

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

Mrs T Hughes - Town Clerk/RFO

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**Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee at 6.05pm
Tuesday 13th February 2024 at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.**

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

Present: Councillor D Hillman, presiding, Chair, Finance & General Purposes Committee
Councillors G Morvan (remote), M Williams (remote), L Harris, K Jenkins,
C Hillman & L King.

In attendance: Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk / RFO

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. Members were reminded that all declarations must be recorded in the book provided. **Resolved** to note that no such declarations were received.

1. Apologies for absence:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence and to formally resolve to accept. **Resolved** to note that an apology was received from Councillors K Jones JP, J Bond & Mrs N Horner, Assistant Officer. **Further Resolved** to accept the apologies received.

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 questions were received.

3. Correspondence:

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

a) Audit Wales – (for information)

2024 – 25 Fee scheme (see page 21 for Town & Community Councils).

It was clarified that the Town Council underwent a 'full audit' for the financial year 2022/23 although the conclusion hadn't yet been received from Audit Wales, neither had the invoice. The audit for 2023/24 would be for a 'limited audit' and as the Town Council was placed in Band 4, the fee would be £223-£266.

Resolved to note information received.

b) One Voice Wales (for information):

Free Places – Use of IT, Websites & Social Media Training.

Councillors M Williams and C Hillman agreed to attend the training session on 26th February 2024.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** that Councillors M Williams and C Hillman attend the session on 26th February 2024.

4. **S.137 donations (Local Government Act 1972 & Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:**

As previously resolved, Members were invited to consider making further financial donations to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank to assist residents of Nantyglo and Blaina for the month of February 2024.

Resolved that a £200.00 donation be made to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank in respect of Nantyglo & Blaina residents for February 2024.

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 might be received prior to the date of the meeting. Members were also reminded that applications would need to be considered in conjunction with the current policy.

None received to date.

Resolved accordingly.

6. **Salem Chapel:**

Members were invited to consider the attached inspection report:

- January 2024 – comments & queries were invited:
In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that as far as she could tell, the building continued to deteriorate. Additionally (February 2024), there had been an issue with the alarm sounding for no apparent reason, although this appeared to have been resolved.

Resolved that the report be approved.

7. **Members Updates:**

Members were invited to provide any updates or information:

a) Easter Eggs to local primary schools:

The Town Clerk informed that due to the increased number of local primary school pupils and the increased price of Easter Eggs, the cost of purchasing the necessary amount was £1561.28. Members were requested to resolve the amount by £61.28.

Resolved to increase the amount for Easter Eggs to local primary schools from £1500.00 to £1561.28 – and additional amount of £61.28.

b) Cllr D Hillman – Blaenau Gwent CBC Budget for 2024/25:

Cllr D Hillman informed that he, Cllr C Hillman and the Town Clerk / RFO attended a meeting with BGCBC on 5th February 2024 to preliminary discuss the forthcoming budget. The meeting was chaired by Cllr S Thomas, Leader of BGCBC and was attended by other BGCBC Members and officers in addition to representatives from Brynmawr TC and Tredegar TC. Cllr D Hillman informed that the meeting was informative and that many questions were asked, including that the relevant information be received from BGCBC ahead of the official consultation meeting with BGCBC on Friday 16th February 2024. The Town Clerk / RFO informed that this had been queried with BGCBC today (13th February) but the information was not yet available.

Cllr D Hillman informed that the meeting with BGCBC would take place via MS Teams at 10.30am on Friday 16th February 2024 with the pre-meeting commencing at 10am via MS Teams.

Resolved to note the information received.

8. **Confidential Information:**

The following item(s) may 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 supported.

Meeting declared closed at 6.25pm