

## **MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL**

### **COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

#### **PRESENT:**

**COUNCILLORS:** I A Williams (**Mayor**)  
P W Jenkins, L Beedle, D K Edwards, P White,  
R Penhale-Thomas, D L Evans, R Collins, L Thomas,  
C Reeves, P Davies, A R Davies, A James and  
R L Lewis.

**APOLOGIES** for absence received from Councillors G Bevan, W May and S B. Smith.

Members agreed to grant dispensation for six months to Councillor G Bevan due to continuing health problems.

#### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Cllrs D K Edwards, R Penhale-Thomas, P White, P Davies and R Collins declared an interest in items relating to Bridgend County Borough Council, including Development Control and Licensing.

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr I A Williams, declared an interest in items relating to Llangynwyd Middle Community Council.

The Clerk made the Council's Register of Interest available for Members to update.

#### **319 POLICE MATTERS**

The Mayor welcomed to the meeting PCSO's Kelly Haslam and Callum Wadham.

#### **Crime Figures**

Crime statistics were presented to the Members for the month of January 2018, comparing them to the crimes committed in the various categories for December 2017.

Maesteg Crime Statistics for January 2018

	<b>Caerau / Nanty</b>	<b>Maesteg East</b>	<b>Maesteg West</b>	<b>Llan</b>	<b>Total in category</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Dwelling burglary</b>	2	0	2	0	<b>4</b>
<b>Burglary other</b>	1	0	1	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Theft of vehicle</b>	0	0	0	1	<b>1</b>
<b>Theft from vehicle</b>	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
<b>All other theft</b>	4	1	1	1	<b>7</b>
<b>Damage</b>	7	5	5	0	<b>17</b>
<b>Assault with injury</b>	9	3	4	0	<b>16</b>
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour</b>	16	12	18	2	<b>48</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>

Maesteg Crime Statistics for December 2017

	<b>Caerau / Nanty</b>	<b>Maesteg East</b>	<b>Maesteg West</b>	<b>Llan</b>	<b>Total in category</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Dwelling burglary</b>	1	0	1	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Burglary other</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Theft of vehicle</b>	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Theft from vehicle</b>	0	1	0	1	2
<b>All other theft</b>	0	2	8	0	<b>10</b>
<b>Damage</b>	6	1	1	0	<b>8</b>
<b>Assault with injury</b>	5	1	7	0	<b>13</b>
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour</b>	18	13	13	1	<b>45</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	1	1	1	0	<b>3</b>

Clarification was sought on assault with injury and West Ward theft figures for December 2017.

### **320 MAYOR'S REPORT**

#### **Events and meetings attended during the month of January 2018:**

- Mayors Trust meeting, 15<sup>th</sup> January
- Mayors Trust Up and coming Mayor of Maesteg Trust events: meeting, 29<sup>th</sup> January

Forthcoming events for the Mayor's charity:

<b>Event details</b>	<b>Proposed date</b>	<b>Tickets</b>
Meal at the Indian Lounge	7 <sup>th</sup> February	Fully booked
Musical evening with Côr Meibion Maesteg at Celtic Social Club	17 <sup>th</sup> February	£8 per ticket
Murder Mystery Evening	23 <sup>rd</sup> March	£8 per ticket
Mayor's Ball (007-Casino Royale theme)	5 <sup>th</sup> May	£27.50 per ticket

The Mayor asked for support from Members.

### **321 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and Minutes of the Projects Committee dated the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018; copies of which had been circulated to Members, were read and accepted as a true record.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

#### **322 MINUTE 294 ADDITIONAL GRASS CUTTING MAESTEG CEMETERY**

Following the request made to St Brides Minor Community Council for advice on the number of cuts undertaken at Sarn Cemetery together with costings, the following response received:

*"In addition to Bridgend County Borough Council's cuts, their Contractor carries out one cut each month from May to September; 5 in*

*total. As Comparing the specification and conditions for tendering for the work at both Cemeteries, Maesteg was far more intensive and as Maesteg Cemetery is vastly larger than Sarn, costs would not be comparable.”*

It was noted that costings was still awaited from the Green Space and Bereavement Services Manager, Bridgend County Borough Council.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) When information is available, the Clerk to arrange a meeting to be held with Bridgend County Borough Officers to discuss the matter further.
- (ii) To request costings from St Brides Minor Community Council.

**323 MINUTE 306**  
**REFERRAL MONTH JANUARY 2018**

- Bridgend County Borough Council confirmed that the bags of litter opposite the entrance to Plasnewydd School had been cleared.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**324 MINUTE 309**  
**LOCAL DEMOCRACY & BOUNDARY COMMISSION**  
**BRIEFING**

Received an electronic copy of the presentation from the Boundary Commission that includes:

- the County Borough maps showing the changes that are expected
- The following link  
<http://ldbc.gov.wales/publications/guidance/erppdec13/?lang=en> is for the Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice 2016 that was provided at the meeting
- The WLGA "Streets with Count of Properties/Electors by Register"

Copies available for Members in the Clerk's office.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**325 MINUTE 310**  
**TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM MEETING**

The forthcoming meeting of the above has been postponed, given that there is only one agenda item for the meeting. The next meeting would be arranged for March 2018.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**326 MINUTE 315**  
**FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

Received receipts and thank you correspondence from the following who have received financial assistance from Maesteg Town Council:

1. Open Spaces Society
2. Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**327 MINUTE 316**  
**UTILISATION OF THE CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET**

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to consider Ward Projects during 2018/2019 period; however, should a major project be highlighted within the Town for the benefit of the residents of all four Wards, the Council to consider and agree.

**328 MINUTE 319**  
**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND 2018/2019**

It was confirmed that the application received from Caerau FC and Community Sport Limited was for additional facilities to the existing Pavilion and to upgrade the changing/referee showers to the Welsh League Standards.

A discussion ensued on the criteria for Community Asset Transfer (CAT). It was noted that as Bridgend County Borough Council were still the

owners of this Pavilion, Maesteg Town Council were not able to apply for the above grant funding under the criteria set down. It was suggested that once Caerau FC and Community Sport Limited complete the process of the CAT and are in ownership of the Pavilion then they make application to Council for a grant towards the upgrade required.

Council were reminded that there were several pavilions within the Town and, therefore, to be mindful of setting a precedent for the future.

**RESOLVED:** Council agreed to await developments and to wish the Club every success in the Community Asset Transfer process.

### **329 LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2018**

**RESOLVED:** That the List of Payments made by the Council during the month of January 2018; copy of which had been circulated to Members, be accepted, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **330 LETTER OF COMPLAINT REGARDING FIRST CYMRU BUS SERVICE NO.70 BEING CANCELLED ON 10/12/17**

Letter received from member of the public regarding the cancellation of the First Cymru Bus service No.70 on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017. This letter was forwarded to First Cymru Buses for response.

First Cymru Bus response:

*“Thank you for contacting us regarding the 70 service terminating at Maesteg Bus Station and not running the route in its entirety on December 10th 2017 and can understand how frustrating this must have been for you.*

*We had an incident in the morning where one of our vehicles slid on the hill between Croeserw and Caerau Square in the morning which left our customers and driver shaken up.*

*The weather had deteriorated suddenly and we made the decision on health and safety grounds to cease the service for our customers, drivers, vehicles and other road users for the rest of the day.*

*Although the roads improved later on in the afternoon we thought it safer to continue to terminate the service at Maesteg Bus Station.*

*I am sorry you have felt let down but safety came before running the service on that day.”*

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

### **331 FLY TIPPING**

Fly tipping at the following locations cleared by Maesteg Town Council Rights of Way contractor:

- Footpath 42
- The riverbank next to the footbridge opposite Plasnewydd Street – 20 bags of rubbish collected

It was noted that fly tipping was becoming more and more prevalent within the Town and with the changes in the refuse collection likely to increase. It was felt that this continuing situation will affect the Council’s Environmental Budget.

**RESOLVED:** To confirm action taken.

### **332 ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING**

Information received on the Adult Community Learning Courses commencing January 2018. Copies available for members of the public and information placed on the noticeboard.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.



### 333 REFERRALS MONTH OF JANUARY 2018

- **ABANDONED CAR**

Abandoned car on Brynmawr Place with no MOT or TAX.

BCBC has arranged for an Enforcement Officer to investigate further.

SW Police will send an officer around to conduct checks on the vehicle. Sadly, SW Police do not have any powers to act in relation to MOT or Tax unless the vehicle is sighted being driven. If it is merely parked it is an issue for the DVLA, SW Police will make the DVLA aware.

**RESPONSE:** To note the information.

- **RECYCLING CONTAINERS**

The following recycling containers requested:

- Outside brown food waste container – Celtic Road
- Blue Bag – Llwydarth Road
- Blue refuse bags, kitchen waste bags, white paper recycling bag – St Peters Hall
- White paper bag & outside brown food waste container – Duke Street
- Food waste bags & blue general waste bags – Greenwood Avenue
- Blue refuse bags – Tonna Road

**RESPONSE:** All requests have been processed. Allow at least 10 working days for delivery.

- **ICE ON FOOTBRIDGE**

Ice on footbridge connecting Plasnewydd Street with Llynfi Road Car Park.

MTC Rights of Way Contractor gritted the footbridge prior to the following response being received from BCBC:

“An inspection was carried out on the day that you raised the matter and the bridge was found to be free from ice, and had signs of having been gritted.

There is a grit bin sited alongside the bridge which was introduced so that residents can action such treatment themselves, and based on our inspection it appears that that has been the case in this instance.”

- **EWENNY ROAD PAVEMENT AND ROAD FLOODED**

Ewenny Road pavement and road flooded. BCBC aware of the issue and the jetting crew attended to clear the blockage.

**RESPONSE:** To note the information.

- **FLY TIPPING**

- I. 20+ bags of rubbish have been dumped on the right hand side of the bank on the old railway near to Railway Terrace.
- II. Fly tipping including 3 doors in the rear lane between Court Street and Neath Road.
- III. Fly Tipping Oakwood Estate, forwarded to V2C

**RESPONSE:**

- i. BCBC have arranged for an Enforcement Officer to visit area.
- ii. A report has been logged and arrangements have been made to remove the items.

- **POTHLES**

Rear lane between Penygarn Terrace and Garn Road.

**AWAITING RESPONSE:**

- **BUS SHELTERS IN MAESTEG BUS STATION**

Concerns registered by Members of the Public that the shelters in Maesteg Bus Station are in a deplorable condition.

**AWAITING RESPONSE:**

- **WATER PONDING**

Water ponding on Talbot Street by the traffic lights and also by the steps of the Town Hall.

**RESPONSE:** Confirmation received that the location has been inspected and no action is needed at this time.

- **STREET LIGHTING**

Street light outside 19 Park Street, CF34 9BA out.

**AWAITING RESPONSE:**

- **BLOCKED GULLY**

Gully outside 1 and 38 Park Street blocked.

**AWAITING RESPONSE:**

**RESOLVED:** To confirm action taken.

**334 BAVO ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2016-2017**

Received copy of BAVO Annual Impact Report 2016-2017, available for Members in the Clerk's office

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**335 PROPOSALS TO TACKLE CRIME AND POOR PERFORMANCE IN THE WASTE SECTOR**

Welsh Government and Defra have launched a joint consultation on how to tackle crime and poor performance in the waste sector and introduce a new fixed penalty for the waste duty of care. We would like to seek your input on the approaches taken on these proposals.

You can read about the consultation here:

<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/reducing-crime-sites-handling-waste-and-introducing-fixed-penalties-waste-duty-care>

The consultation proposals apply to Wales and England.

The closing date for responses is 26 March 2018.

Please send your responses to Welsh Government: [waste@gov.wales](mailto:waste@gov.wales)

**RESOLVED:** To note the information. Members to respond individually if they so wish.

**336 HIGH SHERIFF OF MID GLAMORGAN YOUTH COMMUNITY AWARDS**

PCSO Julie Banks came in to advise us that there are High Sheriff Youth Community Awards that take place annually and recognise young people who have made a difference in their community.

Awards criteria:

- Aged between 11-21 years old
- Living or volunteering in the Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taff areas
- Someone who has helped a neighbour, an individual, a family member, or a local organisation

The closing date for nominations for the 2018 High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan Youth Community Awards was the Friday 26th January 2018.

PCSO Banks asks that we as a Council promote these awards and nominate youths annually. Unfortunately the Council have missed the deadline for this year's nominations; however we can start to promote the awareness of the awards in readiness for next year.

A copy of the award criteria available for Members in the Clerk's office or you can visit: <https://www.south-wales.police.uk/en/about-us/high-sheriff-of-mid-glamorgan-youth-community-awards/>

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**337 CHRIS ELMORE MP FUNDING ADVICE DAY**

Funding Advice Day Poster for Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at Llanharan Rugby Club 10am – 12pm. Poster has been placed on the public noticeboard next to the chamber.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**338 ABM CHC NEWSLETTER**

Received copy latest newsletter from ABM CHC, available for Members in the Clerk's office .

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**339 THANK YOU FOR LITTER BINS ON SPIRIT OF LLYNFI WOODLAND SITE**

A letter of sincere thanks sent by Natural Resources Wales and the Spirit of Llynfi Woodland group to Maesteg Town Council for the provision and installation of two new rubbish bins on the Spirit of Llynfi Woodland site. These bins will help to encourage a caring ethos towards the environment and will help to ensure that the woodland continues to be an attractive, inviting and relaxing place for local people and visitors to the site both now and in the future.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**340 INVITATION TO ATTEND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 12 FEBRUARY 2018**

You are invited to attend the meeting of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 on the morning of the 12 February who will be discussing the item of Town Centre Regeneration.

Members of the Committee asked for representatives from the four Town Councils to be invited to attend to give their views and contributions in respect of their town. The report will cover issues such as car parking, pedestrian areas, business rates, strategic building investment and disabled facilities.

**RESOLVED:** Mayor, Councillor Idris Williams, to attend on behalf of Maesteg Town Council.

**341 FLY TIPPING IN LANE BETWEEN TONNA ROAD AND MYNYDD GLAS**

Received many complaints from local residents and members of the public using the Rights of Way Footpath 62 that the lane adjacent is in a deplorable state due to fly tipping; this has been ongoing for over a year. Due to a local resident reporting a dangerous condition of Footpath 62 and the fly tipping situation, the Council's Rights of Way Advisor and our Rights of Way Contractor visited the location and confirmed that it

was not only a health hazard but a threat to the environment. Photographs made available for Members.

Following discussion with Councillor P White on this on-going issue and confirming that as this was an urgent matter, the Clerk suggested that the Council's contractor clear the area and cost to be taken out of the Environment Budget. The Mayor agreed to this action on behalf of Council . ***Members confirmed action taken.***

The Rights of Way Contractor and assistant commenced work at this location immediately. The Clerk was contacted on the afternoon of the first day of clearance and advised of concerns of the amount of fly tipping; items of furniture, mattresses, large bags of rubbish, tremendous amount of litter, together with human excrement, needles, syringes, empty tablet boxes, etc. The Clerk having sought advice from Operations Officer, Street Scene Section, on the disposal of the needles, syringes and tablet boxes, arrangements were made for their collection. Late afternoon the Clerk was advised that a bag of large bones was discovered and uncertain whether animal or human the Police were contacted. The local Police, being unsure, arranged for a special team to visit the site; the bones were taken away for tests to be carried out.

The Contractors still on site and members were presented with further photographs.

Discussion ensued and Councillor White confirmed that this had been reported to the relevant Department, BCBC, but due to a lack of funding the clearance of the location had not been actioned. It was advised that the Department will monitor this area regularly to ensure fly-tipping does not continue. Cllr White further confirmed that he was making arrangements to have this area fenced with the cost borne out the Grant available to him for projects within his Ward.

**RESOLVED:** To confirm action taken and note the information.

## 342 RIDER SCHEME

Information received on the above Scheme from the Community Access Development Officer, who would welcome the opportunity to attend a Town Council meeting to discuss further.

### *Information on the Scheme:*

The Social Services & Wellbeing Act (Wales) has placed a duty on all Local Authorities to provide Information, Advice & Assistance that is readily accessible within local communities. BCBC has chosen to support this obligation through the model of 4 Community Hubs that are strategically positioned throughout the County Borough in Maesteg, Sarn, Central Bridgend and Pyle. Transport in the valleys (Llynfi/Ogmore/Garw) has been identified as a major barrier for people who wish to access IAA but are unable to afford to travel or there are no developed transport networks available in support. Subsequently the BCBC/Community Transport ICF Partnership Bid is focused on the provision of 3 accessible vehicles that will be positioned in the Llynfi, Ogmore & Garw Valleys in order to establish, develop and maintain transport networks for local communities and thus giving access to IAA.

The vehicle is operated by Bridgend Community Transport and they are looking for charities or social groups that would benefit from a town rider scheme. Many groups find transport is one of the main issues to continuing. To this end, Bridgend Community Transport purchased a vehicle and registered for a licence to operate the Town Rider Scheme in the Llynfi Valley.

The town rider scheme means that members of the community that hold a concessionary bus pass and travel to community groups within the hours of 8:30 to 16:30 can use the minibus for free. We are looking for groups in the area that would benefit from this new vehicle along with volunteer drivers. If you know of anyone that may be interested in becoming a volunteer driver, please let me know.

As an example, we currently have an elderly social group in Ogmore Vale that is interested in the town rider scheme, all members hold a free bus pass and the group meet every other week in the local area. The group is finding transport very difficult and some members are struggling to attend, the town rider door to door service with wheelchair access will benefit this social group. For groups that do not qualify for the town rider

scheme the vehicle can be hired, for further information regarding hiring the vehicle, please contact Graham at Bridgend Community Transport.

**RESOLVED:** The Community Access Development Officer to attend a future Council meeting.

**343 FLY TIPPING OAKWOOD ESTATE**

Response received from Estates Management Officer, V2C, regarding the above. As a result of Health & Safety Audits, risk assessment has been carried out and it has been determined that V2C staff are not permitted to access the river bank to remove the fly tipping.

V2C recognises the issue of flytipping and litter in this area. There are substantial difficulties in dealing with it due to the volume, access to the riverbank and the presence of Japanese Knotweed. We would also like to address the culture of those who are dumping this waste on our land.

To that end, a funding bid has been submitted to NRW on engaging people in more activities around the river, and strategies to deter fly tipping. If approved, this will include treatment of the knotweed and removal of waste. We will have a decision in May 2018. If the funding is not approved, we will try and get these issues addressed in stages, with funding as it arises. As you can appreciate, the costs to V2C will be substantial. One of the key elements is community participation and we would appreciate their involvement in our project.

It was noted that discussions had taken place with V2C Senior Officers; however, the same response as above was given.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**344 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**1. NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 2018 IN CARDIFF**

The annual request received from the above organisation for financial support this year to be held in Cardiff Bay.

**RESOLVED:** Council donate the sum of £50 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).



## **2. MAESTEG RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

Request for financial support towards the newly formed Youth team to go towards funding for kit and transport.

**RESOLVED:** Council donate the sum of £200 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

## **3. CÔR MERCHED CWM LLYNFI**

Request for financial support towards staging their annual concert on Friday 20th April 2018.

**RESOLVED:** Council donate the sum of £200 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

## **4. THE MAYOR OF MAESTEG'S FUND**

Cllr D Evans declared an interest being Treasurer of the Mayor's charity and took no part in discussion.

The Mayor of Maesteg's Fund as part of their fundraising for this year's nominated charities Diabetes UK Cymru and Cefn Yr Afon Rehabilitation Unit..

Although a fundraising event, in order to assure success and to maintain the high standards that the annual Mayor's Ball has already set in the community, the Town Council was asked for financial support to cover initial expenditures.

The Trust would be very grateful for any financial support the Council can offer and trust that all members of Maesteg Town Council will show their individual support for attending events. It was noted that in previous years the Council donated monies for the cost of the venue – Maesteg Town Hall.

**RESOLVED:** Council donate the sum of the cost of the venue under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended). To be paid directly to AWEN Trust following an invoice being received.

5. **SPECIAL FAMILIES MAESTEG - CHARITY NUMBER:  
1171814**

Special Families Maesteg are organising a community fun day at Maesteg welfare park on Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup> 2018. Lots of fun for all families in the area, a fancy dress fun run, mini tournaments, inflatables, disco, Zumba, stalls etc. A request made to support this event. Balance sheet/bank statement requested.

**RESOLVED:** Council donate the sum of £150.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended). To be paid on receipt of Balance Sheet.

345 **LOCAL DEMOCRACY & BOUNDARY COMMISSION  
POLITICAL BOUNDARIES TASK GROUP MEETING 23<sup>RD</sup>  
JANUARY 2018**

Present: Cllrs D Evans, W May & R Lewis

The Local Democracy & Boundary Commission would prefer Councils to have no wards under 3000 registered voters, and wherever possible single member wards. The meeting identified that the wards most at risk due to voter numbers were Llangynwyd, and Caerau.

Llangynwyd, has 2181 registered voters, which is 7% of the variance from the proposed County average. Llangynwyd is also a single Councillor ward, so is unlikely or see any change.

In the case of the Caerau ward, there are 4,722 registered voters, which is unfortunately -28% variance from the proposed County average, which, in the meeting's opinion, leaves Caerau most at risk of having a reduction in the number of Councillors imposed on it.

The meeting suggests that the decrease in the number of County Councillors will see an increased workload on Town and Community Councils across Wales.

Caerau is, as we all realise, a very populous area, and is subject to exceedingly high levels of Social deprivation and denseness of populace resident in local housing stock.

The meeting discussed strategies to increase voter registration in the Caerau ward, and also that this is something which at this time was too late to address, due to the timescale of changes being implemented.

Councillor May noted that previously voter registration in Caerau had topped 6,000, and that Maesteg East had also seen a reduction in registrations, with the current figure being 3,682.

The meeting therefore decided that they would **recommend to the full Council** that we contact the Local Democracy & Boundary Commission, and despite the Caerau ward not meeting their criteria, ask them to reconsider a possible reduction in the number of Councillors for the Caerau ward, our reasons being;

- 1.) The denseness of the population in the area.
- 2.) The high levels of Social deprivation and acute disadvantage experienced by residents of the ward.
- 3.) The high level of workload on Councillors in the ward, and the inevitable increase that would result from a reduction in numbers of Councillors.

Following discussion

**RESOLVED:** To confirm the above recommendations.

### **346 PROCEDURE FOR DOCUMENTATION DISTRIBUTION FUTURE PRECEPT/BUDGET MEETINGS**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

A resolution was agreed by the Council, dating back many years, that the Precept/Budget documentation was of a “highly confidential nature”. Therefore Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102 ‘Members of the public/press were to be excluded by resolution if publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of confidential nature of the business and arising out of the business to be transacted’.

Therefore, it was resolved that documentation would be presented to Members prior to the start of a Special Council meeting and that only an Agenda be sent to them summoning them to the special meeting.

This practice has historically carried on and the resolution has never been questioned or discussed by Members.

Having sought advice from the SLCC and having made reference to various Local Government guidelines and procedures, with Councils now expected to be more open and transparent, there is no legal requirement that this practice continues.

Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED:**

- The Council rescinded the previous resolution made by Council.
- Future precept/budget documentation , together with Agenda, be sent to Members two weeks prior to the date of Precept/Budget meetings.

**347 DELEGATES' REPORT**

No reports for the month of January 2018.

**348 PLANS**

Cllrs D K Edwards, R Penhale-Thomas, R Collins, P White and P Davies left the meeting at this point and took no part in the discussion on planning proposals.

The following planning applications were discussed and were supported by Members:

P/18/16/FUL  
P/17/1084/FUL  
A/18/1/ADV

**Read and accepted at a meeting  
of the Council held on  
6<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

.....  
**Mayor**