



1st February 2022

Dear Councillor.

Pursuant to the requirements of **Section 47 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021**, notice is hereby given that a Council Finance meeting will be held on a hybrid basis in the Council Chamber at **101, High Street, Blaenavon** and remotely on **Wednesday the 9th of February 2022 commencing at 6:30pm** for the purpose of transacting the business shown in the agenda set below

Should you wish to attend the meeting remotely, you should contact the Chief Officer to the Council to request a remote invitation.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions at Council meetings and to speak in Welsh or English, provided that at least 3 working days' notice in writing of the question has been provided to the Clerk.

Agenda

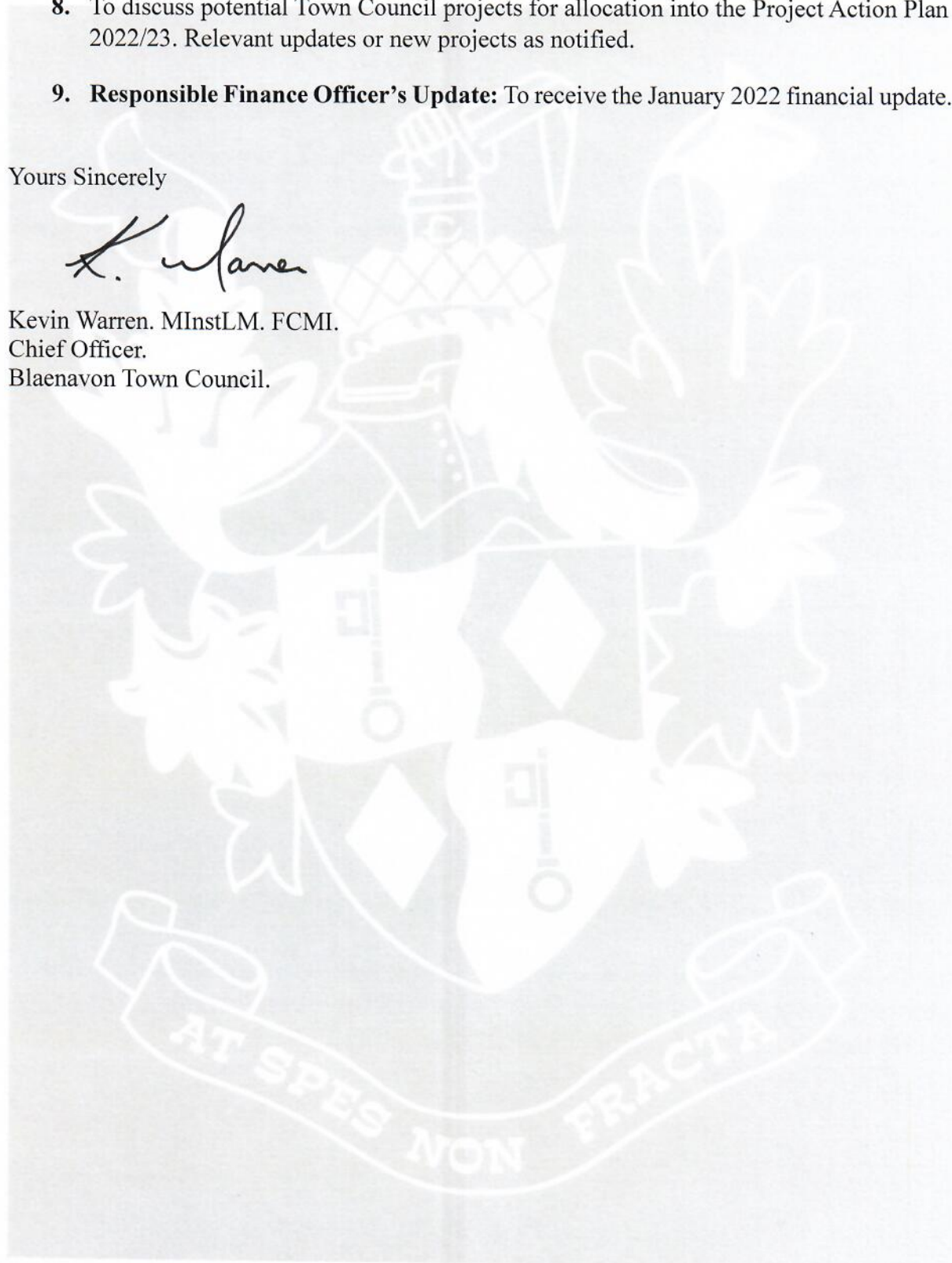
1. To receive any questions from the public.
2. To receive and accept apologies.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are invited to declare any interests they may have in any items on the Agenda.
4. **Council Meetings:** To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 12th of January 2022.
5. To receive a presentation from Rebecca Hartley and Kelly Collins – Thomas (**TCBC Economy & Strategic Regeneration Team**) regarding the forthcoming Place Plan Initiative.
6. To receive a presentation from Dave Leech (**TCBC Chief Officer Communities**) regarding the Town Centre Covid Recovery Work.

7. To receive an update from the Chief Officer in relation to the precept submission to TCBC 2022/23.
8. To discuss potential Town Council projects for allocation into the Project Action Plan 2022/23. Relevant updates or new projects as notified.
9. **Responsible Finance Officer's Update:** To receive the January 2022 financial update.

Yours Sincerely



Kevin Warren. MInstLM. FCMI.
Chief Officer.
Blaenavon Town Council.





BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL FINANCE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2022.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 47 of the Local Government and Elections & Wales) Act 2021, the meeting was held on a hybrid basis in the Council Chamber at 101, High Street Blaenavon and remotely.

In attendance:

Councillor: J. Huybs (In the Chair)

Councillors in attendance: N. Horler (remote attendance), Cllr A Jones (remote attendance joined at 18.43hrs), L. Evans (remote attendance), L. Cowles, G. James.

Officers: Kevin Warren (Chief Officer) Kerry Jones (Assistant Chief Officer) Rebecca Smith (Healthy Blaenavon Officer)

Visitors: Dave Leech (TCBC Chief Officer Communities) Rebecca Hartley and Kelly Collins-Thomas (TCBC Economy & Strategic Regeneration Team) (both remote attendance)

The Council Finance meeting was opened at 6:30pm by the Chairman Councillor Jackie Huybs who welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

1. To receive any questions from the public.

None received.

2. Apologies

- Cllr Harris – Work commitment
- Cllr Harvey – Prior engagement
- Cllr Evans informed the Chairman that Cllr Bright had been called away prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr James that the apologies be accepted.

Resolved: Apologies accepted by members.

3. Declaration of interests

None declared.

4. To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 12th of January 2022 as a true and accurate record.

The Chief Officer forwarded the minutes to members for their perusal prior to the meeting.

The confirmation of the minutes were proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Evans. All members were in agreement.

Resolved: Minutes accepted as a true record by members.

5. To receive a presentation from Rebecca Hartley and Kelly Collins-Thomas (TCBC Economy & Strategic Regeneration Team) regarding the forthcoming Place Plan Initiative.

Cllr Huybs thanked both for joining the meeting.

Rebecca and Kelly provided members with an overview of the project.

Essentially the Place Plan Initiative is to improve vitality and enhance Blaenavon town centre and immediate areas. To maximise, develop and support existing and new businesses for residents and visitors.

- Place Plans are being produced for the town centres of, Blaenavon, Pontypool and Cwmbran. They are a pre-requisite to secure future funding within the town centres for future investment.
- Place Plans will identify a range of projects within town centre and will be subject to public consultation.
- The development & project are running concurrently with a Levelling Up Fund (LUF) bid due to an ambitious timescale.
- Blaenavon town centre will build on historic assets whilst supporting local community and visitor destination appeal.
- Potential LUF project Ty Mawr/The Beeches to provide a grant to secure investment and reuse.

Some initial projects, subject to public consultation was shared with members.

- To improve pedestrian links into town centre and improve footfall.
- Ty Mawr/ The Beeches.
- Refurbishment of shop fronts & vacant premises.
- To support & develop The Workmen's Hall & World Heritage Centre.
- Enhance public transport in & out of Blaenavon including coach parking in town centre.
- Improve connectivity between visitor centres & town centres including signage.
- Support new & existing businesses
- Improve visitor accommodation
- Improve food & refreshment availability within town centre

- Improve parking provision
- Incorporate a pocket park

The initial list is to be developed and any project ideas from members are welcomed. The closing date to forward these is the 18th of February 2022

There will be public consultation and engagement, provisionally they will be conducted following local elections. When a confirmed date is set this will be forwarded to members via the Chief Officer.

Members raised questions and it was clarified that Blaenavon Town Council will be consulted before public consultation, the timescale for projects will be 5 – 10 years.

Projects need to be identified to secure funding. No funding yet has been applied for. It is hopeful that draft plans will be completed by the end of March 2022, with public consultation in May 2022.

Resolved: Members noted the update.

6. To receive a presentation from Dave Leech (TCBC Chief Officer Communities) regarding the Town Centre Covid recovery Work.

Members were provided with an insight into the Covid Recovery Fund project by Mr Leech.

In essence this project is to enhance and bring a clean, green, and vibrant approach to Blaenavon Town Centre and immediate areas. Relevant points were as follows.

- TCBC allocated 1.2 m funding for the projects.
- There are nine projects in total ranging from business grants and mental health support to discretionary housing payments.
- One of the projects is for town centre enhancements in Blaenavon & Pontypool.
- Overall funding for Blaenavon & Pontypool is £466k

For Blaenavon what this means initially is basic maintenance of street furniture, railings, repointing and paving repairs in and around Broad Street, Prince Street and Market Street along with a ‘Pocket Park’ planter seat in Bethlehem Court.

Considerations for the planter seat would be:

- Style – in keeping with Blaenavon palette
- Location
- Plant choice
- Issues – Antisocial behaviour, maintenance, style etc

Members discussed the above considerations. Concerns were raised over the location due to antisocial behaviour in that area, that it should be in keeping with the current street furniture

within the town and a possibility of using edible plants; this which would tie in with the Healthy Blaenavon Edible Landscape Project which is planned for March 2022.

Maintenance of the plants was raised; it was suggested using the existing volunteer gardening group at Bethlehem Chapel.

It was also suggested that children from the local school and Hwb be involved in the project, this may help with the aspect of antisocial behaviour.

Resolved: Members noted the update.

The Chairman thanked Rebecca, Kelly, and Dave for attending the meeting.

Rebecca Hartley, Kelly Collins-Thomas, and Dave Leech left the meeting.

7. To Receive an update from the Chief Officer in relation to the precept submission to TCBC 2022/23.

The Chief Officer explained that the submission has been sent to TCBC and he has received confirmation that it has been received. TCBC will issue the precept at the end of March 2022.

Resolved: Members noted the update.

8. To discuss potential Town Council projects for allocation into the Project Action Plan 2022/23. Relevant updates or new projects as notified.

None presented

9. Responsible Finance Officers Update: To receive the January 2022 financial update.

Mr Warren (RFO) forwarded to members the January 2022 financial reports electronically in advance of the meeting which detailed the following areas:

- Income and Expenditure
- Credit Card Payments
- Cheque Payments
- Bacs Payments
- Cash Book Transactions
- Bank Reconciliation
- Project Revenue
- Project Expenditure
- Budget
- VAT
- Bank Statements

Mr Warren presented to members each of the above areas of finance for January 2022 and highlighted any relevant information. Members were invited to ask any questions in relation to the areas to clarify.

Members were happy with the presentation with no questions being raised.

It was proposed by Cllr James and seconded by Cllr Cowles that the January 2022 finance updates be accepted.

Resolved: Financial update for January 2022 accepted by members.

All members were in agreement

Cllr Huybs thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

The meeting was ended at 19:22

Chairman Signed: *L. J. Cowles*

Date: 9/3/22



BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF BLAENAFON

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Blaenavon Town Council

Finance Update

February 2022

BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL



Bank Reconciliation 2021-22

Bank Reconciliation

FEB

Opening Balance

Current Account	£136,378.22
Cash in Hand	£11.63
	<hr/>
	£136,389.85

Add Receipts in Period	£0.00
Less Payments in Period	£16,197.97
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Balance at End of Period	£120,191.88
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Balances at Bank

Current Account	£120,180.25
Cash in Hand	£11.63
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	£120,191.88

Clerk

Sign

K. Evans

Date

9/3/22

Chairman

Sign

L.J. Jones

Date

9/3/22

BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL

Income & Expenditure Statement 2021/2022



Period	FEB			ACTUAL	BUDGET	VAR		
INCOME								
BTC		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
PRECEPT		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
VAT RECEIPTS		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
REVENUE		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
HBO		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
COMMUNITY BREW INCOME		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
OTHER RECEIPTS		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
		£		-	£		-	£0.00
EXPENDITURE								
SALARY		£	6,441.00	£	6,441.00	£0.00		
ELECTION COSTS		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
ESTABLISHMENT COSTS		£	474.04	£	474.04	£0.00		
COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCE		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
HOSPITALITY		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
PROJECTS		£	7,402.50	£	7,402.50	£0.00		
GRANTS		£	500.00	£	500.00	£0.00		
COMMUNITYBREW		£	-	£	-	£0.00		
VAT		£	1,380.43	£	1,380.43	£0.00		
		£ 16,197.97		£ 16,197.97		£0.00		

CLERK	
SIGN	<u><i>A. Evans</i></u>
DATE	<u>9/3/22</u>

CHAIRMAN	
SIGN	<u><i>L. J. Coulls</i></u>
DATE	<u>9/3/22</u>

DATE

9/3/22

DATE

9/3/22

