

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 MEETING OF THE CAERPHILLY  
TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE TWYN COMMUNITY CENTRE  
ON MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

**Present:**

Councillors P J Bevan, C Elsbury, S Kent, J Grenfell, M Prew, S Hodder, H Jackson, S Morgan, J Fussell, J Pritchard and R Bidgood

**Apologies:**

Councillor J Hibbert

**In Attendance:**

J McDonnell, Gwent Police  
N Prygodzicz, Director of Planning, ABUHB  
K Jones, Associate Capital Project Director, ABUHB  
P G Davy, Town Clerk

Prior to the meeting the representatives from the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board gave a presentation on the Clinical Futures development plan and estate strategy. A key element is the new critical care hospital now under construction at Llanfrechfa, Cwmbran. This is a £350m investment and will provide 471 beds, although this will not be an increase in the overall no of beds within ABUHB. The new hospital will be operational in 2021. There will be some reconfiguration of services, however this is unlikely to significantly change the services at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr. Given the location of the new hospital particular concerns were raised about public transport and discussions were ongoing with the Valleys Metro.

**45 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2018**

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 were received, confirmed, and signed.

**46 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Minute 38.1 The Deputy Mayor had attended the Wales in Bloom Awards and the Town Council was presented with a Silver Award. The Morgan Jones Allotments had won a Gold Award in the small

allotments category. A meeting had been arranged for 26<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the establishment of a steering group to pursue an entry to Britain in Bloom in 2019.

Minute 38.2 CCBC had responded in respect of flyposting indicating the split of responsibilities between Planning Enforcement and Highways Inspectors. Due to limited staff resources specific locations were requested where flyposting was a visual eyesore. Litter had been cleaned along Park Lane but this had not included the fenced vacant site. Arrangements were being made for graffiti removal via the Probation Service.

Minute 38.3 Cllr Kent was still pursuing the refuse collection arrangements at The Beeches 2 as emptied bins were left blocking the dropped kerb.

Minute 39.3 The allocation of Deputy Lieutenants for Remembrance Day commemoration events would be undertaken in September 2018.

Minute 44.1 Feedback from Cadw on progress with the Castle Masterplan had been requested but no information had been received to date. It was reported that there had been meetings with CCBC on this matter.

#### **47 COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

J McDonnell reported on the following:

- 1 Arrests had been made in connection with commercial burglaries in Pentrebane Street.
- 2 Groups had been gathering in the vicinity of Sports Direct and there had been reports of drink and drugs. The application of the Public Space Protection Order would be used to enforce the prohibition of drinking in this area. The area covered by the PSPO will be publicised on the Police website.
- 3 The Police had attended the recent meeting arranged by the Caerphilly Town Centre Residents Association when a large number of questions had been addressed.
- 4 It was confirmed that sufficient Police resources will be on duty to cover the Fireworks Display on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 without the need to pay for additional officers.
- 5 There will be an operation in respect of the use of seatbelts and mobile phones. Drivers observed contravening the law will be stopped and given the choice of an on the spot fine or being sent to watch a training film showing the impact of not observing the law.

Members raised the following:

- 6 Youths congregating at Morgan Jones Allotments.
- 7 Use of nitric oxide canisters and retailers need to be advised about the supply of these to young people.
- 8 Potential drug use in Dol y Felin Street. Further intelligence would need to be gathered on this before a premises search could be instigated.

**48 URGENT ITEM – TOWN CENTRE RESIDENT PARKING ORDER**

The Mayor had allowed this matter to be discussed as the consultation period ends on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

CCBC is proposing changes to the Resident Permit Parking Policy. It is proposed to introduce a £30 charge for the issue of permits to cover administration and maintenance costs.

The Caerphilly Town Centre Residents Association has raised a number of concerns as the payment of the charge offers no guarantee of a parking space and residents compete with shoppers and staff from businesses in the town for the limited spaces available. The CTCRA had written to the Town Council requesting their response.

Following a debate it was resolved to request CCBC:

- 1 To introduce a lower permit charge recognising that neighbouring authorities have lower charges.
- 2 That the charge is not introduced until a comprehensive enforcement regime is in place.
- 3 There should be an increase in the overall numbers of staff for enforcement beyond that currently proposed to ensure regular 7 day a week cover across all areas.

**49 TOWN MAYOR'S DIARY**

The Mayor made a surprise presentation to Phil Logan, Blue Watch Officer at Caerphilly Fire Station for his long service to the community. He had attended twinning events at the Castle and Penyrheol Community Centre with visitors from Lannion. He had also attended a birthday party for a 10 year old.

**50 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

- 1 A litter pick had taken place on the Castle View estate.
- 2 There had been two enforcement notices for failure to remove dog mess.
- 3 Information was required from CCBC in respect of the removal of a number of defective lamp posts within the town centre. This has implications for the location of the Christmas lights.

**51 TOWN CLERK'S REPORTS**

**1 Town Council Community Service Award Scheme**

The report outlined options for introducing an annual award scheme. These are widely undertaken by town and community councils and parish councils in England.

It was resolved to proceed with a single annual award consisting of badge and framed certificate to either an individual or group who make an outstanding contribution to the community and the scheme would commence in 2019.

**2 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Working Group**

The Working Group had recommended eight project proposals. But CCBC had advised that the Christmas Lights was not eligible for CIL. The Town Clerk provided additional information following preliminary enquiries on some of the proposals. A number of members had attended a meeting with CCBC to discuss the Welsh National Anthem Memorial. It was accepted that the available CIL funding

would not be sufficient to fund all the projects and priorities would need to be determined following further investigation.

It was resolved:

- 1 To support the further investigation of all the projects recommended by the Working Group for the use of the CIL apart from the Christmas Lights (the latter may be addressed through the Council's unrestricted funds).
- 2 In view of the current availability of funds within CCBC for the Welsh National Anthem Memorial up to £8000 is committed from the CIL to enhance this project. Following discussion on the pros and cons of various sites with CCBC the preferred location for artwork was in the vicinity of the Twyn Community Centre. It was further agreed that three design proposals should be invited and the Town Council should select the best scheme.
- 3 Subject to agreement with CCBC the Town Council will take on the client role for the Welsh National Anthem artwork.

The power to incur expenditure on artworks is authorised under the Local Government Act 1972, section 145.

### 3 Events Working Group

The following matters were raised from the notes of the Events Working Group held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018:

As at the date of the Council meeting the formal consent for the Fireworks Display had still not been received from Cadw. Pendragon Fireworks had contacted the Council to review the launch arrangements in view of developments within the Castle grounds.

CCBC had confirmed that the tractor could be made available at a nominal hire charge and a volunteer member of staff will be available to drive the tractor.

Following representations from residents there was a request to extend the stewarding to manage the car parking at the Morgan Jones Flats. A number of practical considerations were outlined.

In view of the number of defective lamp posts within the town centre that are likely to be removed this would reduce the number of locations for Christmas figurines. As this would result in a surplus number of figurines the cyclical replacement would be unnecessary this year.

It was suggested that future notes from the Events Working Group should include the assignment of responsibilities for specific actions to individual members or officers.

It was resolved:

- 1 To confirm the actions outlined in the notes of the Events Working Group.
- 2 To reaffirm the earlier decision not to extend the stewarding and parking management to the Morgan Jones Flats during the Fireworks Display due to practical issues and given the short duration of the event.

3 No replacement Christmas figurines would be purchased in 2018.

4 Newsletter

A draft newsletter had been circulated to the members.

Cllr Hodder had to leave the meeting prior to this item being discussed but wished to make known she had objections to the content of the draft newsletter.

There was a debate about the content of the newsletter and whether this should be a priority for use of Council funds.

In view of the differing opinions the matter was put to the vote.

It was resolved by a majority present at the meeting to proceed with publication of the newsletter as drafted and with a print run of 7500, which is within the budget allocation. The Probation Service were to be approached to assist with distribution.

Cllr J Pritchard requested that his name be recorded as voting against this decision.

**52 PLANNING MATTERS**

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

18/0736/COU – No objections

18/0748/COU – Concerns raised about the scale of development and lack of off street parking

18/0750/COU – No objections

18/0771/FULL – No objections

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

**53 PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1 List of payments were noted and approved.

2 Bank account balances were noted.

3 Applications for Financial Assistance

Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales

A grant of £200 was approved.

In the absence of any specific power this expenditure is authorised under the Local Government Act 1972, section 137

4 Concessionary Hire of Caerphilly Castle

1 Charity Christmas Concert

Members confirmed the action by the Town Clerk to approve the request for the concessionary hire and meet the hire fee in order to secure the date with Cadw.

2 Starfish Alliance

The concessionary hire of Caerphilly Castle for a new charity launch was approved and the Town Council will meet the cost of the hire fee.

**54 CORRESPONDENCE**

Wayne David MP for Caerphilly had written to the Town Council to encourage support for plastic free initiatives. It was agreed to write to CCBC to promote the idea of the County Borough becoming a “plastic free community”.

**55 MEMBERS REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS**

There were no requests.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm