

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

Mrs T Hughes Town Clerk/RFO

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held via a remote meeting at 1.00pm on Tuesday 23rd November 2021

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

Present: Councillor D Hillman, Town Mayor, presiding
Councillors K Jones; C Hillman; K Rowland; L Harris & K Jenkins

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

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

Declaration of Interest

Members were invited to declare matters of interest either at the beginning or at any time during the proceedings. Please note that all declarations of interest must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that Councillors D Hillman and C Hillman declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7b. **Further Resolved** that Councillors D & C Hillman remain in meeting for item.

1. Apologies:

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

Resolved to note that apologies were received from Councillors G Morvan, L Emanuel & M Williams.

Further Resolved that the apologies be accepted.

2. Town Mayor's Communications:

The Town Mayor's communications for November 2021.

The Town Mayor informed that on 13th & 20th November 2021 both he and the Mayoress held a stall to raise funds for his Mayoral Appeal which was successful.

On 14th November both he and the Mayoress attended the Remembrance Sunday Service held at Central Park, Blaina. The Town Mayor thanked all who attended and thanked Councillor K Rowland for taking the photos. A letter of thanks from the Town Mayor had been sent to those who had actively participated. The Town Mayor also added that not many people had returned for the refreshments provided and also pointed out that Rev'd Watson (who had taken the Service) had introduced The Town Mayor as the Representative for the Town Council.

The Town Mayor also informed that he and the Mayoress had on behalf of the Town Council, presented Joshua Davies with a certificate for litter picking which would contribute to his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Information regarding this was also submitted to the Duke of Edinburgh Award organisers.

Resolved to note the information received.

3. Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held 26th October 2021 (pages 75 – 78)

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

a) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

p.77 (4): In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that the In Bloom awards had been ordered and that a date for their presentation would be arranged when the awards had been received.

p.77 (4a): It was confirmed that permission had been granted in respect of a Christmas tree.

p.78 (4c): Councillor D Hillman informed that he had viewed the planters but that larger planters would be required although it was confirmed that this was possible. Councillor D Hillman also informed that Brynmawr Councillor Wayne Hodgins had confirmed that the planters used in Brynmawr were sourced from Amberol Ltd.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held 26th October 2021 (pages 79 – 83)

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

a) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

p.79 (2): add 'guests were entertained by Katy Treharne and Annabelle Hathaway and the service was taken by Revered Roy Watson.'

p.80 (3): In response to a query, Councillor D Hillman informed that he had sent a response on behalf of the Town Council to IRPW.

p.81 (6): The Town Clerk informed that despite contacting the three other Town / Community Councils, there had not been any response to hold a meeting of the Committee of Joint Councils. It was also **Resolved** to request that the issue of Blaina being a Town Centre within Blaenau Gwent be included on the agenda for the forthcoming Liaison Meeting with Blaenau Gwent CBC.

p.82 (7d): Councillor Jenkins informed that his planned training session with OVW had been cancelled and that no alternative date had been given.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

5. **Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee Meeting held 9th November 2021 (pages 84 - 86)**

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

a) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

p.85 (3d): In response to a query, the Assistant Officer informed that R. Abbas had mislaid the crocus bulbs during his recent house move but would deliver them as soon as possible.

p.85 (3): Insert 'dropping litter'.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

6. **Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held 9th November 2021 (pages 87 – 92)**

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

a) Matters arising, for information & clarification only:

p.88 (2e): The Town Clerk confirmed that she would enquire as to a copy of the survey response provided to OVW. The Town Clerk also informed that a visit from the company with regards to providing a cost for the installation of WiFi was imminent. **Resolved** to contact other Community / Town Councils as to their current meeting arrangements.

p.91 (7b): Amend 'Councillor Williams left the meeting prior to the resolution.

p.92 (9): The Town Mayor stated that the Remembrance Sunday Parade left earlier than advertised.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

7. **Correspondence:**

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

a) Gwent Police (for information):

- i E-mail and poster re: Gwent Police engagement with residents regarding Police council tax precept for 2023 & residents' experiences with Gwent Police.

It was discussed and agreed that printing and photocopying all supporting information and e-mails to Members was too costly and time consuming, particularly as there was a worldwide shortage of printer toner and that the information could be e-mailed to those Members who have access to e-mail.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** that all supporting documentation in respect of agendas be e-mailed to Members where possible.

- li Information leaflet re: Safer Neighbourhoods.

Members discussed a variety of local issues including neighbourhood watch schemes that had not received enough local support and also instances whereby non-local police had investigated issues by their lack of local knowledge had sometimes proved to be ineffective.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** to contact the Chief Inspector for the need of more local Policing.

Councillors D Hillman and C Hillman declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7b.

- b) Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council – (for information):

Notice of meeting of the Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council at 10.30am on 25th November 2021.

Both Councillors D Hillman and C Hillman informed that they would be in attendance.

Resolved to note the information received.

- c) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board – (for information):

- i Foodwise for life – details of an 8-week programme to help manage weight.

Resolved to note the information received.

- ii Looking After Me & You - details of free carers course commencing January 2022.

Resolved to note the information received.

- d) One Voice Wales – (for information):

E-mail informing of Welsh Government defibrillator fund.

Members discussed the locations of existing defibrillators and concluded that there were no defibrillators located near Blaina Institute. The Assistant Officer informed that there was considerable expense incurred in maintaining a defibrillator which would need to be considered.

Resolved to note the information received. **Further Resolved** to compile a list and map of defibrillators located within the area.

Additional correspondence received with permission of the Chair:

- e) Brynmawr Rotary – (for information):

E-mail informing of information (as requested by the Town Council) as to numbers of people/families assisted by the Christmas Hamper project 2020.

The Town Clerk informed Members of the detailed information provided by Brynmawr Rotary in respect of the large numbers of Nantyglo & Blaina residents assisted by the project in 2020.

Members congratulated Brynmawr Rotary on an excellent project.

Resolved to note the information received.

- f) Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (for information):
E-mail informing of the Welsh Ambulance Service Trust's Autumn Online Events.
Resolved to note the information received.

8. **Mayoral Expenditure Budget:**

Members were invited to consider and if appropriate approve the recommendation in the report.

Members considered the report, and the following comments were made:

- The Town Mayor emphasised that the additional expenditure was not for personal gain but to ensure that the functions of the Town Mayor could be carried out effectively. He also emphasised that no claim would be made retrospectively.
- The Town Clerk informed that an e-mail had been received from Councillor Williams confirming that he would support the recommendations contained within the report.

Unanimously Resolved that the recommendation as contained in the report be approved.

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

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

None received to date

Resolved accordingly.

10. **Licensing Applications:**

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

- a) Applicant: Alun Lewis 12 Clos Gwaith Dur, Ebbw Vale, Gwent.

Details of application: Application for the full variation of a premises licence. To increase incense hours and to include licensable activities (Licencing Act 2003).

Premises: Blaina Community Sports Centre (was Blaina Cricket Club) The Pavilion, Central Park, Blaina.

Members considered the application and opined that whilst it was good that the premises was utilised again there had been an occasion when noise and people singing explicit lyrics were heard in the late afternoon in and whilst children were present. Members concluded there was a need for users to be respectful of the surrounding dwellings and local residents and children.

Resolved that representations be made that Blaina Community Sports Centre be mindful of local residents and the surrounding properties and area.

11. **Members Updates:**

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

No updates were received.

Resolved accordingly.

12. Confidential Information:

The following item(s) might contain information that was of a confidential or personal nature and was therefore exclusive to Members of the Town Council only (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960). **Resolved** that the motion be accepted.

Meeting declared closed at 2.05pm.