



**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Glynneath Town Council
In the Council Chambers, Bethania Community Centre
7pm on Tuesday, 9th April 2019.**

Councillors present

The Mayor, Councillor Dr Del Morgan
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Janet Gregory
Councillor Carolyn Edwards
Councillor John Evans
Councillor Richard Knoyle
Councillor Simon Knoyle
Councillor Shane McMenamin
Councillor Haulwen Morgan
Councillor Marion Morgan
Councillor Gerry Reynolds
Councillor Jennifer Roberts
Councillor Helen Williams

Council employees present

Clerk to the Council Stuart Hemsley-Rice

1. Presiding.
The Mayor Councillor Del Morgan.
2. Mayor's announcements.
 - a. The Mayor praised the successful launch of the "Cup of Tea & Chat" Age Connect event held on Monday in the Community Centre.
 - b. The Mayor reported that the Council were working with Glynneath AFC and other community groups and individuals on the up and coming Welfare Park Clean & Freshen Up Day to be held on Saturday 4 May.
3. Apologies for absence.
Councillor Lowri Francis and Councillor Tony Pritchard.
4. Declarations of interest.
Councillor Del Morgan - County Borough Member and potential work with One Voice Wales.
Councillor Simon Knoyle - County Borough Member, Secretary to Glynneath RFC and Friends of Glynneath Library.
Councillor Carolyn Edwards - County Borough Member.
Councillor John Evans – Trustee of Glynneath Silver Band
5. Clerk's report on public questions.
 - a. Question submitted to Council by Mrs R D Jones:
What plans have the Council in place so Glynneath can benefit from the leisure developments that is to take place in the Afon valley and Tower Colliery? Why wasn't the open cast approached when the restoration work was going on to get cycle/trekking paths put in, linking the three valleys Afon, Rhondda and Neath into one with nature reserves, bird watching hides and small areas for wild camping with a composting toilet everyone knows the site is

big enough. I feel this Plaid dominated council do not want Glynneath to prosper in any way, both councils answer, demolish the Langy bridge.

Response from Clerk:

Glynneath Town council as such does not currently have any plans directly linked to the specific developments in the Afan Valley or at the Tower Colliery site. The Council has its own ambitions for the development of leisure and tourism facilities as discussed many times during recent meetings. The Council cannot respond on behalf of Celtic Energy in respect of the Selar site, but it is aware of the on-going liaison that has been taking place between the company and Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in terms of the development of the nature reserve and overall restoration of the area and its access issues.

6. Amendments to minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 12th March 2019.
There were no amendments to the minutes.
7. Confirm minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 12th March 2019 as a true record.
Councillors resolved to approve the minutes of 12th March 2019 as a true record of that meeting.
8. Matters arising from minutes held on Tuesday 12th March 2019.
 - Minute 5 (a) The Clerk reported that a letter had been drafted and circulated to councillors for their consideration and would be sent to the NPTCBC Highways Dept.
 - Minute 5 (b) The Clerk reported that an email had been sent to Mrs Jones and Harry Samuel Group.
 - Minute 8 (12 b). The Clerk reported that Western Power's contractor had completed the intended works and Council resolved that no further works would take place at this time in line with the NPTCBC Arboricultural Management Plan.
 - Minute 8 12 (a). The Clerk noted that he was due to meet Cllr K Sims (Resolven Community Council) to discuss the matter on Friday.
 - Minute 10 (c). Councillor Gerry Reynolds noted his concern about the membership of the Maesgwyn Panel being that of the Council. The Mayor outlined the measures in place to safeguard against conflicts of interest and the role of the officers from NPTCBC to ensure good governance. The Clerk noted that the application had now been submitted.
 - Minute 16 The Clerk reported that he had contacted the former Clerk (Mr M Pugh) for clarification and that this would be provided in due course.
 - Minute 19 The Clerk reported that a consultation will take place on the introduction of updated regulations for the Cemetery.
9. Amendments to minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 26th March 2019.
There was one amendment to the minute 4. Budget: Councillor Richard Knoyle's comments related to Cemetery drive and not the Community Café.
10. Confirm minutes of Extraordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 26th March 2019 as a true record.
Councillors resolved to approve the minutes of 26th March 2019 with the one amendment noted as a true record of that meeting.
11. Matters arising from minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 26th March.
There were no matters arising.
12. Other reports
 - a) Alleged Public Footpath from Glynneath Library to Earlsfield Close
(The Mayor reported that he had received legal advice with regards to declaring an interest in this item as his wife was a cousin of an affected party. The advice was that he did not have a personal or prejudicial interest in the matter as defined within the Councillors' Code of Conduct, but that he should consider making the explanatory declaration in the interest of transparency. The Mayor proceeded to chair the discussion but did not express an opinion on the matter).

The Clerk reported that the Council had received correspondence from NPTCBC outlining that written representations or objections could be made by the Council by May 13th 2019. Councillor Simon Knoyle noted that the matter was to be considered at a NPTCBC scrutiny meeting taking place on Friday. The Council resolved not to submit a response and to maintain a neutral stance.

- b) Financial Year End 2018/19
Council noted the financial performance for the last quarter and resolved to authorise all the payments that had been made and presented to Council (between 12/3/2019 and 9/4/2019). The Clerk reported that the forecast for the year end was that there would be an operating loss of around £2500 and that expected reserves position (including the cash contingency held in the general account) was approximately £50,000. Council resolved that the expenditure on utilities, non-domestic rates and repairs to parks & open spaces equipment be examined to see if further efficiencies and reductions are possible.
- c) Appointment of Internal Auditor
The Clerk reported that the role had been advertised and had attracted interest from candidates who unfortunately were unable to provide their services within the next few months. Council resolved that the application period for expressions of interest be extended until suitable applications are received.
- d) Annual Review of Insurance Cover
The Clerk reported that he was carrying out a review of the Council's insurance cover and that the long-term agreement with Zurich was due to come to an end in May. The Clerk reported that he had requested a quote from Zurich, Came & Company, WPS and Norris & Fisher who are specialists in the field of parish, community and town councils cover.

13. Clerk's report on planning applications.

a. **Application Number: P2019/0334**

Applicant Name/Address:

MR Rhys Lloyd, 28 WAUNGRON, GLYNNEATH, NEATH SA11 5AS

Site Location:

5 WAUNGRON, GLYNNEATH, NEATH SA11 5AS

Proposed Development:

Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of new dormer balcony.

Easting: 288799 Northing: 206977

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

No observations.

14. Clerk's report on correspondence received.

None received.

15. Reports from Town Councillors.

There were no reports

16. Reports from County Councillors.

There were no reports

17. Date, time, venue and agenda for next meeting.

The Annual General Meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 14th May 2019 at the Council Chambers, Bethania Community Centre, followed by the Ordinary Meeting of Council at 7.30pm.

18. Personnel issues and closed session items. Cllr John Evans left the meeting.

Councillors resolved to enter closed session to discuss strategic review and personnel matters in accordance with Town Council Standing Order number 1c and Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. (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).

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