



Summary (Decisions) of the Full Council meeting of Blaenavon Town Council held on **Wednesday the 25th of June 2025 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 Full Council meeting to be held on **Wednesday the 23rd of July 2025**.

In attendance:

Councillors: Cllr. L. Evans (In the Chair) L. Cowles, N. Matthews, M. Wheeler, A. Beavan, J. Davies, A. Lewis, T. Griffin, T. Porter, S. Maslen.

Absent – Cllr Hunt.

Officers: Kevin Warren (Chief Officer), Kerry Jones (Assistant Chief Officer), Sophie Johnson (CWD Officer).

Visitors: Simon & Lynne-Michelle Sayle (Citizen Aid UK) J. Jones (Cllr, TCBC)

Members of public: None.

The Full Council meeting was opened at 6:30pm by Mayor Cllr Lewis Evans who welcomed everyone and expressed thanks for attendance.

1. To receive any questions from the public.

None received.

2. To receive and accept apologies.

The Chief Officer informed the chairperson that the following apologies had been received.

- Cllr Parfitt

It was proposed by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr Beavan that the apologies be accepted.

All members in agreement.

Resolved - Apologies accepted.

3. Declarations of Interest

- Cllr Lewis – Personal – item 21

7. Council Meetings: To confirm the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 28th of May 2025.

Minutes were read for accuracy with no amendments.

It was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Wheeler that the minutes be accepted.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Minutes accepted as a true and accurate record.

11. To receive an update from the Youth Representative Interview Panel and ratify the appointment of two Youth Representatives to Blaenavon Town Council.

The Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) provided members with an overview of the application, interview, and decision-making process for the appointments of Youth Representative.

The interview panel unanimously agreed on their preferred candidates: Daniel Morse and Boyd Paynter.

The ACO requested that members formally ratify the appointments and adopt the Youth Representative Policy which had been forwarded to all members prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Wheeler to ratify the appointments of Daniel Morse and Boyd Paynter as Blaenavon Town Council Youth Representatives and to adopt the Youth Representative Policy.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Daniel Morse and Boyd Paynter were appointed as Youth Representatives, and the Youth Representative Policy was adopted.

In accordance with the Youth Representative Policy, the ACO nominated Cllr Beavan and herself to act as mentors to the newly appointed Youth Representatives.

This was proposed by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr Davies.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Cllr Beavan and the Assistant Chief Officer were appointed as mentors to the Youth Representatives.

12. To Receive and ratify the terms of reference for the appointment of a Town Council Chaplain.

The terms of reference were forwarded to all members prior to the meeting.

Father Chris Walters had accepted the position as Town Council Chaplin.

It was proposed by Cllr Beavan and Seconded by Cllr Maslen to adopt the terms of reference for the Town Council Chaplain.

A discussion took place amongst members regarding the appointment of Father Walters.

It was proposed by Cllr Beavan and seconded by Cllr Davies that Father Walters is the appointed Chaplain for Blaenavon Town Council.

Cllr Griffin voted against appointing Father Walters as Town Council Chaplain.

Cllr Griffin proposed an amendment that there should be a selection process for the role of Chaplain. There was no seconder for Cllr Griffin's amendment.

The original proposal stood.

All other members in agreement.

Resolved: Father Chris Walters appointed as the Chaplain for Blaenavon Town Council.

13. To discuss and make a determination to appoint a Councillor Representative to the One Voice Wales Local Councils Forum.

Cllr Evans nominated himself to be the appointed council representative. This was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Beavan.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Cllr Evans to be appointed to the OneVoice Wales Local Councils Forum.

14. To receive, discuss and make any relevant determinations regarding Blaenavon Town Council's draft Democratic Health Strategy 2025/27.

The draft Democratic Health Strategy was forwarded to all members prior to the meeting and displayed on screen.

Cllr Matthews provided members with an overview.

It was proposed by Cllr Lewis and seconded by Cllr Cowles to accept and ratify the Democratic Health Strategy 2025/27.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: The democratic health strategy 2025/27 was adopted.

15. To discuss and make any relevant determinations regarding the public use of Blaenavon Resource Centre.

Cllr Davies provided members with an update regarding the use of the Resource Centre in Blaenavon.

A discussion took place amongst members.

It was proposed by Cllr Beavan that enquiries are made to ascertain ownership of the building, what organisations currently operate from the building. This was seconded by Cllr Lewis.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: That the Chief Officer writes to the Facility Manager on behalf of Blaenavon Town Council to enquire ownership of the building and who currently operates from the building.

17. To discuss and make a determination regarding the arrangements for the Town Council Civic and Grant Presentation Event 2025.

The Chief Officer informed members that this year all small grant awards will be presented as part of a combined Civic Event and Grant Presentation Event.

A discussion took place amongst members with regards to the event, date, and venue.

The Assistant Chief Officer updated members that a visit had taken place at Forgeside Community Hall to ascertain size and availability.

It was proposed by Cllr Matthews that an event is held during November 2025. This was seconded by Cllr Griffin.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Town Council Civic and Grant Presentation Event to be held in November 2025.

A further discussion took place amongst members.

It was proposed by Cllr Matthews that the event is held at Blaenavon Workmen's Hall. This was seconded by Cllr Griffin.

Cllr Cowles proposed the event be held at Forgeside Community Hall. This was seconded by Cllr Lewis.

A vote took place amongst members, with five votes for each venue.

The mayor exercised the casting vote in favour of Forgeside Community Hall as the chosen venue.

Resolved: Town Council Civic and Grant Presentation Event to be held in Forgeside Community Hall.

18. To discuss and make a determination regarding the arrangements for the Town Council Xmas Lights switch on event 2025.

The event is expected to follow a similar format to last year which was a great success. Initial enquiries and provisional bookings have been made with the entertainment and food providers used previously.

Members discussed potential dates for the event.

It was proposed by Cllr Cowles and seconded by Cllr Beavan that the Christmas light's switch on event will take place on 28th November 2025.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Town Council Christmas Lights switch on event to be held on 28th November 2025.

19. To discuss and make a determination regarding potential Town Council projects for allocation into the Project Action Plan 2025/26. Relevant updates or new projects as notified.

None received.

20. To receive, discuss and make a determination regarding planning applications.

The planning applications were forwarded to members ahead of the meeting, which presented as follows.

- **DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED:** Retention of outbuilding
- **LOCATION:** 17 Lower Garn Terrace, Garn Yr Erw, Blaenavon.

- **DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED:** Single storey extension
- **LOCATION:** Tregarth, The Park Blaenavon.

Resolved: No objections from members RE: 17 Lower Garn Terrace. Chief Officer to inform TCBC that Tregarth falls within the conservation area.

21. To receive, discuss and make any relevant determinations concerning items relating to correspondence.

- Letter of thanks from Deputy Lord Lieutenant Anthony Clay.

The Chief Officer forwarded a letter of thanks from Deputy Lord Lieutenant Anthony Clay to all members ahead of the meeting. In the letter, Mr. Clay expressed his sincere appreciation

for the invitation to the VE Day Service held at St Peter's Church on 8th May 2025, noting that he thoroughly enjoyed the service and felt honoured to have been included

- Email response from Tim Monkton.

The Chief Officer forwarded the email to all members ahead of the meeting. Members discussed its contents in detail.

It was proposed by Cllr Griffin that Blaenavon Town Council be invited to play a key role in developing the business plan for the World Heritage Centre. This was seconded by Cllr Beavan.

All members in agreement.

Resolved: Chief Officer to contact Tim Monkton and request that the Town Council be consulted on the World Heritage Centre business plan.

The Chief Officer sought an urgent resolution from the Chair regarding the Personnel and Establishment Committee meeting scheduled for 2nd July 2025.

He explained that both he and several members would be attending the One Voice Wales conference in Builth Wells on that date and would therefore be unable to attend the meeting.

As a result, he requested that the meeting be rescheduled to 16th July 2025.

This was proposed by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr Beavan.

All members in agreement.

Meeting ended at 20.24 hrs