



## CAERPHILLY TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, TREDOMEN  
ON THURSDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2004 AT 3.00 PM

---

PRESENT:

Councillors:

P.J. Bevan, J.E. Fussell, G.G. Hibbert, S. Kent, M.H. Newman and M.J. Prew

Together with:

I. MacVicar (Business Development Manager) A. Highway (Town Centre Development Manager), M. Howland (Regeneration Partnership Co-ordinator), A. Dallimore (Urban Renewal Manager), J. Elliott (Policy Officer) J. Ridgewell (Business Manager – Development Parks) T. White (Refuse and Cleansing Officer), D. Earey (Principal Engineer – Management & Regulations) and Mrs D. Phillips (Committee Services Officer).

Also Present:

J. Stephens (CADW), PC J. Buckthought (Gwent Police), M.L. Evans (Caerphilly Town Clerk), Mr J. Couzens (Centre Manager- Castle Court Shopping Centre), Mrs S. Cooper (Access Group ) and R. Gough (GAVO).

### CT1 CHAIRMAN

Councillor P. Bevan was elected as Chairman of the Management Group.

### CT2 VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor J.E. Fussell was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Management Group.

### CT3 WELCOME AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE GROUP

The Chairman of the Management Group welcomed members to the meeting and introductions were made.

Membership of the group was discussed and it was agreed that a local member from the St. James' Ward be invited to join the Management Group.

**CT4 MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved as a correct record.

Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group held on 11th March 2004 (minute nos CT 57-CT74, page nos 1-4).

**MATTERS ARISING**

**CT5 Tommy Cooper Society (CT44)**

It was noted that a planning application had recently been received from the Hon Secretary of the Tommy Cooper Society to erect a statue of Tommy Cooper at the Twyn Car Park, Caerphilly.

Members were reminded that on the 18th May 2004 Cabinet had supported in principle the erection of a Tommy Cooper statue and the creation of a walk of fame. The principle of long-term maintenance of the completed statue was also supported.

**CT6 Financial Assistance of Caerphilly Area Forum Budget 2003/04 (CT 62)**

The Town Clerk reported that a sign outside the Twyn Community Centre had now been erected at a cost of £250 and it was confirmed that this item would be financed from the Area Forum Budget. It was also confirmed that replacement windows for the Twyn Community Centre had been ordered and would also be paid for from the same budget. In addition a new seat, litter bin and a contribution towards the lighting at Dafydd Williams Park had resulted in a total spend to date of £11,262 out of a total budget of £14,416 for 2003/04, leaving a balance of £3,151. Requests for projects were invited to be submitted to the Chairman to spend the remaining allocation by March 2005.

**CT7 Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group Sub-Committee (KICK) (CT64)**

Mr R.Gough (GAVO) gave a brief summary on the premises used at Cardiff Road and Pentrebanne Street, Caerphilly by KICK (Kids in Caerphilly Krazee). He reported that the premises at Cardiff Road, Caerphilly are currently for sale. It is anticipated however that £135,000 may be reclaimed from the Lottery from the proceeds of the sale.

The former market at Pentrebanne Street has now been converted to a skateboard area with new equipment installed and the toilets refurbished. There is however a problem with the roof and the financing of the work.

There is currently a bid from KICK to the Welsh Assembly Government for £320,000 which is for revenue and capital and will finance equipment and fund 7 officers.

Mr Evans, the Town Clerk, welcomed the proposals for the facility although expressed concern that a lessee may be expected to finance repairs to a building. It was suggested that a meeting with representatives with KICK be arranged to examine terms of lease and longevity of the project.

A representative of the Police raised a question on the entry charged and Mr Gough indicated that he would make enquiries and inform him.

**CT8 Replacement of Bins- Dafydd Williams Park (CT70)**

Mr White, Refuse and Cleansing Officer, reported that the bins had successfully been reclaimed from the moat, refurbished and re-instated.

**CT9 Wales in Bloom (CT74)**

Mr Ridgewell, Business Manager – Development Parks, displayed a framed certificate showing that Caerphilly Town Centre had been placed 2nd in the Wales in Bloom Competition. (The winner town was Llandudno).

He expressed his thanks to the Town Council, Castle Court and local businesses for their support in the competition.

Mr Highway the newly appointed Town Centre Development Manager expressed an interest to be involved in the future on this project and to work with Mr Ridgewell.

Members expressed their congratulations to all the park staff involved in the flower displays during the summer months.

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM CAERPHILLY TOWN COUNCIL**

**CT10 Area Forum Budget – Caerphilly Town Council**

This item had been discussed earlier in the meeting although further clarification of figures were requested. Mr MacVicar, Business Development Manager, agreed that he would discuss the budget with appropriate officers and that a report would be presented to the next meeting of the Management Group.

It was reported that Mr Howland had been successful in obtaining a post in the Community Regeneration Section and would not be attending future meetings. Members thanked him for all his hard work in his previous post.

**CT11 Lighting Scheme- Dafydd Williams Park**

It was reported that the scheme had cost £26,500 which was more than the original budget and consequently a suggestion was made that the Town Council and Caerphilly Area Forum increase their contribution from £5,450 to £6,625. The outstanding fifty per cent contribution would be from Caerphilly County Borough Council's resources. Mr Evans indicated that he would put this request to the next meeting of the Town Council.

**CT12 Top of Town and Park Lane Development**

It was reported that although there is still interest and discussions are still taking place with an estate agent for a top of town development, a firm proposal and a major player has yet to make a commitment and submit an application. It was suggested any scheme would have a major impact on the surrounding streets and that a Traffic Impact Study should be considered. It was also suggested that the council should consult with local businesses residents and especially KICK to make them aware of any proposals for this area.

The Park Lane development was also discussed and officers referred to previous reports that had been presented to Cabinet outlining proposals for a new centrally located library and the concept of a speciality food based centre at this location.

A report on this proposed development and any possible land requisition will be presented to Cabinet shortly and subsequently reported to the next meeting of the Management Group.

### **CT13 Caerphilly Parking Review**

Mr Earey, Principal Engineer, reported that at Cabinet on 2nd November a report had been presented on the Caerphilly Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting Order.

It was resolved at that meeting to proceed with a Modified Order excluding changing the times and operation of existing resident only parking and the number of permits per property.

Mr Earey outlined details of the extensive consultation taken and reported that over 300 objections had been made to the Order (the majority of these had been regarding the proposals for resident permits).

Members discussed the proposal for the taxi rank outside the Castle Court Centre at Castle Street and felt that there was adequate provision for taxi users outside the Safeway Store.

There were also concerns regarding the proposal to amend the bus lay-by at this location on safety and anti social behaviour grounds.

Mr Earey replied that there was insufficient provision for taxis in Caerphilly and operators had requested a rank at the lower end of Caerphilly. He did not consider that the changes would affect the safety of bus passengers at that location.

It was agreed however that the Management Group formally express their objections at the proposal to amend the bus lay-by outside Castle Court Centre and change it to a taxi rank.

### **CT14 Any Other Business**

Mr Ridgewell reported that the council was attempting to raise the profile of parks and develop Morgan Jones Park to a Green Flag Status. Mr Rigewell circulated leaflets explaining the criteria for the status which would be an external assessment. He asked members for their support and would be interested to know if anyone would like to become a 'Friend of the Park' member.

### **CT15 Twyn Car Park**

It was reported that eight car parking spaces would be taken for a Christmas Market in the Twyn car park on 11th and 12th December.

It was also reported that there would be changes to bus routes in Caerphilly from 15th November when additional services funded by the Welsh Assembly Government would be provided. A promotion on the 15th November would however restrict car parking in the Twyn car park that day. The Police requested notification of this event.

### **CT16 Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 10th February 2005 at 3.00pm – Committee Room 1/2, Tredomen.

The meeting closed at 4.50pm