

# CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## CAERPHILLY TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, TREDOMEN ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY 2002 AT 2.00 P.M.

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#### PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs. K. Gwynne - Vice-Chairman - Presiding

#### Councillors:

P.J. Bevan, M.H. Newman and K.R. Snell

#### Together with:

M. Howland (Team Leader- Urban Renewal), A Jones (Community Safety Officer), P. Gomer (Head of Lifelong Learning and Leisure), D. Earey (Principal Engineer) P. Hudson (Tourism Officer), J. Elliott (Research Officer) and Mrs D. Phillips (Committee Services Officer).

#### Also Present :

M.L. Evans (Caerphilly Town Council), A.J. Vizard (Caerphilly & District Civic Society) and Sergeant Martin Hayter (Gwent Police),

#### **APOLOGY**

An apology for absence was received from Inspector S Powell-Jones, Mr J. Couzins (Centre Manager – Castle Court Centre), and Mr A. Hood (CADW).

#### 34 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting of the Group held on 6th December 2001 were received and noted.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

#### 35 **Kick (Minute no 17)**

It was noted that further delays had meant that the former market building at Pentrebane Street was still not available for skateboarding use. It was reported that the Town Council had given financial assistance to the scheme and in view of the delay would be requesting a meeting with the representatives as soon as possible.

It was agreed that a report on progress of the scheme would be given at the next meeting.

**36 Security (Minute no 26)**

Mr Alun Jones, Community Safety Officer reported that the CCTV cameras at the rear of Crescent Road Car Park were being installed .Members of the group will be notified of the completion date.

**37 Lawrence Street Car Park (Minute no 29)**

It was noted that the limited waiting restrictions at this car park will shortly be in operation.

**38 Tommy Cooper Memorial Statue (Minute no 33)**

Officers reported that a consultation exercise would be used to gauge interest on a statue of the comedian Tommy Cooper who was born in Caerphilly. This consultation will be via Newline when the appropriate ward is featured. It was agreed that the consultation should include details of the approximate cost of a bronze statue being £40,000 and stone £25,000.

**39 Park Lane Potential Development**

Members noted a copy of a report that had been presented to Cabinet on 12th February regarding a potential food-based tourist development at Park Lane, Caerphilly.

Mr Howland, Team Leader - Urban Renewal outlined the proposals which would be dependant on successfully relocating a number of organisations to suitable premises and securing financial support from external agencies. It was noted that Cabinet had agreed with the officers recommendations contained within the report and that a study would be commissioned later in the year when further discussions with the occupiers of the buildings would take place.

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM TOWN COUNCIL**

**40 Top of Town Development**

Concerns were expressed by the Town Clerk regarding the proposed Top of Town Development .A number of local retailers in the vicinity were concerned at the lack of information regarding the timescales and feasibility for the development. Officers reported that lack of any firm timescales on the development was difficult as the developer was from the private sector .It was agreed that the development company be invited to the next meeting to discuss their proposals for the area.

**41 Park Lane /Dafydd Williams park Development**

It was noted that this item had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

**42 Flooding Problem, Castle Street**

The Town Clerk outlined his concerns on flooding problems in Castle Street near the base of the steps from the castle. Mr Earey indicated that he would investigate the matter and report back to the next meeting.

**43 Blocked Drain, Tourist Information Centre**

Mr Earey reported that previous work had been undertaken to address this particular problem and he was unaware that the flooding in this area had continued. The matter would need to be investigated in more detail and he would contact the Tourist Information Centre to notify him when the problem occurred again.

**44 Crescent Road Playing Fields**

Mr Gomer, Head of Lifelong Learning and Leisure reported on the success of a match funding grant to build a sports facility on the Owain Glyndwr fields. The building would have 4 changing rooms with the main users being the local schools and the Caerphilly Ladies Football Clubs.

He reported that Cabinet had recently allocated money from the Capital Programme 2002/2003 for match funding to enable such schemes to proceed.

The problem of dog fouling at this area continues to cause concern. Mr Gomer outlined plans to inform the public of the dangers of dog fouling through the council publication Newslines. It would warn the public that naming of people and prosecutions would take place in the future. Members emphasised the need for more signs prohibiting dog fouling in this area.

Mr Gomer also reported that the new football pitches at Owain Glyndwr would free some land at Virginia Park, which could be developed, into a new cricket pitch.

**45 Maintenance of Block Paving – Post Office Square**

It was noted that officers had already identified and marked areas of block paving for repair at the Twyn Square.

It was reported by the Town Clerk that two cast iron litterbins situated at Barclays Bank and the Court House needed repair. Mr Howland indicated that this would be reported to the appropriate department.

**46 Correspondence Received from Swansea City Centre Management**

Mr Howland had attended the first meeting of the Association of Town Centre Management – Welsh Chapter referred to in the letter attached to the agenda. He circulated a publication entitled What is Town Centre Management? and outlined to members the benefits of the association and in particular a Town Centre Manager who could possibly be shared with other towns within the county borough. The possible re-emergence of the Chamber of Trade was encouraging and the feasibility of smaller more specialised groups reporting to the main management group was also discussed.

**47 Road Works**

Mr Earey reported that major water works had been scheduled for Cardiff Road to commence on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. The contractor will work between 7.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m. in order that there is minimum disruption to the retail units. The work is expected to last for 4 weeks and diversions away from Cardiff Road will be sign posted.

48 **Watford Junction**

The traffic concerns at Watford junction were discussed and it was agreed that Mr Earey would present a report to the next meeting of the Management Group

49 **Correspondence from Castle Court Shopping Centre Manager**

A copy of a letter received from Mr Couzens was circulated to members. The contents of the letter were noted.

50 **Future Meeting Dates**

The Chairman announced the following dates for the Management Group:-

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2.00 p.m.** – It was agreed that a representative from Railtrack be invited to the meeting.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2.00 p.m.**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2.00 p.m.**

All the meetings will be at the Tredomen Offices.

The meeting closed at 3.35 p.m.