

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 CAERPHILLY TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE TWYN COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 18TH MARCH 2019

Present:

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

Apologies:

Councillor S Kent.

In Attendance:

P G Davy, Town Clerk.

96 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 18th February were received, confirmed and signed.

97 COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS

In the absence of representatives from Gwent Police individual Members advised they were liaising with the police on various ongoing matters.

98 TOWN MAYOR'S DIARY

The Mayor had supported the miners in lobbying the government about better pensions.

There had been official openings of the Vetro Education Centre, and the Jamaican Takeaway, The Yard.

The Mayor had been involved in hosting a visiting rugby club from Argentina.

The Mayor announced that the formal presentation to his charities would take place on 18th April at Caerphilly Rugby Club.

Cllr J Fussell arrived at 6.35pm during the item on Town Mayor's Diary.

99 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Concerns were raised about the impending closure of the public convenience at the bus station. Given the location adjacent to the bus station, the taxi bay and the public house there was the possibility of a public health nuisance in the absence of the facility. The Taxi Association had been in contact with Members on the matter.

A query was raised about the impact of the development of new shops at Castle View. The proposal is the subject of a planning application.

100 TOWN CLERK'S REPORTS

1 IT Issues

The Town Council's business is dependent on reliable and secure IT. The reliability of IT and cyber security had been highlighted in the Risk Assessment 2019. The report covered IT equipment, domain name, email addresses for Members, and website accessibility.

It was resolved:

- 1 To confirm the ongoing support arrangements with CCBC for the website and maintenance of the desktop pcs for 2019/20.
- 2 When preparing the budget estimates for 2020/21 consideration is given to include provision for the replacement of the desktop pcs and upgrade to Windows 10.
- 3 To reject dedicated email addresses for Members linked to the domain name due to cost.
- 4 To request whether CCBC can provide business email addresses for the 7 Town Council Members who are not CCBC Councillors at no cost.
- 5 Should the decision in 4 not prove possible the 7 Members individually to set up free dedicated email addresses for Town Council business but on a similar basis (e.g. gmail, or outlook).
- 6 To note the new legal requirements for website accessibility and compliance by September 2020, also including that the website becomes bilingual, and the Town Clerk to provide a further report in due course.

Cllr P J Bevan arrived at 6.45pm during the item on Town Clerk's Reports relating to IT Issues.

2 Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Annual Report 2019/20

Members noted the report which was for information.

3 Policy on Financial Assistance / Grants

The tiered structure of grant amounts had been introduced in 2016. A new policy document had been prepared to provide additional information for prospective grant applicants. An additional higher level of grant category was proposed.

It was resolved:

- 1 To approve the policy document and place this on the website alongside the grant application form.
- 2 To maintain the current grant levels in the tiered structure but to add the higher grant level category for projects involving capital expenditure.

4 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Welsh National Anthem Memorial

The CIL Working Group met on 4th March 2019 to evaluate the tenders received from four artists for the proposed Welsh National Anthem Memorial artwork.

The Town Council accepted the recommendation from the Working Group and it was resolved to appoint Rubin Eynon to undertake the Welsh National Anthem Memorial artwork within the approved budget of £16,000.

101 PLANNING MATTERS

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

- 19/0069/RET – no objections
- 19/0102/FULL – no objections
- 19/0126/COU – no objections
- 19/0134/COU – no objections
- 19/0144/FULL – no objections
- 19/0162/FULL – no objections

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

102 PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Twyn School PTA.

A grant of £300 was approved. Expenditure authorised under Local Government Act 1972, section 137.

Cllr S Morgan declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making.

Cllr H Jackson declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making.

103 CORRESPONDENCE

1 Review of the Electoral Arrangements for the County Borough of Caerphilly

The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales are to review the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Caerphilly and have launched a consultation. The electoral arrangements should be based on existing communities and community wards but it is possible that the boundaries of the County Borough electoral wards might change in places. The correspondence was noted.

Cllr J Pritchard declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making.

2 Jill Evans MEP CND Cymru Chairperson

A request had been received for the Town Council to pass a motion stating the community will not volunteer to host an underground nuclear waste dump.

It was agreed to make the following comments to CND Cymru:

“The Town Council does not own any land but supports that no nuclear waste should be stored within its area.”

Cllr J Pritchard declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making.

104 MEMBERS REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS

The following reports were requested and agreed:

- 1 Caerphilly bus station public convenience.
- 2 Paperless Town Council meetings.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.