

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 June 2019**.

PRESENT:

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

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllrs R Penhale-Thomas, P White, 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 I A Williams declared an interest in items that may relate to Llangynwyd Middle Community Council.

Cllrs D K Edwards and I A Williams declared an interest in the item relating to Celtic Bowls Club.

Cllrs S B Smith and L Beedle declared an interest in item relating to Nantyffyllon Primary School.

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

23 NANTYFFYLLON PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNCIL

The mayor welcomed Nantyffyllon Primary School Council to the meeting; who presented their concerns about dog fouling around their school and what they have done to try and alleviate this problem.

The Mayor and members of the Council congratulated them on their passion for trying to clean up the area around their school and confirmed that Maesteg Town Council will purchase an extra bin and tikspak to be located outside Nantyffyllon Primary School and to contact Bridgend County Borough Council to place this bin on the Cleansing Schedule.

24 POLICE MATTERS

The Mayor welcomed PCSO Julie Banks to the meeting; Members were provided with the following police figures and report:

Maesteg Crime Statistics for May 2018

	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	0	2	1	1	4
Theft of vehicle	0	1	0	0	1
Theft from vehicle	5	0	1	0	6
All other theft	1	7	7	1	16
Damage	5	2	5	2	14
Assault with injury	5	3	6	1	16
All crime total	19	15	23	5	62
Anti-social behaviour total	14	6	12	1	33
Drink Driving	0	0	0	0	0

Maesteg Crime Statistics for May 2019

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Dwelling burglary	1	0	4	0	5
Burglary other	0	0	0	0	0
Theft of vehicle	1	0	0	0	1
Theft from vehicle	1	0	0	0	1
All other theft	1	2	11	1	15
Damage	4	3	16	1	24
Assault with injury	16	13	24	2	55
All crime total	24	18	55	5	102
Anti-social behaviour total	11	6	7	1	25
Drink Driving	0	0	0	0	0

The following was discussed:

- Clarification was sought on the crime figures.
PCSO Banks advised that with regard to the assault with injury, these were mainly due to the night time economy.
- Concerns had been raised by residents regarding SW Police Helicopter being used recently at 2 am over Duke Street.
PCSO Banks confirmed that the helicopter is usually only used when there are concerns for welfare.
- A member raised the issue of Anti Social Behaviour in Caerau with endless complaints being received regarding youths, together with the playing of ball games on the highway.
*PCSO Banks advised Members of one incident of youths leaving youth club; the leaders had been requested to speak to the young people to ensure such incidents will not happen in the future
With regard to the playing of ball games, PCSO Banks recommended that a sign be erected. This was done outside the 21 Café and Post Office in Maesteg Town Centre, which has reduced the number of youths playing balls on the highway at this location.*

25 MONTHLY UPDATES FROM SOUTH WALES POLICE:

Mini Police

New sessions to be arranged topics to include the danger of drugs and staying safe.

Ygswol Cynwyd Sant to receive in an Assembly, members of the South Wales Fire and Rescue regarding grass fires.

Representative Work Force Week of Action:

Awareness tables held at ASDA Maesteg by PCSOS Haslam, Wadham and Harris and at Caerau Development Trust.

News

Maesteg NPT attend ACES meeting for refresher on early intervention.

PACT

Next meeting at Maesteg West/East/Llan - 4th July 2019 at 6pm;
Caerau – 1st July 2019 at 6pm.

Arrests:

Arrest of a violent male for theft offences.

Three persons apprehended for smoking cannabis in police car park

4 positive stop search results in Maesteg Town centre: 1 penalty notice for theft, 1 arrested for fail to appear warrant and misuse of drugs warrant executed!

Successes

PCSO Harris invited to attend Ospreys end of seasons awards for involvement in Maesteg School rugby
Successful open day held at Maesteg Police Station – including tour of the cells.

Vehicles

Vehicle stopped for no insurance, no license and a cannabis possession.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

26 MAYORAL EVENTS

Past Mayor Cllr Lynne Beedle

- Noteworthy Concert
- Mayor's Ball
- Kidwelly Civic Sunday
- Opening of Keeper of Colliery Run
- Mayor's Charity
Presentation of money raised to Charities - £4300 in total divided equally between Special Families Maesteg and Maesteg Branch of Cancer Research UK.

Mayor Cllr Steve Smith

- BCBC Mayor Inauguration
- Mayor's Charity Meeting
- Opening of the Gŵyl Maesteg Festival
- Curtain Up Alice in Wonderland
- Pencoed Town Council Civic Sunday

Deputy Mayor Cllr Andrew James

- Porthcawl Town Council Civic Sunday

27 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 7th May 2019; Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on 21st May 2019; and Minutes Annual General Meeting held on 22nd May 2019, copies of which had been circulated to Members, were read and accepted as a true record with all Recommendations accepted by Council:

- The Annual Return and supporting documentation be signed by the Mayor and Clerk/RFO and sent to BDO.

MATTERS ARISING

28 MINUTE 331 GWYL MAESTEG FESTIVAL 2019

Gwyl Maesteg Festival 2019 officially opens on Saturday, 1st June with “Alice in Wonderland” performed by the talented members of “Curtain Up”; performances 2.30 pm and 6 pm.

On Sunday, 2nd June 2019, 11 am to 3 pm, the “Keeper of the Colliery Run” and “Family Fun Day”; nearly 200 registered runners to date. Tremendous support from our “Volunteering teams” to organise and manage the day.

Information sent to Councillors on Festival events.

Council were advised that over 600 people came to watch Curtain Up performances and that 270 people braved the weather to run in the Keeper of the Colliery Run.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to Curtain Up Youth Theatre to thank them for their outstanding performances and to the volunteers for their commitment and support.

29 MINUTE 339 ONGOING DISTURBANCES IN MAESTEG

Sgt Beynon confirmed that the resident who had reported concerns to Maesteg Town Council had been contacted; however, did not want to discuss the matter any further. Sgt Beynon advised that he would address any questions raised by Members of the Council on this matter.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

30 **MINUTE 343**
LITTER BINS

Query raised over the litter bin that had been removed from the lamppost in the bus station.

Clerk confirmed that BCBC will re-install but have yet to give an installation date.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

31 **MINUTE 344**
MAESTEG BUS STATION PUBLIC TOILETS

Press release issued on 8th May 2019 confirming Maesteg Town Council working in partnership with Awen Cultural Trust and Bridgend County Borough Council to enable these facilities to be re-opened.

The Clerks has received several complaints from members of the public regarding the conditions of the toilets which were reported to the Manager of Maesteg Town Hall. It has been confirmed that the Director of Operations, Awen Cultural Trust, has been advised of the following and that a response is awaited:

- although the toilet rolls are being replenished daily; they keep disappearing (36 toilet rolls in 4 days)
- the toilet roll holders are broken; suggest lockable holders be purchased
- the gents continuously has an unbearable smell, even though bleached several times in the day
- the flush on the urinal and toilets have been checked and are all in working order
- staff have complained that some members of the public are abusing these facilities daily
- signs have been placed in all toilets requesting members of the public to respect these facilities and to raise any issues with the Town Hall' staff

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the public toilets and the lack of respect it was

RESOLVED: that a statement be included on the website.

32 **MINUTE 366**
FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS

Letter of thanks and acknowledgement for financial support received from:

- Bridgend Carers Centre
- Bobath Childrens Therapy Centre
- Schools:
 - Ysgol Cynwyd Sant
 - St Mary & St Patrick's
 - Nantyffyllon
 - Caerau
 - Plasnewydd
 - Garth
 - Maesteg Comprehensive

RESOLVED: To note the information.

33 **MINUTE 370**
PLANS – P/19/212/OUT

In response to the Clerk's e-mail dated 8th May 2019 in relation to the observations made by Council regarding planning application P/19/212/OUT, (outline application to erect 1 no. Two B storey dwelling with garage at land rear of 143-148 Cwrt Coed Parc, Maesteg, CF34 9DR), the Planning Department confirmed that the Rights of Way Section, BCBC, were consulted on this application.

Having checked all available records, it was found that Footpath 42 Maesteg had previously been diverted under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 on the 11th August 2003 with the order being confirmed on the 9th March 2004 and the Certificate of Satisfactory Compliance issued on the 15th September 2010. The order was originally requested to allow development of Cwrt Coed Parc to take place. As such, the footpath was diverted onto the footways running through the Estate. (Attached plan for Members' information.) The Rights of Way Section did not object to planning application P/19/212/OUT because the proposed works would not affect the diverted route of Footpath 42 Maesteg; however, they have now made the following requests to the Planning Department:

- unable to determine from the plans if the applicant is intending to store any materials adjacent to or on the footpath whilst construction works are undertaken if planning permission is granted; the applicant must be advised that the storage of materials on the footpath would not be permitted as access needs to be

maintained along the footpath at all times for members of the public.

- it is also not clear, from the documents provided with the application, how access will be gained to the site during its construction and after its completion; therefore, the applicant must be advised that if access is granted from the south of the application site for its construction/completion then the applicant will be responsible for reinstating the surface of the footpath, should any damage occur during the construction process, to the satisfaction of the Council's Rights of Way Section and at their own cost.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

34 LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2019

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

CORRESPONDENCE

35 LETTERS OF CONDOLENCE

Letters of condolence sent on behalf of Council to the families of the recently deceased:

- Mrs Winnie Connolly
- Mrs Marion Rogers
- Mr Maddern

RESOLVED: Confirmation of action and to note the information.

36 EMERGENCY TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – UNNAMED ROAD FROM SIDE OF 1 MACGREGOR ROW TO CHARLES ROW UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Closed from 9th May 2019 or until such time as the works are completed up to a maximum of 21 days.

Further information received on the above temporary closure:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) intends in not less than 7 days from the date of this Notice to make an Order which will temporarily close that length of unnamed road

from the side of 1 Macgregor Row to Charles Row. The Order is necessary to enable works to the wall adjacent to the river and is in the interest of public safety. The Order will come into force on the 30/05/2019 and it is anticipated will be operative from 30/05/2019 to 10/07/2019 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months or until the works are completed whichever is the sooner. The restriction shall however only apply at such time and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs prescribed by The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016. The alternative route is Macgregor Row, unnamed road from the side of 24 Macgregor Row to Charles Row and reverse in the opposite direction. Access pedestrians will be maintained.

Sent to Councillors for information.

RESOLVED: Confirmation of action and to note the information.

37 EMERGENCY TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – BEDW STREET CAERAU UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

From 17th May 2019 until such time as the works are completed up to a maximum of 21 days.

Sent to Councillors for information.

RESOLVED: Confirmation of action and to note the information.

38 NEWSLETTERS/BULLETINS

Available in Clerk's Office for Members' information:

- Sandville Self help Centre
- Planning Aid Wales Newsletter

RESOLVED: To note the information.

39 REFERRALS MONTH OF MAY 2019

• **RECYCLING CONTAINERS**

The following recycling containers requested:

- New resident requiring all containers and bags – Meadow Street

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

RESOLVED: Confirmation of action and to note the information

40 MAESTEG TOWN HALL

Received from the Group Manager Strategic Regeneration, Bridgend County Borough Council, an update on the Maesteg Town Hall project. The project is not without its complications; however, Officers remain confident that they are close to being able to bring the design, contract and funding package together.

Since the start of the year, the following key miles stones have been reached and work completed:

- Planning in January 2019 with listed building consent approved in April 2019
- In March 2019, under a design and build contract, Knox and Wells were appointed to undertake the RIBA stage 4b design works which allow for early contractor involvement. Following their appointment the projects architects (Purcell) and Civil engineers (Musker Sumner) have been novated over to Knox and Wells, selected for their vast experience of Heritage work and completion of similar schemes
<http://www.knoxandwells.com/sector/heritage/>
- Submission of the full Heritage Lottery (NLHF) application was in March 2019. Since the submission an NLHF committee member and case officer have visited the building and feedback on the project proposals were very positive

The team very much wanted to be in a position to announce some funding approvals before now, but for various reasons out of our control, Welsh Government funding programmes have been delayed.

The following is a synopsis of the work to be progressed and completed in the coming months. Despite funding announcement delays and the continued gap in funding, the programme of work is **not** being delayed, as we continue to be optimistic that the funding package will be approved.

- Further detailed surveys to be undertaken at the building
- Advanced works to be undertaken to the main beam
- Advanced asbestos removal within the former market hall
- Client design progress meetings
- Commissioning brief for project management services for RIBA stages 5-7
- Relocation of the CCTV equipment
- National Lottery Heritage Fund Stage 2 decision
- Ongoing dialogue between BCBC and AWEN on the partnership agreement and lease status on completion of the re-development

Update on funding applications:

- Buildings for the Future (ERDF)

The business case was reviewed by Welsh Governments Capital Investment panel in October 2018 and was approved 'in principal'. It's currently with WEFO for their full review. There has been a significant delay in WEFO's review due to changes to the wider Buildings for the Future programme business plan. A decision is hoped to be received early summer.

- National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)

Stage 1 was approved last year and grant monies have been drawn down. Stage 2 application (Delivery Phase) was submitted in March 2019 and is due to go to NLHF Committee in June. The total funding request for this application is £774,900

A meeting was held with the NLHF case officer and one of the committee members in April to run through the project proposals. The meeting went very well with both members of the NLHF team appreciating the benefits that the proposals will bring.

- Gap Funding

There remains a gap of c£610k in the budget.

A live fundraising strategy is in place for this project and several opportunities to fill this gap have been identified such as Valleys Task Force. The Leader has met with the Deputy Minister for the Taskforce, Lee Waters and has stressed the investment required for this project is a priority.

The next Officers' meeting is scheduled for Thursday 13th June at 4pm – (Level 3 Conference Room).

RESOLVED: To note the information and await developments

41 CELTIC BOWLING CLUB

Cllrs D K Edwards and I A Williams declared an interest in the following item:

Celtic Bowling Club has requested to meet with Maesteg Town Council to seek advice on options that have been presented to the Club on Community Asset Transfer.

Confirmation received from Community Asset Manager, BCBC, on discussions taken place:

- meetings held separately with the Bowls Club and Rugby Club; also joint meeting at Garth Park on 9th April 2019 which outlined the options available regarding community asset transfer. The

Manager and team of the Playgroup, that operates from the pavilion, also attended the 9th April meeting

- the users of Garth Park have formed a sports association which includes the bowls, rugby and cricket clubs plus the Social Club. There appears to have been some historic disagreements between the rugby and bowls club which may hinder progress of a joint project going forward
- another meeting of the users will be held to discuss options available and to determine a way forward

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to Celtic Bowls Club to advise that Maesteg Town Council are unable to assist.

42 FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS

1. SANDVILLE SELF HELP CENTRE

Sandville self-help centre are asking for a grant to keep the bus service to and from the centre. They provide door to door service every Thursday for clients from the Llynfi Valley

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

2. OPEN SPACES

Annual request for financial assistance from the above Society.

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

3. PENYBONT GYMNASTICS GIRLS ARTISTIC SQUAD

Penybont Gymnastics are currently fundraising to take several gymnasts from your area to represent Wales in the Presidential Classic Competition in Orlando, Florida in February 2020. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the girls and will give them invaluable experience of competing at an international level. 20 gymnasts and 4 coaches going on the trip with an estimated cost of £40,000. This will cover all the costs of the trip including travel, accommodation, competition fees and kit.

The Club would greatly appreciate any contribution to their fundraising efforts, and would welcome any donations, raffle prizes or sponsorship.

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

4. **MAESTEG AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY**

“Aladdin” to be performed in A request from MAOS for financial assistance towards their next production October 2019; require support in paying the fees for “performing rights licence” . Report received.

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

5. **VERNON HARTSHORN EXHIBITION**

Request for funding to bring the currently touring Vernon Hartshorn exhibition to Maesteg - an exhibition which would add to the cultural offer of the town and be of great interest to local historians but also the wider population of the Llynfi and Ogmore – in between it’s display in the House of Commons and the Senedd. The exhibition marks the journey of this, the first MP who went from pithead to parliament and became a government minister, colleague of Prime Minister Clement Attlee, and pioneering advocate of awelfare state and nationalisation of coal and other industries.

He was a significant – but largely till now forgotten - figure in Welsh and national politics of the 20th Century.

This high quality exhibition covering the life and works of the very first Member of Parliament for Ogmore (1918 to 1931) has been researched and produced by William Sims and colleagues at the South Wales Miners Museum – a museum which itself has strong links with Maesteg of course. Awen have kindly offered to host the exhibition in the library and gallery section at the Recreation Centre in Maesteg.

The only cost involved is that of transporting the exhibition from Westminster to Maesteg. I was initially told that the cost of doing so would be around £150, but it may be as much as £200. Could I therefore ask whether Maesteg Town Council could provide a grant of up to £200 to transport this excellent exhibition to Maesteg, so that local residents have the opportunity to view this important part of our local history.

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

43 **AGENDA ITEM 11 – PARKS & PAVILIONS CONSULTATION 2019**

This item to be deferred to July 2019 meeting.

RESOLVED: Cllr May to complete the Consultation document and report back to Council before submitting Council's response.

44 DELEGATES' REPORTS

No reports received for May 2019.

45 PLANS

Cllrs R Penhale-Thomas, K Edwards, R Collins, P White 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/19/354/FUL

Applicant: Dentons SIPP JJ Kingdon

Location: Old Parish Kitchen & Bathroom Emporium Llynfi Lane
Maesteg CF34 9DE

Proposal: Change use from kitchen and bathroom retail showroom to use as a vehicle repair garage

RESOLVED: To note the information.

**Read and accepted at a meeting of the Council
held on 2nd July 2019**

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Mayor