seeing more events and had even offered to volunteer helping at said events.

Members welcomed the warm letter.

Resolved to note the information received.

f) Email from Jane Phipps of Kids Cancer:

A letter of thanks from Jane Phipps of Kids Cancer Charity thanking Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council for their recent donation. In turn, this gives families in the area hope and something exciting to focus on.

Members were again pleased to receive a grateful letter of thanks.

Resolved to note the information received.

g) Email from L Winnett asking for an update on Blaina Skate Park:

Members were informed that Blaenau Gwent CBC Councillor L Winnett had emailed to find out if any progress had been made in supporting Blaina Skatepark.

Member proposed that we should be positive subject to plans and working with the officer.

Member brought up Survey results and that they didn't understand why so many 50-70 year olds supported upgrading the Skatepark compared to just one 16-24 yr old. One member mentioned that electronic surveys need to be created to be sent to local schools and another member stated that perhaps those older members were family of children who wanted the skatepark upgraded for their family.

The Town Clerk informed Town Council that a meeting is scheduled with Adele from BGCBC to conduct an online survey.

Member mentioned how three streets were chosen in Brynmawr and the public chose which one to improve. They mentioned the Town Centre Manager and that they liked them but didn't feel like Nantyglo and Blaina were getting the same support and that they need to give equal reign.

Member stated that BGCBC Councillor L Winnett was asking if we are exploring seriously, yes we are. But we need plans to commit. Make a point about a partnership and be positive as Town Council is happy to explore.

Member stated that some were looking for Town Council to use Salem Chapel money, even though the Borough Councillor's weren't putting all of their money in and would unlikely do so if asked. Another member felt like Town Council would go round in circles until designs are presented. Perhaps they should take initiative.

Another member questioned whether it was being used and if more things needed to be added to increase the age range use of the area, like crazy golf and exercise equipment was added to Bryn Bach Parc. Member responded that they pass the skatepark often and see if being used consistently. If Councillors Winnett and Morgan have done consultation it might be useful for that to have been presented to Town Council also. Town Council are positive in supporting but need more information, costings and consultations etc.

Resolved to note information received and **Further Resolved** to respond to Councillor Winnett of BGCBC that Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council are happy to support in principle for the £20,000 subject to plans and cost approval.

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 months of August and September 2026.

The Town Clerk queried whether Blaenau Gwent Food Bank would need to re-apply through the grants scheme, or if a yearly payment could be made. Member agreed that paying an annual lump sum might be preferable to paying monthly and saving time on the Agenda and that the mechanics of this was an issue.

It was stated that the previous Town Clerk had paid upwards of £200 on groceries and delivered it to the Food Bank but after the first two months it was deemed to not be part of their role.

Member queried that on a website it still says they are not operating, but then discovered they are known as Blaenau Gwent Community Aid and are active. Another member asked where the Food Bank is and if it is accessible for residents of Nantyglo and Blaina. The Food Bank is currently located in Brynmawr but there is one in Nantyglo. Member stated that it is known at least 12 children in the Coed Cae use the food bank there, and also mentioned D Wallbank of Brynmawr Rotary also ask for funding towards Christmas Hampers.

It was agreed to wait on any changes until a meeting with Wayne who runs the foodbank can be held.

A discussion was then held about whether Section 137 was suitable, the Town Clerk stating that if they were asked about the grants they would need to know with clarity to answer questions why one organisation may get more than others.

Resolved that a financial donation of £400.00n total be made to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank to assist Nantyglo & Blaina residents for the months of August (£200) and September (£200) 2026 and **Further Resolved** to re-assess the situation after a representative of Blaenau Food Bank can attend a meeting to offer more information **Further Resolved** to research if there are any other Food Banks in Nantyglo and Blaina.

5. Application to the Community Grant Fund:

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

a) The Cwtch, Blaina Community Centre (application form attached)

Members discussed that the full £279 could not be given but that £200 would be awarded and that another group based at the Cwtch could also make an application.

Resolved to award The Cwtch £200 towards the cost of the Defibrillator.

Additional Grant Application received with permission of the Chair:

b) Julie Williams of Hospice of the Valleys (application form presented):

As long as the Hospice of the Valleys had not applied for a grant in the previous 12 months, a £200 grant would be awarded.

Resolved to award Hospice of the Valleys £200 subject to a check that a previous application had not been submitted within 12 months.

6. Results from the Nantyglo and Blaina Community Survey (copies attached):

Statistics compiled from recent surveys completed by residents of Nantyglo and Blaina.

Resolved to note this would be referred to the meeting of the Events Committee.

7. Expenditure Report for August 2026 (*copies attached*):

Members were invited to consider, and if appropriate approve the Expenditure Report for August 2026.

Resolved that the report be approved.

8. First Quarter Budget Against Actual Expenditure Report (*copy attached*):

Members were invited to review the First Quarter Budget Against Actual Expenditure Report April – June.

The Town Clerk informed Town Council that Bank reconciliations were available to view at the meeting.

Resolved that the report be approved.

9. Annual Pay Award 2026/27 – Society of Local Council Clerks (*copy attached*):

Members were informed of the National Salary Award and resolved as appropriate.

- The Town Council has adopted the National Agreement regarding wages and employment terms.
- The pay agreement stated is 3.3%.
- The agreement is to be implemented from 1st April 2026.

Members queried the pay scale of both the Town Clerk/RFO and Assistant Officer.

Resolved to approve the National Salary Award.

Meeting declared closed at 19:26pm

Signed by Town Mayor _____ .

Item 10a)

Correspondence concerning Grant Applications.

Email from Nicola Horner @ The Cwtch

Aww, this fantastic news. The directors will be over the moon.

Thank you. I will send a letter of thanks and appreciation soon

Nicola

Kind regards

Centre Manager, Nicola Horner

Email from Julie Williams @ Hospice of the Valleys

Good Morning Kevin,

This is fantastic news, I am absolutely thrilled, please pass on our thanks to the Council we are so very grateful for the support. If you can let me know once money transferred, I can confirm receipt.

Julie Williams MCIOF (Cert)

Business & Community Fundraising Manager

Hospice of the Valleys

Re: Skate Park Chase Up

From Winnett, Lisa - Councillor <Lisa.Winnett@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>

Date Thu 10/09/2026 12:19

To Clerk <clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk>; Watkins, Alun <alun.watkins@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>; Morgan, John P - Councillor <John.Morgan2@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>; johanna.reames <johanna.reames@taicalon.org>; Jones, Adele <adele.jones@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>; James, Kate <kate.james@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>; Robins, Joanne gwp <joanne.robins@gwent.police.uk>; Nicholls, Linzi <linzi.nicholls@gwent.police.uk>

Hi Victoria,

This is amazing news, and I have cc'd in CSO Robins and CSO Nichols in as they undertook the consultation with the youths

Keep Safe

Lisa Winnett

County Borough Councillor Blaina Ward

Phone/Ffon 07917735862

Email/Ebost lisa.winnett@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, The General Offices,
Steelworks Road, Ebbw Vale NP23 6DN

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent, Y Swyddfeydd Cyffredinol,
Glynebwy, NP23 6DN

Website: <https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/home/>

Gwefan: <https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/cy/hafan/>

Twitter/Trydar: <http://www.twitter.com/blaenaugwentcbc>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/blaenaugwentcbc>

From: Clerk <clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk>

Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2026 12:11

To: Winnett, Lisa - Councillor <Lisa.Winnett@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>; Watkins, Alun <alun.watkins@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>; Morgan, John P - Councillor <John.Morgan2@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>; johanna.reames <johanna.reames@taicalon.org>; Jones, Adele <adele.jones@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>; James, Kate <kate.james@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>

Cc: Clerk <clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk>

Subject: Re: Skate Park Chase Up

External: This email originated from outside Blaenau Gwent Borough Council. Please take care when clicking links.

National Residents Survey

From Arnold, David <David.Arnold@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>

Date Fri 11/09/2026 16:09

To ALCC Clerk <clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk>; ALCC Clerk <clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk>; Clare Price <tredegartc@btconnect.com>; Victoria Williams <TownClerkRFO@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk>

Cc BGCBC - Engagement <Engagement@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk>

 1 attachment (2 MB)

National Residents Survey BG TCCs.doc;

Hi all,

Please find attached a letter to Town & Community Councils from our Engagement team regarding the upcoming National Residents Survey that is launching in Blaenau Gwent on Monday 14th September. Please can you make your members aware and encourage them to promote where possible.

Any queries or requests for hard copies please direct to Engagement@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk (cc'd).

Many thanks,

David

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg a byddwn yn cyfathrebu gyda chi yn eich dewis iaith, dim ond i chi rhoi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn creu unrhyw oedi.

The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh and English and we will communicate with you in the language of your choice, as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to any delay.

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu yn y ddwy iaith. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Mae'r neges ebost hon, ynghyd ag unrhyw ffeiliau sydd ynghlwm wrthi, yn gyfrinachol ac at ddefnydd yr unigolyn neu sefydliad y cyfeiriwyd hi ato. Pe dderbynioch y neges hon mewn camgymeriad, byddwch mor garedig a rhoi gwybod i'r rheolwr system. Mae'r nodyn hwn hefyd yn cadarnhau bod y neges ebost hon wedi cael ei archwilio am bresenoldeb feirws cyfrifiadurol.

This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this e-mail in error please notify the system manager.

Stephen Vickers

Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

T: (01495) 311556

Our Ref./Ein Cyf. KJ

Your Ref./Eich Cyf. KJ/AP

Contact:/Cysylltwch â: andrew.parker@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk



Cyngor Bwrdeisdref Sirol

Blaenau Gwent

County Borough Council

Dear Town/Community Council

'Living in Blaenau Gwent' – National Residents Survey 2026

Our participation in the [National Residents Survey](#) for 2026 is due to be launched on Monday 14th September, with a scheduled closing date of Sunday 25th October.

The last 'Living in Blaenau Gwent' survey was undertaken in 2024, receiving around 1,800 entries. This year, we are aiming to achieve similar levels of participation and would welcome your support in helping us reach as many residents as possible. It is important that residents have the opportunity to share their views, experiences and perceptions of living in Blaenau Gwent, ensuring the findings reflect a broad range of voices from across our communities.

In addition to the survey, residents will also be asked to complete a short one-question poll on 'Get Involved' asking, "Have you heard of the Blaenau Gwent Deal?" to help us better understand awareness levels across the county borough.

The survey will be promoted through a range of online, community and partner channels to maximise awareness and participation, including:

- Social media campaigns, including promotional posters
- Featured on the new ['Get Involved' online platform](#)
- Local libraries across Blaenau Gwent
- Promotion at Aneurin Leisure, sports centres
- The C2BG contact centre
- My Council Services notifications
- School communication apps and platforms
- Town Centre electronic display boards
- Local community groups, organisations and partner networks
- Established Blaenau Gwent Council forums and networks, including the 50+ Network, Lived Experience Network and Citizens' Forum

Online submissions will be primarily pushed, whilst easy-read and paper copies are available at the General Offices and local libraries for residents that wish to collect. Paper copies are to be completed and placed in anonymous, black voting boxes available at these venues. Special requests can be made by contacting the Engagement team at engagement@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk for residents with access issues.

We welcome correspondence in the medium of Welsh or English. / Croesawn ohebiaith trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg.

Municipal Offices
Civic Centre
Ebbw Vale
NP23 6XB

Swyddfeydd Bwrdeisiol
Canolfan Dinesig
Glyn Ebwy
NP23 6XB

*a better place to live and work
lle gwell i fyw a gweithio*

What is required from you?

In line with **The Deal Strategy**, you are encouraged to support and promote the survey among residents. This could include raising awareness through word of mouth, directing people to our social media channels or the new 'Get Involved' platform to share their views, and signposting residents to the paper and Easy Read versions available at local libraries and the General Offices.

The survey can be accessed via the Get Involved platform at: <https://surveys.data.cymru/s/rq00jo>

A QR code and promotional assets are attached for your convenience.

If you would like to request hard copies of some postcards for you to distribute to your residents, please contact the Engagement team at Engagement@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk, requesting a quantity, which we will subsequently follow up on for collection or distribution.

We encourage you to promote the survey through your social media platforms if you have them via content shared off BGCBC official accounts. You can also use any other channels you have for communicating/engaging with people within your areas.

Opportunities for face-to-face engagement will be considered after the survey has launched, potentially targeting existing events, key locations, or specific interventions. Opportunities for face-to-face engagement will be decided after the survey has launched, potentially targeting existing events, key location or specific interventions in areas or for groups of people where there may be low participation. We will be in touch relating to this if there is anything specific to your local areas.

We hope you will support this important piece of research and help us encourage as many residents as possible to take part. Their feedback will help shape future priorities, services and decision-making across Blaenau Gwent.

Sincerely



Kate James

**Arweinydd Proffesiynol ar gyfer Ymgysylltu, Cydraddoldeb a'r Gymraeg
Professional Lead for Engagement, Equality & Welsh Language**

Item 11a)

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

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

TEL: 01495 292817 e-mail: clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk

Mrs V Williams - Town Clerk/RFO Mr K Rowland – Assistant Officer

Community Grant Application Form 2026

Please contact the Town Clerk if you require any information or assistance in completing the application form.

Section 1: Contact Information

Applicant Name/Group Name:

HERMON CEMETERY TRUST

Contact Name:

ALISON LEWIS

Contact Address:

THE MAGPIES
1 GWALUD DELYN CLOSE
NANTYGLO NP23 4ND

Contact Email Address:

veryalimary@gmail.com

Daytime Telephone Number:

07393 284970

Your position in the group:

SECRETARY

Section 2: Tell us about your group

What category does your project fall into (please tick all relevant boxes):

Children/Education

☐

Arts & Culture

☒

Health & Wellbeing

☐

Elderly

☐

Environment

☐

Active Lifestyles

☐

Sort code:

20-45-45

Account number:

30180467

Section 3: Tell us about the community activity you wish to support

Are you applying for, or receiving funding from another source? Yes



If so, where from and how much?

CHURCH FUND

Please explain what the community grant support will be used for?

THE TRUST ARE AWARE THAT ANY GRANTS ARE PROJECT BASED AND NOT FOR USE IN THE GENERAL MAINTENANCE & RUNNING.

A) - IDENTIFICATION & RESTORATION OF WAR MEMORIALS TO ENABLE US TO SHARE THE BACKSTORY WITH THE COMMUNITY AND TO REGISTER THEM WITH THE WAR GRAVES COMMISSION.

B) - PLANTING OF SEASONAL BULBS AND SHRUBS TO ENCOURAGE BIODIVERSITY.

How will your project benefit Nantyglo and Blaina?

OUR LONG TERM HOPES ARE TO ENCOURAGE INVOLVEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY BY PIQUING THEIR INTEREST IN THE HISTORY OF THE CEMETERY WHICH IS OVER 200 YEARS OLD. WE WOULD LIKE TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS TO COLLABORATE ON PROJECTS THAT WILL ENHANCE THE COMMUNITY AND ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL PEOPLE.

Update for the Grant Application made by Alison Lewis of Hermon Cemetery Trust.

Alison phoned the office on Monday, 14th September to give an update regarding their application. They recently received word from Ebbw Fawr School that each Friday, 8 school children would visit the cemetery to help volunteers with maintenance of graves, foliage, and investigating the history of some of the names on the graves themselves.

Item 11b)

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

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

TEL: 01495 292817 e-mail: clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk

Mrs V Williams - Town Clerk/RFO Mr K Rowland – Assistant Officer

Community Grant Application Form 2026

Please contact the Town Clerk if you require any information or assistance in completing the application form.

Section 1: Contact Information

Applicant Name/Group Name:

Nantyglo Mini and Juniors

Contact Name:

Gareth Brooks

Contact Address:

Ty Calach, Porters Rd, Nantyglo

NP23 4NH

Contact Email Address:

Gar720@hotmail.co.uk

Daytime Telephone Number:

07989615312

Your position in the group:

Team Manager

Section 2: Tell us about your group

What category does your project fall into (please tick all relevant boxes):

Children/Education

☒

Arts & Culture

☐

Health & Wellbeing

☒

Elderly

☐

Environment

☐

Active Lifestyles

☒

Other

☒ Y

Please provide a brief description of the activities you/your group undertake:

Nantyglo RFC Mini and Juniors is a friendly, welcoming and inclusive rugby club supporting children from U7s through to U12s. We currently have around 40 children involved across our mini and junior age groups.

Our activities focus on introducing and developing children's rugby skills in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment. Through regular training sessions, games, festivals and opportunities to play against other local clubs, we encourage children to develop their rugby abilities, teamwork, confidence, communication and respect for others.

At Nantyglo RFC Mini and Juniors, we strongly believe that rugby should be free and open to all children, regardless of their background, ability or experience. We aim to ensure that every child feels valued, included and part of the team. Our coaches and volunteers work hard to create an environment where children can enjoy sport, make friends, develop new skills and build confidence.

We are proud to be a community-focused club and are committed to making rugby accessible to as many local children as possible, while promoting the values of friendship, inclusion, teamwork and respect.

In what year was the group founded?

Are you a registered charity?

Yes

☐

No

☒ N

If yes, please provide the registered number:

If your application relates to sport

Is the team a member of /or affiliated to a recognised sporting body?

Yes

☒ Y

No

☐

If yes, which one?

Welsh rugby Union

If your application relates to a children's group

Have all the relevant DBS checks been completed?

Yes

☒ Y

No

☐

Please provide details of your organisations bank / building society account (if your application is successful, the grant will be paid directly to this account):

Name of bank/building society account:

Nantyglo RFC Minis

Name of bank or building society the account is held with:

Natwest

Sort code:

30-99-50

Account number:

46251862

Section 3: Tell us about the community activity you wish to support

Are you applying for, or receiving funding from another source? Yes

☐☒ N

If so, where from and how much?

Please explain what the community grant support will be used for?

The community grant support will be used to help Nantyglo RFC Mini and Juniors continue to provide free and accessible rugby opportunities for children aged U7s to U12s. With around 40 children currently involved, the funding will help us meet the costs associated with delivering regular training sessions, games and activities throughout the season.

The funding will contribute towards essential rugby equipment, training resources, facility costs, playing kit and other costs involved in providing a safe and enjoyable environment for our children. This support will allow us to continue offering rugby free of charge, ensuring that financial circumstances do not prevent any child from taking part.

As a friendly and inclusive community club, we want every child to have the opportunity to participate, develop their rugby skills, build confidence, make friends and learn the values of teamwork, respect and sportsmanship. The grant will directly support our ability to maintain and grow the programme, encourage more local children to become involved in rugby and ensure that Nantyglo RFC Mini and Juniors remain an accessible and welcoming club for everyone.

How will your project benefit Nantyglo and Blaina?

The project will provide a positive and inclusive opportunity for children and families across Nantyglo and Blaina to become involved in community sport. Nantyglo RFC Mini and Juniors currently support around 40 children aged U7s to U12s, providing a safe, friendly and welcoming environment where children can enjoy rugby, develop new skills, build confidence and form friendships.

We believe that rugby should be free and open to everyone, regardless of their financial circumstances, background or ability. Community grant funding will help us maintain this approach by reducing the financial barriers that can prevent children from participating in organised sport.

The project will encourage more children within Nantyglo and Blaina to be physically active and involved in their local community. Through regular training, matches and rugby activities, children will develop important life skills including teamwork, communication, discipline, resilience, respect and confidence.

The benefits will also extend beyond the children themselves, bringing parents, families, coaches and volunteers together and strengthening community relationships. By providing a regular activity for local young people, we hope to create a strong sense of belonging and pride in the Nantyglo and Blaina communities.

Our aim is to continue growing Nantyglo RFC Mini and Juniors as an accessible community club where every child feels valued, included and encouraged to participate. The grant will help us provide opportunities that have a lasting positive impact on the health, wellbeing, confidence and social development of local children while bringing the wider community together through sport.

Section 4: Independent Reference Details

Please give the name of someone who can provide an independent reference on behalf of you/your group:

Russell Dunham

Job title/occupation of referee:

Self employed builder

Referee contact address:

52 Bennett street

Blaina

Email address:

Daytime phone number:

07970676080

Relationship to the group

None

(if any):

Section 5: To be completed for all applications

Please tick here to confirm that you have read and accepted the grant selection criteria:

☒ Y

Signed on behalf of (if you are applying on behalf of a group)

Nantvøln RFC Mini and Juniors

Signature:

G. Brooks

Date:

4th September 2026

award

From Des Hillman <cllr.deshillman@hotmail.co.uk>

Date Thu 10/09/2026 15:50

To Clerk <clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk>

Hello both can you put forward to full council, a nomination for Steve Bower of BRFM radio, Steve and his team has always supported our community events and more, his team is more than just a radio station it is a community hub and information centre, he always gives the best support to us and other local organisations at many events during the year. Steve along with his team deserve recognition for their amazing efforts to enrich the area.

Best wishes Cllr. Des. Hillman Dep. Leader.