



**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018**

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 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

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 and accept apologies
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are invited to declare any interests they may have in any items on the Agenda.
3. Presentation by Rebecca Hartley TCBC Neighbourhood Services, on the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site Management Plan 2017-2022.
4. **Council Meeting:** To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018
5. To implement the payment of Councillor Allowances as per mandatory determinations **44,48,52** and **53** of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Report 2018.
6. To discuss the repair of the Blaenavon Urban District Council Board 1938-1974
7. To discuss ideas in relation to Town Council Projects 2018-19

By virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the basis that disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

8. To discuss the Internal Auditor's Report on Blaenavon Town Council 2017-18

9. **Responsible Finance Officer's Update:** To receive the April 2018 financial update.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Warren', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Warren. MInstLM. FCMI.

Clerk to the Council.

JOS to Sign  
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## BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL FINANCE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th MAY 2018 AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 101 HIGH ST, BLAENAVON

#### **In attendance:**

Councillor: Jac Denley - Jones (In the Chair)

Councillors in attendance: G. Davies, L. Evans, S. Evans, N. Horler, A. Jones, J. Jones, P Roberts.

Visitors: Ms Rebecca Hartley – TCBC Neighbourhood Services

The Finance meeting of the Council was opened at 6:30pm by the Chairman Councillor Jac Denley - Jones

Councillor Denley - Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

#### **1. Apologies**

Cllrs B. Lewis, G. McCann, S. Bright, J Huybs.

#### **2. Declaration of interests**

Cllr Alan Jones – Item 3.

#### **3. Presentation by Rebecca Hartley, TCBC Neighbourhood Services on the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape, World Heritage Site Management Plan 2017-2022**

Ms Hartley handed out to members documentation referring to the management plan for 2018-23. The structure of the plan was presented via the projector and screen. It was explained that the plan was constructed based around extensive consultation with the relevant

stakeholders. Blaenavon Town Council are a member of the Governance Blaenavon Partnership structure and this has not changed since the town became a World Heritage site in 2000.

Ms Hartley referred to an organisational chart identifying three working groups based around four working themes. The Town Council Business Plan also fits into the overall plan. An explanation of how the plan was to be implemented was given and the closure date for the public viewing was the 24/5/18.

A discussion took place amongst members with several discussion points raised namely:

- The comparison between Blaenavon and Merthyr industrial heritage sites.
- Involvement of the Youth Ambassadors and local schools

Ms Hartley explained that the Merthyr project is called “Valleys to change the World” but compared to Blaenavon and over a period of time the industrial sites in Merthyr had been eradicated. In relation to local schools it was explained that discussions had previously taken place with Abersychan Comprehensive and they are extremely supportive of World Heritage projects.

In terms of the Youth Ambassadors then a more detailed update could be obtained from Dan Oliver and Ashleigh Taylor.

The Chairman thanked Ms Hartley for her input on behalf of the council. At 6:55pm Ms Hartley left the meeting.

**Resolved:** Members noted the update

**4. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018 as a true and accurate record**

The minutes were read with one amendment being inserted that the title Mr be changed to Dr for Nathan Mathews.

**Resolved:** Minutes approved.

**5. To implement the payment of Councillor Allowances as per mandatory determinations 44,48,52 and 53 of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Report 2018.**

The chairman outlined to members the IRPW report and referenced the determinations listed as per the agenda. This is a mandatory allowance that councils must pay members. It was also explained that in all cases any individual can forgo the allowance.

A brief discussion took place amongst members. No members elected to forgo the allowance.



**Resolved:** Clerk to raise cheques for Cllr Allowances

**6. To discuss the repair of the Blaenavon Urban District Council Board 1938-1974**

Councillor Alan Jones explained that he had requested that this matter be placed on the agenda. It was noted that this particular board had a defect in the form of a split across it. Compared to the other boards within the chamber it would be of benefit to get it repaired.

A brief discussion took place amongst members in that the boards are of historic value and they certainly add character.

**Resolved:** Clerk to research potential contractor to conduct repairs and report back to council.

**7. To discuss ideas in relation to Town Council Projects 2018/19.**

**i. Blaenavon Shop Front Project**

Cllr Denley – Jones explained that she is still waiting for the stickers to be printed and will report back with an update when complete.

**Resolved:** Council will await further update

**ii. Restoration of the flower beds at the Park in Blaenavon**

Cllr Janet Jones gave a brief overview to members regarding the submission regarding flower bed restoration at the park in Blaenavon. No costings were provided at this stage.

A discussion took place amongst members and several questions were raised covering the following points:

- Lease agreements with TCBC
- Access in and out of the park together with security.
- Recycling of benches within the park
- Cost of project when complete?

Members discussed the feasibility of calling a group together to discuss the project further and at first glance this could be achieved.

**Resolved:** Meeting of group to be called when more information is available from Cllr Janet Jones.

## **8. To discuss the Internal Auditors report on Blaenavon Town Council 2018/19**

Mr Warren in his role as RFO provided members with an overview of the Internal Auditor's report prepared by Mr Andy Smith. Members had received the report by email for their perusal in advance of the meeting.

A brief discussion took place amongst members who observed that the report was extremely positive indicating a high level of control and confidence in the council's financial system moving forward and in particular the forthcoming external audit.

Members thanked the RFO for the update.

**Resolved:** Members noted the update.

## **9. Finance Officers Update**

Members were presented with the April 2018 financial update. The areas alluded to in the presentation were:

- Income and Expenditure
- Credit Card Payments
- Cheques Written
- Cash Books Transactions
- Bank Reconciliation
- VAT Accrued
- Budget

Members were happy with the statement of accounts and this was signed by the Chairman Cllr Gareth Davies.

**Resolved:** Financial update accepted by members.

The meeting was ended at 7:45pm

**Chairman Signed:**

**Date:**