

# NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

## CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs T Hughes - Town Clerk/RFO

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**Notes of the hybrid Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held at 6.25pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 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 of Finance & General Purposes Committee  
Councillors L Harris, C Hillman (remote), K Jones JP & L Emanuel.

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

**Meeting not quorate but agenda discussed, and points agreed – for formal ratification at next meeting**

### **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. **Agreed** to note that no such declarations were received.

#### **a) Apologies for absence:**

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence and to formally resolve to accept. **Agreed** to note that apologies were received from Councillors G Morvan and J Bond. **Further Agreed** that the apologies be accepted.

#### **2. Questions from the Public:**

To receive any questions from the public regarding matters itemised on the agenda (limited to 10 minutes total). **Agreed** 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 may be received prior to the date of the meeting.

#### **b) Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council – (for consideration & information)**

Notes and actions from the Joint Liaison Meeting of BGCBC and Town Councils held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Please note the information also contained a letter from the Welsh Government in respect of the 20mph speed limit & information re: CCTV cameras.

Members were additionally informed of the proposed dates for the forthcoming Liaison Meetings as Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024 & Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 10am until 11.30am.

Members considered the information received and the following comments were made:

- Some questions and educational matters discussed had been omitted from Blaenau Gwent CBC's notes.
- There did not appear to have received any leaflets from Blaenau Gwent CBC regarding business loans available from BGCBC.
- **Agreed** to investigate if any grants were available in respect of Christmas Lights under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- The Town Clerk informed that a copy of the guidance in respect of Christmas Lights on lampposts had been provided to all Members previously.
- A number of new lamp posts had been installed in Nantyglo – did these comply with the new regulations in respect of Christmas Lights? **Agreed** that this be clarified with Blaenau Gwent CBC.

Members considered the additional information received in respect of CCTV within Blaenau Gwent and noted the 3 options for Town & Community Councils outlined by Blaenau Gwent CBC. It was queried if the Police and /or Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent contributed to the costs of CCTV within Blaenau Gwent as it helped gather evidence which was used by the Police. **Agreed to** query with BGCBC as to why there was only two CCTV cameras within Blaina and none in Nantyglo which was less than any other town centre in Blaenau Gwent and it was considered that at least 4 CCTV cameras were required in Blaina and 2 in Nantyglo, provided and paid for by BGCBC. It was **Further Agreed** that no decision could be taken on the options provided by BGCBC and that their response was not adequate.

Members considered the proposed dates of the Liaisons Meetings with BGCBC but **Agreed** to query that these meetings should be held in person as agreed by BGCBC at the Liaison Meeting held in May 2024.

**Agreed** to note the information received and **Agreed** the actions highlighted.

b) Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council response – (for information & consideration):

Town Council response to e-mail received from C. Gunter and the subsequent response.

Members considered the e-mail reply and subsequent response and agreed that the queries had been answered.

**Agreed** to note the information received.

c) Rafi Abbas – (for information & consideration):

E-mail re: local service project and request for recognition.

Members considered inviting the family to the In Bloom award ceremony (at a date to be arranged) whereby a certificate of achievement could be presented.

**Agreed** that a certificate of achievement be presented at the In Bloom awards.

*Additional correspondence received with permission of the Chair:*

d) Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum (for information):

E-mail from Martyn Morgan Jones who had taken over as Chair of the Forum from Eifion Lloyd Davies. An invitation was extended to Members to attend monthly committee meetings (held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 10am in Tredegar Library. Additionally, a free talk was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 2pm at Bedwellty House, Tredegar. The Town Clerk informed that she had informed the Chair of the Town Council representative to the forum.

**Agreed** to note the information received and **Further Agreed** to forward the e-mail to Members for information.

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 July and August 2024.

**Agreed** that a s.137 donation of £200 for July & August (i.e. £400 total) be made to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank for the months of July & August 2024 in respect of Nantyglo & Blaina residents.

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.

a) *None received to date*

**Agreed** accordingly.

6. **Salem Chapel:**

Members were invited to consider the attached inspection report:

• June 2024:

In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that, to her observations, the Chapel continued to deteriorate but there did not appear to any additional issues.

**Agreed** that the report be approved.

7. **Members Updates:**

Members were invited to provide any updates or information.

Cllr L Harris:

Cllr Harris informed that the planters near to the Police Station and square in Blaina had been replanted, although she had lost the receipt for the purchase of some of the plants but would fund those from her Councillor Allowance.

**Agreed** to note the information received.

Cllr D Hillman:

Cllr D Hillman informed that there was no cheaper compost available at the Range to purchase for the planters but he had purchased some from Victoria Garden Centre and plants had been purchased from B & M. The allocated expenditure had allowed for the purchase of some miniature roses for the centres of the large planters. The large planters had been replanted near the old Blaina Inn, bus stop near Waun Marsley Place and at Nantyglo Pensioners Hall. Both the Chair and Vice Chair of Events had offered their help with this task. A Member thanked both Cllrs Harris and D Hillman for their hard work but thought that this was over and above the role of a Councillor which should be as an 'enabler' not as a 'doer'.

**Agreed** to note the information received.

Cllr K Jones JP:

Cllr Jones congratulated the Town Mayor on completing the three peaks challenge in aid of his Mayoral Appeal. Members agreed and also congratulated the Town Mayor.

**Agreed** to note the information received.

Cllr L Emanuel:

Cllr Emanuel informed that the Town Mayor had attended the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Riverside Flats in Blaina and that the celebrations were very enjoyable. Members present apologised for not attending but offered their best wishes to all at Riverside Flats.

**Agreed** to note the information received.

## **8. 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). **Agreed** that the motion be supported.

Meeting declared closed at 7.15pm