

# 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 Full Council held at 6.10pm, Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina.**

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

Present: Councillor M Williams, Town Mayor, presiding  
Councillors D Hillman, C Hillman (remote), L Higgins, L Emanuel & L King

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

The Meeting started 10 minutes later than the usual time due to Cllr C Hillman experiencing technical difficulties in joining the meeting remotely. **Resolved** to note the information received.

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 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 Councillors G Morvan, L Harris and K Jones JP. **Further Resolved** that the apologies be accepted.

In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that she had emailed Cllr J Bond regarding attendance but had not received a reply to date. **Resolved** to note the information received.

### **2. Town Mayor's Communications:**

The Town Mayor's communications for November 2024.

The Town Mayor informed that no events had taken place in November but that the following Christmas events were due to take place:

- Christmas Family Funday at Central Park, Blaina on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November.
- Joint schools Christmas Carol Concert at Ystruth Primary on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 4.30pm

- Selection packs to be delivered to the four local primary schools on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December.
- Santa Sleigh Run was to take place on either 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> December. The Town mayor informed that he had attended a meeting for this event as a volunteer but would inform of the actual date when it was known.
- The Town Mayor informed that he hoped to arrange a festive fundraising day in aid of his Mayoral appeal (Hospice of the Valleys) at The Cwtch in December.

**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 was limited to 10 minutes).

**Resolved** to note that no questions were received.

### 4. **Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 (pages 71 – 76)**

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 74(5a) – In response to a queries, the Town Clerk informed that the ID cards would be completed in the week and that she would query the external Town Council signs with Mr R Dunham (contractor).

Page 76(12) – In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that an update would be provided during the meeting as per the agenda.

**Resolved** that the minutes be approved.

### 5. **Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 (pages 77 -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:

**Resolved** that the minutes be approved.

### 6. **Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (pages 79 – 80)**

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:

**Resolved** that the minutes be approved.

**7. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (pages 81 - 85)**

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 82(3b) – In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that Ms M Hurter had agreed to attend a meeting of the Town Council in the New Year.

**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) One Voice Wales – (for information):

- i. National Conference 2024 Report (please note that the advertisements have not been included).

**Resolved** to note the information received.

- ii. Training Dates:

**Resolved** to note the information received.

b) Blaina Community Institute Ltd (for information):

Letter re: Fire drills.

It was noted that the 'what to do in case of fire' information received from Blaina Community Institute Ltd did not include 'not to use the lift'.

**Resolved** to note the information received and **Further Resolved** to inform Blaina Community Institute Ltd of the above comment.

**9. Digihub Wales – Photocopier Lease:**

Members were informed that further to the invoice for a documentation fee of £168 received, Digihub Wales had offered to provide the Town Council with 40,000 black and white photocopies free of charge as a goodwill gesture. The Town Clerk informed that Paul Egan (One Voice Wales) had been made aware of this gesture and opined that Digihub Wales appeared to be adopting a 'goodwill position'. The Town Clerk additionally informed that the total cost of the photocopier lease, document charge & the number of free copies was a lower cost than the next cheapest quotation received.

Members considered this offer, and the information received and **Resolved** to accept but requested that a letter be sent to Digihub Wales expressing concern and displeasure regarding the lack of transparency in respect of all costs on the quotation received.

## 10. Selection Packs:

Members were informed that following resolution of 1200 selection packs to distribute to local schools and at the joint schools Carol Concert, a total of 1250 selection packs were supplied and paid for in error (due to more selection packs being in each box than in previous years). Members were requested to consider to resolve if the additional 50 selection packs be returned in the hope of a refund or resolve the purchase of the additional 50 packs. Members were additionally informed that in previous years, additional selection packs were purchased to ensure enough were available.

**Resolved** that the additional 50 selection packs already paid for and received be retained.

*The Chair agreed to consider two applications that had recently been received – a copy of each application had been provided to all members present.*

## 11. Application to the Community Grant Fund:

### a) Tiny Sprouts Playgroup:

It was clarified that the playgroup was held at the OAP Hall (opposite Wesley Church), Nantyglo and it was noted that the playgroup had recently reformed and that the former playgroup name remained on the bank account (page 3 of the application).

**Resolved** that a financial donation of £50.00 be made to Tiny sprouts Playgroup.

### b) Michael Knapp:

Members agreed that Mr Knapp did an excellent job of maintaining a lovely area for community use. The Town Clerk informed that Mr Knapp previously received a financial donation in April 2023.

**Resolved** that a financial donation of £75.00 be made to Mr Michale Knapp.

## 12. Members Updates:

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

### Cllr D Hillman:

Cllr Hillman stated that the Town Council needed additional members who would prove to be active.

The Town Clerk informed that an advertisement for Members was periodically placed on the Town Council's Facebook page, and this would be ongoing.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

## 13. 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 6.50pm

DRAFT