

CAERPHILLY

TOWN

COUNCIL



CYNGOR

TREF

CAERFFILI

**TOWN CLERK:
CLERC-Y-DREF:**

Phil Davy

**TOWN MAYOR:
MEIR Y DREF:**

**Councillor
Mike Prew**

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF CAERPHILLY
TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE TWYN COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2019

Present:

Councillors P J Bevan, C Elsbury, S Kent, J Grenfell, M Prew, S Hodder, H Jackson, J Fussell

Apologies:

Councillors J Hibbert, S Morgan, J Pritchard, R Bidgood

In Attendance

G Clifton, I Adams, J Spokes, Gwent Police

P G Davy, Town Clerk

Representatives from Caerphilly County Borough Taxi Drivers Association gave an update on the toilets at Caerphilly Bus Station. The disabled toilet is currently closed due to misuse as this is not coin entry controlled. Some urgent refurbishment is required of the toilets. In order to raise additional income for maintenance and introduce coin entry to the disabled toilet the entry charge will be raised from 20p to 50p with effect from 1st December 2019.

Representatives from HOPE (Helping open people's eyes) gave a presentation on their work. Hope is a voluntary community group (not currently registered as a charity) funded through donations of money food and clothes. The group has regularly been feeding homeless people in Newport. Sufficient funds have been raised to purchase and to convert a double decker bus to a mobile homeless shelter. The group wants to work with other bodies involved with the homeless to maximise use of the bus which will include agreeing suitable locations where it can be parked overnight or for longer periods. Members were impressed with what had been achieved by the group.

68 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST OCTOBER 2019

Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on 21st October 2019 were received, confirmed, and signed.

Address: The Twyn Community Centre The Twyn Caerphilly CF83 1JL
Telephone and Fax: Caerphilly 02920 888777
E-mail: towncouncil@tiscali.co.uk
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings 9.30a.m. to 12.30p.m

69 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

70 COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS

There was a discussion concerning the homeless couple who had recently relocated to the area adjacent to the obelisk opposite Sports Direct. Various offers of accommodation had been made but had been declined as they only wanted joint accommodation. There is ongoing engagement between the couple and the police and Cornerstone (the referral agency).

The police are undertaking a targeted approach to youth activity in the town centre and other locations where there have been recent problems. Action is being taken with a particular group of suspects.

In response to concerns raised by residents with Members the police advised there is no evidence of an increase in crime as a result of the street lights being turned off at night.

Councillor S Kent arrived at 6.45pm during the discussion on community safety.

71 TOWN MAYOR'S DIARY

The Mayor reported he had attended the following:

- Launch of the 2019 Poppy Appeal with the British Legion
- Help the Heroes event
- Fireworks Display
- Remembrance Day services

The Mayor placed on record his thanks to Councillors C Elsbury, J Fussell, and S Kent who had worked hard through atrocious weather to ensure the Fireworks Display went ahead as normal.

72 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

With the very wet weather flooding problems had occurred at Nantgarw Road and Castle Street which were longstanding problems.

73 TOWN CLERK'S REPORTS

1 Budget Estimates 2020/21

There had been a minor adjustment to the draft estimates presented to the October meeting to reflect the decision to increase the sponsorship of the Summer Sports Scheme to £5000 in 2020. The estimated total expenditure for 2020/21 is £110,407. (Note as expenditure on CIL projects is now being incurred this will need to be incorporated within the budget. This will have the effect of reducing the balances as the CIL projects are funded from the restricted reserves). The budget assumptions were as previously agreed.

It was resolved:

- 1 To approve the budget estimates for 2020/21 as attached to the report
- 2 The Council Tax for Band D properties (precept) is set at £15.50 for 2020/21
- 3 The budget is updated following completion of the year end accounts in April 2020 including the estimated expenditure on CIL projects

2 Representative on Governing Body Twyn Primary School

A decision on the nomination of a representative was deferred to the January meeting of the Town Council.

3 Fireworks Display 2019

In view of difficulties encountered as a result of bad weather and shortage of helpers for the set up and clean up there was a discussion about the continuation of the event. Two complaints had been received by the Town Clerk, one relating to noise and the other expressing the view that the fireworks are a waste of money. This is a popular and well attended event with some visitors travelling long distances. The unanimous view was the event should continue. Operational issues will be discussed at the Events Working Group, the debrief meeting on 2019 events will be held in January 2020.

It was resolved:

- 1 To round up the street collection to £2200 (Town Council contribution £178-98) with £1100 being presented to each of the Town Mayor's charities.
- 2 The Fireworks Display in 2020 to take place on 31st October 2020.
- 3 The contract for the fireworks is retendered for 2020.

74 PLANNING MATTERS

The following planning applications were considered and comments made as follows:

19/0770/LA – no objections

19/0877/RET – no objections

19/0881/FULL – no objections

19/0866/RET – no objections

19/0899/FULL – no objections

19/0900/COU – no objections

Councillor J Fussell declared an interest, and took no part in the discussion or decision making on any of the applications.

75 PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 1 List of payments were noted and approved.
- 2 Bank account balances were noted.
- 3 Applications for financial assistance.

Save the Children – Caerphilly Branch

A grant of £150 was approved. Expenditure authorised under the Local Government Act 1972, section 137. Councillor H Jackson declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making on this application.

Caerphilly Art Society

A grant of £250 was approved. Expenditure authorised under the Local Government Act 1972, section 145.

76 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence.

77 MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS

There were no requests.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm