

## **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> December 2019.**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

**APOLOGIES** for absence received from Councillors L Beedle, P W Jenkins and P White.

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

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

Cllrs R Lewis and I 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.

#### **184   POLICE MATTERS**

The Mayor welcomed Sgt V Evans to the meeting; Members were provided with the following Crime figures:

**Maesteg Crime Statistics for November 2018**

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
Robbery	1	0	0	0	1
Dwelling burglary	1	0	0	0	1
Burglary other	1	0	0	0	1
Theft of vehicle	0	0	0	0	0
Theft from vehicle	0	0	0	0	0
All other theft	2	4	4	0	10
Damage	7	3	5	2	17
Assault with injury	6	5	8	4	23 (11 D/V)
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

**Maesteg Crime Statistics for November 2019**

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
Robbery	0	0	1	0	1
Drugs	0	0	0	0	0
Dwelling burglary	1	0	0	1	2
Burglary other	1	0	1	0	2
Theft of vehicle	2	0	0	0	2
Theft from vehicle	1	1	2	0	4
All other theft	1	1	2	0	4
Damage	10	3	6	2	21
Assault with injury	5 (2)	3 (2)	5 (3)	2 (2)	15 (9)
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

*Members questions:*

- **Members raised the issue of speeding vehicles on Neath Road in particular between the hours of 8pm – 11pm and using the valley as a racing network. Members noted that the local authority had recently conducted a speed scoping exercise which in the daytime average speeds below 30 mph; however between midnight and the morning it was recording speeds in**

**excess of 80mph. Members also advised that they were very concerned with the speeding at junctions off Neath Road.** *Sgt Evans advised that these concerns will be addressed and requested that if any member is able to get details of registration numbers of offending vehicles this would enable the police to locate the perpetrators.*

**RESOLVED:** To note the crime figures.

## **185 MAYORAL EVENTS**

8th November	Caerau Men Shed Calendar Launch
9th November	Royal British Legion Remembrance Concert
10th November	Remembrance Sunday – Maesteg
11th November	Armistice Remembrance with Ysgol Cynwyd Sant at the Maesteg War Memorial
13th November	Ysgol Cynwyd Sant to presentation to the winner of the Christmas Parade Poster Competition
27th November	Mayors Charity Meeting
28th November	Mayors Charity Race Night
29th November	Christmas Window Shop display competition
30th November	Switch-on of Christmas Lights
3rd December	Maesteg Welfare Park & Cwm Calon Launch Day
3rd December	Presented Me:Me with the plaque for winning the Christmas Shop Window display

### Deputy Mayor

10th November	Remembrance Sunday – Caerau
29th November	Christmas Window Shop display competition

**RESOLVED:** Information noted.

## **186 MINUTES**

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

The Confidential Minutes of the Joint Personnel and Finance Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019; copies of which had been circulated to Members. A discussion ensued relating to amendments made; Cllr G Thomas objected to amendments.

## MATTERS ARISING

### 187 MINUTE 152 CABINET'S REPORT ON PLAYING FIELDS AND PAVILIONS, CAT POLICY AND OPTIONS AVAILABLE

- (i) The following response received from the CAT Officer, Bridgend County Borough Council, with regard to the request for further information on the strategy to be developed for the management and operation of Newbridge Fields and to consider “option appraisal” for Maesteg Welfare Park similar to that of Newbridge Fields in Bridgend :

“The strategies (which will include option appraisals) for both Newbridge Fields and Maesteg Welfare Park will be discussed in the first instance by the CAT Steering Group on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Going forward all stakeholders which will include Maesteg Town Council will have an involvement; updated progress on the project will be advised.”

- (ii) Letter received from Head of Operations – Community Services, BCBC, regarding Playing Fields and Pavilions, CAT Policy and options available.

**RESOLVED:** To agenda the above for a future meeting.

### 188 MINUTE 156 MAESTEG BUS STATION PUBLIC TOILETS

E-mail received from Awen Cultural Trust advising that they are in the process of decommissioning the Town Hall in preparation for the redevelopment works; closure will be officially on/or shortly after 12th December 2019; therefore, the toilets will be closed from that date.

Awen advised that it has been a pleasure working with Maesteg Town Council to operate the toilets during the last months and they will continue to keep the Council updated with progress on the redevelopment over the next year and a half.

A discussion ensued on the closure of the bus station toilets and it was proposed that Council consider to provide portable toilets within the Market Square, location to be agreed.

It was agreed that a 3-month trial lease would be beneficial to ascertain:

- how portable toilets would work in the Market Square
- see if there is a demand for the toilets
- if the public abuse the toilets

It was decided that the tender process be initiated immediately with the proviso that the initial 3 month lease may be increased to 18 months.

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor and Clerk delegated to initiate the tender process.

**189 MINUTE 157**  
**TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND 2020/2021**

*Information e-mailed to all Councillors.*

*As with previous years, Bridgend County Borough Council continues to focus capital funding through the Town & Community Council Fund on bids that support Community Asset Transfer (CAT). With challenging budgets, CAT may allow community-based activities to continue with local partners, such as Town and Community Councils, to work in partnership with the Authority.*

The following responses received from Councillors:

- Notwithstanding that applications do not open until January 2020; suggestion put forward that the Council look to support - in some capacity - Maesteg FC with regards to their transfer of the pitch at Tudor playing fields.
- Quite happy to support schemes across the valley, as long as the Town Council is prepared to meet the match funding 50% and ongoing revenue costs as set out in the criteria. Caerau development trust are looking to improve their asset and that would qualify. Only right that every Ward be given an opportunity to submit eligible schemes for consideration!
- Given the reduction in elderly care accommodation in our valley plus the reduction in dementia care facilities, a proposal received

for this Council to enter into an asset transfer scheme of the Hyfrydol Home in Cemetery Road, with a view to forming a charity non-profit community group to offer future care in our community. Whilst sports and playing fields play a vital part within our valley, I believe that this is money better spent on a more vital community asset.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) To confirm action.
- (ii) To note the information received.

The following Motion received from Councillors:

- This council proposes in principle, to at least match fund applications to the Town and Community Council Fund, to the sum of £30,000. Applications will be welcomed from all groups that are going through the Community Asset Transfer process, and those groups should be assisted to an equal part, where possible, of the application put forward by Maesteg Town Council.

**RESOLVED:** To move motion.

**190 MINUTE 175**

**WEPA – BRIDGEND PAPERMILL ENHANCEMENT**

Received letter advising of the dates of the information sessions to be held regarding the above. *E-mailed to all Councillors for information.*

A further e-mail received from WEPA asking if the Council would be interested in meeting with members of the project team to discuss the proposals to enhance its operations at the Bridgend Paper Mills.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) Confirmation of action and to note the information.
- (ii) Clerk to invite members of the WEPA projects team and also Llangynwyd Middle Community Council to a future meeting to discuss the proposals to enhance its operations at the Bridgend Paper Mills.

## **191 LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2019**

**RESOLVED:** That the List of Payments made by the Council during the month of November 2019; copy of which had been circulated to Members, be accepted and confirmed. It was agreed that direct debits be added to the list of payments monthly and not quarterly as historically reported.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

## **192 FLYING START PLASNEWYDD**

Following a recent leak and need for refurbishment works, the Flying Start childcare setting at Plasnewydd Primary School has had to relocate temporarily to accommodation at Caerau Primary school.

Parents have been fully supportive of the situation and the actions taken. Two children were offered provision in the nearby Flying Start Garth setting.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

## **193 WAR MEMORIALS – MAESTEG & CAERAU**

Both War Memorials were cleaned by Marmor Memorials in preparation for Remembrance Sunday. Cobbles around the Caerau war memorial were made safe after Remembrance Sunday.

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

## **194 REFERRALS MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2019**

### **• STREETLIGHTS**

- Harvey Street
- Ferrier's Row
- Lane linking 11 and 22 Mill View
- Station Hill

**RESPONSE:** Orders have been placed for work to be done. Also note that streetlighting is changing to the new LED lights.

### **• RECYCLING CONTAINERS**

Recycling containers requested:

- Ewenny Road
- Mill View

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

- **FLY TIPPING TONNA ROAD**

Fly tipping accumulating at the rear of Tonna Road, including furniture, electrical goods and black bags.

**RESPONSE:** Council noted that this is an ongoing issue and a site meeting has been requested, together with a possible leaflet drop to the residents.

- **COMPLAINT ABOUT CHURCH STREET, MAESTEG**

Letter received highlighting the following issues:

- Cars driving the wrong way in a one-way street
- Youths scootering down the hill with no lights
- Cyclists cycling from Station Hill, crossing Commercial Street and down the hill of Church Street (again the wrong way)
- Illegal parking along Church Street making safe access difficult.

Permission given for details to be forwarded to SW Police and BCBC.

BCBC advised that all of the issues mentioned are matters that the police must deal with as they are the only agency with the power to do so; the Council has no authority with such matters.

**Awaiting response from SW Police.**

- **TRIPPING HAZARD**

Lady tripped over a drain on the pavement outside 5 Talbot Street, reported to BCBC Highways.

**AWAITING RESPONSE:**

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

## **195 NEWSLETTERS/BULLETINS/ POSTERS**

Available in Clerk's Office for Members' information:

- Hearing Matters Poster
- BAVO - Applications now open for Transformation 'Connected Communities' Grant April 2020 - March 2021
- Hartshorn House Coffee morning 6th December 2019

- Bavo Annual Impact Report <https://www.bavo.org.uk/annual-impact-reports>
- Cancer Research Maesteg – Annual Christmas Concert

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

**196 VISITS TO MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBER DURING NOVEMBER 2019**

As part of the 2019 November Remembrance the following groups visited the Chamber and Council Offices for a presentation by Mr R Meredith, followed by a visit to the War Memorial to pay their respects:

- Standing Playgroup, Nantyllyllon
- Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cynwyd Sant, Maesteg

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**197 STATEMENT - LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS (WALES) BILL**

Minister for Housing and Local Government introduced the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill to the National Assembly for Wales and issued a Written Statement to Assembly Members.

The Written Statement can be accessed via the Welsh Government website:<https://gov.wales/written-statement-local-government-and-elections-wales-bill>

E-mailed to all Councillors.

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

**198 BCBC PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL'S HOME-TO-SCHOOL/COLLEGE TRANSPORT PROVISION CONSULTATION**

Details received that the County Borough Council is currently undertaking a public consultation on proposals to change the Council's Home to School/College Transport Policy.

Details of the proposals, the consultation papers and details of the consultation events, are attached to this email and can also be found on the council's website:

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-council/equalities-and-engagement/consultations/current-consultations/>

Written responses to the consultation proposals required no later than 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020. *E-mailed to all Councillors.*

A discussion ensued with the following concerns expressed|:

- (i) how these proposals will affect the education of the pupils of our Valley
- (ii) affect the young people of the community of Caerau, recently listed as the 5<sup>th</sup> most deprived community in Wales
- (iii) attendance – young people no transport will not attend school, affect their education
- (iv) safe route to schools not completely in place
- (v) many residents had voiced concerns at a recent engagement session at Maesteg High School

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) Confirmation of action.
- (ii) Members complete their own responses
- (iii) Clerk respond on behalf of Maesteg Town Council

**199 WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION: A MORE EQUAL WALES - COMMENCING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

Welsh Government has launched an eight-week consultation - A More Equal Wales – Commencing the Socio-economic Duty. The consultation closes on the 17 January 2020.

Links to both the consultation documents and a Written Statement, delivered by Deputy Minister and Chief Whip, are available at:

<https://gov.wales/equality-act-2010-commencing-socio-economic-duty>  
<https://gov.wales/written-statement-more-equal-wales-commencing-socio-economic-duty>

The consultation seeks the views from members of the public and key stakeholders on which public bodies should be captured by the duty and

how the duty is implemented. The responses to the consultation will inform guidance to ensure the socio-economic duty works for public bodies to whom it applies and delivers for the people of Wales.

*E-mailed to all Councillors.*

**RESOLVED:**

- Confirmation of action
- Members to complete their own response
- Cllr W May to provide a response on behalf of Maesteg Town Council to be agreed at the next meeting of Council

**200 GYPSY AND TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION ASSESSMENT**

Opinion Research Services are currently conducting a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment on behalf of Bridgend County Borough Council, which is a statutory Assessment under the Housing (Wales) Act 2014. The first stage of this process is to identify all Gypsy and Traveller families residing within the County Borough (whether on sites or in bricks and mortar) before attempting to complete face to face interviews with the families.

[www.opinionresearch.co.uk/Birdgend](http://www.opinionresearch.co.uk/Birdgend)

E-mailed to all Councillors at the request of BCBC LDP

**RESOLVED:**

- Confirmation of action
- Councillors to complete their own response.

**201 LITTER BINS**

E-mails received from residents advising a lack of litter bins to deposit poop scoop bags; areas reported Maesteg Park, Turberville Estate, Nantyffyllon etc.

Members advised that this was a continuing issue. BCBC will not empty bins that are not along their street cleansing route. Following discussions it was

**RESOLVED:** That the Finance Committee look into the financial costs of providing bins and servicing them.

**202 LLYNFI ROAD CAR PARK TOILET**

Members noted that problems had been resolved with the above. Currently Supervisor on “sick leave”. Company resolving situation with regard to daily checks.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**203 CHRISTMAS TREE & CHOIR FESTIVAL**

Members noted that the 2019 Christmas tree & choir festival will be held 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> December in St Michael and All Angels Church, Maesteg, culminating with a carol service on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm, followed by mulled wine, mince pies and a raffle draw. Monies raised will be donated to Dyffryn Dementia Friends and Churches of the Parish.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**204 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

E-mail received from Antisemitism UK, who are in the process of researching how local authorities address antisemitism.

*E-mailed to all Councillors*

Members discussed the request and agreed that Maesteg Town Council is a minor authority that does not discriminate and all members adhere to the NOLAN Principles as included in the Code of Conduct.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk to respond on behalf of Maesteg Town Council.

**205 SUMMER ACTIVE 4 LIFE SCHEMES**

Received the 2019 report for the Summer Active 4 Life Schemes.

Participation/attendance details for Maesteg & Caerau:

	Week One	Week Two	Week Three	Week Four
Caerau	108	100	78	53
Maesteg	376	344	309	213
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>266</b>

E-mailed to all Councillors.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information and the report to be published on the Website.

## **206 CHRISTMAS SHOP DISPLAY WINNER**

The Mayor Cllr S Smith, Deputy Mayor Cllr A James and past Mayor Cllr I Williams judged the Christmas Shop Window display competition and the winning display was ME:ME in Castle Street.

The Mayor and Members of the Council sincerely thanked the Shops for participating which helped to enhance the Christmas Festivities.

Members congratulated all involved with the parade, especially the volunteers for their support and the companies who supplied the vehicles for the Parade. Again a spectacular event. Letters of thanks had been sent to all concerned.

### **RESOLVED:**

- confirmation of action
- official photographs and video of Parade Day to be uploaded to the website

## **207 FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

### **1. BRIDGEND COMMUNITY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT**

Request received from the above charity that provide bereavement support to families and individuals following the loss of loved ones. They offer support to adults and children (5-15 year olds) and have also recently built a memorial garden. Support families within Maesteg Town.

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

### **2. CANCER INFORMATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES (CISS)**

Request for financial support. Work closely with The Princess of Wales Hospital to ensure individuals receive the support they need to help them live with Cancer. The service is free and confidential and is delivered by a team of experienced staff all of whom are accredited by the British

Association of counselling and Psychotherapy. The team is supported by a network of local volunteers. Support patients within Maesteg Town.

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

**208 WALES DISTRICT AUDIT REPORT (CONFIDENTIAL)**

The Clerks left the meeting.

Discussion ensued on the report received from Wales District Audit.

**RESOLVED:**

A letter of response to be sent to Wales District Audit Officer, Mr D Evans; copy to be circulated to Members.

**209 ONE VOICE WALES**

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to join One Voice Wales organisation with immediate effect.

**210 DELEGATE REPORTS**

No Delegates reports received for November 2019.

**211 PLANS**

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

Ref: P/19/812/FUL  
Applicant: Mr H Marks  
Location: 27 Coegnant Road Maesteg CF34 0TD  
Proposal: First floor extension to rear

Ref: P/19/838/FUL  
Applicant: Forge Travel Ltd  
Location: Forge Travel Ltd Forge Industrial Estate Maesteg CF34 0AY  
Proposal: Detached garage for vehicles

Ref: P/19/811/OUT  
Applicant: Mr I Preece

Location: Plot 7 (next to no. 22) Llynfi Court Maesteg CF34  
9NJ

Proposal: Outline application for 1 dwelling

Ref: P/19/864/FUL

Applicant: Mr P Thatcher

Location: 27 Ystad Celyn Maesteg CF34 9LT

Proposal: Conversion of bungalow to two storey dwelling with  
extensions

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

## **212 PLANNING DETERMINATIONS**

Planning determinations decided between 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019 and  
27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 received from Bridgend County Borough Council  
were presented to Members for information.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**Read and accepted at a meeting of the Council  
held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

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**Mayor**