

# CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## CAERPHILLY TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, TREDOMEN ON THURSDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER 2001 AT 2.00 P.M.

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PRESENT:

Councillor P.J. Bevan - Chairman  
Councillor Mrs. K. Gwynne - Vice-Chairman

Councillors:

M.H. Newman and K.R. Snell

Together with:

T. Peppin (Policy and Research Manager), M. Howland (Team Leader - Urban Renewal), M. Rees-Williams (Client Services Manager), T. White (Refuse and Cleansing Officer), D. Nutt (Tourism Officer), J. Elliott (Research Officer) and Mrs. D. Phillips (Committee Services Officer)

Also Present:

L. Paddock (Caerphilly Town Council), A. Hood (CADW), A.J. Vizard (Caerphilly & District Civic Society) and Inspector S Powell-Jones (Gwent Police), Helen Barnes (GAVO).

1. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting of the Group held on 21st June 2001 were received and noted.

**Matters Arising**

2. **Kick (i)**

It was noted that although there was a positive response from Railtrack initially they had now expressed concerns regarding the safety aspect of allowing the railway sidings to be cleansed by volunteers.

3. **Dog Fouling Receptacles (iii)**

An Officer reported that the Leisure Directorate were responsible for the Crescent Road Playing Fields and the request for providing dog-fouling receptacles is being considered by them.

4. **Skateboarding (v)**

The Chairman referred to a written reply from the Council's Senior Solicitor regarding the progress of introducing a Skateboarding Bye Law. He reported that the National Assembly require the area affected by the existing and proposed Bye Laws to be identified on a plan. Mr Howland, Team

Manager - Urban Renewal indicated that he had a copy of the suggested plan and would circulate it to the members present. He confirmed that the area above the toilets at the bus station was included in the plan.

It was noted that the Head of Lifelong Learning and Leisure was still investigating possible sites and funding for a skateboarding park.

**5. Former Tourist Information Centre (1)**

It was noted that the former Tourist Information Centre will shortly be advertised for sale on the open market by Property Services and any progress on this matter would be reported to the next meeting of the group.

Members discussed the possibility of boat rides on the moat and Mr Hood, the representative from CADW indicated that although the proposal was feasible, it would need to be advertised and prospective operators would be subject to certain constraints.

**6. Caerphilly Castle Circular Footpath (2)**

Mr Hood reported that Phase 1 of the Council's circular footpath had now been completed. Work on Phase 2 which would include refurbishment of the Fisherman's gate. The future maintenance programme for these works will then be formally agreed between CADW and the council.

It was agreed that the Group should walk the footpath when all the works are complete.

A member expressed concern regarding the overhanging branches at the rear of the Court House Public House and Mr Peppin reported that the seven Area Forums had been invited to provide details of problem areas similar to this and had to date received 160 replies which are at present being investigated.

**7. Maintenance of Street Cleansing (6)**

Members received a copy of a newspaper article (South Wales Echo - 21st August 2001) showing a letter from a local resident praising the Council for the way in which the Town Centre was maintained.

The Refuse and Cleansing Officer, Mr White reported that the Town Centre of Caerphilly has a regular programme of cleansing. A new hot jet wash system will shortly be used in the town centre to clean problem areas.

Members expressed concern at the litter at the rear of Crescent Road Car Park and also the excessive litter on the streets during the Summer Bank Holiday. Mr White indicated that these matters would be investigated.

**8. Correspondence from Valley Lines**

Members noted the reply from Valley Lines in response to concerns raised at the previous meeting.

## **Correspondence from Caerphilly Town Council**

### **9. Flooding Problems**

It was reported that remedial work to prevent further flooding problems at Castle Street will now be scheduled to coincide with the present work by Wessex Water.

### **10. Skateboarding**

This item had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

### **11. Maintenance of Land**

It was reported that officers had instructed that maintenance be carried out at the area adjacent to the Job Centre at Castle Street.

It was suggested that the pressure washer be used on the block paving near the entrance to Safeway.

It was noted that some problems had been experienced with the current weeding programme and it was agreed that a report be presented to the next meeting.

### **12. Police Report**

Inspector Powell-Jones reported on the recent vandalism to the new play equipment installed at Morgan Jones Park. However following a newspaper photograph some of the vandals were identified by their graffiti writing and cautioned. A vast reduction in the number of drink related complaints in the Town Centre (including Dafydd Williams Park) was probably associated to a high presence of police profile in these areas.

Inspector Powell-Jones expressed concern at the damaged and missing road signs which was encumbering the local traffic wardens. It was agreed that he should send a list to Mr Earey, the Council's Principal Engineer.

### **13. Proposed Road Closure - Cardiff Road**

It was reported that the remedial work to the water pipes at Cardiff Road would be commencing shortly. The contractor has planned the work carefully and will visit every trader along the route to explain the programme of work. The Council's Public Relations Unit will also be publishing details of the work in consultation with the contractor and via local newspapers.

### **14. Exhibition at Tourist Information Centre**

Mr Howland circulated details of a Caerphilly Town Centre Draft Action Plan and a questionnaire on a Draft Dafydd Williams Park Development Plan. He reported that an exhibition on these proposals is currently being held at the Tourist Information Centre and if members wished to complete the questionnaire they should be returned to him.

15. **Date of Next Meeting**

The Chairman reported that the date of the next meeting would be 6th December 2001 at 2.00 p.m. at the Tredomen Offices.

The meeting closed at 2.50 p.m.

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