

MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Tuesday, 2nd April 2019.**

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: **L Beedle (Mayor)**
W May, D K Edwards, I Williams, C Reeves,
R Penhale-Thomas, R Collins, R Martin,
L Thomas, S B Smith, P Davies, A R Davies,
A James, G Thomas.

The Mayor welcomed and congratulated Councillor R Martin, recently elected Councillor for the West Ward of Maesteg Town.

The Mayor reminded Councillors of the importance of working together to serve the community of Maesteg; party politics should have no place in Town and Community Councils.

APOLOGIES for absence received from Councillors P W Jenkins, P White and R L Lewis.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllrs 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 L Thomas, being a Trustee of Awen Cultural Trust, declared an interest in the item relating to “Maesteg Public Toilets”.

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.

312 POLICE MATTERS

The Mayor welcomed Sgt Evans to the meeting.

Maesteg Crime Statistics for March 2018

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
Robbery	0	1	0	0	1
Dwelling burglary	0	1	0	0	1
Burglary other	0	1	0	0	1
Theft of vehicle	0	1	0	1	2
Theft from vehicle	0	0	0	0	0
All other theft	2	7	11	0	20
Damage	14	6	7	0	27
Assault with injury	5	0	5	5	15
All crime total	21	17	23	6	67
Anti-social behaviour	18	8	12	0	38
Drink Driving	0	1	0	0	1

Maesteg Crime Statistics for March 2019

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Dwelling burglary	3	0	3	0	6
Burglary other	1	0	1	0	2
Theft of vehicle	1	0	1	0	2
Theft from vehicle	1	0	2	0	3
All other theft	5	3	20	1	29
Damage	5	4	7	1	17
Assault with injury	21	16	30	3	70
All crime total	37	23	64	5	129
Anti-social behaviour	8	11	11	4	34
Drink Driving	1	0	1	0	2

Monthly Update from South Wales Police

Schools

- Mini Police: Topics covered: Online Safety -
Schools involved: St Marys and St Patricks, Cwmfelin, Plasnewydd,
Garth, Llan, Nanty, Ysgol Cynwyd Sant.
Next topic: Grass Fires - will be working closely with South Wales Fire
Service to combat this increasing problem.

PACT

- Maesteg PACT next date: 11th April 18:00 Cwm Calon
- Caerau PACT date: 29th April 18:00 Noddfa

Operation Monstera / ASB

- 3 Acceptable behaviour contracts signed
- Anti social behaviour operation in town centre
- Joint patrols with youth engagement officers
- 2 missing children located
- 2 stop searches
- Joint patrols Aberkenfig & Pyle PCSOs

Operation Sceptre

- School visits
- Patrols at ASB hotspots
- Pubwatch meeting

Warrants

- Caerau Road
- Over 500 Plants found amounting to approx. £300000
- 2 persons arrested

Drugs Related

- Foot chase, one male arrested possession and intent to supply class A
- Male arrested later found to be in possession of drugs
- 1 Cannabis warning
- 2 arrested possession of Class A

Off Road Operations

- 3rd March 2019
- Several section 59s issued

FIRE PITS

E-mail received from a local resident suggesting a way to combat mountain fires within our community. Introduced in many parts of the country and are proving to be successful in combating mountain fires - erection of concrete burning pits; full report sent to South Wales Police and copied to Councillors.

Sgt Evans advised that this would involve discussions with Bridgend County Borough Council, identification of land owners, assessed by Fire Service, extra policing, etc. Confirmed will be addressed.

Discussion ensued on the following concerns highlighted by Members of the Council:

- Youths moving to other areas in the Town; not really addressing issue of anti-social behaviour.

St Evans confirmed that the exclusion zones include the Welfare Parks, Town Centre, Car Park, Train Station area. This problem is being constantly addressed by Police Officers, Youth and Out Reach workers.

- Number of youths involved in the latest anti-social behaviour incidents/ ASBOs served.

- Youths involved from other areas.

34 youths/Hardcore of 10/local youths.

- comparison with other Towns of similar anti-social behaviour incidents.

Difficult to obtain an accurate comparison, Towns are demographically different.

- concerns expressed on the negativity of the recent press coverage on incidents occurred within Maesteg Town.

There should have been a balance, as there are many good things happening within the Town.

- thanks expressed to the Caerau local policing team for their positive input/responses at the recent PACT meeting.

- damage to stage pallets at local playgroup premises and Garth Primary School

Investigations made, PCSOs monitoring areas.

- Caerau Primary School, damage to playground equipment. Youths from Comprehensive School seen at the location.

Reported to Police.

313 MAYORAL EVENTS

Events and Meetings attended during the month of March 2019 by the Mayor, Councillor Lynne Beedle:

- 2 x Mayors Charity Fund meetings
- Vernon Hartshorn: Pit Bottom to Parliament Exhibition

314 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 5th March 2019; copies of which had been circulated to Members, were read and accepted as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

315 MINUTE 291 RECYCLING

Response received from Kier Bridgend, that where streets are inaccessible, reported to local depot, smaller vehicle sent to location as soon as reasonably practicable.

The Clerk advised awaiting a response from regional office on Council's query "are certain streets automatically visited weekly due to access problems".

316 MINUTE 295 CASUAL VACANCY WEST WARD

Confirmation received from Electoral Office, Bridgend County Borough Council, that Rosemary Martin (Labour Party) elected uncontested as West Ward Councillor from 4 pm Wednesday, 27th March 2019.

The Clerk confirmed that Councillor Martin had signed the declarations of office and received the mandatory documentation.

317 MINUTE 305 LITTER BINS

Members noted that a copy of the Bridgend County Borough Council Audit Report on the location of litter bins had been requested in order to ascertain the number of bins located within the Maesteg areas. Cllr P Davies agreed to provide a copy to the Clerk.

E-mail received from John Rees, Bridgend County Borough Council, advising that a Tikspac post (a post containing dog fouling bags) was available for Maesteg Town Council, requesting suitable location. Members noted that BCBC had placed one in Maesteg Welfare Park.

Following discussion Members agreed that Tikspac posts should be located at the remaining two Welfare Parks within Maesteg; Garth and Caerau.

RESOLVED: The Clerk request the placement of Tikspac posts at Caerau and Garth Welfare Parks.

318 MINUTE 308
FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS

Letter of thanks and acknowledgement for financial support received from:

- Wales Air Ambulance
- Maesteg Park FC – Community defibrillator
- Llangollen International Eisteddfod
- Urdd Eisteddfod

RESOLVED: To note the information.

319 MINUTE 309
RE-OPENING PUBLIC TOILETS IN MAESTEG BUS STATION

The Clerk confirmed:

- Service Level Agreement between Maesteg Town Council and Awen Cultural Trust agreed and signed on 20th March 2019
- Licence to Occupy prepared by Bridgend County Borough Council; however, issues arose surrounding compliance (i.e. Legionella and Asbestos testing required as a matter of urgency); therefore, unable to be agreed with Awen
- Council's concerns on the lack of progress in re-opening the toilets had been forwarded to Bridgend County Borough Council; in

response e-mail received 2nd April 2019 from Messrs Z Shell and G Smith, Communities Directorate, Bridgend County Borough Council, advising:

- Welsh Water had re-connected water supply
- asbestos survey undertaken by Environmental Limited; awaiting report
- legionella risk assessment, including sampling, to be undertaken on 4th April
- as soon as test results confirmed and Licence to Occupy agreed with Awen Cultural Trust, the public toilets will be available to be re-opened

Members again expressed concern with the continuing delays being experienced and that the facilities were still not open for members of the public. Constant complaints were being received from residents and visitors to the Town.

RESOLVED: To await progress report.

320 LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2019

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

CORRESPONDENCE

321 PORTABLE TOILET MAESTEG CAR PARK

The Clerk presented Members with details of costs related to termination of the Rental Agreement with J C Decaux for the portable toilet located in the Car Park, Llynfi Road.

RESOLVED: Refer to Finance Committee to compare costs and present recommendations to Council.

322 AFAN VALLEY ADVENTURE RESORT

Received a copy e-mail sent to Bridgend County Borough Council by local constituents regarding the above resort. Although this falls into Neath Port Talbot County Borough area, they seek views from BCBC of

any plans they may have to further improve Maesteg to be more pleasing to the eye and more welcoming to visitors and tourists. They feel there needs to be a lot more done with public transport improvements, parking and making the town centre itself more aesthetically pleasing. They also ask what plans BCBC may have for Nantyffyllon and Caerau in regards to the same issue.

Confirmation received from Bridgend County Borough Council that this enquiry is being addressed by the Regeneration Department.

Members noted that this may be discussed at a future BCBC Maesteg Members' meeting.

RESOLVED: To note information.

323 CHRIS ELMORE MP ADVICE SURGERIES

Received details of Chris Elmore MP' Advice Surgeries for April 2019, together with information of a joint surgery to be held with Huw Irranca-Davies AM at Tesco Café on 11th April, 10am – 11am.
Information placed on notice boards and e-mailed to Councillors.

Letter dated 21st March 2019 received from Chris Elmore MP thanking the many local community groups for attending the Funding Advice Day and offering future support.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

324 TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM MEETING

The next meeting of the above is scheduled for 7th May 2019 at 4.00 pm.
Delegate: Councillor P W Jenkins.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

325 REFERRALS MONTH OF MARCH 2019

● **RECYCLING CONTAINERS**

RESPONSE: Requests processed; allow at least 10 working days for delivery.

● **FLYTIPPING**

Large amount of fly tipping rear lane behind Caerau Progressive Club.

RESPONSE: BCBC advised only able to enforce; not able to remove as unadopted lane.

Large amounts of broken glass on pathway from Maesteg Rugby Club to Llynfi surgery. **RESPONSE:** BCBC confirm order placed for the clearing of the glass.

- **DAMAGED RAILINGS**

Safety bar missing on railings located on the pathway from Maesteg Rugby Club to Llynfi Surgery. **RESPONSE:** Repaired.

- **LOOSE MANHOLE COVER**

Loose manhole cover - Commercial Street. **RESPONSE:** BCBC confirmed order raised in February 2019; will progress this repair as soon as possible.

- **SYRINGE IN LANE**

Residents advised syringes found on pathway Fowlers Place, Caerau, CF34 0TE (lane walked by school children); reported to South Wales Police. **RESPONSE:** BCBC will remove as a matter of urgency.

- **COMPLAINT - FOOD WASTE BAGS**

Food waste bags poor quality. **AWAITING RESPONSE.**

- **RAISED PAVING SLAB**

Complaint about raised paving slab in the loading bay Talbot Street. **AWAITING RESPONSE.**

- **OVERFLOWING BINS**

Complaints received of overflowing bins located Commercial Street, with foul smells, and Meadow Street. **RESPONSE:** KIER scheduled the removal of these bins Monday 1st April 2019.

RESOLVED: Confirmation of action and to note the information.

326 **COMMITTEE MEETING' DATES**

Members noted the following:

Events Committee (Gwyl Maesteg Festival)	10 th April 2019
Standing Orders Committee	16 th April 2019
Personnel Committee	29 th April 2019
Finance Committee	14 th May 2019

327 FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS

1. BRIDGEND CARERS CENTRE

Annual request received for financial support. Documentation including Financial Report received.

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

2. MAYOR OF MAESTEG FUND – MAYOR’S BALL

Letter received from the above requesting financial support.

Since the re-introduction of the Mayor’s Ball in 2014, Maesteg Town Council has been particularly supportive in providing a donation to the cost of staging the ball. Costs continue to rise, but the committee is pleased to confirm that they have maintained the ticket price for the third consecutive year at £27.50. That being said, even at £27.50, with one hundred guests attending the ball is expected to make a loss. The ball is not designed to make a profit, but to break even, with a little profit over to add to the end of year monies raised for The Mayor of Maesteg’s Fund, which this year is raising funds for Cancer Research and Special Families.

The Mayor’s Committee request that once again Maesteg Town Council consider making a donation in support of costs associated with staging this particularly special occasion in the Maesteg Mayoral Calendar.

RESOLVED: Council cover the costs of hire of the Town Hall (£443.00); to pay AWEN Cultural Trust directly under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

328 CLERK’S REPORT ON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Members confirmed receipt of the above report which covered:

MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES 2018-2019

TERMS OF REFERENCE

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES (STANDING ORDERS OF COUNCIL)

Finance Committee – 7 members (to include the elected Mayor for the ensuing year).

Events Committee – 5 members of Council. (The annual Christmas Festival and Gwyl Maesteg Festival Event's Committees are open to interested Council Members and appointed by Council at the Annual General Meeting). Council can co-opt interested members of the public onto the Events and Rights of Way Committees; however, these members will have no voting rights.

Membership of other Committees of Council – 5 members.

Chairs of Committees appointed at the Annual General Meeting by the elected members of the individual Committees.

Where members of the public are co-opted by Council to a Committee, the Mayor or Deputy Mayor ex officio is the Chair.

Except where ordered by the Council in the case of a committee, or by the council or by the appropriate committee in the case of a sub-committee, the quorum of a committee or sub-committee shall be one-half of its members.

The Standing Orders on rules of debate (except those parts relating to standing and to speaking more than once) and the Standing Orders on interests of members in compliance with Code of Conduct shall apply to committee and sub-committee meetings.

Terms of Office to be determined for each Committee by Council.

CONFIRMATION OF MEETING DATES 2018/2019

Finance

Finance Committee meeting 21st May 2018, recommendations confirmed and ratified in full Council 5th June 2018.

Council meeting 5th June 2018 – Year End 2017/2018 Financial Report/Financial Report April/May 2018

Council meeting 4th January 2019 – Account Report (3rd quarter), setting of Budget 2019/2020 and agreeing Precept 2019/2020.

Full Council received Expenditure reports monthly from April 2018 to March 2019.

Council during the period did not refer any items to Finance Committee for recommendations; matters relating to finance discussed in Council and resolutions made by Council.

Events

Meetings held:

Christmas Lights 20th August 2018, Council ratified 4th September

Gwyl Maesteg Festival 20th August 2018, Council ratified 4th September

- confirmed events 2018; unanimous decision by Council successful
- Discussed and agreed recommendations Gwyl Maesteg Festival 2019 Events - 1st June to 23rd June

MINUTES

All Committee' minutes are presented to full council for acceptance of recommendations and ratification.

POLITICAL BALANCE

Political Balance to be discussed by Council.

COMMITTEES' MEETING TIMES

Resolved at a meeting held on 4th July 2017 that Committee meetings, when requested, be arranged in the evening, unless exceptional circumstances occur, when Members will be advised accordingly.

COMMITTEES FOR 2019/2020

The selection and agreement of members for each Committee will be an Agenda item for the Council Meeting to be held on 7th May 2019. Confirmed at Annual General Meeting.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED: Standing Orders Committee meet to review Standing Orders and to make recommendations on rationalising the number of Committees.

329 DELEGATES' REPORTS

No reports received for April 2019.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

330 PLANS

Cllrs 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: A/19/5/ADV
Applicant: Bridgend County Borough Council
Location: Maesteg Outdoor Market Talbot Street Maesteg CF34 9DA
Proposal: Erection of traditional arched style sign at the entrance to Maesteg Outdoor Market.

Ref: P/19/125/FUL
Applicant: N Richards
Location: Land north of 10 Bangor Terrace Maesteg CF34 0HU
Proposal: New 3 bed detached dormer bungalow with integral garage

Ref: P/19/120/FUL
Applicant: Mr Gethin Morris
Location: Maesteg Welfare Park rear of Neath Road Maesteg CF34 9PG
Proposal: Erection of sandstone boulder supporting a slate memorial stone adjacent to the site of the former gin pit.

Ref: P/19/144/FUL
Applicant: Mr S Parry
Location: 13 Nant Y Derwen Maesteg CF34 0TA
Proposal: Single storey extension to rear and two storey extension to side.

Ref: P/19/145/FUL
Applicant: Mr M Hillier-Rees
Location: 75 Alma Road Maesteg CF34 9AW
Proposal: Demolish existing garage/store and construct single storey extension for new garage/utility room, dormer extensions to provide new bedrooms and shower room.

Ref: P/19/152/FUL
Applicant: Mr G Forte
Location: 21 Station Terrace Maesteg CF34 0HR
Proposal: First floor rear extension

Ref: P/19/177/FUL
Applicant: Mrs E Denton

Location: 10 South Parade Maesteg CF34 0AB
Proposal: Demolish existing conservatory and replace with porch

Ref: P/19/159/FUL
Applicant: Mr C Jewell
Location: Plot 23 (North of 8 Llynfi Court) Maesteg CF34 9NJ
Proposal: Proposed 5 bedroom detached dwelling & garage

Ref: P/19/197/FUL
Applicant: Mrs C Davies
Location: 23 Ewenny Road Maesteg CF34 9TR
Proposal: Single storey rear extension for new kitchen/dining room

Ref: P/19/188/FUL
Applicant: Mr C Lewis
Location: 5 Belmont Close Maesteg CF34 0LH
Proposal: Two storey extension to rear and bay window addition to front

The following planning proposal were discussed and was **OBJECTED** by Members due to the many concerns relating to lack of access especially for emergency vehicles.

Ref: P/19/163/OUT
Applicant: Mr K & Mrs M Austin
Location: Land rear of 110 Llwydarth Road Maesteg CF34 9EU
Proposal: Renew expired consent P/06/1170/OUT for a two storey dwelling with garage.

**Read and accepted at a meeting of the Council
held on 7th May 2019**

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Mayor