

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 and General Purposes Committee held at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina, 5.50pm Tuesday 11th February 2025.

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

Present: Councillor D Hillman, Chair of Finance & General Purposes Committee, presiding
Councillors G Morvan, M Williams, K Jones JP, C Hillman, L Harris, L Higgins,
& L Emanuel.

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 present were present. **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 Mrs N Horner declared an interest in item no. 3b.

1. Apologies for absence:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence and to formally resolve to accept. **Resolved** to note that no apologies were 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 had been 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) One Voice Wales (for information & consideration):

One Voice Wales Annual General Meeting – 11th March 2025 (online).

Cllr G Morvan, Town Council representative to OVW informed that he would be in attendance on behalf of the Town Council.

Resolved to note the information received.

Mrs N Horner, Assistant Officer declared a personal interest in item 3b – **Resolved** that she remain in the meeting as the item was for information only.

b) Mrs N Horner, Assistant Officer (for information):

Letter of resignation from post of Assistant Officer.

Members expressed their remorse that the assistant Officer was leaving the post but understood that her circumstances necessitated the change. The Town Clerk thanked the Assistant Officer for all her hard work and stated that she would be held in high regards and that she understood the reasons why. The Leader of the Council thanked the Assistant Officer both personally and on behalf of the Town Council for her worthy contribution and that she would be very much missed. The Leader wished the Assistant Officer best wishes for the future and that her new employer would be gaining an excellent asset. The sentiments were echoed by all present.

The Assistant Officer thanked everyone for their kind words and stated that it was only a change in her circumstances that necessitated her resignation.

Resolved to note the information received.

4. Business Current Bank Accounts:

Members were invited to consider the attached report in respect of business current bank accounts.

The Town Clerk / RFO explained that her research had discovered that a feature of business current accounts was that no interest was provided on credit balances and that the list attached to the agenda evidenced a number of individual accounts offered by different banks and providers. Additionally, Swansea Building Society did NOT provide business current accounts, only savings accounts. The Leader of the Council thanked the Town Clerk / RFO for her excellent research and opined that there was no reason to move the Town Council's current accounts from Lloyds Bank as doing so could also cause complications. Members commented that it was also convenient to have the Brynmawr branch of Lloyds Bank nearby and although this would be closing imminently, banking hubs could be used if necessary.

Resolved that the Town Council's current bank accounts remain with Lloyds Bank.

5. Charter of Common Agreement between Town Councils & Blaenau Gwent CBC:

Members were invited to consider the updated Charter of Common Agreement and, if agreeable, resolve to accept.

Members considered the updated Charter of Common Agreement, and the following comments were made:

- There was an opportunity to work with the three other Town / Community Councils in respect of the updated Charter.
- The Town Clerk informed that whilst Brynmawr Town Council had adopted the updated Charter, Tredegar Town Council was due to consider the Charter at a

meeting and it was unknown if Abertillery Community Council had adopted the updated Charter.

- There were a number of issues regarding the planning consultations detailed in the updated Charter.
- The issues stated should be considered and discussed at a meeting of the Joint Committee of Local Councils.
- It was good to see the updated Charter as this was common practise for Town /Community Councils located in the Torfaen and Monmouthshire area.

Resolved to consider and discuss the updated Charter of Common Agreement with the 3 other Town / Community Councils prior to adoption.

6. 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 2025.

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

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

- a) None received to date.

Resolved accordingly.

8. Salem Chapel:

Members were invited to consider the inspection report:

- January 2025:

In response to a query, the Town Clerk informed that, to her untrained eye, that whilst the physical condition of the building continued to deteriorate, there did not appear to be any additional issues.

Members highlighted the importance of no-one entering the building unaccompanied due to health and safety concerns.

Resolved that the report be approved.

9. 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 supported.

Meeting declared closed at 6.30pm