

## **MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL**

### **COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

**APOLOGIES** for absence received from Councillors P W Jenkins, C Reeves.

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

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

Cllr P White declared an interest in item relating to the public toilets.

Cllr L Thomas declared an interest in item relating to the public toilets as he is a trustee of AWEN Cultural Trust.

Cllr I A Williams declared an interest in items that may relate to Llangynwyd Middle Community Council.

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

## 288 POLICE MATTERS

The Mayor welcomed Sgt Evans and PCSO's Julie Banks to the meeting.

### Maesteg Crime Statistics for February 2019

	<b>Total in category</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Dwelling burglary</b>	<b>4</b>	2 in Caerau and 2 in Maesteg West
<b>Burglary other</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>All other theft</b>	<b>17</b>	Included the following incidents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theft of lead from roof;</li><li>• Trellis from school;</li><li>• Shoplifting;</li></ul>
<b>Damage</b>	<b>25</b>	
<b>Assault with injury</b>	<b>66</b>	Increase here as more ASB recorded within this category, also due to recent weather many incidents included snowballs being thrown.
<b>Anti-social behaviour</b>	<b>45</b>	

Sgt Evans advised that there is a massive increase in ASB within Maesteg Town Centre, where they are receiving more reports of verbal abuse, intimidation etc.

SW Police have identified many of these youths and 5 of them will be served ASB Contracts and two of these include an exclusion zone around the centre of town.

An increase in this behaviour has led to the following:

- CCTV at Maesteg Train Station
- Increase in patrols by PCSO's.
- CCTV installed at Llynfi Road to monitor the area
- PCSO's spoken to local stores requesting that they do not sell eggs to youths.
- Waymarker in place for town centre and South Parade.
- House to house visits highlighting the need to report incidents.

**The following was discussed:**

- Concerns raised at recent incident of gang of youths on top of bus shelter and gang inside bus shelter shouting abuse at passers-by, a police car was at the traffic lights and nothing was done.

*Sgt Evans advised that these incidents should be reported and was unable to comment on the police car.*

- It was noted that the ASB within the town is now out of control where vehicles and property being damaged. There is a sense of fear within the local community due to the intimidation and foul language.

*PCSO Banks advised that the PCSO's are continually patrolling these areas, speaking to youths advising them that they are not allowed to hang around the bus shelters, train station, town hall steps etc, but unless specific youths are identified as causing the damage then it's difficult for SW Police to prosecute. She has done ho*

*Sgt Evans advised that they are pulling together as many resources as possible linking in with youth workers, ASB unit and the PCSO's are more pro-active.*

*PSCO Banks advised that she recently spoke to a taxi driver that had eggs thrown onto his taxi and whilst discussing this another taxi driver advised her of another incident.*

- Council welcomed the multi-agency approach but more needs to be done to reassure the public.
- Concerns were raised by members of the public with regard to the current social media *Momo challenge* - apparently it pops up on "kids you tube" telling them to do things or they will die. An image of a Japanese statue. This has been on recent news and concerns have been expressed by several parents.  
Question asked to local Sgt – "Have you any advice/guidance on the above; have you had any concerned parents get in touch, is it within our area?  
If so, can guidance/support be given through Schools? Advice to Parents?

*Sgt Evans advised that this is fake news on social media, not aware of anything in local area.*

- Concerns were raised by members of the public with regard to the recent drug raids where information transmitted on news last Friday; arrests made in Maesteg, including drug dealer and Cannabis Factory uncovered.

*Sgt Evans advised that there were 2 drug raids in Caerau in February and this is currently under investigation. The cannabis factory was found in Nantymoel.*

- Council requested that drug related issues be included in future police figures.

## **289 MAYOR'S REPORT**

Events and Meetings attended during the month of February 2019:

### **Mayor Councillor Lynne Beedle**

- Mayors Charity Fund Indian Lounge
- Maesteg Comprehensive School – Adams Family
- Côr Meibion Maesteg Annual Concert
- Mayors Charity Fund meeting

## **290 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019; copies of which had been circulated to Members, were read and accepted as a true record.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **291 MINUTE 256 RECYCLING**

Confirmation received from Kier that locations where the large vehicles cannot access to pick up recycling materials, reported to office and smaller vehicles are sent to collect later in the day.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**292** **MINUTE 257**  
**GIRLGUIDING CYMRU**

Written response received from the County Commissioner, Girlguiding Central Glamorgan, confirming that there are 2 Units in Llangynwyd – one Brownie Unit 7 - 10 year old girls and one Rainbow Unit 5 - 7 year old girls – all Units have members living in the Llynfi Valley/Maesteg (CF34 post code area). Once they have sufficient numbers they intend to re-open the 10-14 year olds.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**293** **MINUTE 259**  
**MOTIONS FOR TOWN**

***Resolution 259 (iii) GDPR***

In response, ACAS forwarded link to their Website which gives advice, guidelines, policy and procedure. Can confirm that our procedures are in line with these guidelines.

A reminder to Council that GDPR Toolkit for local councils (February 2018) was used and followed to compile the required GDPR Privacy Policies for Maesteg Town Council. Reported to and agreed by Council. Our privacy policy and subject access request policy are included on our Website.

The Clerks reassure Council that they adhere to the GDPR regulations and the Council's Privacy Policy and will support and advise Councillors as and when necessary on their responsibilities.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**294** **MINUTE 261**  
**LATE MR MICHAEL HARPUR (PAST MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR)**

In line with Council's policy, cheque sent to British Heart Foundation, the chosen Charity, in lieu of flowers.

**RESOLVED:** Confirmation of action and to note the information.

**295 MINUTE 262**  
**CASUAL VACANCY WEST WARD**

Notice of Vacancy received 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019 from Electoral Department, Bridgend County Borough Council; sent to Members of Maesteg Town Council, Post Offices, Libraries and displayed on notice boards.

Further information from BCBC Electoral Services advising that a request for an election for the Casual Vacancy Maesteg West has been received.

They are looking at 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019 for the election. If it goes ahead the notice of election will need to be displayed 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**RESOLVED:** Confirmation of action and to note the information.

**296 MINUTE 284**  
**FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

Letter of thanks and acknowledgement for financial support received from:

Côr Merched Cwm Llynfi  
National Eisteddfod of Wales

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**297 LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2019**

**RESOLVED:** That the List of Payments made by the Council during the month of February 2019; copy of which had been circulated to Members, be accepted, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**298 OLDER PEOPLES' INCREASING NEEDS IN WELSH TOWNS AND CITIES**

Letter received from the UK and Wales Older Peoples' Group.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**299 SENEDD AND ELECTIONS (WALES) BILL TO INTRODUCE VOTES AT 16**

The Assembly Commission is proposing a new law to renew democracy in Wales. It will empower 16- and 17-year olds to vote at Assembly elections, giving them a voice on decisions that will define their future.

It also proposes changing the name of the Assembly to reflect its true status as a national parliament.

In introducing the Bill, the Llywydd, Elin Jones AM said:

“After twenty years, this is a golden opportunity to renew our democracy and ensure that Wales’s national parliament enables us to do our best for our constituents today and for future generations.”

Elin Jones AM will make a full statement in the Assembly on Wednesday (February 13). The Bill will undergo extensive scrutiny in the Assembly’s committee sessions as well as by all Assembly members in Plenary.

For further information on the Bill please visit

[www.assembly.wales/assemblyreform](http://www.assembly.wales/assemblyreform)

**RESOLVED:** Confirmation of action and to note the information.

**300 CHRIS ELMORE MP MARCH ADVICE SURGERY**

Received poster of Chris Elmore MP Advice Surgeries for March, he will be holding a joint surgery with Huw Irranca-Davies AM in Tesco Café on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 1pm – 2pm.

*Poster placed on notice board and copy of poster emailed to all Councillors.*

**RESOLVED:** Confirmation of action and to note the information.

**301 REFERRALS MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2019**

• **STREETLIGHTS**

- 2 Llest Fach Priory Terrace
- Lamp Post No.1 on Bridgend Road

- **RECYCLING CONTAINERS**

The following recycling containers requested:

- Green food waste bags
  - Llwydarth Road,
  - Chestnut Grove
  - Davies Terrace
- Small brown food waste caddy
  - Ewenny Road
- White bag for paper
  - Bethania Street
  - Salisbury Road

**RESPONSE:** Request has been processed; allow at least 10 working days for delivery.

- **FLYTIPPING**

Accumulation of rubbish and black bags on walkway to the sports centre from the bottom of Upper Street.

**RESPONSE:** A report has been logged and the issue will be addressed by Clean up the County.

- **LOOSE MANHOLE COVER**

Loose manhole cover in the centre of the road outside 21 Lewis Road.

**RESPONSE:** BCBC confirms an order has been raised to repair the cover and will be carried out as soon as resources become available.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

### **302 CONCERNS - TALBOT STREET**

Concerns received from Llynfi Dental Practice:

1. the amount of chewing gum on Talbot Street making the Town look unsightly. The dental practice has noticed an increase of chewing gum being brought into the practice on the soles of patient's shoes that in turn is being tread into the carpets and surgery floors. They request that this be addressed.
2. Litter thrown on the pavements – not enough bins on their side of Talbot Street. Only by Greggs and not any until you get to 21 Cafe; where this litter bin has been vandalised.
3. Closure of the public toilets in the Bus Station. Have had each day many members of the public requesting to use their toilet facilities; have given permission, but this cannot be allowed to continue.



**RESOLVED:** Clerk to write to BCBC with items 1 and 2. Item 3 to be discussed during the meeting.

**303 GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

Mr & Mrs R Powell celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019; they declined a visit from the Mayor; however, flowers and message will be sent on behalf of the Mayor and Members of the Council congratulating the couple.

**RESOLVED:** Confirmation of action and to note the information.

**304 ONE VOICE WALES**

Letter, together with information on what is provided, received from the above inviting Maesteg Town Council to join One Voice Wales from April 2019. Once again, they offer 50% discounted membership. Membership Fee £2592; 50% reduction for one year only £1296.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information and decline membership.

**305 LITTER BINS**

Complaints received with regard to bins being removed from the following locations:

- Plasnewydd School, Plasnewydd Street Entrance. (Maesteg Council initially paid for bin at this location, originally placed at end of Bridge.) Replacement bin placed on lamppost outside school entrance. Now removed.
- Maesteg Car Park – top of Bridge (seating and bin Maesteg partnership with BCBC). Bin removed.
- Llwydarth Road Bus Stop (near to local shop) – removed recently.
- Talbot Street (location outside 21 Cafe) – vandalised; only cover remains.
- Bin removed from Forge Lane on the way to Tesco.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk to write to BCBC as some of the above litter bins were paid for by Maesteg Town Council. Also to request a copy of the audit report made on the siting of litter bins.

### **306 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:**

Report received that residents in location of Meadow Street concerned of fly tipping of black bags and cardboard boxes in River Llynfi, location near Bridge leading from Commercial Street to Meadow Street.

The Natural Resources Wales contacted, who confirmed that this was Local Authority' issue. Bridgend County Borough contacted, who advised not their responsibility. The Clerk, on behalf of Council, visited the area to determine if items still at this location; confirmed. Contacted Chairman of Llynfi Valley River and Environmental Group requesting their help; they removed rubbish.

However, they want Maesteg Council to be aware this is a continuing problem; willing to support, but managed with few volunteers.

Concern of bin on bridge leading to Meadow Street. Always overfull, not emptied regularly, contents over spilling into River. Can it be relocated off Bridge?

**RESOLVED:** Clerk confirmed that this bin was purchased by Maesteg Town Council at the request of the River and Environmental Group. Clerk to write to BCBC and request that it is moved away from the bridge.

### **307 COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

E-mail received from Councillor C Reeves requesting information on the committees of the Council.

**RESOLVED:** To agenda for next meeting of the Council to receive Clerk's Report.

### **308 FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

#### **1. WALES AIR AMBULANCE**

Annual request for financial support from above charity.

**RESOLVED:** Council donate the sum of £250 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

**2. LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD**

Annual request for financial support.

**RESOLVED:** Council donate the sum of £100 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

**3. NOAH'S ARK**

Annual request for financial support from above charity.

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

**4. EISTEDDFOD YR URDD 2019**

Annual request for financial support from above and is being held in Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan.

**RESOLVED:** Council donate the sum of £100 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

**309 PROPOSALS TO RE-OPEN PUBLIC TOILETS IN MAESTEG BUS STATION**

Cllrs P White and, L Thomas left the meeting; therefore, took no part in the discussion.

Council went into committee to discuss this agenda item.

**RESOLVED:** Council decided unanimously to support the proposal and costs to be borne out of Projects Fund. Clerk to confirm with AWEN Cultural Trust.

**310 DELEGATES REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR P JENKINS TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM 26/2/2019**

1. A presentation was given on behalf of Welsh Government on the future role of T&CC's by Claire German.

- A review was set up in 2017 and panel consists of cross-party members.
- An extensive engagement programme began throughout Wales. A final report submitted in October 2018.

- A statement was then issued on 30/11/2018, setting out the Welsh Government approach, it was stressed that this was the start of conversations and not the end.
- There will be a number of further chances to engage. A report of action plan with the Clerk. Plus, one appraised copy for each Councillor.

Should any Council wish to present a formulated view on the areas of the action plan. Claire German can be contacted at the Welsh Government. Also, would consider requests to meet with Council if wished to do so.

2. Planning - Register of candidate sites.

A consultation was carried out for any members of the public to express an interest in areas of land that would be put on a register of candidate sites.

This register does not imply that these sites will be included or excluded on any future LDP, but purely for general public information and have no status as yet.

3. Planning – draft proposal on LDP to replace existing one.

3 main areas were discussed where they concentrated on:

- a) Visions & Objectives
- b) Strategy & Growth
- c) Spatial strategy

3 scenarios were considered, based on the Welsh Governments predictions:

- Low Growth option prediction (recession led)
  - + 271 dwellings
  - + 13 jobs
- Mid Growth – based on 2011-12 and 2016-17
  - + 505 dwellings
  - + 266 jobs
- High Growth – 16-year period (seen as being unachievable)
  - + 570 dwellings
  - + 380 jobs

Recommendation was to support the Mid Growth plan.

Spatial Strategy options

1. Option to remain as existing plan, with BCBC redeveloping brown field sites - these have now nearly all been achieved.

2. More concentration on transport sites and hubs plus strategic road corridors.
3. Prioritise growth of M4 corridor (a valleys led strategy) - this was seen as a failure to address housing growth
4. Regeneration and sustainable urban growth led strategy - this was the preferred option as it met a mixture of the 3 previous options.

I stress this is only a summary of the presentation and the full report and LDP is available with the Clerk.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

### **311 PLANS**

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

**The following planning proposals were received from BCBC to date, were discussed and were supported by Members:**

Ref: P/19/67/FUL  
 Applicant: Mr D Williams  
 Location: 1 Uplands Drive, Maesteg, CF34 0BH  
 Proposal: First floor extension to provide bedroom to rear of dwelling

Ref: P/19/106/FUL  
 Applicant: Mr N Williams  
 Location: 32a Alma Road, Maesteg, CF34 9AN  
 Proposal: New detached garage to front garden and new crossover.

Ref: P/19/118/LIS  
 Applicant: Bridgend County Borough Council  
 Location: Maesteg Outdoor Market Talbot Street Maesteg CF34 9DA  
 Proposal: Listed Building Consent for the erection of traditional arched style sign at the entrance to Maesteg Outdoor Market.

**The following planning appeal was received from BCBC and the information noted:**

**PLANNING APPEAL DECISION**

Planning Inspectorate APP/F6915/A/18/3211218: Ffos Farm, CF34 0DG

The case is DISMISSED. Ref: P/19/32/FUL

**Read and accepted at a meeting of the Council  
held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019**

.....  
**Mayor**