

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, 12th January 2021**.

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS:

A James (Mayor)

R Collins, P Davies, R Davies, K Edwards, R Lewis,
R Martin, R Penhale-Thomas, C Reeves, G Thomas,
L Thomas, and I Williams.

APOLOGIES for absence received from Councillors L Beedle, P Jenkins, W May and S Smith.

Apologies also received from SW Police.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllrs R Collins, P Davies, K Edwards and R Penhale-Thomas 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 relating to Maesteg Town Hall.

Cllrs R Davies and A James declared an interest in items relating to Caerau Market Garden.

316. STRATEGIES FOR MAESTEG WELFARE PARK

The Mayor welcomed S Green from Just Solutions to give an overview of the current Strategies for 3 parks within Bridgend County Borough.

For all 3 parks it is expected to identify potential alternative models/approaches to:

- ensure that sporting and community activities are protected for future generations and in a sustainable manner;
- address the issues of cost alongside improving and maintaining the assets;
- enable different collaborative models to operate assets under new fit for purpose governance arrangements.

The proposed approach has been designed to focus on delivering sustainable sporting outcomes for the communities to include:

- Resilient cohesive communities through stronger clubs/community organisations;
- Better community amenities that include infrastructure plans for 5-15 years, improved sporting activity, encouraging healthy activities and wellbeing.
- Council Savings
- Successful business models making the case for investment, generating more income and reducing running costs.
- Delivering Welsh Government's Wellbeing of Future Generations Goals and Sport Wales strategic priorities.
- Preparing a draft and final end of Project report for client approval i.e. Option Appraisals / Feasibility Studies for each site in accordance with the specification.

Members thanked the S Green for the joining the meeting and asked the following:

You have been employed by BCBC, if there any timescales for this work and are you aware of how much savings need to be made by BCBC as none of the other stakeholders would be in a financial situation to take over the welfare park?

S Green advised that Stage 1 of the strategy (the information gathering) is hoped to be completed by the end of this financial year, however no formal timescale has been set by BCBC. It is then hoped that Stage 2 would be completed by Spring 2022.

With regards to costings, one suggestion is that MTC could employ the grounds maintenance staff via TUPE however the details of this would-be part Stage 1 information gathering. It was noted that the prosperity of the Welfare Park should be at the forefront of the strategy and not financial savings.

In the past it has been difficult in to ascertain how much assets cost to run / maintain do you have a breakdown of this?

S Green advised that this is part of Strategy 1 information gathering and will be presented at the end of Stage 1 within the report.

It was **proposed** by Cllr R P-T and seconded by Cllr G T that a working group be set up to liaise directly with S Green and report back to Council.

A member had concerns as to why only 3 parks had been chosen for the Strategy Consultation when there are 2 other large parks within the Borough?

S Green advised that this should be directed to G Smith at BCBC.

RESOLVED: that:

- Cllrs R Collins, K Edwards, A James, R Lewis and R Penhale-Thomas form the Working Group
- Clerk contact G Smith and ask why other parks in the Borough have been omitted from the strategy

317. MAYORAL EVENTS

- 1st Dec – Switch on of Christmas lights
- 4th Dec – Judged Christmas poster competition
- 5th Dec – 50th Wedding Anniversary
- 6th Dec – Judged Christmas shop window display with past Mayor Cllr S Smith and Deputy Mayor Cllr R Davies
- 11th Dec – Christmas Elf Competition announcement
- 15th Dec – delivered Christmas gift bags to Bryncelyn care home
- 16th Dec – 50th Wedding Anniversary
- 17th Dec – 60th Wedding Anniversary
- 18th Dec – Judged Elf competition
- 19th Dec – delivered Christmas gift bags to Ty Llwynderw care home
- 19th Dec – delivered prizes for the Elf competition
- 20th Dec – delivered gift to Ty Newydd care home
- 21st Dec – delivered gifts to another care home located in Maesteg Park
- 21st – 24th – along with the Deputy Mayor delivered hampers on behalf of CDT, Menshed, Salvation Army and Special Families
- 8th Jan – Contacted by Welsh Blood Service to donate blood and promote the next Welsh Blood service session in Maesteg

RESOLVED: To note the information

318. MINUTES

The Following Minutes:

- **Full Council** – 01/12/2020

copies of which had been circulated to Members, pending a couple of corrections were read and accepted as a true record.

The Following Minutes:

- **Extraordinary Meeting** – 04/01/2020

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

MATTERS ARISING

319. MINUTE 279

WELSH WATER

Link for the Welsh Water Community fund emailed to all Councillors that may be of interest to any community groups in Maesteg.

<http://www.dwrcymru.com/en/Community-Fund.aspx>

RESOLVED: To note the information.

320. MINUTE 284

PURCHASE OF SELECTION BOXES

Refund of timed delivery received 23/12/2020

RESOLVED: To note the information.

321. MINUTE 285

OTHER CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

Toiletry gift bags delivered both the care homes 15/12/2020

Email received on behalf of the Residents at Ty Llwynderw to thank you for the gifts received 15/12/2020 from Maesteg Town Council. *The gifts will be greatly appreciated by each individual not only due to the current Covid situation but by those whose families live far and wide.*

Further email received from a new care home 'Tynewydd' requesting whether they would also be receiving gifts for their 13 residents who have mental health and complex needs? Mayor delivered a selection box for each of the residents as a gesture of goodwill as we were unable to guarantee delivery of items from suppliers before Christmas.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

322. MINUTE 291

FUTURE AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS IN WALES

Maesteg Town Council have been advised of Audit Wales' Schedule for the new audit arrangements. Maesteg Town Council receive the following for the next 3 years:

2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Basic	FULL	Basic

RESOLVED: To note the information.

323. MINUTE 292

FALLEN STONE ON BUILDING

Clerk advised that more masonry has fallen off the building and BCBC have been contacted. The BCBC Structural Engineer has advised:

In view of the two incidents in such a short space of time I think it would be prudent to have all stone elements on the building inspected close up, and tested with a light hammer to see if there are any further loose elements. I mentioned this to Sian when we met on site. It would also be prudent to check the condition of all chimneys to ensure they are stable as well as checking the condition of the stone and render to the chimney on the eastern end.

Access to high levels can be by a 'cherry picker' or the building could be scaffolded to give a safe working platform. If repairs are required then scaffolding will have to be erected.

Until the inspections can be undertaken then it would prudent to erect Heras fencing around the building to prevent close access. The Heras fencing should be a minimum of 1.5m from the face of the building, and further if possible.

Following this advice the Mayor agreed that we proceed with getting an urgent Structural Survey done which was part of the original quote for the building survey. Whereby in the October Meeting it was agreed:

**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.

The Architect has been contacted to arrange for a Structural Engineer investigation to include the BCBC requested light hammer testing. Additionally, the architect has also been chased for the Building Condition Survey Report and Maintenance Plan.

Structural hammer survey to be done 21st & 22nd January by specialist firm IBEX. Chair of Finance and Chair of Property, H&S have agreed to the quote for these

urgent works to be carried out. BCBC Conservation Officer has agreed we may proceed without the need for listed building consent or planning as this is an emergency situation, however has requested the methodology from the firm.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

324. MINUTE 294

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY – GIFT SUGGESTIONS?

Clerk has received a thank you from the couple that celebrated their golden wedding anniversary and they were overjoyed with the carriage clock. Since the Mayor highlighted this alternative gift, many requests are being received for a carriage clock instead of flowers.

Mayor advised that the Council do not wish to deter from giving a bouquet of flowers but it is nice to offer an alternative.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

325. MINUTE 298

PROPOSED ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Clerk has still yet to receive a ward specific section for one Ward.

Members advised that the last section should be received shortly.

RESOLVED: Clerk to proceed with arranging the publication and delivery of the Newsletter.

326. MINUTE 299

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION INSPECTION

Following the inspection report Western Power were contacted to look at the cable entering the building as it is in rusty condition. Western Power visited the building 18/12/2020 who looked at the cable and advised that the cable is ok, it is only the old casing that has rusted but it has not affected the integrity of the cable and no works are required. Should the Council wish to change the cable then there would be costs involved.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

327. MINUTE 301

TENDER FOR FIREALARM SYSTEM

The Chair of Property, H&S looked at all 3 quotes in detail and they were all comparable, therefore quote 3 has been accepted and company contacted. Work to be completed in the new year.

Fire alarm installation to completed 19/01/2021 – calendar appointment for information sent to all Cllrs

RESOLVED: To note the information.

328. MINUTE 310

COMPLAINTS ABOUT CAR PARK OUTSIDE ALDI

Email sent to planning requesting whether any of the disabled bays that were removed will be reinstated.

Response emailed to all Cllrs which included a copy of the approved layout plan of the site that confirms 109 spaces would be retained for parking (small reduction from 112 originally). I also attach the comments of the Highway Officer who carefully considered the application and the Parking implications during the processing of the application.

Following this response, a further email was sent advising that the illustration states that 12 P&C spaces were removed to make way for the new canopy. This is not the case, as the parking spaces lost to make way for this canopy were actually disabled spaces, and there has been no provision for any disabled spaces to replace the ones lost in the development.

Response: The parking standards require 6% of all parking to be designated ‘access for all’ or as they used to be called disabled spaces. The top deck of the car park has 109 spaces which equates to 6.5 spaces. The applicant has provided 8 disabled parking spaces as per the layout I assessed and therefore has met and exceeded the Councils adopted parking standards SPG17.

Email received from Cllr R Lewis advising disabled parking bays have now been marked up next to the undercover trolley bay.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

329. MINUTE 311

FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS

Letter of thanks and acknowledgement for financial support received from:

- CDT
- Special Families
- Maesteg Salvation Army
- CISS
- Noddfa Community Project
- Nantyllyllon Youth Club
- Llynfi Woodland Group

No response to date from Caerau Allotment Group

RESOLVED: To note the information.

330. MINUTE 313

QUERIES BY CLLR G THOMAS

- Cllr G Thomas queried the listed building training and the Clerk advised this was in the minutes in Matters Arising as minute 306
- Cllr G Thomas queried that in the Precept meeting there was no record of vote on AWEN funding whereby Council agreed to £30k and to add the discussion of whether or not to rescind the minute and funding to the Agenda for next Full Council meeting. Whereby Cllr K Edwards advised that he did not ask to rescind the minute as in order to rescind a minute it has to be placed in writing by 6 members of the Council. Cllr G Thomas wished that it be recorded that it was the intention of the Council to budget £30k and discuss the 2021/22 funding.

331. MAESTEG TOWN HALL FUNDING

Cllr L Thomas left the meeting; therefore, took no part in the discussion on Maesteg Town Hall funding.

Members were provided with an email from the CEO of AWEN Cultural Trust including invoice requesting funding. Additionally, members were provided with a report, copies of previous precept minutes and a summary of payments given to Maesteg Town Hall since 2016/17.

Members discussed this additional information provided whereby it clearly stated the commitment for 2019/20 and 2020/21 and no commitment beyond that therefore there is no need for a minute to be rescinded. Additionally, in the recent precept meeting, members agreed to add £15k from the festival funding to the AWEN Town Hall funding and members queried whether this commitment is to be agreed.

It was also noted that originally the funding was pledged for a re-fit and therefore should not just be given to AWEN without proper invoicing from the contractor for specific items for the re-fit.

A discussion ensued as to what the funding would be used for as the invoice was extremely vague and the Town Hall works are not due to be completed until 2022. Members felt that with the grant being given it would be acceptable to request invoices directly from the suppliers and then MTC would be able to reclaim VAT.

Cllr R Collins proposed that the finer details of the grant be discussed at a future finance meeting, this was seconded by Cllr R Lewis.

RESOLVED: To Discuss further at a separate meeting.

332. LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2020

RESOLVED:

That the tables of **Expenditure (£25,285.88)**, **Income (£140.17)** during the month of December 2020; copies of which had been circulated to Members, which included the DD payments, Faster Online Payments and Bank Reconciliation be accepted, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

A member queried the payment for the Lift call out charges, to which the clerk and Chair of Property, H&S advised that call outs are not included within the contract and that they had only charged for one call out when they actually visited site on a number of occasions. It was **agreed** that the Chair of Property, H&S to look at the contract in more detail.

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 3 (October – December) was also provided for Councillors. It was **agreed** for the Clerk to proceed with reclaiming the VAT for quarter 3.

333. TO DISCUSS DEPUTY CLERK

Chair of Personnel raised the issue of employing a Deputy Clerk due to the increasing workload of the Clerk and additional work relating to the deterioration of the building. Members queried that in the Personnel Committee Meeting in October 2020, Minute 221 and the agreed in November Full Council meeting:

- Personnel committee to generate adverts / contracts / etc but to hold off advertising the position until such time as we are able to open the office.

Members queried this request as Welsh Government clearly state to work from home therefore the building is unable to be reopened at the moment. Likewise, should the minute be rescinded then this would not be able to be discussed for 6 months.

RESOLVED:

- Clerk to contact OVW for advice
- Chair of Personnel to call a Personnel meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

334. COVID-19 SPECIFIC UPDATES & MEDIA UPDATES

Emailed to all Councillors for information:

- BCBC Media Updates
- BCBC Town Centre Updates
- Welsh Government updates
- OVW

RESOLVED: To note the information.

335. NEWLETTERS/REPORTS

- Chris Elmore MP Surgery poster
- Wellbeing and Future Generations Act – BCBC Public Service Board Annual Report
- Chris Elmore MP Christmas Card (Winning design from St Marys & St Patricks Primary School)

RESOLVED: To note the information.

336. BCBC USING STORE ROOM FOR ANDREWS FAMILY BUTCHERS

BCBC are using the store room to the rear of Maesteg Town Council building to supply electricity to Andrews Family Butchers for the week leading up to Christmas. They have connected to the power supply and are running a cable to the outside via the window and through the boarding outside which will not contravene the graded building status and it is only temporary.

I have been advised that the electrical outlet worked a treat providing power to the freezers helping the people of Maesteg to enjoy their meat hampers over Christmas thanks to all involved for their quick response to this problem.

Following Christmas, a request has been received to keep the power outlet in place for future events to be held in the outdoor market area. The Chair of Property, H&S has agreed to this and the key for the power outlet box has been received in the office.

A member queried would BCBC be paying for the electricity and how would the usage of the electrical outlet be contained?

The Clerk advised that the key for the outlet will remain in Maesteg Town Council office and that in the past any events in the market square the use of electricity has been provided by Maesteg Town Council via a hatch above the fire exit for extension leads. Any future requests for using the new outlet would need to be

agreed by Council. The Clerk will check whether there is a meter for the usage of electricity that can be recharged to the user.

RESOLVED: Clerk to check for meter.

337. BRIDGEND PROBATION SERVICE

Bridgend Probation Service telephoned requesting whether there are any projects the Community Payback team can complete? This can include repainting community centres, litter picking areas etc. They advise that they will not supply materials but will provide the labour for free. Currently due to Covid-19 they are only allowed to bring one person in the van with them whereas previously it would have been 7. So any small projects would be ideal with the current restrictions.

Clerk advised that the cycle track would be a good area to litter pick as it is used by vast numbers of the community. Clerk also provided Cllr P Davies contact details for the Keep Wales Tidy Hub whereby the probation service could borrow litter pickers and receive bags for the task of litter picking.

Bridgend Probation Service also requested that we forward their telephone number to any local projects that may require assistance.

Clerk asked Members whether the repainting of bus shelters would be a suitable task for Maesteg Town Council to ask the Probation Service to complete? Members agreed that if this met their criteria then yes.

Cllr K Edwards requested whether the removal of fly tipping could be completed by the Community Payback team? There are a couple of bags fly tipped between Heol Fan and Cwmdu Rd. Clerk advised that if the Community Payback team are unable to complete this it would be added to the list of fly tipping removal for the Environmental Contractor to remove.

The Mayor advised that he had recently spoken to the Probation Service Community Payback officer regarding works that can be undertaken at Caerau Market Garden, the officer had advised that currently during Covid-19 Tier 4 Restrictions no work is being carried out. Likewise, Cllr R Martin advised that the Llynfi Rivercare Group had also been advised that during Covid-19 Restrictions they are also unable to carry out any works.

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Probation Service Community Payback officer regarding painting bus shelters and fly tipping removal.

338. ENERGY SUPPLIERS

In May 2019, the former Clerk registered Maesteg Town Council with a price comparison site specifically for businesses called Do It For You (DIFY). This service is free and has now changed name to Bionic. The site automatically looks for

cheaper alternatives when contracts are due to end. Having spoken to an agent of the site even though the contracts for Electricity and Gas are not due for renewal until mid-2021 the current prices for energy have dropped considerably and they have sought the cheapest deals that have been locked in ready for when the current contracts end.

GAS New Contract Details:

Current supplier	OPUS Energy
Supplier for next contract	We recommend: British Gas Lite
Next contract start and end date	29/06/2021 to 30/06/2024
Prices	Unit Rate 2.7p per kWh
Standing charge	£1.76/Day

I do not have the figures for an alternative supplier.

ELECTRICITY New Contract Details:

Current supplier	EDF Energy
Supplier for next contract	We recommend: EDF Energy
Next contract start and end date	01/07/2021 to 30/06/2023
Prices	Day: 17.6 p per kWh
Standing charge	£0.25/Day
Estimated annual usage and spend	9536kWh £1645.71

Supplier for next contract	Alternative option: British Gas Lite
Next contract start and end date	01/07/2021 to 30/06/2025
Prices	Day: 16.54 p per kWh
Standing charge	£0.3585/Day
Estimated annual usage and spend	9536kWh £1708.11

Members queried whether we could look at other price comparison sites? Clerk advised that whilst there are a number of price comparison sites for residential properties the Clerk is unaware of others for commercial properties. A member advised that with the current workload of the Clerk would the Chair of Property, H&S be better to look into this? Another member requested as this is a contract would the Chair of Finance be better to look at this? Members agreed that this would need to be discussed at a Finance meeting

RESOLVED: To be placed on the Agenda for a Finance Meeting

339. VANDELISED TIKSPAK POST

BCBC advised of a vandalised tikspak post along the Riverwalk behind Maesteg Cricket Club, the information was forwarded to all Cllrs and the two Sgts for Maesteg.

Response from Sgt's: Thank you for bringing this to our attention We have talked about this in our shift briefing and there will be extra patrols on over the weekend. The PCSO's are fully aware.

Tikpak dog poo bag dispenser, placed on the river walk behind Maesteg cricket club, has been set on fire, and by the residents account has been destroyed. Email forwarded to Sgt Evans and Sgt Lea and also to John Rees of BCBC Local PCSO has been made aware of the damage made to the Tikspak post at the river walk near to Maesteg Cricket Club and has created an occurrence for this and listed (crime`d) it as criminal damage. However due to the location there are no lines of enquiries. There is no applicable House to House and no CCTV at the location. Patrols will be conducted within the area and should any subject be identified then appropriate action will be taken. Both teams are aware of this and will patrol the area.

BCBC have advised that they have now removed the post and it is undergoing refurbishment to be replaced shortly.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

340. REFERRALS

- **OVERGROWTH**

Overgrowth on the pavement / wall adjacent to 17 /18 Heol Cae Defaid in Garth Maesteg.

To date no response received.

Deputy Mayor advised that he had also been contacted regarding this issue and that he had received a response from BCBC advising that they are looking into the issue.

- **STREETLIGHTS NOT WORKING**

Outside 10a Castle Street.

RESPONSE: Your concern has now been logged on our system and has been forwarded on to the street lighting department for their attention and action.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

341. CONSULTATION ON WALKING AND CYCLING IN BRIDGEND

Sustrans Consultation on Walking and Cycling in Bridgend sent to all of the ROW Committee. Should any other member wish to complete the survey it can be found using the following link: <https://bridgend.commonplace.is/> Clerk advised that the survey is anonymous therefore a Maesteg Town Council response is not needed.

Members advised that Sustrans were contacted a number of years ago with regard to extending the cycle route to Heol Faen with no response.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

342. CAT GRANT CHANGE OF GRANT USE - MAESTEG BOWLING CLUB

Email received by Maesteg Bowling Club with the following:

The bowling club have purchased most of their green maintenance equipment from the grant they received from BCBC. They now find themselves with nowhere to store the equipment. They request whether they can spend the Grant on building a storage facility for their equipment rather than use the funding for more smaller equipment i.e blowers, strimmer's, cartridge stanf, edge cutters ect?

The bowling club have had a discussion with the planning department regarding a store shed or a container they need to store the mower, fuel ect and it seems they think it might be better to build a permanent building near the pavilion which is ok but it still leaves us with the question can we pay for the building and or the container from the MTC CAT grant? Guy Smith has advised that what the bowls club is proposing meets the criteria of capital funding of the fund. However, the final decision will rest with Maesteg Town Council.

Members queried whether this was from Maesteg Bowling Club or Maesteg Celtic Bowling Club as both have similar issues. Clerk confirmed that this was from Maesteg Bowling Club who are located at Maesteg Welfare Park.

Cllr G Thomas **Proposed** that Maesteg Town Council agree to the change in use of the Grant received and seconded by Cllr L Thomas

RESOLVED: Clerk to advise Maesteg Bowling Club that Maesteg Town Council agree to the change in use of the grant.

343. TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM MEETING

The next meeting of the above is scheduled for the 15 February 2021 at 4.00pm.

Please confirm if you have any items for suggestion for placing on the agenda, as soon as possible and by no later please, than the middle/third week of this month.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

344. AWEN LIBRARIES FAMILY HISTORY SERVICE

Due to Y Llynfi library remaining closed during the pandemic they have created an Awen Libraries Family History Group on Facebook which can be accessed using the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/800870980478389>

Full information emailed to all cllrs.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

345. COMPLAINT ABOUT CAR PARK TOILET

Complaint received from resident regarding the Llynfi Rd Car Park toilet.

Clerk has advised that during the last full lockdown the toilet was closed for H&S reasons by the contractor and will check if this is the case again due to being in Tier 4. We did briefly open the disabled toilet to the rear of the Council building for the public, however due to unforeseen circumstances this has also been closed and will remain closed whilst in Tier 4.

Following this response, the complainant asked

“So is there going to be any other toilets available if Wilko's is shut my son suffers with Crohn's and last Monday due to no toilets being available had an accident”

Members discussed this issue as this affects many residents whilst in the Town Centre; however, the only response Maesteg Town Council can give is that we are following the Welsh Government Covid-19 Tier 4 Regulations and apologise for the inconvenience.

RESOLVED: Clerk to respond to the resident advising Maesteg Town Council are following the Welsh Government Covid-19 Tier 4 Regulations and apologise for the inconvenience.

346. LLYNFI ROAD TOP DECK CAR PARK

The recent spell of cold weather has again drawn attention to the slippery conditions underfoot at the top deck of Llynfi Road Car Park both for shoppers and vehicles. Lots of complaints and concerns have been received.

In spite of requests for gritting/de-icing, BCBC has said that resources (labour) don't exist as they would have done previously to respond to weather conditions.

Ultimately BCBC says in these circumstances it is down to the stores themselves to close the car park to prevent accidents.

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas advised that approximately 5-10 years ago BCBC would have de-iced / gritted the car park unfortunately they are unable to do this. Currently the car park is closed when icy and this causes uproar within the community. If Maesteg Town Council engage with a 'handyman' would this be a task that could be added to the list of works?

Chair of Personnel advised that this is something the committee could look into; however, this will not resolve the current issue.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk write to the stores to see if Maesteg Town Council purchased a grit bin would they grit the car park?

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to the stores to see if Maesteg Town Council purchased a grit bin would they grit the car park?

347. FLY TIPPING

Clerk has been advised that the Environment/ROW Contractor has received a letter advising that both he and his wife have to shield until mid-February, any requests for clearing fly tipping are going on a list and he hopes to remove them when the shielding is lifted. He is still emptying the bins on the cycle track but is doing this late evening when the cycle track is unused.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

348. AGENDA ITEM 13

Given the nature of the business and discussion on information provided by the insurance company it was decided to exclude the public from the meeting as per

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'

350. RESOLVED: THAT THE COUNCIL COME OUT OF COMMITTEE

**351. FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS
WELSH AIR AMBULANCE**

Members were provided with the annual request for financial support from the Welsh Air Ambulance.

RESOLVED: Council donate the sum of £250 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

352. PLANNING

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

The following applications were **Supported:**

Ref: P/20/910/LIS
Applicant: BCBC Regeneration Department
Location: Maesteg Town Hall 27 Talbot Street Maesteg CF34 9DA
Proposal: Listed Building Consent for the repair and conservation of the clocktower

Ref: P/20/920/FUL
Applicant: McNamara Arms
Location: The McNamara Arms 52 Commercial Street Maesteg CF34 9HJ
Proposal: Extension of existing rear balcony area

Ref: P/20/988/FUL
Applicant: Caerau Football Club
Location: Recreation ground rear of Hermon Road Maesteg CF34 0SU
Proposal: Construction of a new stand, access ramp and security fencing to the existing football pitch

The following applications received **No Objections:**

Ref: P/20/901/FUL
Applicant: Mr Justin Grabham
Location: 62 Davies Terrace Nantyffyllon Maesteg CF34 0HB
Proposal: Rear balcony & access steps to rear garden for registered disabled person.

Ref: P/20/570/FUL
Applicant: Ms Angela Hughes
Location: Plot 24 Llynfi Court Maesteg CF34 9NJ
Proposal: Detached 4 bed timber frame property with double garage, brick exterior.

Ref: P/20/871/FUL
Applicant: Fieldbay Limited
Location: Ty Newydd Crown Road Garth Maesteg CF34 0LN
Proposal: Extension to the main entrance to provide a lobby and external cladding to the north elevation.

Ref: P/20/949/FUL
Applicant: Mr Mathew Reed
Location: 12 River Street Maesteg CF34 9YR
Proposal: Two storey rear flat roof extension with internal alterations

Ref: P/20/960/FUL
Applicant: Dr R & R Coles
Location: 24 Talbot Street Maesteg CF34 9BW
Proposal: Replacement of all existing windows. All existing single-pane windows which are visible to the public will be replaced by double-glazed, uPVC traditional style sliding sash windows.

Ref: P/20/931/FUL
Applicant: Mr Richard Dyke
Location: Site adjacent to 32/33 Cwrt y Mwnws Maesteg CF34 0AL
Proposal: Erection of 4no. semi detached 3 bedrooomed dwellings

The following application members had **concerns due to lack of parking:**

Ref: P/20/475/FUL
Applicant: Mr G Rees
Location: 3b Picton Street Maesteg CF34 0EW
Proposal: 2no. first floor one bedroom self contained flats and retention of ground floor shop unit (amended plan received 07 December 2020)

The following application members had **concerns whether there would be ease of access and would there be sufficient:**

Ref: P/20/927/RES
Applicant: Mr R Hall
Location: Plot adjacent to Forest Lodge Rear of 37 & 39 Kings Terrace Maesteg CF34 0HD
Proposal: Reserved matters to P/18/936/OUT for 2/3 bedroom single storey dwelling

Clerk has spoken to planning department and RES = Reserved Matters = the finer details of the development following Outline planning permission.

The following application, members had **concerns for lack of parking and whether it would be used as a HMO:**

Ref: P/20/979/FUL
Applicant: Mr J Parry
Location: 29 Commercial Street Maesteg CF34 9DH
Proposal: Change use of 1st and 2nd floor offices into 1no. 5 bed shared flat

**Read and accepted at a remote meeting of the Council
held on 2nd February 2021**

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Mayor