

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

Mrs T Hughes Town Clerk/RFO

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## Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 held at Llys Nant y Mynydd, Nantyglo

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

Present: Councillor D Hillman, Deputy Town Mayor, Presiding  
Councillors G Watkins; T James; C Bridgeman; C Hillman; R Abbas;  
K Jenkins; G Morvan; L Emanuel; L Harris & K Treharne

In attendance: Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk

### 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 Councillors D Hillman and C Hillman declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8c.

### 1. Apologies:

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

**Received** to note that apologies were received from Councillor K Jones.

**Further Resolved** to accept apologies.

### 2. Town Mayor's Communications:

The Town Mayor to inform of his activities during November 2019.

The Deputy Town Mayor welcomed Councillors T James and L Emanuel to the meeting

**Resolved** to note the information received.

### 3. Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 (pages 78-81)

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:

P.79 Blaenau Gwent Ward Members were thanked for providing the buffet on Remembrance Sunday.

**Resolved** that the minutes be approved.

**4. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 (pages 82- 89)**

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:

P. 86 There was a need to finalise, publish and carry out the Council's action Plan

**Resolved** that the minutes be approved.

**5. Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee Meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (pages 90-91)**

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:

P. 91 (item 4) Councillors D Hillman and C Hillman declared a non-pecuniary interest.

**Resolved** that the minutes be approved.

**6. Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (pages 92-98)**

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:

P.92 Councillor G Morvan – should read 'Chair' not 'Acting Chair'.

P.95 Need for training – to be included on agenda as soon as appropriate.

P.96 Upgrade to Town Council website has been requested and was currently 'work in progress'.

**Resolved** that the minutes be approved.

**7. Minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (pages 99 – 100)**

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:

P.100 Office needed to be accessible to the public on Wednesday afternoons as soon as possible.

P.100 Clarified that **Resolution** in respect of delegated powers awarded and the re-advertisement of the post be supported by Council.

**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 might be received prior to the date of the meeting.

a) One Voice Wales:

- i. Minutes of the Larger Council's Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Councillor G Morvan informed that he was unable to attend this meeting.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

- ii. Successful Community Asset Transfers.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

b) Older Peoples Commissioner for Wales:

Commissioner's Newsletter.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

*Councillors D Hillman & C Hillman declared a non-pecuniary interest in the next item – **Resolved** to remain in the meeting.*

c) Community Health Council – (copies attached):

- i. Representing the Interests of People in the NHS in Wales: Our Plans & Priorities in 2020/21

**Resolved** that the Town Clerk complete the survey on behalf of the Council.

- ii. We Want Your Views on Maternity Services

**Resolved** to note the information received.

d) Gwent Archives:

Explore Your Archive in 2019

**Resolved** to note the information received.

**9. 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 would need to be considered in conjunction with the current policy.

- a) Blaina Bowls Club & Nantyglo Football Club (joint application)

**Resolved** that £100.00 be awarded.

**10. Town Council Vacancies:**

Members were informed that the statutory notices itemised below have been advertised as required:

- a) Declaration of Vacancy – Blaina Ward.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

- b) Advertisement in respect of co-option vacancy – Nantyglo Ward.

**Resolved** to note the information received.

**11. Planning Applications:**

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.

- a) *None received to date.*

**Resolved** accordingly.

**12. Licensing Applications:**

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.

*Additional application received with permission of the Chairman.*

*Applicant:* Mr Stephen Bower, c/o Banna Park, Nantyglo

*Application for a Small Society Lottery Licence*

*Premises name:* BGFM Community Radio, Banna Park, Nantyglo

**Resolved** that no representations or objections be made.

**13. Members' Updates:**

Members informed and provided updates of any recent activities and/or concerns:

- a) Joint Committee of Local Councils (Councillors G Morvan, D Hillman & C Hillman):

Members were informed that discussions were held in respect of the PSB and the terms of reference of the JCLC. Members were working to make the JCLC a more powerful voice for the four member Town Councils. Membership and the effectiveness of One Voice Wales was also discussed whereby it was agreed that OVW was not accessible to all members of town and community councils. The cost of training offered by OVW to member councils was also considered prohibitive in many cases. It was re-iterated that training for members needed to be implemented as soon as practicable.

b) Blaina Institute Charity Fund (Councillor G Watkins):

Councillor Watkins informed that a meeting of the Trust Fund was arranged to take place on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The fund could award grants of up to £300 although this information does not appear to be well publicised. Councillor Watkins would provide further updates once the meeting had taken place.

c) Street Lighting within Blaina (Councillors D Hillman, G Watkins & K Jenkins):

Members informed that it was difficult and could be dangerous to provide the identification numbers of individual columns. Members were also informed that the recent training session provided by Blaenau Gwent CBC regarding the 'My App' service would provide an easy way to inform of complaints etc and monitor action taken. Members were additionally informed that the issue had been queried with Blaina Ward Member Councillor Garth Collier who informed that Blaenau Gwent CBC needed to upgrade all the street light fittings. It was agreed that this issue would be queried with Blaenau Gwent again.

d) Coed – y- Garn Primary School (Councillor R Abbas):

Councillor Abbas informed of his attendance at a recent meeting of the school governors. He informed that although the school was currently facing some challenging issues regarding staffing, there was a lot of good and productive work being undertaken by both the staff and the pupils. The school was currently working on a number of community initiatives.

**Resolved** to note the information received.