

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1ST. JULY 2013

Present : Councillor G Hale (Mayor)
Councillor G Erasmus (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors A Farina-Childs, D Davies, J Criddle, Z Hammond, R Dimond,
C A Erasmus, M Franklin, M Veater MBE

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Mayor presented cheques to the Islwyn Comrades Association and the Royal British Legion.

Representatives thanked the Council for their kind donations, and a Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to the Town Council by the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in appreciation of the excellent work carried out in support of the Poppy Appeal.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors A Parsons, L Thomas, S Lewis & P Cook

2. Mayoral Announcements

The Mayor informed members that he had attended St. Margaret's Church to celebrate the First World War Centenary, and had received an invitation to the Blackwood Primary School Fete on Saturday 6th. July.

He kept members abreast of developments concerning the Heritage Committee –

Don Touhig & Chris Evans were the Patrons
Leon Gardiner, President
He, Granville Hale, Chairman
Margaret Veater MBE, Vice Chair
Jane Baulch, Secretary
Julia Ellis, Treasurer

The new constitution was now in place, and a new website was being developed by Isabel Hunt (Plas Mawr)

The Mayor also confirmed that his two charities were the Beresford Centre & Age Cymru

3. Correspondence

The Clerk presented his report on correspondence received since the last meeting, and all were noted.

In respect of the C.C.B.C. Community Safety Partnership request to nominate a representative to sit on the Blackwood Bus Station Problem Solving Group it was agreed Councillor D. Davies be the Council's representative.

In respect of the requests for financial assistance it was agreed they be forwarded to the Finance & Policy Committee for consideration.

However, given that the request from Blackwood Comprehensive School Intergen Club was fairly urgent, it was agreed it be discussed.

Councillors A Farina-Childs, D Davies, M Franklin & G Hale declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or decision.

The Clerk reported the request was for £160 to enable the club, whose ethos is to promote tolerance and understanding between the different generations in the community, to round off their first highly successful year with a trip to the Brecon Mountain Railway on July 10th.

After some discussion it was resolved a grant of £160 be agreed.

4. To Confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 3rd. June 2013

It was **resolved** the minutes be confirmed as a true record.

5. Matters Arising

It was **noted** that Caerphilly C.B.C. Scrutiny Committee Meeting was to be held this week regarding the outcome of the Review of Subsidised Local Bus Services.

6. To Receive the Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held on 18th. June 2013

Councillor A Farina-Childs, Chair of the Committee presented the minutes and it was **resolved** they be received.

7. To Receive the Minutes of the Town & Community Council Joint Liaison Committee Meeting held on 6th. February 2013

It was *resolved* the minutes be received.

8. Caerphilly County Borough Council – Public Car Parks Consultation Exercise

The Clerk presented his report, and members agreed that with results based on such a small response, it could hardly be truly representative of users needs.

Whilst the consultation was apparently primarily aimed at disabled parking, comments were welcomed from all users. However, since the form itself was aimed more at individual users responses, it was *agreed* no comments be made, but the report be noted.

9. Blackwood in Bloom Competition

The Clerk presented his report, and members were reminded that they were required to identify 4 front gardens within their wards, with nominations to be forwarded by 20th. July, with judging taking place the following week.

10. Reports

There were no reports.

11. Planning Applications

The Clerk presented his report on planning applications received since the last meeting.

In respect of Planning applications 13/0318 & 13/0319 in respect of change of use from C3 dwelling house to D1 non residential institution for use as a 34 place children's day nursery at 82 Cefn Road, Blackwood, the Mayor Councillor G Hale declared an interest. He took no part in the discussion or *decision to object*, citing concerns regarding the potential number of children being looked after at the property, and whether there is sufficient space to allow for proper care both inside and outside the property (no doubt this issue will be picked up by licensing).

Furthermore, there are concerns at the additional traffic that may potentially be using what is an already very busy road at certain times of the day, and the potential hazards when parents stop to deliver and pick up their children.

