

TREDEGAR TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held via Microsoft Teams / hybrid
on Wednesday, 19th February, 2025 at 6.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors K. Phillips (Chair)
A.E. Tippings
A. Jones
G. Jones-Griffiths
H. Trollope
S. Trollope
K. Waldron

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

303) Apologies. Councillors E. Griffin, M. Turner, G. Badham, E. Jones,
G. Meredith, D. Rowberry, J. Thomas, and G. Walters

304) Declarations of Interest

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

305) To receive any verbal recommendations of all Sub-Committees / Working Party held prior to this meeting of Council

It was agreed the proposals of the Civic Sub-Committee held prior to Council be accepted and approved accordingly:

Councillor H. Trollope declared an interest in the application of Cefn Golau Together and took no part in discussion or voting thereon

- **Waundeg Nantybwich Community Association:** a start-up grant of £100.00 be proposed for formal approval of Council.
- **Cefn Golau Together:** a start-up grant of £100.00 be proposed for formal approval of Council.

Councillor S. Trollope left the meeting at this juncture (6.33 p.m.)

306) Update on Online Payments process

The RFO highlighted that with any form of financial transaction, especially online transactions, there could be a level of 'high risk' such as staff / Member collusion. The report outlined a proposed process to mitigate the risks but it would not completely remove them, and additional actions could be identified when going forward. Some of the actions in the proposed process included the Pin sentry machine stored in the office, with the person retaining the bank card and the RFO highlighted that this was not a debit or credit card,

thereby preventing use / access bank using another person's information; authoriser not make payments to themselves, the Clerk / another Member would be asked to authorise those payments; List of payments verified against payment details on the online bank account. The report contained additional points / recommendations, and stated the service free.

Additional procedure to be placed in Financial Regulations and Internal Financial Controls.

Members fully supported this method of payment in moving forward. Council thanked the RFO for a concise report, which had made a complex matter very simple.

307) To consider a Schedule of Accounts for payment in February, 2025

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

- Two for both Quadient and Konica Minolta, no specific claim date received. Previous Quadient written back on Direct Debit, as this had not went through previously.
- New grant applications: two start up grants approved in the sum of £200.00.
- Christmas Lights: approve payment to SSE 'pending', awaiting decision of RFO query to them.
- Smith of Derby: service charge and time on site, but no call-out charge.
- CCTV: related to the system upgrade to the public conveniences.

There being no further queries regarding the Schedule of Accounts, presented items plus the additional amounts reported were approved for payment. The RFO asked that the designated signatories liaise in respect of the transfer of funds, as approved by Council, to be undertaken in the presence of the appropriate Member and Town Clerk, which was noted accordingly.

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

- a) Performance Review Sub-Committee - 8th January, 2025**
- b) Civic Meeting of Council - 8th January, 2025**
- c) Performance Review Sub-Committee - 22nd January, 2025**
- d) Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22nd January, 2025**

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

309) 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.

310) Correspondence

- 1) BGCBC
 - i) List of applications received, week ending 31.01.2025.
 - 1) Vary Designated Premises Supervisor – Kidz R Us

2) Vary premises licence to extend alcohol sale time to 24 hours – Roundabout Services, Tredegar Service Station, Sirhowy Bridge

ii) List of applications received, week ending 07.02.2025.

- Noted. Council wished to commend Kidz R Us on the excellent performance, which had been well-attended and well-received by everyone.

2) Democracy & Boundary Commission Cymru

Re: Electoral Review Programme 2025 (ERP 2025). Policy & Practice document released, closing date for responses 25.03.2025.

- Noted.

3) Volunteering Matters

Poster looking for volunteering friends in Tredegar to support a lonely or isolated older person. Happy to meet to discuss their service and how people can help – **Twitter / Noticeboard**

- Noted. This appeared an excellent concept but the invitation to attend a future meeting was accepted accordingly.

4) Parkinson's UK

Re: World Parkinson's Day 2025. Thanks for once again helping to raise awareness of Parkinson's in Tredegar. Light the Clock 'blue' on 11.04.2025.

- Noted and agreed accordingly.

5) Cwmpass

Re: Community-Led Housing in Tredegar. Would like to come and speak to Council about what they do and opportunities that might existing on the Tredegar community.

- Noted; the invitation to attend a future meeting was accepted accordingly.

6) PUBLICATIONS

BGCBC Roadworks report, week ending 07.02.2025 and 22.02.2025; Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum Meeting 17.02.2025 at 10.00 a.m. Tredegar Library; One Voice Wales Re: NFWI-Wales event to mark Neurodiversity Celebration Week. Online event 17.3.2025 from 7.00 p.m.; One Voice Wales News from the Cost of Living Crisis Support Team – **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.

311) Planning:

- a) i) List of planning applications received in week 06
- ii) List of planning applications received in week 07

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

App. No.	Applicant	Proposal
C/2025/0044	Barclays Bank Plc 1 Churchill Place London	Removal of external signage and make good; removal of ATM machine and infill aperture to match existing; removal of existing closed counters; removal of existing Night Safe and infill aperture to match existing, 21 Castle Street.
<i>No objections</i>		

c) To consider other planning matters – Kew Planning, Specialist Consultee Letter: Development of 22 new industrial units and associated works, Crown Business Park. Pre-application Consultation open until 19.03.2025, hard copies available for viewing at Rassau Resource Community Centre.

Applied for twenty individual units at Crown Avenue, however there was no description where these would be located on the Estate. A Member confirmed there had been debate where the same concerns had been raised as by this Colleague, opposing such development as Members could not see where this would be based, submitted by private firm with no Blaenau Gwent involvement at the moment: Clerk to ask that Deposit Plan with Town Council.

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

- Presentation Award evening – a Member said Tianna had offered to sing at the presentation evening; which Council agreed, expressing thanks.
- Nomination Forms – to be completed and returned to the Clerk at the earliest convenience for approval of the next meeting of Council if the recipients were to be invited to the evening on 19th March, 2025.
- BG Commendment Awards – nominations.
- Outrun – solely produced by Darcy Titchmarsh.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.31 p.m.

Chair