C A E R P H I L L Y T O W N C O U N C I L

**C Y N G O R T R E F C A E R F F I L I**

**TOWN CLERK: TOWN MAYOR: CLERC Y DREF: MAIR Y DREF:**

**P. G. Davy Cllr Mike Prew**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CAERPHILLY TOWN COUNCIL**

**HELD BY REMOTE ACCESS ON MONDAY 15TH MARCH 2021**

**Present:**

Councillors P J Bevan, R Bidgood, C Elsbury, J Fussell, J Grenfell, J Hibbert,

H Jackson, S Kent, S Morgan, M Prew, J Pritchard

**Apologies:**

Councillor S Hodder

**In Attendance:**

L Powell, Gwent Police

P G Davy, Town Clerk

74 **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15TH FEBRUARY 2021**

Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on 15th February 2021 were received and confirmed. Minutes to be signed by the Town Mayor when practical.

75 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

76 **COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

The following matters were raised:

* Traffic queuing on roundabout for Costa / McDonalds, problem may reduce when lockdown ends

Address: The "Twyn Community Centre The Twyn Caerphilly CF83 IJL

Telephone: Caerphilly 02920 888777

E-mail: caerphillytowncouncil@outlook.com

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m

* Groups of young people congregating in park opposite Caerphilly Castle late evenings
* Drinking alcohol in town centre during daytime
* Speeding on Lon y Llwyn
* Problems in lane from Bryncenydd Estate to Mill Road
* Parking on double yellow lines outside Spar on Mill Road

77 **TOWN MAYOR’S DIARY**

The Mayor hoped to be able to undertake some events with Caerphilly Borough Mind when the lockdown restrictions are lifted.

78 **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

No matters raised.

79 **TOWN CLERK’S REPORTS**

1 CIL Working Group

The Town Council considered the recommendations from the CIL Working Group and agreed that the following projects should in principle be funded from CIL monies subject to further detailed consideration, consultation with CCBC as appropriate, and cost estimates.

1 Memorial / plaque to Llewellyn Bren, Lord of Senghenydd, who led a rebellion against the Normans in 1316.

2 Memorial / plaque to acknowledge the contribution of all key workers during the coronavirus pandemic.

3 Additional seats to the north of Caerphilly Castle moat including Town Council

sponsorship plaques.

4 Refurbishment of floodlighting at St Martins Church.

5 Barrier to prevent vehicular access at Pontypandy Lane (Aldi end adjacent to Kingsmead Estate).

6 Additional and / or higher capacity replacement general waste and dog waste bins.

7 Explanatory plaque incorporating braille on Welsh National Anthem Memorial at the Twyn.

2 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 received Royal Assent on 20th January 2021. The Act provides for a phased approach to introducing various provisions and reserves powers to Welsh Ministers to issue more detailed regulations and guidance.

Attention was drawn to the following:

*Elections*

The Act provides for the extension of the local government franchise to allow 16 and

17-year-olds to be able to register to vote in Welsh local government elections.

*General Power of Competence*

From 5 May 2022 town and community councils will have the power to pass resolutions to become eligible to exercise General Powers of Competence.

*Access to Meetings*

The Act makes permanent provision for remote access meetings and electronic publication of documents.

*Public Participation*

From 5 May 2022 members of the public attending council meetings should be given reasonable opportunity to make representations about any business being discussed at the meeting.

*Annual Reports*

From April 2022 town and community councils will have a duty to prepare and publish a report about the council’s priorities, activities, and achievements.

*Training of Members and Staff*

Town and community councils will have a duty to consider training from 5 May 2022 for councillors and staff, and publish the first training plans by November 2022.

Members noted the new duties and timescales and acknowledged that the budget implications would need to be addressed.

3 Floodlighting St Martins Church – Safety Inspection

The floodlights at St Martins Church are owned by the Town Council and listed on the asset register. Quotations had been invited to undertake an electrical safety inspection.

It was agreed to appoint BPS Facilities Ltd, Cardiff to undertake inspections and testing and provide a written report on the floodlighting installation. The contractor will be provided with a contact at the church.

4 Caerphilly Tourism Association

The Caerphilly Tourism Association brings tourism operators together in a representative body for the tourism industry in Caerphilly County Borough. The membership is aimed at hospitality, accommodation, attractions and organisers of medium to large scale events. The CTA has decided that all new and current members will receive free membership until 31 March 2022. After this date the membership fee of £50 for two years will be reinstated. Members felt it was important to work with other partners to attract visitors back to the town after the pandemic restrictions are lifted.

It was agreed that the Town Council should take up membership of the CTA, that the Town Mayor be appointed as the representative on the CTA, and the Deputy Mayor as reserve representative.

80 **PLANNING MATTERS**

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

20/1068/FULL – no objections

21/0067/FULL – no objections

21/0103/COU – no objections

21/0154/FULL – no objections

21/0168/TPO – no objections

21/0180/FULL – no objections

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

Councillor C Elsbury declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making on any of the applications.

81 **PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1 List of payments were noted and approved.

2 Bank account balances were noted.

82 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Town Council had made a number of donations and letters of thanks had been received from Velindre Cancer Centre, Caerffili Lions Club, Friends of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, and Caerphilly Borough Mind. The letters were all noted.

83 **MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS**

There were no requests.

The meeting closed at 7.10pm