

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held via Microsoft Teams / hybrid
on Wednesday, 15th October, 2025 at 6.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors A.E. Tippings (Chair)

**A. Jones
M. Turner
A.E. Evans
L. Thomas Evans
E. Jones
G. Jones-Griffiths
J. Thomas
P. Tolley
G. Walters**

**In attendance: Clerk – Ms. C. Aherne
RFO – Ms. A. Edwards**

**174) Apologies: Councillors K. Phillips, G. Badham, D. Rowberry, H. Trollope,
S. Trollope and K. Waldron**

175) Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members to make their declarations as and when necessary.

176) To receive any verbal recommendations of all Sub-Committee / Working Party meetings held prior to this meeting of Council

It was agreed the recommendations of the Performance Review Sub-Committee held prior to Council be approved accordingly:

- To approve the report in respect of the Budget against Actual to 30th September, 2025, and Recommendations contained therein:
 - Continue to monitor the current overspends;
 - 'Publications': virement of £22.00 from 'Insurances'.
- It was therefore unanimously agreed that the contract be awarded to JFT Protection Group Ltd. (JME Security & Events Services Ltd.), who had provided this service the previous year for this financial year only; and
It was further agreed, that in line with the Christmas lighting contract, that security provision be sought for a three-year period the following year (2026), based on Council satisfaction of the service provided each year.

177) Tredegar Recreation Ground: any update for discussion

The following update was provided for consideration of Council:

- The Deputy Mayor had spoken with an employee of Able touch in regard to concerns relating to the lighting who said , to his knowledge, six bulbs were required at a cost of £100.00 per bulb.

The Leader confirmed he was liaising with BG Officers and would be meeting with Mr. David Watkins on site to discuss the structural survey and review each item on an individual basis and Council would only make progress on the proviso any works would be undertaken / agreed to prior to transfer, e.g. car park, demolition of toilets, clarification of electrical and gas certification, all floodlights in working order, checking utilities in respect of taps / shower, etc.

In response to a question raised, the Leader confirmed that Blaenau Gwent CBC regularly undertook Legionella checks and Council could negotiate this service also.

178) To consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in October 2025

The RFO spoke to the report and explained that the bank reconciliations, valid to date, were available for Members at the meeting and to view upon request, which was noted accordingly.

- Accounts for Payment in September 2025
One Voice Wales: the cheque had been written back, as the Conference relating to this payment had been cancelled.
- Accounts for Payment in October 2025
The information was split to reflect the payment method, i.e. Debit Card, cheque and Direct payments.
Malcolm G. Moon Electrical: the payment for the approved works would be released on receipt of invoice.
Horeb Chapel: the RFO had sought clarification on the payment method; however, this had not been provided in a timely manner and the Officer had therefore raised a cheque. If confirmed a Direct payment was preferred, this amount would be moved to the appropriate section for reporting.
I♥Payday: a charge had been incurred due to the need to undertake a rerun of payroll for September.
- Section 137 payments in Schedule of Payments – Resolution of Council: In pursuance of the power conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, expenditure up to £121,947.61 was approved in relation to the above £260.00.

There being no further queries regarding the Schedule of Accounts, presented items inclusive of the amendment to the October 2025 Schedule, were approved for payment. The RFO asked that the designated signatories liaise in respect of the transfer of funds, as approved by Council, and to complete dual online authorisation of the approved online payments to be undertaken in the presence of the appropriate Member and Town Clerk, which was noted accordingly.

179) To receive and adopt the following Minutes of Council:

- a) Events Sub-Committee - 3rd September, 2025**
- b) Civic Meeting of Council - 3rd September, 2025**
- c) Public Facilities Working Party - 17th September, 2025**
- d) Policy Sub-Committee - 17th September, 2025**
- e) Ordinary Meeting of Council - 17th September, 2025**

It was agreed that all Minutes presented be moved en bloc as a true record.

180) Chair to sign Minutes - at earliest opportunity in accordance with WG Legislation and Guidance

Minutes approved were duly signed by the Chair in the presence of Council.

181) Correspondence

1) BGCBC

a) K. Williams Re: Proposed Light Switch-On Event in Collaboration with Ebbw Vale Business Forum. Event is scheduled for 28.11.2025 and even though it clashes with Tredegar's she feels it will not cause a problem due to people preferring to attend events in their own town.

- On due consideration, the following observations of Members were noted:

- Tredegar Town Council was very disappointed with the decision to arrange this event alongside our longstanding event, which had always been held on the last Friday of November. There was an agreement between all four town councils to avoid a clash in this respect, as members of the public would travel to attend various switch-on events, e.g. Nantyglo and Blaina on a Tuesday and Wednesday, Brynmawr on a Thursday, Abertillery on a Saturday, etc., and this could impact on attendance.
- The switch-on of the Ebbw Vale display had historically always been held on the first Saturday in December.
- The presence of two different funfair providers in such close proximity on the same evening could impact upon takings; this would be unfair to our provider, who has always shown great support to Council, not only bringing along attractions but are helpful with crowd management - for instance, youngsters playing up, as they were accustomed to such behaviour being well-travelled and experienced in this field.
- ***Members therefore objected to holding the switch-on event of these two towns on the same evening - recognising however this may be due to the decision being reached by a newly established forum and would ask the Town Centre Manager relay the afore-mentioned points for consideration in future years.***

- b) K. Williams Re: Cinema Event 31.10.2025.
Asking if the toilets can remain open for this event, they will have security and will return the keys as done before.

- Council was happy to support the event by allowing use of the public conveniences, on the proviso that the toilets were supervised by a suitable Attendant to prevent any damage / vandalism.

If able to accede to this condition, Council would therefore allow the Local Authority the use of the public conveniences.

- c) L. Holmes Re: Quickstart Supported Work Placements. 25 hours per week for 6 months.

- Noted; Clerk to submit Expression of Interest.

- d) i) List of applications received, week ending 26.09.2025 – *no Tredegar items*
ii) List of applications received, week ending 03.10.2025 – *no Tredegar items*
iii) List of applications received, week ending 10th October 2025
1. TEN 18/19.10.25 – Kidz R Us
2. Temporary Street Trading 18.10.2025 – Tredegar Sports Centre

2) One Voice Wales

Welsh Government Written Statement: Update on actions to support the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector.

- Noted; forward to Councillor M. Turner.

3) Members Correspondence

- a) Cllr H Trollope. Health update.

- Members welcomed the good news.

- b) Cllr Waldron. Health update.

- It was agreed to allow a 'dispensation for absence' of six months; should the Member require it and welcome the Member to attend, once again, when next in a position to do so.

It was unanimously agreed that expenditure be approved in respect of an appropriate gift

in lieu of flowers and the best wishes of Council be relayed accordingly.

4) Torfaen County
Borough Council

J Griffiths Re: Employer meeting Friday, 7th November 2025 Pension Fund Actuarial Valuation. Invite to one representative to attend the meeting being held at the Council Chamber, TCBC between 10.00 a.m. & 12.00 noon. **RSVP by 24.10.2025**

- Noted; Councillor J. Thomas to attend, if available.

5) J Cotton

Re: TTC Events. Can attend both events at the same price as last year £370.

- The expenditure was unanimously approved.

6) G Badham

Nick Smith MP Re: Every Deserves a Christmas 2025. Asking Council to consider making a donation to this year's campaign, each hamper costs £50.

- Noted; further clarification was needed.

7) Cerebral Palsy
Cymru

Thanks for donation.

- Noted.

8) **PUBLICATIONS**

BGCBC Roadworks report week ending 10.10.2025 and 17.10.2025; OVW Keep Wales Tidy, Green Space and Biodiversity Webinar 23.10.2025 at 10.30 a.m.; OVW Cost of Living Crisis Project - Information and Resources; GAVO Annual General Meeting 26.11.2025 from 11.00 a.m. on Teams; OVW Re: Older People's Commissioner for Wales Briefing Paper, Making Wales a nation of Age-Friendly Communities; OVW Diverse by Nature webinars – ***distributed to Members***: Received.

Councillors. E. Jones and J. Thomas declared an interest in the following item and took no part in discussion or voting thereon.

182) Planning:

- a) i) List of planning applications received in week 40
- ii) List of planning applications received in week 41

b) To consider Planning Applications submitted for Council's observations

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
P/2025/0164	Diocese of Monmouth	Amended plans for to erect a timber church office adjacent to St. George's Church, St. George's Church, Tredegar.
No objections	64 Caerau Road Newport	

P/2025/0214	Mr. N. Rimes 3 Meadow Crescent Tredegar	Amended Plans: Detached garage, 3 Meadow Crescent.
No objections		
2025/0277	Mr. I. Shawkat 22 Southend Tredegar	Retention of single storey workshop and store at side of existing garage, 22 Southend.
No objections		
P/2025/0281	Mr. L. Brooker Rose Farm Cottage Lakeside Tredegar	Single storey side extension, Rose Farm Cottage.
No objections		
P/2025/0282	Mr. P. Bevan Bevans Builds & Rentals Ltd 18 Maes Morgan Tredegar	Detached dwelling, 14 Maes Morgan
No objections		

c) To consider other planning matters – None received.

183) Matters of Local Interest or Concern (by prior notice)

- Tredegar Comprehensive School – a gentle reminder for Members to respond in respect of any ideas for the 50th anniversary.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.20 p.m.

_____ Chair