



6th April 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 13th of April 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.

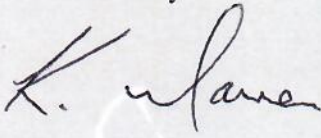
Members of the public have the right to ask questions at Council meetings and to speak in Welsh or English, provided that at least 3 working days' notice in writing of the question has been provided to the Clerk.

Agenda

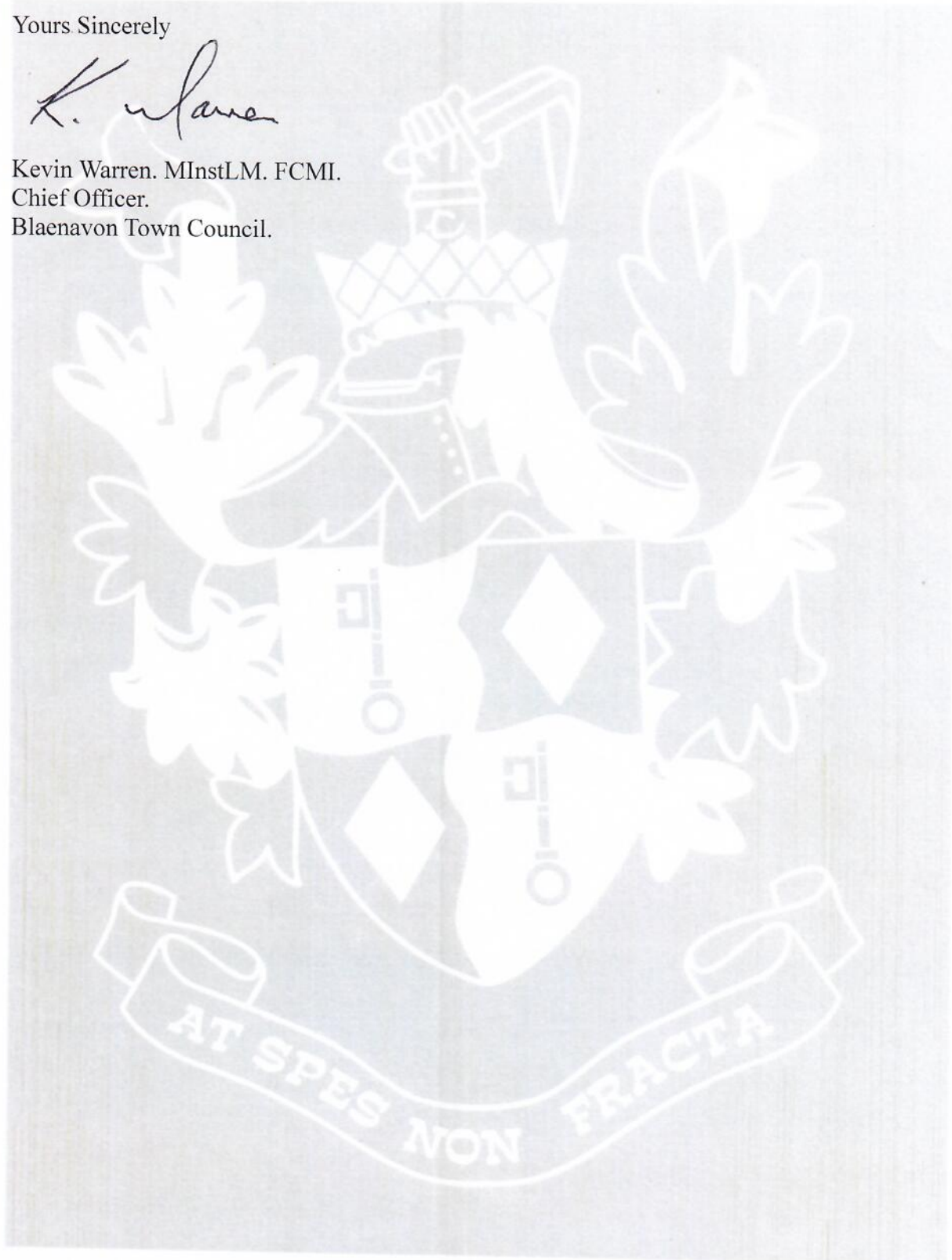
1. To receive any questions from the public.
2. To receive and accept apologies.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are invited to declare any interests they may have in any items on the Agenda.
4. **Council Meetings:** To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 9th of March 2022.
5. To receive an update regarding the 'Community Brew' Participatory Budget Project. **(Cllr Marc Harris)**
6. To discuss and make a determination regarding the current position of the Ken Jones Statue. **(Cllr Alan Jones)**
7. To discuss and make a determination regarding the sending of a letter to Nick Thomas – Symonds MP regarding the Civility and Respect Project for the public sector.

8. **Responsible Finance Officer's Update:** To receive the March 2022 financial update together with the end of year Budget overview.

Yours Sincerely



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





Summary (Notes) of the finance meeting of Blaenavon Town Council held on Wednesday the 13th of April 2022 at 6:30 pm on a hybrid basis in the Council Chamber at **101, High Street, Blaenavon** and remotely in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

The full minutes of the meeting are subject to confirmation at the Council Finance Meeting to be held on Wednesday the 18th of May 2022.

In attendance:

Councillor L. Cowles (In the Chair)

Councillors in attendance: A. Jones, G. James, M. Harris, L. Evans,

Officers: Kevin Warren (Chief Officer) Kerry Jones (Assistant Chief Officer)

Apologies: None received.

Absent ; Cllrs S. Bright, J. Skyrme

The finance meeting was opened at 6:30pm by the Mayor Councillor Liam Cowles who welcomed everyone and expressed thanks for attendance.

1. **To receive any questions from the public.**

- None received.

2. **To receive and accept apologies.**

- None received.

3. **Declarations of Interest:**

- None declared

4. **Council Meetings:** To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 9th of March 2022.

Minutes were read for accuracy with no amendments. Proposed by Cllr A. Jones, seconded by Cllr G. James. Minutes be accepted.

Resolved: Minutes approved as a true and accurate record.

5. **To discuss and make a determination regarding the current position of the Ken Jones Statue. (Cllr Alan Jones)**

An overview of the current position involving the statue was provided by Cllr Alan Jones. A meeting with Dave Leech (TCBC) to be arranged to discuss repair.

Proposed by Cllr M. Harris, seconded by Cllr L. Evans.

Resolved. A meeting with Dave Leech (TCBC) to be arranged to discuss repair.

6. **To discuss and make a determination regarding the sending of a letter to Nick Thomas – Symonds MP regarding the Civility and Respect Project for the public sector.**

A discussion took place regarding civility and respect within the public sector. Letter to be sent to Nick Thomas – Symonds. Proposed by Cllr A. Jones seconded by Cllr G. James.

Resolved. Letter to be sent to Nick Thomas – Symonds

7. **Responsible Finance Officer's Update: To receive the March 2022 financial update together with the end of year Budget overview.**

An update was provided to members by the Responsible Finance Officer covering the March 2022 period. There were no questions, and the report was accepted by members.

Proposed by Cllr A. Jones, seconded Cllr G. James.

Resolved. March 2022 report accepted by members.



BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL FINANCE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th of April 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: Cowles (In the Chair)

Councillors in attendance: A Jones, L. Evans, G. James, M. Harris.

Officers: Kevin Warren (Chief Officer) Kerry Jones (Assistant Chief Officer)

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

1. To receive any questions from the public.

None received.

2. Apologies

None received.

3. Declaration of interests

None declared.

4. To confirm the minutes of the Council Finance Meeting held on the 9th of March 2022 as a true and accurate record.

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

The conformation of the minutes was proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr James. All members in agreement.

Resolved: Minutes accepted as a true record by members.

5. To receive an update regarding the ‘Community Brew’ Participatory Budget Project. (Cllr Marc Harris)

Cllr Harris provided members with an update and explained that four groups have now received participatory grant payments totalling £20k: namely Blaenavon Rugby Club, Blaenavon Blues AFC, Hwb Blaenavon and Tosturi, each receiving £5k.

The next round for applications is now open. There has been a good response so far, with five new projects submitted to date.

Cllr Harris encouraged members to spread the word and offered his help to any groups or individuals that require assistance with the application process.

A discussion took place amongst members and a suggestion of a drop-in session at the Council Chambers may be of help for people struggling with applications.

Resolved: Members noted update.

6. To discuss and make a determination regarding the current position of the Ken Jones Statue. (Cllr Alan Jones)

Cllr Jones informed members that the Town Council are still working closely with TCBC with regards to the repair and relocation of the statue.

A recent meeting with Dave Leech (TCBC) had to be postponed due to pre-election rules. This will be rescheduled as soon as possible following the elections.

The plan for the statue remains unchanged, therefore TCBC will get the statue repaired and moved to a new location.

During prior discussions with Dave Leech, it was agreed that the statue be relocated to the grounds of the World Heritage Centre. There has been a change of plan by TCBC.

The main reasons given was the statue was not in keeping with 19th century industrial heritage.

Alternatives suggested were the garden at Council chambers, outside the Workmen’s Hall or at the Remembrance Gardens adjacent to the cenotaph. This has been presented for consideration to the Blaenavon Branch of the Royal British Legion who have declined this suggestion.

The Chief Officer reiterated to members that in terms of ownership, the statue is not owned by TCBC nor the Town Council, therefore following repair, if the statue cannot be sited where risk of damage is low, then the Town Council would not be able to assume responsibility for it.

A discussion took place amongst members, it was proposed by Cllr Harris and seconded by Cllr Evans that a further meeting take place to discuss repairs with Dave Leech, TCBC. All members in agreement.

Resolved: Cllr Jones to arrange meeting with Dave Leech.

7. To discuss and make a determination regarding the sending of a letter to Nick Thomas – Symonds MP regarding the Civility and Respect Project for the public sector.

Members were forwarded a copy of the letter to Nick Thomas-Symonds MP prior to the meeting for their perusal.

A discussion took place by members following recent events on social media, where both councillors and officers have been subjected to harassment and intimidation. It was strongly felt that this behaviour cannot be allowed to continue. The effects disrupt service and can often lead to staff taking time off work due to stress.

Cllr Cowles added that staff should be protected from such abuse within the workplace.

Members fully agreed that the proposed letter be sent to Nick Thomas-Symonds MP to raise the issue via parliament.

Cllr Jones proposed that a letter be sent by the Chief Officer to Nick Thomas-Symonds MP this was seconded by Cllr James. All members in agreement.

Resolved: Chief Officer to send letter regarding the Civility and Respect Project for the public sector to Nick Thomas-Symonds MP.

8. Responsible Finance Officer's Update: To receive the March 2022 financial update together with the end of year budget overview.

Mr Warren (RFO) forwarded to members the March 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 March 2022 and highlighted any relevant information. Members were invited to ask any questions in relation to the information presented.

Members were happy with the presentation.

Members discussed sharing some of the information to the Council Facebook page as it was felt it demonstrated clearly the project spends, particularly the pie chart, and to reword the heading 'salary' to 'running-costs'.

It was noted by members that the first end of month newsletter covering March 2022 has received positive comments and feedback.

End of year budget overview

It was explained to members that Mr Andy Smith the Council's appointed internal auditor has conducted a two-day full audit covering the 2021/22 financial year. The internal audit report will be presented at the May 2022 finance meeting.

The VAT return has been completed and payment is expected at the end of May 2022

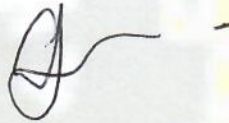
Thanks were given to the Chief Officer by members for his continued hard work throughout the year.

It was proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr James that the March 2022 finance updates be accepted. All members in agreement.

Resolved: Financial update for March 2022 accepted by members.

Meeting ended at 19.10 hrs

Chairman Signed:



Date: 18/5/22



BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL *CYNGOR TREF BLAENAFON*

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Blaenavon Town Council

Finance Update

April 2022

BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL



Bank Reconciliation 2022 - 2023

Bank Reconciliation

APR

Opening Balance

Current Account	£77,672.69
Cash in Hand	£11.63
	<hr/>
	£77,684.32

Add Receipts in Period	£61,666.66
Less Payments in Period	£12,780.82
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Balance at End of Period	£126,570.16
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Balances at Bank

Current Account	£126,558.53
Cash in Hand	£11.63
	<hr/>
	£126,570.16

Clerk

Sign

K. Evans

Date

10/5/22

Chairman

Sign

[Signature]

Date

18/5/22

BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL

Income & Expenditure Statement 2022 - 2023



Period

APR

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VAR
INCOME			
BTC	£ -	£ -	£0.00
PRECEPT	£ 61,666.66	£ 61,666.66	£0.00
VAT RECEIPTS	£ -	£ -	£0.00
REVENUE	£ -	£ -	£0.00
HBO	£ -	£ -	£0.00
COMMUNITY BREW INCOME	£ -	£ -	£0.00
OTHER RECEIPTS	£ -	£ -	£0.00
	£ 61,666.66	£ 61,666.66	£0.00
EXPENDITURE			
SALARY	£ 6,441.00	£ 6,441.00	£0.00
ELECTION COSTS	£ -	£ -	£0.00
ESTABLISHMENT COSTS	£ 2,636.75	£ 2,636.75	£0.00
COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCE	£ -	£ -	£0.00
HOSPITALITY	£ -	£ -	£0.00
PROJECTS	£ 1,450.00	£ 1,450.00	£0.00
GRANTS	£ 2,230.00	£ 2,230.00	£0.00
COMMUNITYBREW	£ -	£ -	£0.00
VAT	£ 23.07	£ 23.07	£0.00
	£ 12,780.82	£ 12,780.82	£0.00

CLERK

SIGN

[Handwritten Signature]

DATE

10/5/22

CHAIRMAN

SIGN

[Handwritten Signature]

DATE

18/5/22

BLAENAVON TOWN COUNCIL

Petty Cash transactions 2022 - 2023



MONTH

APR

DATE	CATEGORY	SUPPLIER	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL	DATE PAID
				£	-		

Opening Balance £ 11.63
 Less transactions in Period £ -
 Plus reimbursement in period £ -
 Closing Balance £ 11.63
 Cash in Hand £ 11.63

CLERK

SIGN

CHAIRMAN

SIGN

DATE

10/5/22

DATE

18/5/22

