***BRYNMAWR TOWN COUNCIL***

***CYNGOR TREF BRYNMAWR***

***Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 21 July 2021 Via The Starleaf App. at 6.00pm.***

***Present:- Councillors J.M. Gardner (Presiding).***

 ***D.R.Cook***

 ***A. Talbot***

 ***W.K. Hodgins***

 ***B.M. Sutton***

 ***G.D. Jones***

 ***J.M. Sutton***

 ***Mrs. O.M. Swales***

***In Attendance:- Mrs. A.C. Davies (Town Clerk/RFO.***

 ***Miss. N.J. Williams (Asst. Town Clerk).***

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***80/21 Apologies:- Mrs. J. Boyd, N. Boyd, R.J. Hill,***

 ***Mrs. D. Brown. D. Lyn Elias, E.M. Hillier.***

***81/21*** The Chair welcomed members to the July Monthly Meeting of the Town Council.

***82/21 Declaration of Interest & Dispensations.***

 The Chair reminded members to make declarations of interest at appropriate points on the Agenda.

***83/21 Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 23 June 2021.***

 ***Corrections – None.***

***84/21 Matters Arising from the Minutes.***

 ***Item 144/20 – Uncut Stone To Commemorate those people who have lost their lives due to Covid 19 and to recognise the NHS Staff and Key-Workers.***

 The uncut stone is now in place in the area of the old water fountain, Welfare Park, Brynmawr. The area around the uncut stone has been jet washed and completion will be some time next week and safely secured.

 Members suggested perhaps organising an inauguration in 2021 to unveil the plaque for the NHS Staff/Key-Workers and those people who lost their lives during the Covid 19 Pandemic.

 It was agreed to agenda this matter for the September Meeting.

 ***Item 46/21 – Blue Plaque.***

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the Blue Plaque had been ordered but awaiting delivery. Permission has been given to erect the Blue Plaque on the pavilion building at the Recreational Ground, Brynmawr.

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***85/21*** Members welcomed the new Councillor Mr. David Cook to his first meeting of the Council.

***86/21 The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 23 June 2021, having been circulated, were accepted as a true record.***

***87/21 Orders & Requisitions – None.***

 ***Financial Correspondence.***

***88/21 Metalweld Fabrication – Memorial Bench.***

 Council moved payment of £600.00.

***89/21 Metalweld Fabrication – Refurbish of Memorial Bench in Alma Street, Brynmawr.***

 Council moved payment of £000.00.

***90/21*** Council agreed to fund a Play Session at the Brynmawr Welfare Park in the October Half Term at a cost of £120.00.

***91/21*** The Clerk enquired with Melrose IT Solution Ltd. for a quote to set up 2 computers, transfer data from the old computers and set up Microsoft 365 and any other software required at a cost of £300.00.

 Due to Councillor Gardner having a busy schedule throughout August, it was agreed by Full Council to proceed with Melrose IT.

 Council approved payment of £300.00.

 ***Correspondence.***

***92/21*** Thank you letters were received from Tenovus Cancer Care and the Children's Wales Air Ambulance for Council's donation.

 Letters noted.

***93/21*** Each member was issued prior to the meeting a copy of a letter from One Voice Wales on the Operation London Bridge – Guidance for Town/Community Councils. Operation London Bridge is the code name given to the passing of H M. Queen Elizabeth the Second.

 Letter noted.

***94/21*** Correspondence was received from the Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council informing Council that they have no received a request for an election for the vacancy in the Brynmawr South Ward, therefore the vacancy can be filled by co-option in accordance with the provisions of the Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) Rules 2006.

 The Clerk informed members that a notice of vacancy for the South Ward has been placed on the Town Council's website.

***95/21*** The Clerk informed the meeting that the last 6 months leave of absence for Councillor N. Boyd and Mrs. J. Boyd was approved by Council on 24 February 2021 which will expire on the 24 August 2021.

 Council was asked to approve a further 6 months leave of absence for Councillors N. Boyd and Mrs. J. Boyd from 24 August 2021 due to Council being in recess during August.

 A lengthy discussion ensued whereby members discussed the time lapse of absence from Council Meetings and not being active Councillors for some considerable time.

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 Members took a vote on whether a further 6 months leave of absence be given.

 It was unanimously agreed not to extend leave of absence for a further six months.

 Due to non-attendance of Council Meetings over a long period of time by both Councillor N. Boyd and Mrs. J. Boyd, it was unanimously agreed to disqualify both Councillors as of 24 August 2021.

 ***Reports.***

***96/21*** New Revised Code of Conduct.

 Report accepted.

***97/21*** Planning & Urgent Matters Meeting held on Wednesday, 07 July 2021.

 Report accepted as a true record.

***98/21*** Proposed Council Meetings for the Brynmawr Town Council from September 2021 to July 2022.

 Council moved proposed dates.

 ***THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS OF A CONFIDENTIAL OR PERSONAL NATURE AND IS THEREFORE EXCLUSIVE TO MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ONLY. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960.***