**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 20TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

**Present:**

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

**Apologies:**

Councillors J Hibbert, S Hodder, S Morgan

**In Attendance:**

L Powell, Gwent Police

S Davies, Sport Development Officer, CCBC

P G Davy, Town Clerk

**45 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19TH JULY 2021**

Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on 19th July 2021 were received and confirmed. Minutes to be signed by the Town Mayor when practical.

**46 MATTERS ARISING**

Minute 38 - Caerffili Town had won a “Silver Gilt” award in the Wales in Bloom competition. Members expressed thanks to Councillor J Fussell for the organisation and planning and liaising with local groups that had been involved in submitting the entry to the competition.

**47 COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

The following matters were discussed:

* Assault on Pontygwindy Road
* Parking and highway safety issues at St Martins School
* Youth engagement programme at Morgan Jones Park
* Enforcement of the temporary road closure at The Twyn school
* Enforcement of regulations relating to electric scooters
* Parking of take away delivery drivers on double yellow lines and pavements

Police would include patrols to address issues raised as appropriate.

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

**Telephone Caerphilly 07950 935822**

**E-mail: caerphillytowncouncil@outlook.com**

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

**48 TOWN MAYOR’S DIARY**

The Mayor had attended a relaunch event with one of his charities The Autism Directory. The charity is working with Gwent Dragons in helping people with disabilities move into employment.

He had attended a Positive Futures youth engagement event at Morgan Jones Park, and he had launched the duck race for the charity Latch.

The Mayor paid tribute to the hard work of all the groups involved with Caerffili in Bloom and requested that letters be sent congratulating the award winners.

**49 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

Concerns were again raised about the development at Virginia Park and in particular the delays being caused by the temporary traffic lights during the junction works.

**50 TOWN CLERK’S REPORTS**

1 Revised Budget 2021/22

The pandemic has continued to have an impact on the budget for 2021/22. At the July meeting of the Town Council the decision was taken to cancel the fireworks display, Christmas lights switch on event and Christmas Lantern Parade for a second year. This resulted in savings against the original budget offset by a reduced income and by virements already approved. Revised estimates for income and expenditure were presented resulting in a net saving of £10609.

A projection was shown for the year end balances if the full saving was carried forward to illustrate the overall financial position of the Town Council. It was noted that agenda item 8.3 outlined a proposal to use part of the savings.

It was resolved:

To approve the revised budget estimates for 2021/22 which included the virements already approved and an additional allocation of £5000 to the Christmas lights budget.

In respect of the net saving of £10609 it was agreed to approve a donation of £2500 to each of the Mayor’s charities (Sense Cymru and The Autism Directory), as there would be no street collection due to the cancellation of the fireworks display. Councillor M Prew declared an interest in this specific decision. Also see minute 50.3 relating to use of the savings.

2 Newsletter

A sum of £900 was allocated in the 2021/22 budget for the production of a newsletter. The draft newsletter had been circulated with the agenda. A quotation of £413 has been received for the printing of a four page full colour newsletter with a print run of 7,500, and a quotation of £372-30 for distribution.

It was resolved to approve the newsletter. Expenditure is authorised under the Local Government Act 1972 section 142.

Councillor J Pritchard requested that his name be recorded as voting against the newsletter.

3 October Half Term Sports Scheme

A sum of £5000 was included in the budget for 2021/22 to sponsor a number of free places on the Summer Sports Scheme for children resident in the Town Council area. This year’s costs were met by Welsh Government resulting in a saving which is shown in the revised estimates presented under agenda item 8.1.

A suggestion had been received about running a sports scheme at Caerphilly Leisure Centre during the October half term. Subject to funding from the Town Council CCBC is prepared to offer a bespoke scheme that would only be open to residents of the Town Council wards.

Sean Davies, Sport Development Officer for CCBC, presented a proposal based on 20 children attending for five days.

It was agreed to support the proposal and to fund the scheme a sum of £3480 will be allocated from the savings identified in the report on the revised budget (agenda item 8.1). It was further agreed that Sean Davies would report to a future meeting on the take up and success of the October scheme.

**51 PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning applications for consideration.

**52 PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1 List of payments were noted and approved.

2 Bank account balances were noted.

3 Application for Financial Assistance

Caerffili and District Twinning Association – a grant of £250 was approved. Expenditure authorised under the Local Government Act 1972, section 137.

Councillor M Prew declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making on this item. Councillor H Jackson took the chairperson role for this item.

Councillor P J Bevan declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making on this item.

**53 CORRESPONDENCE**

Employment Land Review – Replacement Local Development Plan

A letter had been received from CCBC inviting the Town Council views regarding supply and demand / need for employment sites and premises. Members commented on the need to retain existing office / industrial sites, the pressure for conversion / redevelopment of employment sites to residential uses with the consequent loss of jobs in the town, and the long term impact of changes affecting town centre retailing. On specific points of detail the redevelopment of the Tar Plant site has been outstanding for many years and the conversion of upper floors of commercial premises into flats often results in poor amenities such as bin storage.

**54 MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS**

There were no requests for future reports.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm