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

**C A E R F F I L I T O W N C O U N C I L**

**CLERC Y TREF: MAER Y TREF:**

**TOWN CLERK: TOWN MAYOR:**

**P G Davy Cllr M Prew**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CAERPHILLY TOWN COUNCIL HELD BY MULTI LOCATION ON 15TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**Present:**

Councillors M Downes, C Elsbury, J Fussell, J Grenfell, S Kent, C Lewis, A Broughton Pettit, J Pettit, D Roberts

**Apologies:**

Councillors M Prew, P Reed, P J Bevan

**In Attendance:**

L Gibbs, E Morgan, Gwent Police

P G Davy, Town Clerk

In the absence of the Mayor the meeting was chaired by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor D Roberts.

44 **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21st JULY 2025**

Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting held on 21st July 2025 were received, confirmed, and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

45 **MATTERS ARISING**

Minute 42.2 Twinning Caerphilly Town and Dymer, Ukraine.

The Twinning Association had responded that it would be unable to get involved in another twinning arrangement. It was agreed that the Mayor could sign a friendship letter on behalf of the Town Council and the representatives of Dymer be advised to make direct contact with the Twinning Association and CCBC.

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

**Telephone: Caerphilly 07950 935822**

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

 **Office hours: By Appointment Monday to Friday**

Minute 42.4

Arising from the decision to relocate Megaday outside the Town Council area and to an indoor location, further information had been requested on the costs of the 2025 event. A breakdown of costs had been provided covering venue hire, sound and lighting, first aid, security and insurance totalling £3450. It was agreed to provide sponsorship of £800 which related to the venue hire. It was further agreed that continuation of funding this event in future years would be dependent on its location.

46 **COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

A written report had been received from Gwent Police which highlighted:

* Operation Footfall to tackle crime and ASB with focus on the town centre
* ASB referrals for a number of youths causing nuisance at the derelict buildings in Pentrebane Street
* Targeted patrols of Caerphilly Mountain layby, Castle View Lake, Gallagher Retail Park, and Churchill Park
* Reports of ebikes in Morgan Jones Park
* Various community engagement events including use of the gamer van

Members raised:

* Incidents of off road bikes at the Cenotaph and in Cardiff Road
* Request for information on burglaries
* Vehicle misuse of car parks, handbrake turns and fast acceleration
* Enforcement of road closure at Twyn School arrival and leaving times

47 **TOWN MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

In the Mayor’s absence no announcements were reported.

48 **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

Town Centre Audit July 2025

There was no formal consultation process with the Town Council and Members would need to raise any matters directly with the CCBC Town Centre Management Team. It was noted that bollards would be installed to prevent vehicles parking on the pavement outside the Library, but Members were disappointed that other areas where parking on the pavement was a persistent problem had not been included in the audit.

Other issues:

* + Commercial bins being left on the pavement
	+ Late night noise complaint from residents about Rositas
	+ Any project proposals submitted to Town Clerk for use of CIL money would be referred to the CIL Working Group

49 **TOWN CLERK’S REPORTS**

1 Local Government Pay Award 2025/26

The National Joint Council for Local Government (NJC) has reached agreement on rates

of pay applicable from 1 April 2025 covering the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026. The new pay rates are based on an increase of 3.2% on each spinal column point (SCP). Provision had been made in the budget for a 3% increase equating to £706.70 (pro rata). The pay agreement will therefore require an additional £47.15 virement to salaries to meet the full costs in 2025/26.

It was resolved:

To implement the local government pay agreement effective from 1 April 2025 as agreed by the NJC (back pay to be paid in October 2025) and including the virement of the necessary additional monies to the salaries budget.

The Town Clerk declared an interest and offered no advice on the matter.

2 Caerphilly Town Centre Summer Floral Displays

The report outlined the circumstances leading to the early removal of the majority of the pedestrian rail planters due to highway / pedestrian safety concerns raised by CCBC Highways. In addition 4 hanging baskets had been lost due to the removal of corroded lamp posts and 5 baskets had been removed at the former Caerphilly Visitor Centre (Rositas). Options were outlined for the future of the floral displays.

It was resolved:

1 To confirm the action taken by the Town Clerk to instruct the removal of 44 pedestrian rail planters as requested by CCBC Highways.

2 To continue the floral displays scheme based on option 1 in the report subject to consideration of alternative locations for some or all of the displaced rail planters. Once the revised schedule of displays is finalised the Town Council’s contractor be invited to provide a cost for the summer of 2026.

50 **PLANNING MATTERS**

A list of all planning applications received since the last Town Council in July 2025 was included on the agenda as confirmation of consultation by the Local Planning Authority. The applications are circulated as soon as received from CCBC on an individual basis and it is for Members to identify any matters they wish to raise before the expiry of the 21 day consultation period.

Councillor J Fussell declared an interest as a member of the CCBC Planning Committee.

51 **PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1 List of payments were noted and approved.

2 Bank account balances were noted.

3 Applications for financial assistance

 Climate Action Caerffili

A grant of £240 was awarded. Expenditure authorised under the Local Government Act 1972 section 137.

52 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

53 **MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS**

Cadw had been invited to attend the meeting but were unable to provide a representative. Cadw had extended an invitation for the Town Council to visit the Castle as this would be a better way to explain the work and progress. Date of visit to be notified in due course.

There was a request to include an item on the next agenda on flag flying at the flagpoles on the Cenotaph island.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.