



**5th April
2019**

Dear Councillor;

You are hereby summoned to attend a **COUNCIL FINANCE MEETING** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, 101 High Street, Blaenavon, at 6:30 pm on WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL 2019**

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. To present Blaenavon Town Council Civic Award plaques for Outstanding Service to the Community.
5. To receive a presentation from Louise Jones-Williams a Director of Llantarnam Grange Arts Centre, Cwmbran
6. **Council Meetings:** To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 13th March 2019.
7. To discuss and make a determination regarding the siting of the 'Truck Shop' Information Board at Caddick's Builders Yard, Blaenavon.

8. To discuss potential Town Council projects for allocation into the Project Action Plan 2018/19. Relevant updates or new projects as notified.

By virtue of THE PUBLIC BODIES (Admission to Meetings) ACT 1960, the Press and Public are excluded from discussions on the following items on the basis that disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

9. **Responsible Finance Officer's Update:** To receive the March 2019 financial update.

Yours Sincerely

Kevin Warren. MInstLM. FCMI.

Clerk to the Council.



BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL FINANCE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL 2019 AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 101
HIGH ST, BLAENAVON.

In attendance:

Councillor: Jac Denley - Jones (In the Chair)

Councillors in attendance: S, Bright, G. Davies, L. Evans, S. Evans, N. Horler, J. Huybs, A. Jones, J. Jones, G. McCann.

Visitors: Louise Jones – Williams – Llantarnam Grange Arts Centre.

The Finance meeting of the Council was opened at 6:30pm by the Chairman Councillor Jac Denley - Jones who welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

1. To receive any questions from the public.

None present

2. Apologies

Cllr B. Lewis.

3. Declaration of interests

Cllr Alan Jones – Llantarnam Grange.

4. To present Blaenavon Town Council Civic Award plaques for Outstanding Service to the Community.

The Mayor Cllr Gareth Davies presented Civic Award plaques to Chris and Wendy David and also Caal Mattravers.

Resolved: Civic Award plaques presented by The Mayor.

5. To receive a presentation from Louise Jones – Williams a Director of Llantarnam Grange Arts Centre, Cwmbran.

A power point presentation was delivered to members by Louise Jones – Williams which provided an overview of the services available at Llantarnam Grange and the nature of the building.

The presentation outlined the exhibitions that had taken place during 2018 together with the learning programme for schools. An interest within Blaenavon centred around the Townscape Heritage Programme that was being delivered at Blaenavon Heritage VC School.

Other services at the centre involved the following:

- Holiday Workshops / Saturday Arts Club
- Conversation and Talks - Learning Programme
- Adult Workshops
- Health and Wellbeing
- Volunteers Programme
- Bridges into Work

It was explained to members that in order to facilitate the services moving forward then around £140k would need to be raised. Any support from Blaenavon Town Council would be welcome.

A series of questions and observations were raised by members which included:

- Unaware of the services currently on offer.
- What other contributions are being provided by other local authorities and community councils?
- What is the relationship with local youth services?
- What other initiatives are in place to promote income generation?

Ms Jones – Williams explained that Llantarnam Grange is a regional Arts Centre based in Torfaen which covers all of South East Wales, there are no other centres located within the neighbouring local authority areas.

Contributions are received from other community councils for example Cwmbran together with Croesyceiliog and Llanyrafon.

There are plans to develop more youth services and to encourage other groups. In terms of income generation, this is constant with charges to schools for example Saturday arts club and the sale of products from exhibitions.

Ms Jones – Williams was thanked by the chair for her interesting and informative presentation to members. Ms Jones – Williams thanked members and stated that any members were welcome to visit the centre at any time.

At 6:55pm Ms Jones – Williams left the meeting

A brief discussion took place amongst members with no determinations being decided.

6. To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 13th March 2019 as a true and accurate record

The minutes were read for accuracy with no amendments being offered. It was proposed by Cllr Janet Jones and seconded by Cllr Horler that the minutes be approved. This was agreed.

Resolved: Minutes approved.

7. To discuss and make a determination regarding the siting of the ‘ Truck Shop’ Information Board at Caddick’s Builders Yard, Blaenavon.

The clerk provided members with an overview regarding the information board that had now been completed and was ready for installation. A brief outline of the planning consent attributed to the board was provided to members.

The building was still the property of the Caddick family who had previously consented for the board to be installed. Cllr Alan Jones would make contact with the family to confirm a date for the installation.

Potential dates were discussed amongst members and it was decided that the 26/4/19 or 3/5/19 were suitable. The unveiling would be conducted by the Mayor with Councillors and members from the Caddick family being present.

The Clerk outlined to members that he would contact Chris Langford to establish his availability to install the board.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Chris Langford to establish his availability for installation and confirmation of the potential dates.

8. To discuss potential Town Council projects for allocation into the Project Action Plan 2018/19. Relevant updates or new projects as notified.

Cllr Alan Jones revisited the presentation provided by Louise Jones – Williams and proposed that based on the information provided that a donation of £500 could be awarded by the Town Council. This was seconded by Cllr Denley – Jones.

A discussion took place amongst members regarding this. At this point Cllr Gareth Davies declared an interest (Performance Manager of the Fusion Project Officer)

Cllr Stuart Evans proposed an amendment of £250 to be awarded, this was seconded by Cllr Janet Jones.

A vote on the amendment was taken which resulted in 4 votes for £250 and 6 votes for £500.

Resolved: £500 to be awarded to Llantarnam Grange Arts Centre. Clerk to inform Ms Jones – Williams.

Cllr Gareth Davies provided members with a brief overview of the plans for the World Heritage Day and the work currently being completed.

The event plan has now been completed. In terms of a definitive cost of the event, this has not yet been established at this time, but it is envisaged that the overall cost will be cheaper based on last year's event. Negotiations with suppliers are still taking place.

A request was made for £10k to be awarded in principle by the Town Council to support the event. Any underspend would of course be returned back to the Council. This will need to be decided at this meeting in order to secure the event.

There will be monthly updates provided to the council regarding the costs and event overview.

At this point declarations of interest were raised by the following Cllrs:

- Nick Horler.
- Jackie Huybs.
- Alan Jones.
- Gareth Davies.
- Janet Jones.

A discussion took place amongst members regarding the request for £10k to support the event.

It was proposed by Cllr McCann and seconded by Cllr Huybs to award the £10k in principle pending further monthly updates to the Council from the World Heritage Committee.

This was agreed by members.

Resolved: £10k to be awarded in principle.

9. Responsible Finance Officer's Update: To receive the March 2019 financial update.

Members were presented with the March 2019 financial update by the RFO Kevin Warren. The areas alluded to in the presentation were:

- Income and Expenditure
- Credit Card Payments

- Cheques Written
- Cash Book Transactions
- Bank Reconciliation
- VAT Accrued
- Budget

Members were happy with the financial information presented.

Resolved: Financial update accepted by members.

The meeting was ended at 7:25pm

Chairman Signed:

Date: 8/5/19

DRAFT