***BRYNMAWR TOWN COUNCIL***

***CYNGOR TREF BRYNMAWR***

***Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 26 March 2025 in the Council Chamber, Brynmawr Institute, Market Square at 6.00pm.***

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

 ***B.M. Sutton***

 ***E.M. Hillier***

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

 ***J.M. Gardner***

***R.J. Hill***

***Mrs. D. Brown***

***Mrs. S. Morgan***

***J.M. Sutton***

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

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***244/24 Apologies: - Mrs. A. C. Davies (Town Clerk/RFO) G.D. Jones, G. Nutt.***

***245/24 Declaration of Interest & Dispensations.***

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

***246/24 Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 26 February 2025.***

***247/24 Corrections – None.***

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

***Item 234/24 – Update on current situation at the Brynmawr Medical Centre.***

The Clerk read out a reply email from Mr. Dan Davies, Chief Business Officer, ABUHB regarding who to invite to an update meeting with the Brynmawr Town Council since the Medical Centre has been handed back over to the ABUHB.

The email stated that the Health Board are currently pulling together a communications plan on the matter, which will include direct updates for the Councillors at Brynmawr.

Mr. Davies agreed to forward some dates to the Clerk as to when Officers can meet with Members to discuss the current situation at the Medical Centre.

Letter noted.

***235/24 – Meeting with Ms. Karen Williams, Town Centre Manager.***

 The Clerk read out a reply email from Ms. Karen Williams, Town Centre Manager.

The email stated that Mr. Ian Nicholson, the Founder of Vacant Shops Academy is scheduled to visit on 13 May 2025. In relation to the empty shops in Brynmawr Ms. Williams believes it would be beneficial for the consultants she is currently working

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with to meet with the members of the Brynmawr Town Council to provide an overview of the project.

It was agreed to meet with Ms. Williams and the Consultants on **Tuesday, 13 May 2025 at 10am in the Council Chamber, Brynmawr Institute.**

***236/24 – Meeting with Mr. Tom Bateman, Led Housing Engagement Coordinator.***

The Clerk reminded members that a meeting has been arranged with Mr. Bateman to discuss Community-Led Housing in Brynmawr on Wednesday, 07 May at 6pm in the Council Chamber, Brynmawr Institute.

***242/24 – Available Funding for Play Sufficiency Duty.***

A member asked if Councillor Gardner submitted the form for funding and has he received a response

Councillor Gardner informed members that he sent off the funding form to Ms. Cargill but is yet to receive a response.

***248/24 The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 26 February 2025, having been circulated, were accepted as a true record.***

 ***Orders & Requisitions.***

***249/24*** Melrose IT Solutions – Broadband & Calls – 28/02/25 – 31/03/25.

 Council moved payment of £62.40.

***250/24*** Digital Systems – Copies used.

 Council moved payment of £41.32.

 ***Financial Correspondence.***

***251/24*** Budget Monitoring Report – December 2024 – 25 March 2025.

 Report moved and accepted.

***252/24*** Metalweld Fabrications – Memorial Bench for the late Mr. Keith Jenkins.

A discussion ensued regarding the cost and upkeep of the Memorial Benches purchased by the Town Council for the recognition of past Members.

It was agreed that due to the cost of the Memorial Benches not to purchase them in the future but still pay recognition by maybe planting a tree or purchasing a plaque to erect in the foyer at the Brynmawr Institute with permission.

Council moved payment of £720.00.

***253/24*** Council to consider purchasing a mailbox with key to attach to the letter box of

the Brynmawr Institute.

The Clerk informed members that the Officers of the Brynmawr Institute are happy for the Town Council to purchase a mailbox providing they will be given a key so that they can access their mail.

It was agreed to purchase a mailbox with key via the Town Council Visa Debit Card.

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***Correspondence.***

***254/24*** A thank you email was received from Bushido Community & Wellbeing Group for Council’s kind donations of £250.00 from Brynmawr Town Council and £100.00 from Councillor Wayne Hodgins Mayors Allowance 2024/2025 towards the clearance and preparation of Orchard Street Community Centre.

Email noted.

***255/24*** A Letter was received from Councillor Gerwyn Jones asking Council to agree for

him to have a leave of absence for a few months due to health issues.

It was agreed to grant Councillor Jones a few months’ leave of absence.

 ***Planning Correspondence.***

***256/24*** Prior to the meeting each member received a copy of the planning application – 195 King Street, Brynmawr.

The installation of an air source heat pump.

 The Town Council had no objection to the above application.

***257/24*** Prior to the meeting each member received a copy of the planning application – Land at Clarance Street, Brynmawr.

Rebuild a small commercial workshop/unit for B1 use.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the workshop being in the wrong place to operate a business from due to the access exiting onto a small public lane.

It was agreed that the three Borough Members find out more information before sending members objections.

***Reports.***

***258/24*** Prior to the meeting each member received a copy of the Minutes of the Events

Committee Meeting (80TH Anniversary VE Day Celebration) held on Wednesday, 05

March 2025.

 Report accepted as a true record.

***259/24*** Prior to the meeting each member received a copy of the Brynmawr Town Council’s Internal Control Policy document for the period 2024/2025.

It was agreed to move and accept the Internal Control Policy and review it at the Full Council Meeting to be held in March 2026.

***Salary.***

***260/24*** Council moved payment of Clerk’s salary, Assistant Town Clerks salary, NI and Pension for the month of March 2025.

Cheque Number BAC'S A.C. Davies Salary.

 Cheque Number BAC'S N.J. Williams Salary.

 Cheque Number BAC'S Inland Revenue Tax & N.I.

 Cheque Number BAC'S Torfaen CBC Pension.

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***261/24*** The Clerk informed the meeting as from next week she will be working Monday

to Thursday 9.30am – 2.00pm.

***Petty Cash.***

***262/24*** The Council moved the Petty Cash Account for the months of January, February, and March 2025 = £85.20.

***263/24*** Each member was issued a yearly spreadsheet of the Petty Cash Account 2024/2025. Yearly Petty Cash spent 2024/2025 = £400.00.

***Events & Tasks discussion.***

***264/24*** A discussion took place regarding an update on the arranged event for the 80th Anniversary VE Day.

The Clerk informed members that the Union Jack Bunting and the large 80th Anniversary flag has been purchased and delivered.

The Clerk contacted Reverend Jeramy, and he will be more than happy to attend the official 80th Anniversary VE Day Thursday 8th May 2025 to give a small service that morning. The Reverend wishes to meet with members prior to the event date to be arranged.

Councillor Gardner contacted Mr. Richard Purkiss regarding the Military Vehicles and informed members that Saturday, 03 May would be more suitable for Mr. Purkiss to arrange for the vehicles/memorabilia to be provided for the event.

The Chair said that a Face Painter and Balloon Artise has been booked.

It was agreed that a small stage be borrowed for entertainment/singers/Punch and Judy etc.

It was agreed to ask local food trucks to attend the event.

It was agreed to advertise the event as soon as possible and to add to the poster that people are welcome to bring their own chairs, picnic etc.

Councillor Morgan said that one of the local Schools had contacted her to ask if the Town Council are arranging to commemorate the 80th Anniversary VE Day. It was agreed to invite the local schools to spectate the service and wreath laying on Thursday, 8th May 2025 at 11am.

Councillor Swales said it would be a good idea to have an Order of Service to provide for the Reverand.

It was agreed to contact Mr. Dean Woods to ask if the Ebbw Vale Band could provide a buglar.

***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.***

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***265/24 No exempt correspondence to be discussed for the month of March 2025.***

***There being no other business, the meeting closed at 19.15 hours.***

 ***Signed……………………………………………***

 ***Wayne K. Hodgins (Town Mayor).***