

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

Mrs T Hughes - Town Clerk/RFO

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Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 26th March 2019

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

Present: Councillor T McKnight, Vice Chair, presiding
Councillors D Hillman; C Hillman; K Jenkins; G Morvan; C Bridgeman;
K Jones & L Harris.

In attendance: Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk / RFO

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Vice Chair informed of the fire procedure.

To receive: Mr David Finch from Men's Den:

Members were reminded to note the Standing Orders relating to guest speakers:

1. Members to receive the presentation.
2. Questions to be invited at the end of the presentation.
3. Members were requested to ask only one question each – if time allows AND with permission of the Chairman, a second question may be asked.
4. Members were reminded that there was to be no discussion or exchange of points of view between Members and that all dialogue was to be directed through the Chairman.

The Vice Chair introduced and welcomed Mr David Finch of Men's Den to the meeting. David explained that both the Men's Den and Men's Shed organisations were part of the same bigger group. The groups were first established with the support of the now defunct Communities First organisation and since then, the project has carried on and become a constituted group in its own right.

Tai Calon housing helped the group initially set up in Abertillery and the groups have since relocated to the William Powell Memorial Hall in Bournville, Blaina and have become very successful. The whole group work together as a team taking on such roles as treasurer.

Many of the clients/attendees at Men's Den are aged over 50 years and are usually retired. The group meets on Wednesday mornings from 10am until 12 noon at a cost of £2 per person (first 2 weeks are free of charge). Men's Den has been successful in its objectives of providing a friendly meeting place which provides the opportunity for a range of social activities to take place such as games, pool, dominos, meeting different people with refreshments provided. Men's Den also provides subsidised day trips for its members such as bowling and visiting Big Pit and many activities have been planned for the summer. Local groups also visit such as the local Ukele group which through its music,

helped those members who suffered with dementia.

Thanks to donated ground, Men's Den also have an allotment project within the area and people are welcomed and encouraged to join in with this project. Tai Calon has planned to clear the land as a donation in kind and a sensory garden was also planned here, which was hoped to encourage many different people to visit.

Men's Den had also started in Llys Nant y Mynydd Residential Complex in Nantyglo with a large interest in woodwork. As such a competition had been planned (Ei'shed'fod) in Builth Wells for all Men's Dens groups to meet and take part.

Questions were invited at this juncture:

Q: Apologies for the low number of Members present. It was a well-known and accepted fact that too many people suffer from loneliness and many groups practised inclusiveness. What area does the locally situated Men's Shed accept members from? With reference to the allotments project, the Town Council was planning to hold its second Nantyglo and Blaina In Bloom competition in the summer and hopefully, a Flower, Fruit and Veg Show which Men's Shed would be very welcome to enter.

A: The majority of members of Men's Shed were from the Ebbw Fach Valley (Brynmaur, Nantyglo, Blaina & Abertillery) and one member was from Tredegar. There were no boundaries with regards to membership.

Q: Were Blaenau Gwent's Community Connectors involved with Men's Shed?

A: Yes, Community Connectors work with Men's Shed and introduce people to the group and also come along to support individuals if necessary.

Q: Was the group for male members only?

A: Whilst the group is aimed mainly at men, hence the name, women were not excluded from the group. The group was initially set up for men due to an absence of men's group but many different women's groups were already established. Men's Den welcomes everyone and practices all-inclusiveness.

On behalf of the Town Council, the Vice Chair thanked Mr David Finch for his presentation and for attending the meeting.

Q: Does Men's Den receive any funding from elsewhere?

A: Not from anywhere that hasn't already been mentioned although we would seek funding for the allotment project. The total cost of this project was still unknown although we would attempt to use recycled materials wherever possible and try to link to other organisations to hopefully access or obtain cheaper costing materials.

Q: Both Greenspaces Charity and the Co-op fund for community projects might provide funding or help.

A: Men's Shed would look to contact these groups for funding and / or other help. Leaflets detailing Men's Den were distributed to the Town Council.

The Vice Chair thanked Mr Finch for attending the meeting and his presentation.

Mr David Finch left the Chamber.

Councillor L Harris joined the meeting at this juncture.

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 of interest 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 received and to formally resolve to accept. **Resolved** to note that apologies were received from Councillors R Pagett; R Abbas; G Watkins; K Treharne & E Morgan. **Further Resolved** that all apologies be accepted.

2. Update in respect of the arrangements for the ARC Awards 2019:

Members were informed that the following recommendations have previously been resolved by Council (*for information*):

- Date & times of awards evening – Thursday 4th April 2019. Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start.
- Venue for awards evening – Nantyglo RFC
- Buffet for awards evening - £3 per head, numbers were to be confirmed nearer the date. Approximate cost of £210
- M.C. for the evening was confirmed as Cllr K Treharne
- Nomination forms had been received and considered by the judging panel.
- Artist confirmed as Mr Christopher Hughes at an approximate cost of £100
- Winners have been notified and invitations and tickets issued.
- Awards have been ordered and certificates have been produced.
- Additional award had been resolved and ordered.
- Additional gift(s) to be purchased nearer the date.
- Speeches and order of the evening were being produced.
- Raffle was to be held in aid of the Town Mayor's Appeal.
- Councillors E Morgan & K Jenkins to collect tickets and sell raffle tickets.

Resolved to note the information received.

3. Primary Talent Showcase 2019:

Members were informed of the following arrangements as a result of the resolutions made by Council in respect of the Primary Talent Showcase (*for information*):

- The date of the event had been confirmed as Wednesday 19th June 2019.
- Coed y Garn Primary had stated that they were NOT able to take part in this year's event. Members were informed that Coed y Garn had been contacted and an alternative date had been offered but this too had been declined.
- The location of the event was yet to be confirmed.

- The format for the evening remains as in previous years
- That Mr Des Ward be invited as technical / musical arranger
- That Councillor K Treharne act as MC for the event (subject to availability)
- That Miss Gracie Jayne Fitzgerald of Blaina (age 12 years) to perform as the guest artist
- To purchase a small gift as appropriate to guest artist and Des Ward
- Awards for performers already purchased in 2018
- Certificates were to be awarded to performers.
- To request that the Schools / PTA to provide refreshments with the proceeds being divided between the PTA/school and the Town Mayor's Appeal.
- That a raffle in respect of Town Mayor's Appeal / School or PTA be held on the night.
- That tickets / invitations were sent out as in previous years.

Resolved to note the information received and **Further Resolved** that Councillor Jones contact Coed y Garn School to query their possible attendance at the event.

4. Updates in respect of other considered events for the year:

- Nantyglo & Blaina in Bloom:
- Flower, Fruit and Veg Show:
- Dog show:
- Nantyglo & Blaina's Got Talent:
- Community Sporting Event:

Resolved that a Task and Finish Group Meeting take place after the ARC Awards to discuss the events listed above.