# BRYNMAWR TOWN COUNCIL

***Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 21 May 2025 at 6.00pm at the Council Chamber, Brynmawr Institute, Market Square, Brynmawr***

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

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

 ***Mrs. D. Brown.***

 ***J. M. Gardner***

 ***E.M. Hillier***

 ***G. Nutt***

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

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***25/25 Apologies: - Mrs. A.C. Davies (Assistant Town Clerk), Councillor***

***B.M. Sutton, J.M. Sutton, R.J. Hill.***

***26/25 The Chair welcomed members to the Annual Meeting of the Town Council.***

***27/25 Declaration of Interest and Dispensation***.

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

### ***28/25 Appointment of Town Mayor.***

 Councillor W.K. Hodgins asked for nominations for the position of Town Mayor for the year 2025/2026.

It was moved and seconded that Councillor Mrs Olwen Swales be elected for the Office of Town Mayor for the year 2025/2026.

 Councillor Mrs Olwen Swales accepted the position.

 It was unanimously agreed to congratulate Councillor Mrs Swales on her election as Town Mayor and wished her well for the forthcoming year.

Councillor Hodgins said that in his opinion over the past few years Brynmawr Town Council has become more progressive and there has been a noticeable change in attitudes resulting in all members working together.

Councillor Mrs Olwen Swales along with all other members thanked Councillor Hodgins for all his hard work, help and support he has provided over the years while serving as a Town Councillor and Town Mayor (for the past two years). Councillor Mrs. Swales stated that Councillor Hodgins works hard for the Town and hopes for his continued support.

 Councillor Mrs. Swales also thanked Nicola, Town Clerk/RFO for all her hard work and assistance which has aided in the changes in the Town Council.

 Councillor Hodgins thanked all Members present and absent for their support, for remaining with the Town Council over the years and stated how appreciative he is of the small changes which has made a big difference.

***29/25*** ***Appointment of Deputy Mayor.***

 The Chair then asked for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor for the year 2025/2026.

 It was moved and seconded that Councillor John Hill be elected for the Office of Deputy

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Mayor for the year 2025/2026.

 Councillor Hill was absent from the meeting due to other commitments, it was agreed to ask him if he wishes to accept the position of Deputy Mayor for the year 2025/2026 and to take it to the next Full Council Meeting in June.

 ***Representatives to Outside Bodies***.

### ***30/25 Joint Committee of Local Councils – Blaenau Gwent***

 It was moved and seconded that when a Joint Committee of Local Council’s Meeting arise the Clerk would send out an email to ask who would be available to attend together with the Mayor and Deputy.

***31/25 One Voice Wales.***

 It was moved and seconded that Councillor Nutt be the representative.

### ***32/25 One Voice Wales – Gwent Valleys – Blaenau Gwent***

 It was moved and seconded that all members of the Town Council can be substitutes and attend if they are available.

***33/25 Brecon Beacons National Park.***

 It was moved and seconded that all members of the Town Council can be substitutes and attend if they are available.

***34/25 Heritage Forum.***

It was moved and seconded that Councillor J.M. Gardner be the representative.

***35/25 BGCBC Advisory Board.***

Members were informed that the BGCBC Advisory Board is responsible for overseeing the management of the Regeneration Programme, Economic Development and delivering events etc. The elected Member will be invited to meetings where they can be involved in BGCBC business and report back to Council.

It was moved and seconded to seek some clarification on the BGCBC Advisory Board.

***36/25 Blaenau Gwent Armed Forces Steering Committee.***

It was moved and seconded that Councillor J.M. Sutton be the representative.

 ***Appointment to Committees***

## ***37//25 Finance Committee***

 It was moved and seconded that Councillors J.M. Gardner, E.M. Hillier, Mrs. D. Brown, W.K. Hodgins and G. Nutt be the representatives together with the Mayor and Deputy.

***38/25 Allotment Committee.***

 It was moved and seconded that Councillors J.M. Gardner, E.M. Hillier, Mrs. D. Brown, W.K. Hodgins and G. Nutt be the representatives together with the Mayor and Deputy.

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***39/25 Events Committee.***

It was moved and seconded that all members of the Council sit on the Events Committee.

***40/25 Authority to Sign Cheques.***

It was moved and seconded that Councillor B.M. Sutton, Councillor Mrs. O.M. Swales,

Mrs Angela C Davies, Asst. Town Clerk and Miss N.J. Williams, Town Clerk/RFO remains the authorised signatories to sign cheques on behalf of the Town Council for the year 2025/2026.

(2 signatories out of 4).

***Meeting closed at 18.25 hours.***

***Signed …………………………………………...........***

 ***Wayne. Mrs. O.M. Swales - Town Mayor.***