

Ken Williams

Councillor
Mr. Colin Elsbury

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CAERPHILLY
TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE TWYN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON
MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2014**

Present:

Councillor Mr. M. Newman, Mr. C. Elsbury (Town Mayor), Mr. E. Talbot, Mrs. J. Hibbert, Mr. R. Williams, Mr. G. Pratt, Mr. M. Thomas, Mr. S. Kent, Mr. P. J. Bevan, Mr. James Fussell and Mr. J. Pritchard.

Apologies:

Councillor Olwen Rees.

In attendance:

Mr. K. Williams (Town Clerk).
Inspector Gareth Jones.

77. **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20TH
JANUARY 2014**

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 20th January 2014 were received, confirmed and signed.

78. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The clerk informed members that both the Principality and Nationwide Building Societies do not accept investments from local councils. The Monmouthshire Building Society does have a Corporate Account that pays 1% or 1.25% with 30 days notice but this has to be maintained on line.

It was agreed that once the Town Councils balances exceed £85,000 a deposit would be considered in a bank to be agreed at that time.

79. **COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

- a) An informal gathering is to take place in the library on Wednesday 19th February at 5.45 p.m. and all members were invited by Inspector Jones. The new Chief Superintendent, Mark Button, will be present.
- b) Inspector Jones handed out crime statistics. He explained figures are higher compared to residential wards because of the high number of shops and therefore the number of shoplifting offences. There has also been a rise in thefts from sheds and although a suspect has been described he has yet to be picked up.
- c) If the barrier at Bondfield Park is removed the police will monitor the site to ensure motorists do not use it as a short cut.
- d) An Enforcement Day was held on 27th January and 21 tickets were issued to motorists using Dol y felin Street as a shortcut. The police also attended at local schools to ensure cars were parked legally.
- e) A speed limit review is to take place at Heol Cae Barrau but no guarantees can be given on changes to the speed limit until this review is completed. There is no knowledge of a change in speed limit on Mountain Road between the Travellers Rest and the Mountain Top Cafe.
- f) A request was made for the police to continue to monitor vehicles collecting scrap in the area.
- g) Forged £20 notes are circulating around the Town. These can be identified by examining the paper quality and the watermark.

Caerphilly Mountain -Road Safety

Members were informed that an On Line petition had received 600 signatures. Residents want a vehicle restraint system installed along Heol Cae Barrau for a distance of approximately 200 metres to prevent vehicles leaving the road and ploughing into gardens.

Ward members have met officers of Caerphilly Borough but there seems to be a reluctance to put in these crash barriers.

It was agreed to invite Mrs Rhiannon Williams and partner to the next Council Meeting to speak to members on this issue and to write to the Borough supporting the installation of crash barriers.

80. **TOWN MAYOR'S DIARY**

Councillor Elsbury informed members that he had been given a bottle of wine when he attended the prize giving evening at Y Galeri. He has given this to the Town Clerk and it will be donated to charity.

Events

31st January 14	-	Y Galeri
15th February 14	-	Comenius Event, Castle

81. **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

- a) Problem with Canadian Pond Weed on the Balancing Lake.
- b) Water still ponding on Nantgarw Road by Texaco Garage.
- c) A street light is required behind Tafys Walk by the old Social Services building.
- d) Flood lights behind Ysgol Gymraeg y Castell are being left on at night.
- e) The non slip surface on the railway bridge steps came off in the high winds. This has now been replaced.
- f) There is a drainage problem at the junction of Bronrhiw and King Edward Avenue 8 metres west of Bronrhiw.
- g) Fly tipping on rear lane, Van Road.
- h) Rear of 6, Salop Street, rubbish is being put out in bags.

82. **PROJECTS & TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

a) **Bilingual Signs**

Concern was expressed over the Christmas sign Nadolig Llawen not being bilingual. The clerk explained there is no legal requirement for either the Town Council or the Twyn Management Committee to have bilingual signs but because the building is owned by the Caerphilly County Borough Council it was agreed to write to them for confirmation on whether this sign is legal.

It was also agreed the Events Sub Group would look at the possibility of having a bilingual sign in future.

b) **Fireworks Display 2014**

The clerk presented a report on this year's fireworks display. He informed members that a request had been made to CADW to book the castle for the event and had been informed that the Town Council would require a generator to provide electricity.

Members instructed the clerk to take the matter up with CADW particularly in view of the fact the Town Council makes a contribution towards the running costs of the lights around the castle.

Members agreed to employ Pendragon Fireworks and Pyrotechnics for the display and to pay 50% up front with the balance after the display. Rees Sound will again be used for the P.A. System and Portable Toilets Ltd for the supply of portaloos.

c) **Concessionary Use of Caerphilly Castle**

Councillor Bevan and Hibbert declared an interest on the application from Urdd Eisteddfod and Councillor Elsbury on the application from Shinning Stars and these councillors took no part in the discussions or decision making.

It was agreed to grant a concession to both Shinning Stars and the Urdd Eisteddfod and to pay for the hire charge.

d) Caerphilly County Borough Events 2014

Members agreed to the following contributions towards the costs of running the event.

	£
Caerphilly Food Festival	750
Big Cheese	750
Christmas Market	1500

83. **PLANNING MATTERS**

Councillor C. Elsbury and J. Fussell declared an interest in all Planning Matters and took no part in the discussions or decision making. Councillor Bevan declared an interest in 13/0850/ADV and Councillor Kent in application 14/0005/COU and took no part in the discussions or decision making on these applications.

Planning Application 14/0049 - Members asked for confirmation that the temporary building is within the secure compound.

Members requested a copy of plans for 14/0074 and 14/0075.

84. **PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a. List of Payments - Noted and Approved.
- b. Bank Account balances - Noted.
- c. Application for Financial Assistance

	£
i) Windsor Road Presbyterian Church	640
ii) All Gwent Neighbourhood Watch	Deferred
iii) St. Martin's Ward OAP	600

Members moved a donation of £600 and £250 for St. Martin's OAP. Voting was by a show of hands and by 5 votes to 2 votes it was agreed to a donation of £600.

d. Play Wales Subscription

Members agreed to renew the subscription of £25.

e. Splash Pad - Morgan Jones Park

Members agreed to make a contribution of £1,500 towards the running costs of the Splash Pad at Morgan Jones Park.

85. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Caerphilly County Borough Council Employment Site Supply and Market Approval - Noted.
- b) Welsh National Marine Plan - Noted.

86. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Meeting Ended 7.45 p.m.
Next Meeting 17th March 2014.