

MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Tuesday, 4th July 2017.**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES for absence received from Councillors S B Smith and D L Evans.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

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

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.

63 POLICE MATTERS

The Mayor welcomed Sgt N Jones, Sector Deputy Inspector, to the meeting.

CRIME STATISTICS FOR JUNE 2017

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Dwelling burglary	4	0	2	0	6
Burglary other	0	0	2	0	2
Theft of vehicle	1	1	0	0	2 (tipper vehicle from insecure compound, 1xsecure)
Theft from vehicle	0	0	0	0	0
All other theft	6	5	8	0	19
Damage	2	7	4	2	15
Assault with injury	7	2	8	0	17
All crime total	20	15	24	2	61
Anti-social behaviour	24	11	9	4	48
Drink Driving	0	0	0	0	0

Sgt Jones outlined the figures for the month of June 2017, comparing them to the crimes committed in the various categories for 2016. It was noted that Dwelling Burglaries now included theft from garages. Members raised questions which were answered satisfactorily.

Sgt Jones responded to issues raised in the Council's June 2017 meeting:

- **Parking obstruction – Dropped Kerbs/Access Protection Marks - Alfred Street/River Street, Maesteg**

The parking issues within the above locations have been addressed and continued to be monitored by PCSOs. Residents who have

obstructed the “dropped kerbs” in this area have been spoken to. Sgt Jones advised that civil parking enforcement powers can be applied if residents persist in parking alongside a dropped kerb.

- **Youth Annoyance** - Vicarage Terrace, Town Centre, Public Parks (Celtic and Maesteg Welfare)

Off road Vehicles – Cycle/Community Route

Illegal parking/Speeding issues

“Family Value” building

Members noted that the above issues have been addressed through the “PACT” process and continued to be monitored.

- **PACT meetings**|

It was noted that, due to the recent advertising strategy, there was an increase in attendance.

Concerns raised by Members:

- ***Youths speeding between Mill Street and the Garth Inn Public House.***

Sgt Jones advised that PCSOs have addressed this issue and a “scoping exercise” in process. Will advise the outcome by the next meeting.

- ***Concern expressed regarding counterfeit £20 notes being used for purchases in several Town Centre Shops; has been officially reported .***

Sgt Jones confirmed that he would investigate and report back to the next meeting.

The Police Sergeant was thanked for attending.

RESOLVED:

- (i) To await responses of concerns raised.
- (ii) The Clerk to be advised of any issues in order for them to be forwarded to the Inspector for his action and response.

64 PRESENTATION OF COUNCIL'S OFFICIAL COAT OF ARMS

Ms Rosemary Martin was welcomed to the meeting. The Mayor presented to Ms Martin the Official Coat of Arms, together with Armorial Bearings, in recognition of her role as Deputy Mayor during the year 2016-2017 and thanked her for representing Maesteg Town Council in a manner befitting of such an office.

65 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor advised Council of the events and meetings attended during the month of June 2017:

- Officially opened the Maesteg Art Society Exhibition, Monday, 5th June.
- Attended Senior Citizen Afternoon Tea on Wednesday, 7th June.
- Officially opened the BMX Fun/Race Day and presented prizes to the winners Sunday, 11th June.
- Drama Festival – Deputy Mayor, Cllr L Beedle, attended on behalf of the Mayor on Wednesday, 14th June and Past Mayor, Cllr P W Jenkins attended on Friday, 16th June.
- Deputy Mayor attended Mobility Launch Hi Tide on Friday, 16th June.
- Deputy Mayor officially opened the Maesteg Hospital Fete on Saturday, 17th June during the day, and in the evening the Dolly Parton Experience in the Town Hall.
- Presentation evening, Tuesday, 20th June 2017 in the Chamber for the past Mayor, Mrs Jen Terry, to distribute the proceeds of her Fundraising Year, which resulted in an excess of £7600, between McMillan Cancer, Diabetes Wales, Noddfa Youth and the Caerau Community Growers. Ms Terry sincerely thanked her fellow Councillors of 2016/2017, committed Committee Members and Volunteers for their support to again another very successful year. Best wishes were extended to the Mayor, Cllr Idris Williams and Mayoress, Cllr Sally Williams, for their forthcoming year of fundraising.
- Officially closed the Gwyl Maesteg Festival on Saturday, 24th June at the Town Hall with “Star Search Final”.

- Attended the Annual Concert of the “Maesteg Children’s Choir” with “Take Note”.

RESOLVED: To note the Mayor’s report.

66 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 6th June 2017; the Finance Meeting held on 14th June 2017 and the Planning Meeting held on 14th June 2017; copies of which had been circulated to Members, were read and accepted as a true record.

Point of Order raised by Cllr C Reeves with regard to the late receipt of documentation for meetings; require 7 days in advance.

RESOLVED: That future documentation will be sent out within the legal timescale.

MINUTES OF FINANCE AND PLANNING MEETING HELD ON 14TH JUNE 2017

Councillor C Reeves raised a point of order; clarification required on why these meetings were held during the day rather than arranged for an evening.

During discussion it was noted that:

- Several Councillors were unable to take time off from work to attend day meetings.
- The newly appointed Councillors were keen to be involved in the decision making and therefore request evening meetings
- Planning Meetings were not called regularly, as plans were an Agenda item for the monthly Council Meeting; however, there were times when plans were received with a deadline for Council’s observation, which necessitated a Planning Committee to meet. The meetings being very short, the Chair normally arranges in the daytime.
- Cllr May had agreed to attend training with the Clerk when relevant courses were available with the Society of Local Clerks and would not claim expenses.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That Committee meetings be arranged in the evening, unless exceptional circumstances occur, when Members will be advised accordingly.
- (ii) The Minutes be approved, adopted, with all recommendations accepted, and signed by the Mayor.
- (iii) The amended Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held on 23rd May 2017, which had been circulated to Members, were accepted and signed by the Mayor.

MATTERS ARISING

67 MINUTE 29 SPIRIT OF LLYNFI WOODLAND AND CELEBRATION EVENT

Previous Minute 382 confirms that a photograph of the 2017 Maesteg Council Members, together with History of Maesteg Town Council, the latest Maesteg Town Council Newsletter and Maesteg Town Guide, together with any additional information received from the Mayor and Members of the Council be forwarded to the Llynfi Woodland Group in partnership with Resources Wales organisation to be placed in the Time Capsule on Saturday, 15th July 2017. The event will be opened at by the Mayor of Maesteg, Councillor I Williams Councillors were reminded of their invitation to the event.

A point of order was raised by Cllr C Reeves; requesting clarification with regard to the requirement of “passes”. The Clerk confirmed that several Councillors, when representing Maesteg Town Council on official business, had been asked for identification. The Council, having discussed and considered costs, agreed to the introduction of “identity cards” and requested the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements. In response to a question on cost, the Clerk advised approximately in the region of £3 to £5 each.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

68 MINUTE 30 EMI PROVISION WITHIN THE LLYNFI VALLEY

A letter received from the Adult Social Care Department, Bridgend County Borough Council, advised that 25 beds would be allocated for specific EMI use - 10 beds in the new complex in Maesteg and 15 at Tondu.

Councillor P White advised that this was not the case, the allocation was for mixed use - EMI and Residential. He confirmed that residents and their families are being consulted with regard to continuing and future care.

Councillor P W Jenkins again expressed concern with regard to

- the transfer and future care of residents
- current plans on vacant places within Hyfrydol and what was the reason for them not being re-allocated
- EMI provision within the Llynfi Valley

RESOLVED: To seek clarification from Bridgend County Borough Council.

69 **MINUTE 32** **MEMBERSHIP OF GOVERNING BODIES**

Several e-mails received from Governor Support, Bridgend Borough Council, in response to clarification required on whether a teacher can be nominated as a Community Governor.

The Clerk advised, that having sought guidance from Governors Wales, it was confirmed that:

- a person is disqualified from appointment as a Community Governor of a School if he or she is an elected member of the Local Education Authority – this applies to Community Governors appointed by the Governing Body
- an additional Community Governor, nominated by the Local Town Council; this disqualification does not apply

The Learner Support Officer, Bridgend County Borough Council, confirmed that Regulations regarding Community Governors elected by Town Councils do not preclude a teacher or staff governor from being appointed.

RESOLVED:

- Cllr R Davies to serve as a Community Governor, nominated by Maesteg Town Council, on the Governing Body of Caerau Primary School with effect from September 2017 for a four year term of office.
- The Clerk to advise the Governor Support Officer, Bridgend County Borough Council.

70 **MINUTE 39**
NEW RECYCLING SCHEME
INTRODUCED 5TH JUNE 2017

E-mail received from a newly appointed Education and Enforcement Officer working for Bridgend County Borough Council, Ms Melanie Eratt. The Officers appointed will be concentrating on community engagement; participating in local events and attending local organised community meetings. Ms Eratt welcomes an invite from Maesteg Town Council.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to invite the Officer to a future meeting.

71 **MINUTE 40**
WELSH GOVERNMENT NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FRAMEWORK FOR WALES

The Clerk confirmed that Cllr W May had reviewed the contents of the document and had made comments on behalf of the Council; the draft document made available for Members.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to the responses and the Clerk was directed to send the completed document to Welsh Government. A vote of thanks was extended to Cllr May.

72 **MINUTE 49**
SEAFARERS UK

Cost of 3 yard flag, which would be the size required to fly on the Council's flagpost, is £45.71 (special offer price). Merchant Navy Day, Sunday, 3rd September 2017, (permissible to be flown from 1st to 4th September). The flag be re-used each year to commemorate this day to

raise awareness of our ongoing reliance on seafarers and shipping. Guidelines received on ways to commemorate the day; participating parish, town and community councils will be added to a prestigious “Roll of Honour” on the official Website.

RESOLVED: To purchase the flag and arrangements made for it to be flown from 1st to 4th September 2017.

73 **MINUTE 58**
PLAN P/17/266/FUL

Letter received, from the Senior Planning Officer, confirming that the application related to the land to rear of 26 Greenfield Street, Maesteg, has now been refused by the Council and they are in the process of undertaking Enforcement Action to stop the use of manufacturing of concrete products taking place at the site.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

74 **LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2017**

RESOLVED: That the List of Payments made by the Council during the month of June 2017, copy of which had been circulated to Members, be accepted, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

CORRESPONDENCE

75 **REFERRALS MONTH OF JUNE 2017**

• **RECYCLING AND WASTE COLLECTIONS**

During the past month the Clerks have been inundated with complaints regarding the revised recycling and waste collections.

Information received from the Corporate Director Communities, Bridgend County Borough Council, dated 21st June 2017, advised that a meeting had been held with the Managing Director of Kier in order to ensure that the company prioritises its focus on their contract with BCBC and agree a series of urgent actions. A short term temporary measure was

agreed with Kier which enabled the backlog of missed collections to be dealt with. Part of the reasoning behind this is that the current heatwave has made the clearing of streets even more of an urgent priority. Kier has now deployed extra vehicles in addition to its regular recycling fleet, including refuse collection lorries.

Some residents queried the use of these, especially as it means in some areas mixing waste; however, it has been emphasised to Kier that it can only be a very short-term pragmatic measure and Kier has made further arrangements for the mixed loads to be sorted for recycling where possible. Kier is deploying an extra vehicle to help clear the backlog of AHP bags, are providing 21 additional staff, including five new drivers, to ensure that all available resources and vehicles can be deployed and are focusing on the current issues.

Early indications from the scheme are highly encouraging and indicate that it will be successful and hit all targets. Kier have reported an increase in daily tonnages of nearly 50 per cent and have noted that most residents are able to comply with the two-bag limited; however, clearly further urgent improvements in the implementation are required and the Borough will continue to pursue Kier on this.

RESOLVED: The information be noted.

- **FLY TIPPING ISSUES**

The following sites referred to Clean Up the County Department, Bridgend County Borough Council:

- Crown Road/Cemetery Road – black bags
- Ferriers Row – builders rubble
- Treharne Row – Litter bin overflowing, black bags
- Port Terrace – Litter bin overflowing, black bags

RESPONSE: Areas cleared, with the exception of the builders' rubble Ferriers Road; this being addressed.

- **HIGHWAY ISSUES**

The following concerns reported:

- Duke Street – dangerous pothole

RESPONSE: Repaired.

- Llynfi Road – dangerous pothole

AWAITING RESPONSE.

- Dangerous conditions of pavements Celtic Road and Cwmdu Street

RESPONSE: Addressed and attended to.

- **STREET LIGHTING ISSUES**

The following lighting issues attended and now working:

- South Parade, Light Number 6
- Commercial Street – light located on steps leading to Pen-y-garn Terrace

RESOLVED: To note the information.

**76 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR WALES
NEWSLETTER JUNE 2017**

Available for Members' information.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

**77 EISTEDDFOD GENEDLAETHOL URDD GOBAITH CYMRU
2017**

A letter received dated 5th June 2017 thanking the Council for their support. The Eisteddfod was a great success, the competitions were of a high standard, prelims and stage went perfectly and all reports from traders, caterers, sponsors and broadcasters were very positive. Diolch yn fawr.

RESOLVED: Information noted.

78 WELSH GOVERNMENT WORKSHOPS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON HIGHER ACTIVITY RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL

Documentation received from Welsh Government on the first workshop to be held on 17th July 2017 in Colwyn Bay and 19th July 2017 in Swansea.

The workshops will focus on the arrangements for engaging with potential volunteer host communities in Wales who may wish to engage in discussions about hosting a geological disposal facility. Full information available for Members.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

79 RESIDENTS' FLOOD PREVENTION COMMITTEE

Request received from Councillor P W Jenkins that the Council facilitate a Residents' Flood Prevention Committee to represent each Ward within the Town. This Committee to consist of residents, Member of Parliament, Assembly Member, together with representatives from Maesteg Town Council, Bridgend County Borough Council and Natural Resources Wales.

Councillor D K Edwards advised Members that he had requested from Officers a full report on the incident and for a subsequent meeting to discuss the concerns of the flooding and to identify preventative measures and what strategies needed to be agreed to ensure that this tragic occurrence will not happen again. To date no response; Cllr Edwards advised he would again speak with the Corporate Director – Communities.

RESOLVED:

- (i) Members agreed to support the proposal.
- (ii) To seek support from Bridgend County Borough Council in setting up a Local Flood Forum.

80 BAVO – ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2017

BAVO recognises and honours outstanding people and organisations that have made a significant contribution to the community during the past year. Deadline for nominations, Friday, 14th July 2017.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

81 BAVO VOLUNTEERING JUNE 2017 BULLETIN

Available for Members' information.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

82 CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

One Voice Wales has arranged Code of Conduct Training in Bridgend Town Council, Carnegie House, Wyndham Street, Bridgend, on Tuesday, 18th July 2017. Cost £60 per person for non-members. Details available for Members.

RESOLVED:

- (i) To note the information.
- (ii) To ascertain if the Monitoring Officer will be undertaking Code of Conduct training for Town and Community Councillors and Clerks within Bridgend County Borough.
- (iii) To request that Code of Conduct Training be placed on the Agenda for the next Town & Community Council Forum to generate interest from Town & Community Council throughout the Borough for this beneficial training.

83 ACTIVE TRAVEL NETWORKS CONSULTATION

Information received from Transportation Policy and Strategy Officer, Bridgend County Borough Council, that as part of their statutory duty under the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, the Council has now started a

12 week public consultation on the draft Active Travel Integrated Network Maps. The maps set out a 15 year vision for an active travel network that will enable local residents to rely less on their cars for short everyday journeys, such as travelling to work or school and to access shops or services. Consultation page which includes links to the draft maps and the accompanying survey can be found on <http://www.1.bridgend.gov.uk/services/consultation.aspx>

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

84 LOCAL ELECTION COSTS

Invoices received from Electoral Service, Bridgend County Borough Council, total cost for the Maesteg Wards £10,564.03.

RESOLVED:To note the information and that payment be made to Bridgend County Borough Council.

85 GWYL MAESTEG FESTIVAL 2017

Many messages, via letters, thank you cards and e-mails, have been received thanking Maesteg Town Council for hosting the Gwyl Maesteg Festival 2017. General consensus being - impressed again by the variety and professionalism of all the different performances and events. What a wonderful initiative for the community of Maesteg together with increasing the numbers of visitors to the Town.

Members echoed these sentiments and sincerely thanked the volunteer groups for their commitment, enthusiasm and management skills in the organisation of the various events. The Clerks' involvement and support in ensuring the success of the Gwyl Maesteg Festival 2017 was recognised.

The Clerk confirmed that a report will be prepared, awaiting final accounts to be received, which will incorporate how successful the various events were, comparison on previous years, ticket sales, revenue taken, costings, etc. This will be presented to the Finance Committee and

Events Committee (Festival) for comments and recommendations to Council.

RESOLVED: To note the information and await the report.

86 SWANSEA SPECIAL FESTIVAL

Information available for Members of the above Festival to be held between the 10th and 13th July 2017.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

87 APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION ORDER TO UPGRADE A ROUTE SHOWN ON THE DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT OF BRIDGEND

Bridgend County Borough Council, having received an application Maesteg Town Council and residents of Maesteg, for a modification order to upgrade a route shown on the Definitive Map and Statement for Bridgend – Steps leading from Commercial Street to Church Street, along side of the “derelict Family Value Store”, Maesteg.

Due to the large number of outstanding applications held by Bridgend County Borough Council, a decision has been made to utilise part of this year’s grant funding allocated to the Council under the Rights of Way Improvement Plan to help deal with some of the backlog of cases. Accordingly, the County Borough Council have been able to appoint a Consultant to investigate some of the applications – Mr Paul Hopkins, Countryside Access Management Limited, Ceredigion.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

88 13TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ONE VOICE WALES

Information received that the above Conference will be held on Saturday, 30th September 2017 at the Royal Welsh Showground, Llanelwedd, Builth Wells. The Minister, Mark Drakeford, will be the key note speaker

and will update on developments relating to Local Government Reform for our sector. Further details will follow in due course.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

89 WELSH DIVERSITY AWARDS 2018

Notification received that the Welsh Diversity Awards will take place in Cardiff City Hall on Friday, 23rd February 2018. Arrangements are in hand to promote and celebrate this event. Please take time to look at the website www.welshdiversityawards.co.uk Updates will continue to be sent.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

90 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1. MACMILLAN

Letter received from Macmillan, thanking the Council for their continued support. Full details of the support given to patients, with the help of donations, were attached. They sincerely hope that the Council will agree to their request for financial assistance towards the essential care and support given to patients.

RESOLVED: That the Council donate the sum of £200 under Section 127 of the Local Government Act (as amended)

2. CAERAU COMMUNITY GROWERS

Cllr A James declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion.

A letter received from the above advising that this Summer will be their fourth open day at the Community Garden. Various activities have been arranged for the family engagement day. In previous years Communities First have funded certain projects, but with budget cuts they are no longer able to help in these annual activities. Therefore, we must seek alternative funding for our engagement day to take place. Please consider making a donation which will help to continue these activities and we would be truly grateful.

RESOLVED: As this is the first request from this organisation, to request a Balance Sheet/Bank Statement in order for the Council to make a decision

91 PLANS

Ref: P/17/506/FUL
Proposal: Raise roof to rear extension & elevation alterations
Applicant: Domek Property Limited
Location: 44 Ivor Street Maesteg CF34 9AH

Ref: P/17/496/RLX
Proposal: Vary condition 1 of P/12/655/FUL to able soft play facility.
Applicant: Dan Shearan
Location: Tyle Teg Heol Ty Gwyn Industrial Estate Maesteg.

RESOLVED: That the above Planning Applications be supported.

**Read and accepted at a meeting
of the Council held on
1st August 2017**

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Mayor