



**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Glynneath Town Council
In the Council Chamber Bethania Community Centre
At 7pm on Tuesday 9th October 2018.**

Councillors present

The Mayor, Councillor Dr Del Morgan
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Janet Gregory
Councillor Carolyn Edwards
Councillor Richard Knoyle
Councillor Simon Knoyle
Councillor Shane McMenamin
Councillor Haulwen Morgan
Councillor Marion Morgan
Councillor Jenifer Roberts

Council employees present

Clerk to the Council Michael Pugh

NPTCBC members present

Chief Executive Officer Mr Steven Phillips
Annette Manchip

1. Presiding.
The Mayor Councillor Del Morgan.
2. Mayor's announcements.
 - a. The Mayor will be attending a Civic Service in Pontardawe Sunday 14th October 2018.
 - b. Councillors Janet Gregory and Marion Morgan are flying to Romania Friday 12th October 2018 to assist in charity efforts.
 - c. Remembrance Sunday Service; arrive at 10.30am the service will commence at 10.45am on Sunday 11th November 2018 at the War Memorial Welfare Park.
3. Apologies for absence.
Councillor John Evans.
Councillor Helen Williams.
Councillor Tony Pritchard.
Councillor Gerry Reynolds
Councillor Lowri Francis
4. Declarations of interest.
Councillor Del Morgan - County Borough Member and potential work with One Voice Wales.
Councillor Simon Knoyle - County Borough Member and Secretary to Glynneath RFC.
Councillor Carolyn Edwards - County Borough Member.
Councillor Shane McMenamin - Glynneath Mini Football.

5. Clerk's report on public questions.
 - Q1. In view of the fact that the people of Glynneath, as evidenced in the recent consultation, want the Welfare Park to be prioritized for a programme of renewal and no interest by the local community has been shown for engaging in heritage projects, what sum of money would the council consider too much to spend on the deteriorating Chapel? Submitted by local resident Nick Thomas who wishes to read out the questions himself.
 - a. There is no specified amount decided, but there is a possible grant survey to establish costs; no further information is available until such a time.
 - Q2. Is the council aware that there are other bodies within Glynneath who supply much needed services to the community who rely on grant funding; and would they agree that it is important not to engage in grant applications for un-necessary capital expenditure projects such as renovating the chapel which compete for a finite amount of money and may harm the chances of funding for the Welfare Park being realized? Submitted by local resident Nick Thomas who wishes to read out the questions himself.
 - a. The Welfare Park is the priority, all development will be over the next few years; it will not be pursued without funding or group discussions.
6. Presentation by the Chief Executive Officer of NPTCBC.

The Chief Executive Officer gave a verbal presentation and answered questions from Councillors and residents.

The meeting was suspended at 7.53pm to allow the Chief Executive Officer and Annette Manchip to leave. The meeting continued at 8.04pm.
7. Report on crime/policing.

No report. The Clerk will speak with the local Police to try and get an updated report for the next meeting. Next PACT meeting at 6.30pm on 21st November 2018 at the Bethania Community Centre.
8. Amendments to minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2018.

There are no amendments to the minutes of 10th September 2018.
9. Confirm minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2018 as a true record.

Councillors resolved to approve the minutes of 10th September as a true record of that meeting.
10. Matters arising from minutes.
11. Other reports.
 - a. This Council to discuss Committees.

The committees list of the 2018 AGM was thought to be incorrect; the Clerk will confirm with all Councillors and compile an up to date list of all Council committees.
12. Clerk's report on planning applications.

Application No P2018/0778 Officer Tina Richards Type Householder Ward Glynneath Date Valid 28/09/2018 Parish Glynneath Town Council Proposal Two storey side extension, steps and section of side boundary wall and pillars Location 9 PONTNEATHVAUGHAN ROAD GLYNNEATH NEATH.

Applicant's Name and Address Agent's Name and Address MR N EVANS MR KEN BATEMAN 9 PONTNEATHVAUGHAN ROAD KEN BATEMAN CHARTERED GLYNNEATH NEATH SA11 5AR. SURVEYORS APPIN CLWYD Y FAGWR FAIRVIEW MERTHYR TYDFIL CF48 1HW. Grid 288695 206801 Conservation Area N/A Listed Building N/A

No objections.
13. Clerk's report on correspondence received.

The Council received a letter from the Head Teacher of Cwmnedd Primary School thanking the Council for its recent letter of congratulations to the School. The Head Teacher went on to say that the positive report was due to the hard work and commitment of staff along with the support from parents and residents.
14. Report from Cemetery Committee.

No report. Arrange a date for the next meeting.
No meeting arranged.
Councillor Knogle reported a grave that had appeared to have sunk a little. The Clerk will investigate.

15. Report from Human Resources Committee.
No report. HR Committee need to address the new policies from OVW.
The policies will be included in the agenda for the next Ordinary Meeting.
16. Report from Parks and Open Spaces Committee.
No report. Arrange a date for the next meeting.
No meeting arranged.
17. Report from Town Hall/Community Centre Committee.
No report. Arrange a date for the next meeting.
No meeting arranged.
18. Report from Projects Action Group Committee.
No report. Arrange a date for the next meeting.
No meeting arranged.
Councillor Simon Knoyle has had an informal meeting with stakeholders to investigate options to move forward.
19. Report from Finance and Audit Committee.
No report.
The contract for the temporary groundskeeper has been extended until 31 Mar 2019.
20. Reports from Town Councillors.
 - a. Trem y Glyn Action Group: The initial Swansea University research projects relating to the Care Service should be completed in June/July 2018, with the report following soon after. Professor Verity from the University stated that she would be meeting with NPT Care Services to discuss the findings.
Ongoing.
 - b. The Boundary Commission for Wales, regarding considerations of the future arrangements for divisional and member representation at Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council.
Council resolved for the Clerk and Councillor Del Morgan to draft a letter on behalf of Glynneath Town Council.
 - c. Councillor Janet Gregory asked if all the Hire Agreements, with accompanying paperwork, DBS and insurances, had been returned.
The Clerk informed Council that all Hire Agreements had been sent out, but not all had been returned. The Clerk will follow up all outstanding agreements, DBS and insurance documents.
 - d. A properly constituted group within Glynneath has offered the use of a Temporary Flagpole and Union Jack Flag to be erected at the Pavilion on Sunday 11th November 2018 for the Remembrance Day service. There will be no cost or any works associated with this for Glynneath Town Council.
Submitted by Councillor Simon Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Richard Knoyle.
Clerk to investigate.
 - e. The same group has secured the services (if agreed by GTC) of a 'bugler' to play the Last Post at the Remembrance Day service on Sunday 11th November 2018. There will be no cost or any works associated with this for GTC.
Submitted by Councillor Simon Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Richard Knoyle.
Clerk to investigate.
 - f. This Council to discuss historic non-published accounts and can they be released unaudited if not available.
Submitted by Councillor Richard Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Simon Knoyle.
Councillor Del Morgan will seek advise from One Voice Wales.
 - g. This Council to discuss using external accountants as our RFO.
Submitted by Councillor Haulwen Morgan, seconded by Simon Knoyle.
The Clerk will check legality to employ a company to complete payroll and accountancy services.

- h. Glynneath Green Infrastructure group Information, nature walk and litter pick, Community Events Panel update. Submitted by Councillor Lowri Francis.

The Clerk read out a statement prepared by Mrs Yun Yun Herbert for Glynneath Town Council support.

My husband and I have moved here from Cardiff because we are fascinated with the natural beauty of Neath valley and choose it for our boys to grow up here and go to exceptional good schools in NPT. As an architect, I see things differently as I was trained to improve our environment with infrastructure.

Observations of the area is that NPT has a vast natural resources well known as waterfall country, half of Craig y Llyn shared with Rhondda, edge of Brecon and even Swansea University is in NPT. A465 IS THE MAJOR Link now, the canal and train in the past which is left dismantled or unnavigable. They are built to last, rebuild in the late 80s to early 90s but the scattered unconnected areas becomes a cost for maintenance to NPTCBC rather than the potential for tourism and future prosperity. Current NPTCBC efforts concentrate on Margam, Aberavon coast, Gnoll Park and the approach is in isolated areas.

The objective is to set up a green infrastructure group for the NPT area to improve our environment by linking all communities with our natural resources, the parks, hills and waterways.

A Green infrastructure approach. Follow green (trees, plants and grass) and the blue (waterways, rivers and lakes, ultimately the sea). Result of taking great care and consideration for the green and blue, we can ensure that our surrounding will be built in a way that do not risk our future, coined Welsh government's line, well-being for our future generations.

This approach look to the opposites of the mainstream development driven by 'profit' and focus on the social interest and economic growth of our area without depleting our natural resources and safeguard our future.

In partnership with Community engagement, a proactive approach to planning the Neath Valley Region to stay connected rather than isolated area of prosperity is our common goal.

For that I asked that for the endorsement of Glynneath Town Council – the NPT GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP. It will be a NGO (non-governmental organisation), third sector with NPTCVS, who will assist with the setting-up and have commented that 'the timing is right'.

Endorsement and working with to following:

Blaengwrach Town council and Resolven Community Council, with Glynneath form the Northern corridor

Neath and Tenant canal preservation Society and inland waterway society,

Glynneath training Centre O Dan yr Tyfu a Dysgu/undrer the sky growing and learning:Keep wales tidy and Working with Nature.

Council will support.

- i. This Council to discuss re-opening the Old Changing Rooms.
Submitted by Councillor Simon Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Shane McMenamin.
Clerk to investigate.
- j. Reports from County Councillors.
There are no reports from County Councillors.
- k. Time, date and venue for next meeting.
The next meeting will be at 7pm, on Tuesday 13th November, at the Council Chambers Bethania Community Centre.
- l. Personnel issues and closed session items.

Councillors resolved to enter closed session to discuss strategic review and personnel matters in accordance with Town Council Standing Order number 1c and Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972. (The Act states that the public may be excluded from the meeting for the following business because it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information and the public interest not to disclose the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it).

The public were thanked for attending the meeting and for their interest in the proceedings of Council.

The meeting with the public closed at 9pm and Council resolved to enter closed session to discuss personnel issues and other closed session items.

NOTE: "Closed Session Items" should not be discussed outside the Council's Closed Session for any reason.