# BRYNMAWR TOWN COUNCIL

***Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 11 June 2025 in the Council Chamber, Brynmawr Institute 18.00.***

***Present: - Councillors Mrs. O.M. Swales (Chair).***

 ***W.K. Hodgins, E.M. Hillier***

 ***G. Nutt.***

***1. Apologies: Councillors Mrs. D. Brown, R.J. Hill***

***2.*** It was moved and seconded that Councillor Mrs. O.M. Swales be Chair of Finance for the year 2025/2026.

***3.*** It was moved and seconded that Councillor W.K. Hodgins be Vice-Chair of Finance for the year 2025/2026.

***4.*** It was moved and seconded that A.C. Janes (Mr. Justin Brown) be asked to clean the War Memorial in readiness for Armistice Day 2025.

***5.*** Mayor's Allowance for the Year 2025/2026.

 It was agreed by the Finance Committee to recommend to Full Council that

 the Mayor’s Allowance for 2025/2026 be £800.00.

Mayors’ allowances are covered by the Local Government Act 1972, sections 15(5) and 35(5). They are to provide recompense for example:

* Mileage to and from events
* Tickets for events
* Raffle/draw tickets
* Donations to charity stalls, etc.
* Reasonable clothing allowance for civic events
* Telephone, stationery, and printing
* Costs incurred e.g., hire of a venue, in relation to the Mayors fundraising events for the Mayor’s named charity(s)
* Reasonable expenditure required for performing the mayor’s duties in service of the Town.

There is no requirement for strict accounting for the expenditure, but as Brynmawr Town Council is committed to accountability and transparency regarding all expenditure, including the Mayor’s Allowance, it is expected that where possible receipts will be submitted to support the expenditure and a report to substantiate the expenditure will be provided. The allowance is not exempt from income tax and therefore the way it is managed is important. There are two options to ensure that the allowance is administered correctly. The Allowance will be administered as follows: Direct payments may be made for items such as tickets; room hire and small tokens on authorisation from the mayor.

***-2-***

The mayor may claim back expenses incurred on providing receipts where possible. Any remaining allowance at the end of the Mayoral Year will remain in the general reserves fund.

***6***. Council to consider purchasing flowers for the large tubs after the Summer Fair departs. Councillor Hodgins agreed to move one of the three flower tubs outside the Council Office window. A member has asked local shops would they be kind enough to donate some flowers (awaiting response). The Finance Committee recommends to Full Council that flowers be purchased and planted after the Summer Fair departs.

***7.*** Marie Curie Cymru – Financial Assistance.

 The Finance Committee recommends to the Full Council that a donation of £50.00 be awarded to the charity.

8. The Clerk informed members of the cost of the 80th Anniversary VE Day Celebration and asked them to take careful consideration of how much money is spent on future events in the financial year 2025/2026.

Total cost of the 80th Anniversary VE Day:

* Cai Brown – Poster Design & Emblem £50.00
* Cabaret Singer £150.00
* Military Vehicles £150.00
* Smart’s Deli £180.00
* Masquerade – Punch & Judy £350.00
* BGCBC – Road Closure £73.00

 **Total £953.00**

All members agreed how wonderful the celebration was and that the money was well

spent.

***There being no other business the meeting closed at 18:30.***