***BRYNMAWR TOWN COUNCIL***

***CYNGOR TREF BRYNMAWR***

***Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 24 May 2023 held at the Brynmawr Institute at 6.51pm.***

***Present: - Councillors W.K. Hodgins (Presiding).***

 ***G.D. Jones***

 ***J.M. Sutton***

 ***P. West***

1. ***Talbot***

***J.M. Gardner***

***E.M. Hillier***

***M. Broderick***

***In Attendance: - Miss. N.J. Williams (Asst. Town Clerk).***

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***21/23 Apologies: - Mrs. A.C. Davies (Town Clerk/RFO),***

***B.M. Sutton, Mrs. D. Brown.***

***22/23*** The Chair welcomed members to the May Monthly Meeting.

***23/23 Declaration of Interest & Dispensations.***

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

***24/23 Corrections – item 17/23.***

***Councillor West corrected the sentence “what is the point in doing little things that do not mean much to the Public” to “the Town Council needs to be representing the community more as in his opinion the Council is not doing enough”.***

***Matters Arising from the Minutes.***

 ***Item 65/22 – Accessibility to the War Memorial.***

A member asked whether the draft letter has been prepared to send out to the Royal British Legion, Brynmawr Branch, and the Brynmawr Veterans Association if the issues of the accessibility to the War Memorial should arise in the future.

Councillor Gardner said that he has drafted a letter and will forward it to the Clerks tomorrow.

It was agreed if the letter needs to be sent to either of the Organisations it will be brought to Council first for approval.

***Item 176/22 – The relocation to the Brynmawr Institute.***

The Clerk read out an email from Ms. Louise Horner, Team Manager Estates & Strategic Asset Management, BGCBC stating that the BGCBC agrees the level of rental on the proviso it includes all outgoings and that there will be no

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further additional charges and will arrange for the monthly payment to be set up to the Brynmawr Institute.

The Clerk asked Councillor Gardner if he would forward the contact details of the blind company so that blinds can be ordered for the front office and arrange to collect the last few items that are left at the Orchard Street Community Centre such as the safe, coat hanger etc.

It was also agreed to arrange to have Internet and telephones installed at the Brynmawr Institute as soon as possible.

The Clerk asked would it be possible to change the lease agreement to the Tenant being BGCBC, General Offices, Steelworks Road, Ebbw Vale, NP236DN to sublet to the Brynmawr Town Council.

Both Councillor Gardner and Hodgins said it would not be possible to change the Lease as the new premises is owned by a third party and not by the BGCBC.

Councillor Gardner said that the new Lease will adhere to the Brynmawr Town Council’s Agreement with the BGCBC dated 06 February 2007.

***Item 195/22 – Meeting with*** ***Mr. Gavin Davies, Ward Manager, and the new Inspector Mr. Stevie Warden.***

A member said that the meeting with both Mr. Gavin Davies, Ward Manager, and the new Inspector Mr. Stevie Warden needs to be expedited and to also invite Sargent Pigeon to discuss members concerns within the Brynmawr area.

A member said that there is an arranged meeting to discuss parking issues in Brynmawr next week and agreed to forward date and time if members are invited to attend.

***Item 12/23 – Training Courses.***

Councillor West asked for clarification on why the past 3 courses were not passed by Council before attending.

The Clerk explained that the cost of the 3 courses that Councillor West attended were covered by a £100.00 bursary which was awarded by One Voice Wales at the beginning of the previous financial year so therefore did not have to be passed by Council.

It was agreed that if any Member wish to take part on a course which takes place before the next Full Council Meeting the Clerk would be given Plenary Powers to book the chosen course and pass it through the next meeting.

Council moved payment of £38.00.

***25/23 The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 26 April 2023, having been***

***circulated, were accepted as a true record.***

***Orders & Requisitions.***

***26/23*** Melrose IT – Microsoft 365, Office Applications License and Anti-Virus.

Council moved payment of £80.71.

***27/23*** Grenke Leasing Ltd – Quarterly Invoice – Rental of Photocopier.

Council moved payment of £301.25.

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***Financial Correspondence.***

***28/23*** The Clerk asked members to consider purchasing 8 hanging baskets for the lamp posts around the War Memorial.

Councillor West asked who waters and takes care of the hanging baskets and flowers during the summer. Councillor West was informed that the Brynmawr Town Partnership along with Councillor Hodgins waters the hanging baskets/flowers etc. Councillor Hodgins said if any Members/Members of the Public wish to help with planting it would be very much appreciated.

It was unanimously agreed that the Council would spend £300.00 maximum on 8 hanging baskets.

Councillor Hodgins agreed to arrange for the hanging baskets be prepared and the invoice be sent to the Clerks for payment.

***29/23*** The Clerk informed members that the Internal Audit 2022/2023 has not yet

been received.

***30/21*** Brynmawr Welfare Bowls Club – request financial assistance towards

purchasing some kit and bowls for the school children to use.

It was agreed that £500.00 be granted to the Brynmawr Welfare Bowls Club

towards the cost of kit and bowls for the school children to use.

It was also agreed to write to Mr. Anthony Bevis asking him if he plans to

extend his invitation to children from other local Primary Schools in the area to

play bowls at the Welfare Park, Brynmawr and perhaps members that are

Governors at the local schools could help him spread the word.

***31/23*** SSAFA – Armed Forces Charity – request financial assistance towards the

Armed Forces Charity.

SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity has been providing practical, emotional, and

financial support to Forces and their families since 1885. They support the

person behind the uniform, those currently serving, veterans and their families.

The letter stated that just £50.00 could begin someone’s journey with one of

SSAFA’S specialist advisors, whether it’s a phone call or email, this is the first

contact with someone needing help.

It was agreed that £50.00 be granted towards the costs of running the Welsh

regional hub.

***Correspondence.***

***32/23*** Correspondence received from the Welsh Government – Written Statement: Democratic Health or Community and Town Councils.

Document moved.

***33/23*** Planning Application – 77 Clydach Street, Brynmawr.

Two storey extension to side and rear of dwelling.

The Full Council had no objection to this planning application.

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***34/23*** Council has been informed that the Borough Council is removing the notice board on the Market Square, Brynmawr.

A member informed the meeting that the BGCBC are removing the notice board from the Market Square, Brynmawr. A Councillor suggested that the Brynmawr Town Council adopts the notice board as it would be a significant advantage for the Council to advertise meetings, events etc.

A member said that the BGCBC might pay some of the costs to rectify the notice board.

Councillor West said that the notice board needs painting, new Perspex, and new locks. Councillor West volunteered to do all the work needed to fix the notice board and quoted the cost of around £200.00 for all the materials needed.

It was agreed that the Town Council adopts the notice board and the Clerk to email the BGCBC informing them.

***Reports.***

***35/23*** Special meeting held with Dr. Liam Taylor, Deputy Medical Director, ABUHB, Ms. Amy McCrystal and guests held on Thursday, 27 April 2023 at the Brynmawr Medical Centre.

It was unanimously agreed that Ms. McCrystal, Practice Manager, Brynmawr Medical Centre is moving things in the right direction and the Clerk to email Ms. McCrystal to find out the date of the Medical Centre relaunch so that a meeting can be arranged with the Brynmawr Town Council Members and Medical Team prior to this event.

Report moved.

***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.***