

# MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of the **Council** held remotely via Microsoft Teams and at the Council Meeting Room, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020**.

### **PRESENT:**

#### **COUNCILLORS:**

**A James (Mayor)**

L Beedle, R Collins, P Davies, R Davies, D K Edwards, P Jenkins, R Lewis, R Martin, W May, R Penhale-Thomas, C Reeves, G Thomas, L Thomas, P White and I Williams.

**APOLOGIES** for absence received from Councillor S Smith

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Cllrs R Collins, P Davies, D K Edwards, R Penhale-Thomas and P White 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.

Cllr L Thomas declared an interest in items that may relate to Awen Cultural Trust.

### **161. POLICE MATTERS**

Apologies were received from Sgt Evans and the following Crime figures were provided:

#### **Maesteg Crime Statistics for September 2019**

	Caerau / Nanty	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Llan	Total in category
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Dwelling burglary</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Burglary other</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Theft of vehicle</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Theft from vehicle</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>All other theft</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Damage</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Assault with injury</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

<b>Drugs</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Maesteg Crime Statistics for September 2020**

	<b>Caerau / Nanty</b>	<b>Maesteg East</b>	<b>Maesteg West</b>	<b>Llan</b>	<b>Total in category</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Drugs</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Dwelling burglary</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Att. 2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Burglary other</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Theft of vehicle</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Theft from vehicle</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>All other theft</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Damage</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Violence against the person</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Domestic related occurrence</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

Sgt Evans advised by email:

We are aware of an increase in anti-social behaviour in and around the Maesteg Town centre and are working with our partner agencies to tackle this problem. A number of the youths involved are already due a joint visit from Youth offending team and Police.

Two officers have returned to Maesteg station, PC Hunter and PC Kear who are very familiar with the area and the issues and are already working on this problem.

Sgt Lea, who also covers the area is looking again at what actions can be put in place to stop this developing trend.

Members discussed the figures and were advised that a Maesteg West Ward member had met with PC Kear as a result of a joint initiative between BCBC and Inspector Davies where they are looking at identifying 'ring leaders' in an ongoing live investigation.

The Deputy Mayor also advised members that he had recently been talking to the local PCSO regarding similar issues of ASB in Caerau, who advised that this is also being looked at by SW Police.

A member raised the request that crime figures are broken down further and to ask why there is such an increase in violence against persons.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk to ask Sgt that crime figures are broken down further and to ask why there is such an increase in violence against persons.

**162. MAYORAL EVENTS**

3<sup>rd</sup> September      Delivered thank you bouquet of flowers to volunteer R Meredith for all the work on the Maesteg Forgotten Soldier.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**163. MINUTES**

The Following Minutes:

- **Full Council** – 01/09/2020
- **Events Committee** – 15/09/2020
- **Property, H&S Committee** – 22/09/2020

copies of which had been circulated to Members, were read, accepted as a true record, all recommendations agreed and signed by the Mayor.

- **MTC CAT Grant Panel** – 17/09/2020

Following the recommendations, it was noted that within the budget Maesteg Town Council had allocated £50,000.00 towards the MTC CAT Grant which is an excess of £20,000.00 therefore no problem with the additional funds requested.

A member raised the issue of a potential conflict of interest with the panel due to there being a BCBC Cabinet Member and BCBC Officer on the committee and advised that this should be checked with BCBC Monitoring Officer for clarification as to the legality of the panel before agreeing to the allocation of grant funds.

The Acting Clerk advised members that the Monitoring officer had requested information on the MTC CAT Grant Panel.

Who set up the group BCBC or MTC and what are the terms of reference for the group?

Acting Clerk advised the Monitoring Officer:

- The MTC CAT Grant panel was agreed following the successful T&CC Fund bid however funding was awarded under the Council's

CAT Fund instead of the T&CC Capital Grant scheme to ensure that as many projects as possible can be progressed.

- Full Council discussed the MTC CAT Grant in July 2020 meeting and has been listed as minute 60.
- The MTC CAT Grant Scheme panel met 22 July 2020
- Full Council agreed the minutes and the recommendations were discussed minute no.94
- The Scheme was then open to the sports clubs and closed 31 August 2020
- The panel then met 17 September to discuss the applications – minutes to be ratified 6 October 2020

No response received from the monitoring officer.

Concerns that the CAT grant is being given to clubs who are not actively pursuing CAT as the funds were raised for clubs that were actively pursuing CAT,

Propose that recommendations are accepted on the provision of no objections from the monitoring officer. Cllr W May asked for his objections to be noted.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **164. MINUTE 114**

#### **MAYORAL EVENTS**

Flowers and thank you letter delivered by the Mayor to Mr R Meredith  
03/09/2020

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

### **165. MINUTE 116**

#### **LITTER BINS**

Still waiting for response.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk to chase response

### **166. MINUTE 119**

#### **DOG BAG REQUESTS**

Still Waiting for response.

167. **MINUTE 120**  
**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING MR HENRY PATRICK WALSH A WW2 POW**

Still waiting for invoice for the welsh cakes.

**RESOLVED:** Chair of Finance to chase invoice

168. **MINUTE 121**  
**REFERRALS – JULY**

• **OVERGROWN TREES ON LAND BEHIND COEGNANT ROAD, NANTYFFYLLON**

**RESPONSE:** BCBC can confirm that the trees have been inspected.

The trees have been inspected and they have been found to stable with no signs of ground movement, and further there are no obvious signs of disease or decay that warrants any work at this time. Further the trees are not causing any damage to property, as far as the officer could identify.

Whilst noting the concerns of the residents and the issues they are having with regard to TV/Satellite reception, the approved Council policy in regard to tree maintenance is not for works to be undertaken for this reason. The trees are not causing any obstruction to the highway and consequently there are no plans to undertake any maintenance at this time to the area.

Clerk forwarded the response to the Member who raised the initial referral and the member requested that a further email stating:

*It was promised by the Authority that they would manage the reclaimed site and keep in a good condition, and to be of no nuisance to residents, it is now a nuisance in the fact they have failed to manage site, and have left to run wild. It is interfering with the satellite signal to some residents, one who is over 90 and lived there for 70 years, this curtailing her only entertainment, particularly in these harsh times. No one is asking for removed only a reduction of height and to a manageable state. There are precedents set for this and BCBC have used their powers before – Oakwood Estate being one of them*

**RESPONSE:** Thank you for your email regarding ongoing concerns relating to trees at rear of the properties.

The policy referenced was approved by the Council, and introduced to ensure a consistent approach was being followed across the authority, by departments who have extensive land ownings.

The policy was considered carefully and approved by the members, which included consideration of the legal position in relation to light/satellite signals and other such matters. This was in response to the significant number of requests that Departments were receiving and was putting a strain on the limited revenue budgets available for maintenance of trees. In consideration of the trees referred to in this particular case upon checking for stability, condition, and seeing no issues immediately evident, it would seem unreasonable to take action at this juncture in accordance with the policy.

This policy as well as protecting the interest of trees from ad hoc disturbance also ensures that the limited revenue budgets available to departments is targeted to those trees that have immediate issues regarding stability, disease or are causing damage to private properties.

As such it is difficult to justify action in this case, and whilst reference to previous locations are noted they may have been undertaken prior to the implementation of the approved policy.

Members discussed the responses and were advised by a Caerau Ward Member that another BCBC Caerau Ward Member is currently also investigating this issue on behalf of the residents.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**169. MINUTE 123**

**EASING LOCKDOWN - CAR PARKING AND TOILETS**

Email received from JC Decaux and forwarded to all Councillors 07/09/2020 advising that the APC in Maesteg shall be reopened from week commencing 14 Sep. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this slight delay.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**170. MINUTE 124**

**PROPOSAL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL BUDGET BE SET FOR EACH WARD**

*Z Shell advised: Further to discussions, Nolan's have confirmed that they will be happy to deal directly with yourselves (avoiding complicated legal and procurement issues for us) and set up a disposal account that you (or contractors working on your behalf) can use. But honouring the negotiated rate that we at BCBC pay for our disposal. This is £135 per tonne + VAT.*

Nolan Recycling have been contacted and the account is in the process of being created, the following information has been provided:

- Drivers can just turn up between the hours of 7am - 5pm Monday - Friday and 7am - 12pm on Saturday.
- We do not accept:
  - Hazardous or chemical waste.
  - Asbestos
  - Gas cylinders
  - Petrol or diesel
  - Medical Waste
  - Paint cans (unless empty or dried out)
- There are extra charges on the following:
  - Fridges & freezers:
    - Small/Large: £20.00
    - Catering Size: £35.00
  - Tyres £3.00
  - Mattresses: Single £10.00 Double £20.00

All drivers must wear PPE (a high visibility vest, steel toe cap boots & gloves) when on sight and follow the 5mph rule.

Acting Clerk advised that the account paperwork has been signed and sent back to Nolan Recycling. Members are now requested to contact the Clerk with areas of fly tipping and the Environmental contractor will be asked to clear the waste and take it to Nolan Recycling.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

#### 171. **MINUTE 125**

##### **PROPOSAL FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

Following an email to BCBC Traffic & Transportation by Cllr P White a response was received and forwarded to all Councillors on 07/09/2020 advising: that the speed/traffic surveys should have commenced on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Members noted that they were unsure of the exact locations of the speed surveys as one in particular seemed to be in the wrong location. Members were also unaware that all 6 locations that were requested for surveys had been surveyed.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk to ask for:

- the results of the surveys,
- the exact locations of the surveys
- seek clarification that all 6 requested areas were surveyed

**172. MINUTE 129**

**REFERRALS TO BCBC - JULY**

• **OVERGROWTH - CROWN ROW TO CROWN ROAD**

To date this work still hasn't been carried out and a further email sent to BCBC 25/08/2020.

Acting Clerk queried with the local member as to whether the work had been carried out as no response received from BCBC. Ward Member advised that yes, the work had been done.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**173. MINUTE 131**

**ONE VOICE WALES – WEBINAR TRAINING**

Email received with list of dates for Webinar Training and emailed to the 4 Cllrs who requested training.

OVW advised of the names and dates for training 10/09/2020

Further training sessions will be scheduled in October if any Cllr wishes to attend.

Chair of Personnel advised that he had attended the training sessions and advise that they are very well presented and that more members should partake in the training. Also advised that the provision of training should be included in the budget.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information and add Member Training to the budget for 2021/22

**174. MINUTE 136**

**2020 BULB PLANTING**

Along with the requests from community groups, Primary Schools were contacted for their requests and a total of 32 sacks requested.

32 sacks of Daffodils and 32 packs of Mixed Crocus were ordered 09/09/2020 and are to be delivered to Caerau Market Garden to in readiness to be distributed to the community groups and primary schools who requested them.

Bulbs arrived 22/09/2020, list of organisations etc provided to Cllr A James in order to contact the groups to arrange delivery / collection.

It was noted by the Mayor that the mixed crocus were delivered in one sack and not in packs as described on the website.



**RESOLVED:** To note the information

175. **MINUTE 138**

**REFERRALS MONTH SINCE LAST MEETING**

• **POTHOLES**

2 large potholes Belmont Close

**RESPONSE:** Thank you for contacting Bridgend County Borough Council regarding the Pothole at Belmont Close, Garth, Maesteg. I can confirm the location has been inspected and the need for works has been identified. An order has been issued for works as requested for the Pothole as soon as resources permit.

• **REQUEST TO MOVE SOUTH PARADE STREET SIGN**

South Parade street sign not visible enough to motorists, request to move to better location

**RESPONSE:** an order has been raised for the sign to be repositioned. The work will be undertaken as soon as resources permit.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

176. **MINUTE 139**

**RBL POPPY APPEAL**

Maesteg branch RBL advised:

- that they are no longer responsible for organising Remembrance Sunday or the route the parade makes on the day.
- the Branch will be attending the War Memorial at 11am with their standard bearer. The Mayor is welcome to join them, however they WILL NOT be organising the laying of the wreaths as in previous years – i.e. by not calling out names/groups to lay wreaths.
- Mr Bevan requests that Maesteg Town Council issue a statement that there will be no Remembrance Day Parade and that the RBL will not be coordinating a ceremony, people / groups that had wreaths last year can collect their wreaths this year from Mr Bevan by telephoning 01656 734512. Unfortunately, he does not have any spare wreaths this year. On collection of wreaths Mr Bevan will advise that it is up to individuals / groups to lay their wreaths during the day and are asked not to congregate in groups and to adhere to social distancing measures.

Members discussed this issue at length as Maesteg Town Council has had no previous involvement with Remembrance Sunday. With the current Covid-19 restrictions and that MTC has cancelled the Christmas Parade it would not be practical to arrange a Remembrance Sunday parade this year. Members **agreed**

that Maesteg Town Council need to discuss with RBL to enable a safer way to proceed with Remembrance Sunday this year. It was also noted that this would require completing necessary Road Closure applications.

Other issues include:

- every group/organisation will want to lay their wreaths at the same time
- difficulty to manage gatherings
- press release should be on behalf of RBL

It was **proposed** that a sub-committee be set up to meet with the RBL as soon as possible to discuss:

1. What will happen in 2020
2. What will happen in future years?

The sub-committee is to be made up of Cllrs: A James, R Collins, R Davies and R Lewis

**RESOLVED:** Acting Clerk to set up meeting with the RBL

**177. MINUTE 148**

**FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

Letter of thanks and acknowledgement for financial support received from:

- Marie Curie Nurses in Bridgend
- Llynfi Rivercare Group

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**178. MINUTE 151**

**CENTREGREAT PROPOSAL FOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTING 2020**

Acting clerk has spoken to Centregreat with regards to is Maesteg is having a smaller tree this year, no parade and no barriers etc would the costs of Christmas lighting be lower and negate the costs of installing the infrastructure for the 25ft Christmas Tree outside Council building?

Centregreat have advised that there would be no additional costs to Maesteg Town Council this year – the costs will include the installation of the tree stand into the footpath.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**179. MINUTE 152**

**PURCHASE OF SELECTION BOXES**

Cadbury's Direct Gifts telephoned to advise that they will offer an order then invoice over the telephone but are unable to offer the corporate discounts.

Quote for this including delivery:

Net: £1,563.55

VAT: £ 312.71

TOTAL: **£1,876.26**

Originally when pricing the selection boxes online, the order would have to be paid when placed.

£1,507.73 – 113.08 (7.5% discount) = **£1394.65 + VAT + Delivery**

Members discussed the quote for a purchase order and invoice and agreed that it was financially safer to proceed with a purchase order and invoice rather than pay online as there are an unknown delivery costs.

**RESOLVED:** Acting Clerk to proceed with the purchase order.

**180. MINUTE 154**

**OTHER CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES IDEAS**

- The press release was agreed by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and emailed to all Councillors 17/09/2020 and sent to ITCS to update the website.
- Acting Clerk tried to contact the managers of the 2 care homes and only able to talk to the manager at Bryncelyn who advised a Toiletries Hamper e.g. DOVE/SIMPLE branded soap, body wash, shampoo, Boxes of tissues

Members agreed to the suggestion and Cllr P White will forward an email contact for Ty Llwynderw.

**RESOLVED:** Acting Clerk to contact the manager at Ty Llwynderw

**181. MINUTE 156**

**THE RESOLUTIONS FROM JULY 2020 MEETING**

**PROPERTY, H&S RECCOMENDATIONS TO FULL COUNCIL**

**7) Clerk to contact a Chartered Surveys company for a detailed Building Survey – to include roof and damp survey**

Acting Clerk chased the one company for a response in order for the quotes to be comparable. Response received from all companies, the Chair of Property, H&S has compared the quotes and Ashley Davies Architects Limited has been contacted to proceed with the Building Condition Survey Report and the Repair and Maintenance Plan. Should the building survey report necessitate a structural investigation a quote for this has also been received.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**182. MINUTE 157**

**BOILER REPLACEMENT QUOTES**

Acting Clerk contacted the 2 companies 23/09/2020 and requested that they provide a full review of the heating system within the building to include the boilers, pipes and radiators and the companies need to be made aware of the GradeII\* listing status.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**183. MINUTE 159**

**FIRE ALARM SERVICE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

ADT were contacted 23/09/2020 to request quote for completing all recommendations to include adding an additional fire alarm in the cleaner's cupboard.

ADT coming on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to discuss options and provide quote.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**184. MINUTE 160**

**RE-OPENING THE TOILETS – PROGRESS ON USING THE DISABLED TOILET**

Chair of Property, H&S met with the candidate 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and it is estimated that she will be starting on 12/10/2020. Cleaning supplies etc have been ordered.

Chair of Property, H&S has been contacted by the candidate to advise that she is unable to proceed with the employment due to personal issues.

Acting Clerk has downloaded the NHS QR contact tracing poster from Gov.uk specifically for the Maesteg Town Council Public Toilet in readiness for when the toilet opens.

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

**185. LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2020**

**RESOLVED:**

That the tables of Expenditure (£16,401.45), Income (£128.42) during the month of September 2020; copies of which had been circulated to Members, which included the addition of DD payments, Faster Online Payments and Bank Reconciliation be accepted, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

A copy of the Receipts and Payments Account was also provided for Councillors which include expenditure against the budget and the budget remaining. An income analysis was also provided.

A copy of the VAT Reclaim for quarter 2 (July – September) was also provided for Councillors. It was **agreed** for the Acting Clerk to proceed with reclaiming the VAT for quarter 2.

**186. RESOLVED: THAT THE COUNCIL GO INTO COMMITTEE**

**Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102 ‘Members of the public/press can be excluded by resolution if publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of confidential nature of the business and arising out of the business to be transacted’**

**190. RESOLVED: THAT THE COUNCIL COME OUT OF COMMITTEE**

**191. AGENDA ITEM 9**

**TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM CLLR W MAY**

1. I propose that under CAT that Maesteg Town Council investigate the options and costings of taking over play areas.
2. I also propose that Maesteg Town Council have open discussions with BCBC CAT Officer to seek to take over Maesteg Recreation Welfare Park under the same terms as Newbridge Fields

Following a discussion on the feasibility of the proposal, Cllr W May withdrew the motion and Council agreed to place on hold for the future should BCBC request play areas be part of CAT process.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

**192. AGENDA ITEM 10**

**TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM CLLR G THOMAS**

I would like to propose that Maesteg Town Council extend the current BCBC Covid recovery fund to other areas of the valley that are not included in this scheme. I would like to set aside £40K to be allocated to this project on the same rules as the BCBC scheme (but with a lower grant Cap of 2.5K and still 80% grant – 20% contribution) it can be equally shared across the 4 wards – to allow grants to be allocated to help commercial businesses especially in the hospitality industry to improve the outdoor facilities to encourage their use during the winter months. With the increasing risk of Covid-19 I think it is imperative that the council act to help businesses prepare for the winter season ahead. There are budgeted revenue items unspent from various budget lines

that would allow this cost to be covered without effecting the councils reserves or ongoing spending.

The Acting Clerk advised Members that following a number of emails concerning this Agenda Item, advice was sought from OVW and the following information was provided:

*the only powers currently available would be the general powers available under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the Power of Wellbeing also called General Powers see NALC Legal Topic Note (LTN) attached explaining both powers.*

*You will note that the total expenditure under Section 137 and the Power of Wellbeing in any one financial year is limited by Welsh Government (WG) see letter attached in relation to 2020/21.*

*If the Council's expenditure under the aforementioned powers has not reached the limits set by WG for this year i.e £8.32 per elector then the Council could consider setting up a fund within the limited finance it has left to support local businesses.*

*The question of which type of business if any the Council should support if such a fund was established is a matter for the Council to determine when it debates the proposal.*

*Unlike the County Borough Council that will have a responsibility for the economic development of the County Borough a Community or Town Council has no such specific powers other than Section 137 or the Power of Wellbeing that it can for such purposes and as you can see there is a limit to the total amount a Council can spend in any one year on expenditure under both powers combined.*

The Acting Clerk had also sought advice from Audit Wales and they advise against giving grants to businesses.

Members deliberated the proposal as the BCBC fund is limited to the town centre hospitality businesses only. It was **agreed** to discuss this further at a projects committee. Cllr W May objected to the proposal and objected for it to be discussed further at Projects Committee.

**RESOLVED:** To add as an agenda item for the Projects Committee

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **193. COVID-19 SPECIFIC UPDATES**

Emailed to all Councillors for information:

- BCBC Media Updates
- Welsh Government updates

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

### **194. REFERRALS MONTH SINCE LAST MEETING**

#### **▪ POTHOLES**

Outside the Star Hotel on Commercial Street.

**RESPONSE:** Awaiting response

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

### **195. BCBC BUDGET CONSULTATION**

BCBC are currently planning the BCBC budget consultation, and hope that once again they are able to engage with TCCs this year to encourage participation in the consultation within your individual communities.

The timings for the budget consultation this year are Monday 19 October to Sunday 13 December, so it would also be useful to know if you have any meetings during this time that you would like us to attend to give you an overview of the consultation or engage with residents in an online session – we will only have the capacity to do one session per TCC.

**RESOLVED:** Acting Clerk to invite BCBC Consultation team to a Full Council Meeting.

### **196. VANDELISED BINS**

BCBC have experienced quite a bit of vandalism to our bins in the town centre, in one week 4 bins were destroyed and BCBC have had to remove them, they are not repairable and we do not at present have any replacements. BCBC are trying to carry out some refurbishment work on old bins but that will take some time, there has been further damage around the area to several other bins, which residents think BCBC are taking the bins away.

BCBC are concerned at present with the amount of vandalism to the bins in the main street. BCBC do not have the resources to keep replacing. There have been several requests from various councillors for additional bins in certain areas, is there an opportunity for the Town Council to pay for the extra bins and cleaner

streets service them? BCBC willing to look at the areas with the various councillors.

Members discussed the need for the bins and request costs involved to replace them as requested.

**RESOLVED:** Acting Clerk to reply requesting costs for replacing the bins.

**197. REQUEST TO SITE A DEFIBRILLATOR ON MTC BUILDING**

Members were provided with a letter received from the Deputy Mayor from Maesteg First Responders requesting whether they can place a locked, heated cabinet and defibrillator to be sited on the outside of MTC building.

Acting Clerk has contacted BCBC Conservation Officer to ascertain whether this is feasible due to the Grade II\* listed building status. The following response was provided: *Listed building consent will be required for the installation of the defibrillator as it is a material alteration that will affect the architectural or historic character of the listed structure.*

*If you wish to pursue this proposal, details, such as the dimensions of the defibrillator and the proposed position on the building where the unit is to be fixed, with the position of the electrical connection point will be required.*

*A link to what a heritage statement is, can be found:*

*<https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/heritage-impact-assessment>*

*There is no charge for a listed building consent application but there is a charge of £100 for pre-application advice.*

Members discussed the need for a defibrillator and the need for the listed building consent. Members agreed that Maesteg Town Council should pay for pre-application advice and apply for listed building consent.

**RESOLVED:** Acting Clerk to contact BCBC Conservation Officer for pre-application advice.

**198. NEWSLETTERS**

- Bridgend Carers

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



**199. ADM NURSERIES – HANGING BASKETS**

ADM Nurseries telephoned to enquire whether Maesteg Town Council are happy to go ahead with the Summer hanging baskets for 2021. The quote is the same prices as 2020 = £19.50 per basket as they need to start ordering the plants for 2021.

Members discussed the hanging baskets and that they are watered by a different company and whether or not they are best value. It was agreed that the provision of hanging baskets should go out to tender for 2021.

**RESOLVED:** Acting Clerk to put the provision of hanging baskets to tender.

**200. MAESTEG CEMETERY**

Cllr Richard Collins to updated Cllrs of the ongoing situation regarding the unsatisfactory state of Maesteg Cemetery (extended part) - number of issues relating to the conditions underfoot, as well as the general maintenance of the burial ground. The issues include the poor condition of the graves and the lack of maintenance.

A member reminded Council that we entered into an agreement with BCBC a few years ago but it didn't come to fruition, however Maesteg Town Council still have £60,000.00 in reserves to assist with maintenance.

Another member advised that MTC shouldn't go ahead with any maintenance as this is an issue for the local BCBC Ward Member to take it up with the relevant BCBC Cabinet Member and Director.

**RESOLVED:** Acting Clerk to write to the BCBC Cabinet Member and Director with the issues.

**201. FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS  
LLYNFI WOODLAND GROUP**

We are writing on behalf of the local community woodland group to ask for the Town Council's assistance with funding to help us continue to meet our aims and objectives which are as follows:

To promote and environmentally enhance the woodland area known as The Spririt of Llynfi/ Ysbryd y Llynfi for the benefit of the public, particularly the residents of the Llynfi Valley and surrounding areas, in partnership with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and other bodies where appropriate by:

- Enhancing biodiversity and access to green spaces through volunteering,
- Advancing the education of the public through sustainable development,

- Contributing to the protection, enhancement and rehabilitation of the woodland site for the wellbeing of current and future generations,
- Providing opportunities for educational, social and recreational activities,
- Conserving and promoting the local heritage to raise the profile of the site both locally and further afield.

As a not for profit group, we have been fortunate to be able to fundraise to carry out specific projects on the site and have a bank of equipment. We however have costs such as insurance for our activities and equipment, (subsidised through Keep Wales Tidy) of approximately £100 pa, accessible meeting room costs £50 pa and volunteer out of pocket expenses for training etc. £50. A grant of £200, should funds be available, would help us to focus on projects that benefit the site directly.

We are pleased to have been able to link in with council representatives and look forward to opportunities to work together, improving awareness, access and facilities on this wonderful outdoor asset for the benefit of the wider community.

The Llynfi Woodland Group provided a recent bank statement as they have not previously requested funding from Maesteg Town Council.

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

## 202. **DELEGATES REPORTS**

Members were provided with a Delegates Report from the Post Office Feasibility Group meetings. It was agreed to add the Post Office Feasibility to the Projects Committee.

**RESOLVED:** To add to the Projects Committee.

## 203. **PLANNING**

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

The following applications received no objections:

Ref: P/20/610/FUL  
 Applicant: Mrs R Reed  
 Location: 61a Neath Road Maesteg CF34 9PH  
 Proposal: Single storey side extension

Ref: P/20/612/FUL

Applicant: Mr S Williams  
Location: Maesteg Ambulance Station Heol Tywith Maesteg CF34 0TW  
Proposal: Change of use of former ambulance station to a small trade distribution centre

Ref: A/20/21/ADV  
Applicant: Mr S Williams  
Location: Maesteg Ambulance Station Heol Tywith Maesteg CF34 0TW  
Proposal: 3no. non-illuminated signs

Ref: P/20/621/FUL  
Applicant: Mr P Hitchcock  
Location: 66 Salisbury Road Maesteg CF34 9EH  
Proposal: Remove existing kitchen & construct new extension to form kitchen/dining/family area

Ref: P/20/573/FUL  
Applicant: Miss A Grabham  
Location: 12b High Street Maesteg CF34 0BW  
Proposal: Attic conversion to provide bedroom to include dormer to side and rear elevations

Ref: P/20/261/FUL  
Applicant: N Williams  
Location: 8 Lansbury Crescent Maesteg CF34 9LY  
Proposal: Ground floor bedroom extension

Ref: P/20/614/FUL  
Applicant: Mr B Stokes  
Location: 8 Bryn Celyn Maesteg CF34 9LS  
Proposal: Two storey side extension with pitched roof dormers to front and rear

**Read and accepted at a remote meeting of the Council  
held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**

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**Mayor**