

# MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of the **Royal British Legion Sub-Committee** held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020**.

### **PRESENT:**

**COUNCILLORS:**        **A James (Mayor)**  
                                 R Collins, R Davies

Maesteg Branch Royal British Legion:        S Bevan + one branch member

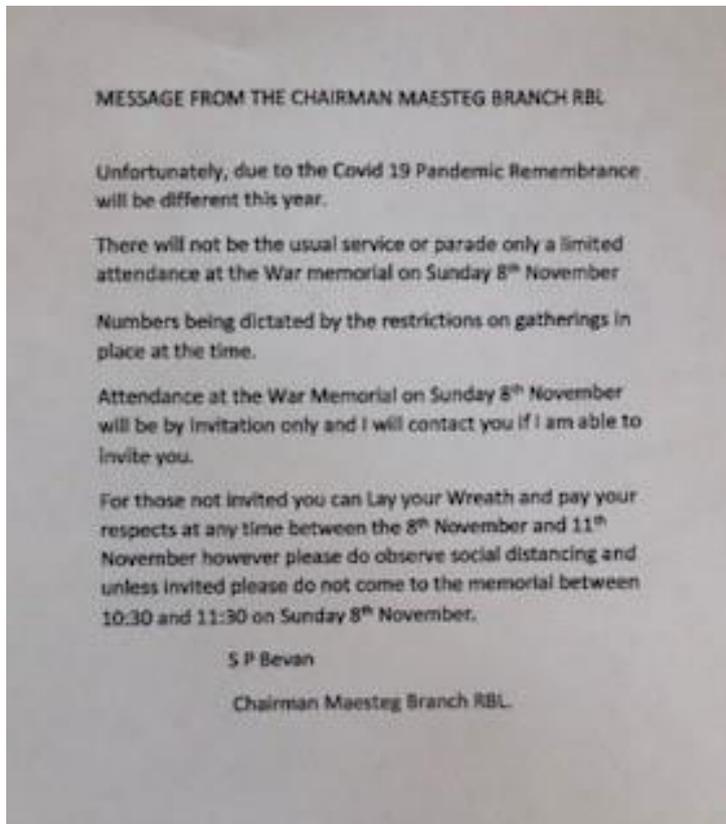
**APOLOGIES** for absence received from Councillor R Lewis

### **215. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2020**

The Chairman of the Maesteg Branch of Royal British Legion advised the sub-committee that Royal British Legion branch have been given permission to continue with Remembrance Sunday on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020. This year the branch will be attending the war memorial with a selected list of organisations who have been invited for a short service before laying wreaths at 11am. The number of people invited will not exceed 30 people:

Mayor	RBL Branch Members	RBL Standard Bearer	Chaplin, Rev Martyn
Bugler	RAF	Welsh Guards	Royal Navy
Burma Star	Merchant Navy	Royal Engineers	Life Guards
Conservative Party	Labour Party	Independent Party	Plaid Cymru

Members raised the question of SW Police and whether they will be in attendance to monitor the number of people in attendance. The Llynfi Valley are renowned for the numbers that honour those that lost their lives for their country on Remembrance Sunday and members understand that all will want to lay their wreaths. It was discussed that with the Firebreak Restrictions and previous Welsh Government Regulations it was hoped that organisations and individuals would adhere to all social distancing guidelines. The Maesteg RBL advised that with every wreath collected they have been advised the below:



The Chairman also asked that the war memorials are cleaned before Remembrance Sunday as this is the responsibility of Maesteg Town Council to which the Clerk advised that the stone mason would be contacted.

The Chairman queried when the building would be open for organisations to collect their wreaths. Previously the Clerk and the Chairman had agreed the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday, however with the Firebreak restrictions coming into effect from 6pm Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October permission was needed for this to proceed. Members discussed the Firebreak restrictions and that only essential shops / businesses were able to open and it was agreed that the Chairman and RBL were unable to open the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday. It was agreed that the Chairman and other RBL Branch members would be in the basement of the Council Offices on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October and would advertise this on social media.

The Chairman also advised members that usually the Maesteg Branch RBL generate approximately £14,000 annually with the Poppy Appeal, however they are unable to proceed with this in 2020.

## **216. FUTURE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAYS**

The Chairman of the Maesteg Branch of Royal British Legion advised the sub-committee that as previously advised the RBL are no longer allowed to organise parades for Remembrance Sunday as they are not insured. They are happy to discuss the route from St Michael's Church to the War Memorial, however they

are not allowed to organise road closures or to police the event. This was discussed and agreed to reconvene at a meeting in September 2021 to discuss further.

**217. REQUEST TO PUBLICISE NO PARADE IN 2020**

The Chairman requested that Maesteg Town Council publicise on behalf of the RBL that there will be no service or parade on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020. However, organisations and individuals are able to lay wreaths until Armistice day 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Members agreed to discuss a suitable post for the website and social media.

**RESOLVED:** Mayor and Deputy Mayor to write press release for Website and Social Media

The Mayor thanked the Chairman and branch member for attending the meeting. Members then discussed the wording of the post for the website and social media

**Recommendations:**

1. The Sub-Committee would like to recommend to Council that a sum of £500 be donated to Maesteg Branch Royal British Legion in lieu of lost fundraising revenue due to Covid-19
2. Due to the current Firebreak restrictions the Chairman of RBL is willing to be at the building on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 10am – 1pm for those that have yet to collect their wreaths.

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

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**Mayor**