

## **MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL**

### **COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Council** held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019**.

#### **PRESENT:**

**COUNCILLORS:**       **S B Smith (Mayor)**  
I Williams, W May, D K Edwards,  
R Martin, R Penhale-Thomas, L Thomas, P Davies,  
R L Lewis and A James

**APOLOGIES** for absence received from Councillors L Beedle, R Collins, P White, P W Jenkins, R Davies, C Reeves and G Thomas

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

Cllrs R Penhale-Thomas, 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.

Cllr L Thomas declared an interest in items relating to AWEN Cultural Trust.

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

#### **94    POLICE MATTERS**

The Mayor welcomed Sgt Karen Merrett and PC Dave Johnson to the meeting; Members were provided with the following police figures:

**Maesteg Crime Statistics for August 2018**

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
Robbery	0	0	1	0	1
Dwelling burglary	1	0	1	1	3
Burglary other	1	0	4	0	5
Theft of vehicle	0	0	1	0	1
Theft from vehicle	0	1	1	0	2
All other theft	3	5	11	1	20
Damage	3	1	8	2	14
Assault with injury	14	1	5	6	26 (6 D/V)
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Maesteg Crime Statistics for August 2019**

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Dwelling burglary	2	0	1	0	3
Burglary other	3	5	0	0	8
Theft of vehicle	1	0	0	0	1
Theft from vehicle	1	0	4	0	5
All other theft	4	6	7	0	17
Damage	4	4	7	1	16
Assault with injury	7	3	4	1	15
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Members questions:**

- Maesteg Crime Page – grave concerns expressed with regard to this face book site; examples given.  
*PC Johnson advised that crimes must be reported to the proper Authorities and not through face book sites such as this.  
Ongoing investigations taking place.*
- Anti Social Behaviour – Incident Caerau Square Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019.  
*Investigations were ongoing.*

- Location - Nantylffyllon Play Area – “Young persons out late at night, cars constantly speeding around the bend – concerned about their safety. Numerous complaints regarding the speeding of cars in this area.  
*PC Johnson confirmed that a ” planned operation ” will be up and running shortly; PCSOs to speak to the young people regarding safety, etc.*
- Anti Social Behaviour – Caerau area.  
*PCSOs continue to monitor the areas and have given warnings to offenders.*

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) To note the crime figures.
- (ii) To await further responses/reports of concerns raised.

**95 ILLEGAL PARKING OF CARS - HIGH STREET, NANTYFFYLLON**

E-mail received from a concerned resident (name supplied and permission to forward to relevant parties to address) about the illegal parking of cars causing several accidents on High Street, Nantylffyllon. Details received of recent incident, including photographs; several questions asked and requesting as a matter of urgency the concerns expressed be addressed. Members of the Council supported this request.

*Sgt Merrett advised that residents had been spoken to, advising them of unlawful parking within this location. PCSOs continue to monitor the area; if residents do not conform to advice given, tickets will be issued.*

*To address these concerns, Sgt Merrett advised that:*

- *“parking issues” will be addressed at the forthcoming PACT meetings*
- *“traffic operation” to be requested at this location*

**RESOLVED:**

- (i)** To await developments.
- (ii)** Clerk to confirm to resident the above discussion.

## 96 MAYORAL EVENTS

12th August	Mayors Charity meeting
14th August	Musical Extravaganza Meeting with High Sheriff of Glamorgan
17th August	Dyffryn Chapel Dementia Garden Open Day

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

## 97 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019; copies of which had been circulated to Members, were read, accepted as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

## MATTERS ARISING

### 98 MINUTE 68

#### MAESTEG BUS STATION PUBLIC TOILETS

Response received from Group Manager Strategic Regeneration Bridgend County Borough:

- agreeing that the closure of the Town Hall for a duration of time will cause disruption within the Town Centre. The contractor and officers will work with traders and the community to ensure that the market and bus station especially will operate throughout with as little disruption as possible.
- advising that tenders for this contract were undertaken some time ago; unfortunately the cost for the contractor to make provision within the contract for toilets was not an affordable option.
- if additional funding becomes available to financially support the provision within Maesteg at a later date, this could be discussed with the contractor to help facilitate outside of the project finance and obligations.
- Officers will be exploring the option of talking to more local

businesses about taking up the “comfort scheme” that the Authority is running, as it may also be an option to support trade at this time.

Discussion ensued highlighting :

- “Comfort Scheme” previously not accepted for public use by Traders within Maesteg Town; felt unfair to loyal customers supporting their businesses, abuse of facilities, etc.
- Staff Toilet facilities within Market; not accepted for public use by Market traders.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk write to Communities Directorate, BCBC, requesting that consideration be given to members of the public having access to the toilets located within the Market Square, during the duration of the closure of the Bus Station Public toilets.

**99**     **MINUTE 69**  
**RIGHTS OF WAY/ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Meeting arranged 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019; presentation on Rights of Way network East, West, Nantyffyllon and Caerau Wards, Maesteg. *All Members of the Council invited to attend.*

Members advised on:

- the progress being made by the Council’s Contractors on clearance of the Rights of Way footpaths
- the areas cleared that adversely affected the environment
- Japanese Knotweed Schedule of Works; three locations remain to be sprayed 2019. The Clerk advised that growth of Japanese Knotweed is an issue with legal teams in the area approaching residents.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) To note the information.
- (ii) The issue of “Japanese Knotweed” to be discussed at the meeting.

**100** **MINUTE 71**  
**PLAYING FIELDS & PAVILIONS MAESTEG TOWN**

Following the consultation process on the above, report received from Bridgend County Borough Council which will be presented to Scrutiny and Cabinet. Sent to Members for information and consideration.

Following discussion. with many views expressed, it was

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) To confirm action of the Clerk.
- (ii) Clerk to request information on the costs involved if Maesteg Town Council were to consider the transfer of playing fields and pavilions to them.
- (iii) Clerk to ascertain insurance costs/public liability,

**101** **MINUTE 80**  
**MAESTEG BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old, Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning We will remember them.’

The Service of the laying of the “Old” Standard of the Maesteg Branch of the British Legion within the Council Offices arranged for Monday, 30th September 2019 at 6 pm.

**RESOLVED:** Members to attend.

**102** **MINUTE 82**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

A meeting of the Finance Committee to be arranged to receive the Account report for the six month period to September 2019, together with update on Budget for 2019/2020. Recommendations to be presented to full Council.

**RESOLVED:** Council agreed to decision.

**103 MINUTE 87**  
**MAESTEG PARC 37 SERVICE**

Letter received from a resident (name and address supplied) expressing grave concern of the discontinuation of this service and the impact it will have on local residents; copied to the Glamorgan Gazette, Glamorgan Gem, Bridgend County Borough Councillors, Member of Parliament and Members of Maesteg Town Council.

Council supported resident's concerns.

It was advised that:

- response received from Managing Director of Easyway that this service could only continue with the continuation of £30,000 subsidy
- Easyway had not responded to Council's request for a meeting to discuss ways forward to retain service
- local bus companies contacted to ascertain if interested in providing a service
- discussions with Bridgend Community Transport on services available; information sent to Members

**RESOLVED:** To note the information and respond to resident accordingly.

**104 MINUTE 90**  
**FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

Letter of thanks and acknowledgement for financial support received from:

- Llynfi Valley Voluntary Aid
- Noah's Ark
- BMX Caerau

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**105 LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2019**

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

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **106 NEWSLETTERS/BULLETINS/ POSTERS**

Available in Clerk's Office for Members' information:

- SW Police Family Fun Day poster
- The Llynfi Woodland Group poster
- BAVO – August funding e-bulletin
- BAVO – INVOLVE Summer Newsletter
- Children with Cancer – The Chime Summer 2019 Newsletter
- Chris Elmore MP – September Advice Surgeries

Posters have been placed onto the notice board for information.

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

### **107 REFERRALS MONTH OF AUGUST 2019**

- **OVERGROWTH**

Brambles and nettles overhanging pavement between Llynfi Road and Upper Street.

**RESPONSE:** BCBC confirm that the area concerned is the responsibility of the landowner, who in this instance is Tesco PLC. The manager of the store has been contacted and they have confirmed that an order has been issued to clear the area concerned.

- **RECYCLING CONTAINERS**

The following recycling containers requested:

- Brown outside food waste bins – Bethania Street

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

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

### **108 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (NDF) CONSULTATION**

Welsh Government have published the draft NDF for consultation. The consultation will run until 1 November 2019.

Alongside the full document there is an easy-read version and a summary for young people. Welsh Government have produced a short



explanatory leaflet and there are full and summary versions of the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal and a full Habitats Regulations Assessment report.

The consultation documentation can be found: <https://gov.wales/draft-national-development-framework>

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) To note the information.
- (ii) Members to submit their views personally.

**109 BRIDGEND BUS STATION – REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL**

Letter received from Bridgend Town Council requesting assistance towards the upkeep of Bridgend Bus Station:

The location of the major Bus Station within Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) is in the centre of Bridgend Town and is served by virtually all bus services running throughout the county. In recent months BCBC has cast a spotlight on the annual running costs of the Bus Station and has expressed concerns about the future financing implications.

To that end, Bridgend Town Council has held informal discussions at a high level to see how this situation can be addressed. It is clear that doing nothing is not an option, and whilst Bridgend Town Council feels there is a pressing need to retain this important and strategic facility, it is not possible for Bridgend Town Council funds to subsidise it alone.

Bridgend Town Council funds come solely from the residents living within a 2-mile radius of the Town Centre (in the wards of Oldcastle, Newcastle and Morfa) and whilst some residents may use the facility, the vast majority of users come from outside the Town Council boundary.

It has therefore been proposed that the many other communities within the county should be asked to consider this situation and determine if they can join with Bridgend Town Council financially in the interests of all patrons of the Bus Station and its services.

Bridgend Town Council are particularly mindful of the many young families, students, elderly and disabled people who use bus transport as their only means of travel and the vital part that the Bus Station plays in

everyday life. Bridgend Bus Station is also the location of the main public toilet facility in Bridgend Town.

Over recent years, Bridgend Town Council has financially supported the Bus Station facilities by paying for the re-enamelling of the majority of the interior seats (the facility is now 14 years old); periphery landscaping; and exterior washing of the clock tower.

Currently, there is an urgent need to repair most of the 12 automatic doors that lead into the waiting area – they are very heavy to hold open by themselves – and this work is considered urgent.

Bridgend Town Council is at a stage where it needs to engage with all Town and Community Councils to gauge the level of interest and financial support in keeping this vital public facility open, in good order and available for all users wherever they may live in the county.

I would therefore like to ask for your Councils views on the short-term running repairs as outlined – and also any longer-term solutions to keeping the facility open for the public at large.

BCBC have made it clear that they have low funds available to support the Bus Station and have considered its closure. It is therefore up to Town and Community Councils within the BCBC boundary to seriously consider the above and offer support.

Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk respond to Bridgend Town Council:

- (i) advising that Members are sympathetic to their situation
- (ii) highlighting that Town and Community Councils within the Borough (MTC included) are facing similar financial situations as they too are having to provide services traditionally offered by Bridgend County Borough Council; hence, budget constraints
- (iii) seeking further information what BTC expect of MTC

## **110 COMPLAINT – CONDITION OF LLYNFI VALLEY**

Copy letter (original sent to The Glamorgan Gazette) received from resident complaining about the overgrowth, broken pavements & fly tipping around the Llynfi Valley, especially in and around Maesteg Town and at the former Revlon/Cosi/Silent Channel sites. Letter also asks how

will businesses be enticed to the area with the neglect being seen in these areas.

Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED:** To write to the Assembly Member asking him to request information from the Welsh Government on what plans they have for Ewenny Road Site.

## **111 FOOTFALL DATA**

Bridgend County Borough Council collects footfall data in Bridgend, Porthcawl and Maesteg town centres. The data is now available for Bridgend and Porthcawl on the council's website by following the link [www.bridgend.gov.uk/footfall](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/footfall) A camera will shortly be erected at a suitable site within Maesteg Town to collect this data.

A copy of the Footfall Data leaflet has been placed on the noticeboard and a copy has been e-mailed to all Councillors for information.

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

## **112 DAVID LLOYD MEMORIAL STONES**

Requests received for the following to be included on the above Memorial Stones:

- Simon Lewis represented Wales in National and Regional tournaments (1988 – 1998)
- P J and the Pretenders for charity work

**RESOLVED:** Further information required before Council can make a decision.

## **113 BEETHOVEN HOUSE 81 CASTLE STREET MAESTEG CHANGE OF USE TO 4 FLATS AND RETAIN EXISTING FLAT**

Planning permission granted 2015. Work has commenced on this building and residents of Castle Street have written in concerned about parking issues. They request the Council's support for residents' only parking

and to contact Asda Stores to enquire if they would agree to night parking for residents in Castle Street.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) Request for Residents' parking to be forwarded to Bridgend County Borough Council
- (ii) To contact Asda Stores regarding overnight parking

**114 VE DAY 75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY BANK HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2020**

E-mail received from Director of Social Services and Housing, Welsh Local Government Association, advising the decision of UK Government that the May Day holiday in 2020 will be moved from Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**115 TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND 2020/2021**

Information and criteria received on the above fund from the Economy and Natural Resources Manager, Bridgend County Borough Council, together with a copy of the latest Capital Asset Transfer Policy. Applications to the fund will be made available in January 2020 with the deadline for receipt of applications taking place on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Full details made available for Members.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**116 MAESTEG TOWN HALL DEVELOPMENT CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES**

Discussions taken place with the Group Manager Strategic Regeneration, Bridgend County Borough Council, with regard to concerns and issues which may arise in relation to the Town's Christmas Parade and Switching on of Lights due to the development work to Maesteg Town Hall.

The contract has not been signed as yet and therefore a programme or schedule of works is not available to share; however, the programme will be tight and commencing as soon as is practicably possible.

BCBC Officers will request that the contractor accommodate and support the Christmas activities and especially the parade as best as is possible. A meeting will be arranged between the contractor and the Town Council, on site, to talk/walk through some of the challenges.

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

**117 BRIDGEND REPLACEMENT LDP – PREFERRED STRATEGY CONSULTATION EVENT WITH PLANNING AID WALES**

E-mail received from Development Planning Manager, Bridgend County Borough Council, advising that the Authority is working on a replacement Local Development Plan (LDP); when adopted it will replace the current LDP. It will also become the primary consideration in deciding all planning applications in Bridgend. Consultation on the ‘Preferred Strategy’ for the plan will be between **30<sup>th</sup> September and 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

The Preferred Strategy will set out the main issues for the LDP to address. It will create a vision and look at key locations and levels of growth needed for Bridgend, together with consulting on the candidate sites which have already been submitted.

Planning Aid Wales will run engagement events for all Town and Community Councils in Bridgend before and during the consultation. These events will provide more information on the LDP process, the implications of the Preferred Strategy to your community and how you can comment on the emerging policies and sites.

Planning Aid Wales (PAW) is a registered charity supports community engagement in planning in Wales. They have extensive experience of helping communities understand have their say in the planning system. PAW recognises LDP preparation is an important avenue for securing more effective public involvement in planning.

At the events, Planning Aid Wales will be independent and impartial and will seek to encourage you to put forward your opinions. They will capture this information and report it back to the Council to consider as part of the Preferred Strategy consultation.

There are five engagement sessions planned and to focus discussion to particular areas; Maesteg TC, Llangynwyd Middle CC & Llangynwyd Lower CC event has been arranged for Monday, 23 September 6pm – 9pm at Maesteg Town Hall; however, any member or Clerk unable to attend the above event, can attend any of the following, Book online at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/preferred-strategy-consultation-event-for-bridgend-county-borough-tickets-71026354739>, emailing [deb@planningaidwales.org.uk](mailto:deb@planningaidwales.org.uk) or alternatively calling 02920 625 004.

- Friday 4 October 5.30pm – 8.30pm Brackla Community Hall
- Monday 7 October 1pm – 4pm Cefn Cribbwr Green Hall
- Monday 14 October 6pm – 9pm High Tide Inn, Porthcawl

Maesteg’ Members please advise Clerk in order to confirm attendance.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) To note the information.
- (ii) Members advise the Clerk if attending.

**118 ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING**

Brochure detailing courses commencing in the Autumn received from Principal Officer, Community Learning and Engagement, BCBC. Information available [adultlearning@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:adultlearning@bridgend.gov.uk) . Brochure available for members’ information.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**119 ONE VOICE WALES MEMBERSHIP**

E-mail received from South Wales Development Officer requesting the reason why Maesteg Town Council has not joined One Voice Wales and extending an invitation for nominated representative(s) to attend the next Bridgend/Cardiff/Vale Area Committee meeting at 7 pm on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at Cowbridge Town Hall. It is hoped by observing the meeting representative(s) could assess whether the Town Council could benefit from future membership. A Guide to the Services of One Voice Wales available for Members’ information.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) To note the information.
- (ii) The Mayor and Clerk to attend the above meeting.

## **120 FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

### **MAESTEG NETBALL CLUB**

Request received from the above club requesting financial assistance towards new equipment.

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

## **121 DELEGATES' REPORTS**

### **DELEGATES REPORT FROM MAYOR COUNCILLOR S SMITH HIGH SHERIFF OF GLAMORGAN MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA CHARITY EVENT 14/08/19**

Attended the above event as an invited guest. There were various groups and organisations from Glamorgan in attendance.

A timetable of events was handed out with the timescales to be completed. (Copy available in the Clerk's office)

Event to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 19:30 at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and the venue will hold up to 400 people depending on equipment.

The event will be a competition open to young people 11 – 24 year olds categories to include:

- Male Singer
- Female Singer
- Choir
- Musician (any instrument)
- Quartet or Quintet

General discussion took place on the following:

- Criteria on entering the competition
- Child Protection - must be in place
- Possible competition between schools to design a poster for the event but this will need to be completed by 19/09/19
- Possible sponsorship to be obtained to help fund the event
- It is hoped that a CD be made with Bronwen Lewis (singer and songwriter) with up to 60 children taking part, all profits to go to

Llamau. Edwards Coaches as part of their sponsorship will transport the children

- Judges to be appointed
- Master of ceremonies
- Volunteers to help run the event
- Media involvement
- 4 main areas to compete:
  - 1) Bridgend
  - 2) Merthyr
  - 3) Rhondda Cynon Taff
  - 4) Public Services (SW Police, NHS, Fire Services)
- Various questions were asked about the event such as invitation process for high schools, sponsorship, time scales, marketing, publicity, itinerary for the evening

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

## 122 **PLANS**

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

Ref: P/19/541/FUL  
Applicant: Mr S Thomas  
Location: 161 Mill View Estate Maesteg CF34 0DP  
Proposal: Change roof structure of rear annex from flat polycarbonate sheets to concrete tiled pitched roof

Ref: P/19/562/FUL  
Applicant: Mr C O'Connor  
Location: 68 Commercial Street Maesteg CF34 9PX  
Proposal: Tiering rear garden with retaining walls and new garage

Ref: P/19/589/FUL  
Applicant: Mr R Mordecai  
Location: 11 Padleys Close Maesteg CF34 0TX  
Proposal: Porch / cloakroom extension to front elevation



Ref: P/19/590/FUL  
Applicant: Mr S Malhi  
Location: 28 Exchange Street Maesteg CF34 9EA  
Proposal: Second storey addition over existing kitchen

Ref: P/19/561/FUL  
Applicant: Sam Jones  
Location: 67 Commercial Street Maesteg CF34 9PX  
Proposal: Tiering rear garden with retaining walls and new garage

**RESOLVED:** To support the above planning applications.

**Read and accepted at a meeting of the Council  
held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019**

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**Mayor**