

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

Mrs T Hughes Town Clerk/RFO

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Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held via a hybrid meeting at 6.00pm on Tuesday 25th April 2023 at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.

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

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

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

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

Declaration of Interest

Members were invited to declare matters of interest either at the beginning or at any time during the proceedings. Please note that all declarations of interest must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that no such declarations were received.

1. Apologies:

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

Resolved to note that apologies were received from Councillor M Williams due to the Council Chamber having no internet access and, consequently, Councillor Williams was unable to join the meeting remotely. Councillor Jenkins apologised for not attending the schools presentation event in the Council Chamber.

Further Resolved to accept the apologies received.

2. Town Mayor's Communications:

The Town Mayor's communications for April 2023.

The Town Mayor informed that the Easter Eggs had been delivered to all four primary schools on a very wet and windy morning. The delivery of the Easter Eggs had been very enjoyable, and the children were very well behaved, and a warm welcome was received from all schools. The Town Mayor thanked Councillors K Jones and M Williams for their help.

The presentation of the Coronation gifts to the four primary schools took place in the Council Chamber that morning (25th April 2023) although one school was unable to attend. The Coronation gifts were presented to representatives of the schools in a very enjoyable event and the gifts were welcomed by the schools. The use of the Council Chamber was, once again, offered to the schools.

Resolved to note the information received.

3. Questions from the Public:

To receive any questions from the public regarding matters on the agenda.

Resolved to note that no questions from the public had been received.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held 28th March 2023 (pages 145 – 148)

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:

The Town Mayor thanked Councillor Jenkins for chairing the meeting in her absence.

Page 146 (4a) – the Town Clerk informed that a number of the exhibition items were due to be relocated to Newport on 26th April 2023.

Page 147 (8a) – the Town Clerk informed that BCIL had been verbally informed of the current situation.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

5. Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held 28th March 2023 (pages 149 - 151)

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:

Page 150 – the Assistant Officer informed that no update had been received to date and that this item was agenda'd for discussion at the Events Committee Meeting.

Page 151 – the Assistant Officer informed that this would be discussed at the Events Committee.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

6. Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee Meeting held 4th April 2023 (pages 152 - 153)

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:

Page 153 (4d) – s/b 'imposing'.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

7. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held 4th April 2023 (pages 154 –157)

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:

Page 156 (6a) – add ‘for the purpose stated’. The Town Clerk informed that a copy of the order for the item had been received.

Resolved that the minutes be approved.

8. 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) Welsh Government – (for information):

i Written statement – Electoral Administration & Reform White Paper.

Members considered the importance of the document and concluded that a training session was required.

Resolved that an appropriate training session be arranged.

li Consultation on the recommendations of the Independent Review of the Ethical Standards Framework (Richard Penn report).

Members considered the report and concluded that this & the response to questions should be included as part of a training session.

Resolved that an appropriate training session be arranged.

b) Cwmni Urdd Gobaith Cymru – (for information):

Letter of thanks and receipt of grant donation.

Resolved to note information received.

c) Janette Knapp – (for information):

Letter of thanks and receipt of grant donation (paid to Mr Michael Knapp).

Resolved to note the information received.

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.

- International Senior Welsh Disabled Carp Team:

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

- The group was newly founded.
- Other grant funding had been applied for but the decision(s) was unknown.
- More specific information, particularly in respect of section 3 of the application was required.

Resolved that more and specific information in respect of the application be sought and submitted to Council for further consideration.

10. Members Updates:

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

Councillor D Hillman – Coronation Gifts to Local primary Schools:

Councillor Hillman stated that it was positive to pursue joint working with schools and the idea of a joint schools committee meetings taking place in the Council Chamber had been suggested. This would enable pupils to put ideas forward that might be of benefit to their schools. Mrs H Targett (Blaen y Cwm Primary) had stated in the event that Blaen y Cwm Primary had enjoyed holding their school council meeting in the Council Chamber on a previous occasion. The offer of holding individual school council meetings had been made once again to all four local primary schools.

Resolved to note the information received.

Councillor G Morvan – One Voice Wales Larger Councils Meeting:

Councillor Morvan informed that the OVW conference would take place on 5th July 2023 at Builth Wells.

The Financial Toolkit for Town/Community Councils had been updated in November 2022. The Town Clerk informed that she did utilise the Toolkit and would check for the recent updated version.

Recruitment & retention of Clerks was currently a huge issue throughout Wales and OVW was setting up a task group to investigate the issue. OVW would be contacting councils asking for Clerks to join the task group.

The Welsh Assembly provided funds for training in the form of 2 free places and bursaries for Councils.

OVW provided information from Audit Wales that in recent years there had been a very high number of qualified audits from many councils in Wales.

Resolved to note information received.

Meeting declared closed at 18.35pm.