

MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Royal British Legion Sub-Committee** held remotely via Microsoft Teams and at the Council Meeting Room, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Monday, 21st June 2021**.

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: **AR Davies (Mayor)**

K Edwards, A James, W May, R Lewis

Maesteg Branch RBL: D Lakin

APOLOGIES: none received

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr R Lewis declared an interest in items that may relate to Llangynwyd Middle Community Council.

60. TO RECEIVE MAESTEG BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Mayor welcomed D Lakin to the meeting, who advised members that following their recent meeting whereby the former Chairman resigned due to ill health advice was sought from the RBL district and it was agreed that the branch would seek to form a new committee within 2 months. They agreed that the committee must include the following positions: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Poppy Appeal organiser. Should no committee be formed then the branch would become county supported and all administrative duties would revert to the RBL district.

Members unanimously advised that Maesteg Town Council would support the branch in assisting them with the Poppy Appeal, Wreaths and Remembrance Sunday.

61. POPPY APPEAL - WREATHS

The Branch have agreed to discuss the poppy appeal at a later branch meeting as the initial focus is on forming a new committee, however a branch member Mr R Reed would like to visit the Council offices to ascertain the numbers and organisations of wreaths held in the basement. It was noted that the Clerk and DL have been in contact in regards to the wreaths currently stored in the council offices.

Members advised that the wreaths currently in the basement would not give a true representation of organisations & individuals who purchase wreaths as they are the ones that were not collected in 2020 due to the pandemic. Members also advised that in previous years many residents would rely on the Town Council to obtain their wreaths and a number of Councillors would volunteer their time to be in the building to co-ordinate the collection of wreaths on behalf of the RBL and collect the donations accordingly ready for the branch to bank. It was noted that many individuals and groups were not only from Maesteg but further afield in Bryn, Cymmer, Llangynwyd etc.

The branch is keen to retrieve a list of organisations & individuals and it was agreed that DL would contact the previous Chairman for the list, however asked if Maesteg Town Council would also contact organisations for interest in wreaths moving forward from 2021.

It was **agreed** that Maesteg Town Council would contact the organisations and also advertise that if organisations & individuals would like wreaths for 2021, they must contact MTC / Maesteg Branch RBL to be added to the list.

62. REMEMBERANCE SUNDAY

The clerk queried the arrangement of the Armistice Day Parade and noted that the previous RBL committee took full control and only requested road closures to be sourced by this Council. DL stated that the RBL taking full control was the norm but was keen to pursue a cooperative approach if needed in the future and will forward this concern to the RBL members at their next meeting.

DL did raise the concern of COVID-19 restrictions with this year's parade and although seems likely that it can go ahead it is unsure how things would operate with policies such as social distancing in place. Council agreed for the Clerk to speak with the highways department in BCBC to request information about road closures mainly the length of time an application for said purpose would have to be submitted and the notice for a cancellation of the road closures if COVID-19 restrictions are still in place or have become more severe. Additionally, any decision to cancel the parade due to Covid-19 restrictions and would require an expedited procedure to cancel at short notice and would be an RBL National Committee decision.

63. RECCOMENDATIONS:

1. DL to provide a poster to be placed onto the website to advertise the formation of a branch committee
2. Clerk and DL to form a list of organisations & individuals for wreaths
3. Clerk to write to the organisations & individuals to ascertain if they still require wreaths
4. Clerk to advertise on the website inviting organisations and individuals to register their interest for wreaths for 2021
5. Clerk to contact BCBC for road closure information
6. Sub-Committee to meet again following the 2 months

Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 22nd June 2021

**Minutes accepted at a remote meeting of the Council
held on 6th July 2021**

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Mayor