

CAERPHILLY

TOWN

COUNCIL



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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 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**

**Present:**

Councillors C. Elsbury, S. Kent, J. Hibbert, J. Grenfell, M. Prew, S. Hodder, S. Morgan, J. Fussell, J. Pritchard and R. Bidgood.

**Apologies:**

Councillors H. Jackson, P. J. Bevan.

**In Attendance:**

G. Clifton, J. McDonnell, Gwent Police

P. G. Davy, Town Clerk

**86 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2019**

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 were received, confirmed, and signed.

**87 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Minute 81.4 - For those Members who have not given written notice they wish to opt out of receiving the mandatory allowances the Town Clerk will require personal information for payments to be processed via the payroll. The anticipated processing cost for each individual will be £12.50.

**88 COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

Inspector Clifton gave an overview of policing. He reported that 4 additional police officers had been recruited and on average there were now 6 or 7 officers per shift. Around £150,000 of cannabis had been taken from a number of properties in the town. There had been a spate of

criminal damage in Bedwas Road, Pontywindy Road, and Park Avenue but there had been targeted activity at the individuals suspected of causing the damage. Certain businesses had been the subject of fraud by a gang operating from Liverpool. Generally crimes were averaging 50 to 60 a week which is lower than in previous years.

Members raised the following issues:

- 3 cars stolen at Castle View during cold mornings.
- Whether Big Issue sellers were subject of modern slavery.
- Increase in Anti-Social Behaviour in Virginia Grove area.
- Clarification whether public should use 101 or 999 to report ASB.

Arising from posts on Facebook Inspector Clifton commented on a sensitive matter in an adjacent ward.

Cllr S. Kent arrived at 6.37 pm during discussion on Community Safety Matters.

## **89 TOWN MAYOR'S DIARY**

The Mayor had presented cheques to the winners of the Caerphilly Arts Competition.

The Mayor informed Members that he would be arranging a presentation evening for his two charities towards the end of his term of office.

## **90 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

There were no matters raised.

## **91 TOWN CLERK'S REPORTS**

### 1 Risk Management

The Town Council is under an obligation to identify and manage the risks to public money arising from all activities. The Town Council generally operates a low risk environment. There has been no significant change in the scope of activities since the last risk assessment. The highest risks relate to events, Welsh language, and cyber security. Arising from the response of Welsh Government to the review of the Town and Community Council sector and the unlikelihood of major legislative change the risk has been reduced. A new risk associated with Brexit has been added to the assessment but due to the scope of the Town Council activities the impact is considered to be low.

Members approved the annual review of the risk assessment.

### 2 Concessionary Hires of Caerphilly Castle

Where the Town Council approves a concessionary hire and agrees to meet the hire cost this will be by way of a retrospective grant to the charity after the event has taken place and for the avoidance of doubt no grant will be paid to meet any cancellation costs.

It was agreed to confirm the new administrative arrangements which will have immediate effect.

### 3 Events Working Group

The Events Working Group met on 28<sup>th</sup> January to review operational issues arising from the 2018 events. The Working Group advocated that existing arrangements should continue in 2019 for the events organised by the Town Council.

It was resolved:

- 1 To accept the operational recommendations from the Working Group.
- 2 To note the request that any underspends in the current financial year be allocated to the purchase of new digital radios, and bilingual banners, but any decision will be subject to a report in April on the outturn for 2018/19.
- 3 To confirm the allocation of funding to the sponsored events for 2019.
- 4 To accept the request from Caerphilly CBC for a reallocation of the Town Council's funding between the Food Festival (£500); Big Cheese (£1750); and Christmas Market (£1000).

## **92 PLANNING MATTERS**

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

19/0003/FULL – no objections

19/0021/RET – no objections

19/0025/FULL – no objections

19/0038/FULL – no objections

19/0051/ADV – no objections

19/0064/CLPU – no objections

18/1083/OUT – no objections

19/0073/FULL – no objections

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

## **93 PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- 1 List of payments were noted and approved
- 2 Bank account balances were noted. Unrestricted reserves of circa £20,000 are currently held in the Community Direct Plus Account pending the 2018/19 financial year outturn.

3 **Applications for Financial Assistance**

1 Caerphilly Library

A grant of £160 was approved. Expenditure authorised under Local Government Act 1972, section 137.

2 Dance Unity Formations Teams Parent Support Group

A grant of £150 was approved. Expenditure authorised under Local Government Act 1972, section 137.

Cllr M Prew declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making on this application.

4 Concessionary Hire of Caerphilly Castle

The request from Tenovus Cancer Care was granted and the Town Council will meet the cost of the concessionary hire fee. In accordance with the new administrative arrangements (minute 91.2) a retrospective grant will be made to the charity following the event to cover the hire cost.

94 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

95 **MEMBERS REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS**

There were no requests for future reports.

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm