**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 21ST JUNE 2021**

**Present:**

Councillors P J Bevan, R Bidgood, C Elsbury, J Fussell, J Grenfell, S Hodder, H Jackson,

S Kent, S Morgan, M Prew, J Pritchard

**Apologies:**

Councillor J Hibbert

**In Attendance:**

P G Davy, Town Clerk

**25 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17TH MAY 2021**

Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on 17th May 2021 were received and confirmed. Minutes to be signed by the Town Mayor when practical.

**26 MATTERS ARISING**

Minute 16 – grant application from Gwent Police to support initiative at Morgan Jones Park had not been received.

**27 COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

Attention was drawn to an item of play equipment at Morgan Jones Park that required better protection for the public due to the nature of its operation. Members were in contact with CCBC on the matter.

Members noted recurring incidents in Morgan Jones Park and advice to residents to call 101.

**28 TOWN MAYOR’S DIARY**

The Mayor had met with his two charities He advised that the Autism Directory had been rebranded as Autistic Minds. The charity had a particular focus on assisting adults with autism into employment.

The Mayor thanked everyone involved in renewing the planters around the town.

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.

**29 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

No new issues raised.

**30**  **TOWN CLERK’S REPORTS**

1 Review of Working Arrangements for Town Council

It had been agreed to undertake a review of the working arrangements that would be implemented once the coronavirus restrictions had been lifted and taking account of the experience gained over the last 15 months since the office was closed in March 2020.

The working arrangements during the pandemic have had a positive environmental benefit and a reduction in carbon footprint. There has been minimal travelling to the office and a reduction in use of printing / paper as all members have received electronic copies of agendas, minutes and reports. Although the office is rented there have been savings in heating and lighting, and other sundry office costs. Attendance at the remote access meetings has been higher than the pre pandemic physical meetings.

It was resolved:

 1 Hybrid Town Council meetings are adopted from September 2021 (dependent on any

 ongoing Covid 19 restrictions) enabling both in person and remote access to comply with the LGE Act 2021, and subject to making appropriate IT arrangements.

2 To pursue relocating the Town Council Meetings to the Main Hall subject to availability.

3 Fixed office hours are discontinued and replaced by an appointment system operating over five days a week.

4 The office landline is discontinued and replaced with an office mobile phone.

5 The office is made available for use by both staff and Members using an electronic

diary / booking system, and subject to implementing the office door control as previously approved.

6 A flexible approach to homeworking / office working is introduced allied to the wider

use of the office in 5.

**31 PLANNING MATTERS**

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

21/0387/COU – no objections

21/0397/FULL – no objections

21/0454/FULL – no objections

21/0462/FULL – no objections

21/0470/ADV – no objections

21/0487/FULL – no objections

21/0469/FULL – no objections

21/0477/RM – Members reiterated their opposition to the loss of a greenfield site, and the impact on local infrastructure due to the scale of the development. There are aspects of the reserved matters application that are unsatisfactory including the inadequate screening and the layout of footpaths. The footpath from the site to Larch Grove is unsafe as it leads onto a blind bend.

21/0509/COU – Members raised objections on grounds of unsuitability of property due to its location and limited size. The proposed use would result in noise and disturbance, and highway safety concerns resulting in an adverse impact on residential amenity.

21/0445/FULL – no objections

21/0452/FULL – Members raised objections due to the overdevelopment of the site, the increase in traffic generation, and due to the height of the development the overbearing impact on the visual amenity of the town centre.

21/0485/FULL – no objections

21/0520/FULL – no objections

21/0571/FULL – no objections

21/0578/FULL – no objections

21/0579/ADV – no objections

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

**32 PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1 List of payments were noted and approved. It was noted the payee in respect of the insurance renewal is Came and Company.

2 Bank account balances were noted.

3 Application for Financial Assistance

 Aber Valley Wolves Rugby League Club

 A grant of £400 was approved. Expenditure authorised under Local Government

 Act 1972, section 137. Councillor J Grenfell declared an interest and took no part

 in the discussion or decision making on the grant application.

**33 CORRESPONDENCE**

It was resolved that under the terms of Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this item.

It was agreed to support the proposal for a community recognition St David Award.

**34 MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS**

A request was made for a report on a replacement notice board given the poor condition of the existing notice board.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm