

## MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an **EXTRAORDINARY** meeting of the **Council** held remotely via Microsoft Teams and at the Council Meeting Room, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021**.

### **PRESENT:**

#### **COUNCILLORS: AR DAVIES (MAYOR)**

P Davies, A James, P Jenkins, K Edwards, R Martin, W May, R Penhale-Thomas, G Thomas and L Thomas,

**APOLOGIES** Cllr L Beedle, R Collins, C Reeves, S Smith and I Williams

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

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

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

Cllrs AR Davies & A James declared an interest in item 3 on the agenda relating to Caerau Market Garden.

**The Mayor, Councillor AR Davies and Members of the Council stood for a “minute silence” for the late Cllr Phil White.**

## **241. TO DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS 2021**

### **1) TO DISCUSS CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS (1 per ward)**

Locations for Christmas Light features:

Caerau	BCBC lighting column below 7 Rathbone Terrace
Maesteg East	As near as possible to the Celtic along Bridgend Road
Maesteg West	On metal lamppost on the island by St Davids / Fairfield Avenue
Nantyffyllon	BCBC lighting column on the green in High Street

Members agreed to the above locations, however also wanted additional features in some of the wards. Due to the resolution made in Minute 234 whereby 1 feature per ward was agreed, Cllr G Thomas **proposed** and was seconded by Cllr W May that members can use their Ward Specific Fund for additional features. Members proceeded to vote on the proposal and only one member disagreed with the proposal as he felt that some wards would have more features than others. Following the vote, the proposal stands and members advised of the following extra features to be paid from the Ward Specific Funds:

Maesteg East	By the Iron Bridge – on the Boundary with Nantyffyllon
Maesteg West	By the Maesteg entry sign on Llwydarth Road

Clerk contacted Centregreat for costings for 4 Christmas highlight features one to be placed in each ward.

Item	Description	Cost
OPTION 1	Conversion of Street Lighting Column to be adapted to hold a Festive Lighting Feature Supply , Install , Removal and Storage of Festive Lighting Feature Approx. 2Mtrs High for Column Mounting  <b>FEATURE WOULD BE A MANUFACTURERS EX-RENTAL WITH THE SAME 2 Year WARRANTY A NEW FEATURE HAS .</b>	<b>£675.00</b>
	<b>BELOW IS AN OPTION FOR A NEW FEATURE</b>	
OPTION 2	Conversion of Street Lighting Column to be adapted to hold a Festive Lighting Feature Supply , Install , Removal and Storage of Festive Lighting Feature Approx. 2Mtrs High for Column Mounting  <b>FEATURE WOULD BE A MANUFACTURERS NEW FEATURE WITH A 2 Year WARRANTY .</b>	<b>£885.00</b>
	<b>ABOVE OPTIONS ARE FOR SINGLE FEATURES ONLY AND WOULD NEED TO BE ADJUSTED FOR THE QUANTITY WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED</b>	

1. An Ex-rental refurbished light feature: £675.00 each x 4 = £2,700
2. A new light feature: £885.00 each x 4 = £3,540

Members agreed that Option 1 for a refurbished light feature at a cost of £2,700.00 + VAT be ordered for the 1 per Ward. Additional features be purchased from the Ward Specific Funds at a cost of £675.00 + VAT.

## 2) OTHER OPTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

Clerk provided some ideas for events and members advised that in last meeting it was focused on what we cannot do rather than what can be done.

A member also highlighted that all the negativity on social media and emails received focused on reasons due to Covid, however the parade is focused around the town hall whereby the stage, music and switch on was next to the town hall, this area is still scaffolded and therefore unable to use this area and not enough room outside the Council Offices to enable this.

- a) Santa's Grotto in the empty unit in the Market next door to the post office, whereby a one-way ticketed system can be used – in through one door out the other. Permission has been granted by BCBC for this who will arrange licences etc.

Who would be Santa?  
 What gifts would we give?  
 What cost per child?  
 When would we open the grotto?  
 Who would run the grotto?

Members agreed that a Santa’s grotto would be a good idea, however due to safeguarding issues it would be better for an events management company to organise and run. Cllr R Penhale-Thomas **proposed** and was seconded by Cllr L Thomas that we go to tender for an events management company to run a Santa’s Grotto every Saturday in December. Cllr K Edwards advised that RCTCBC use a company based in Cardiff ‘KAYES’ for the Christmas gifts. It was **agreed** that the Clerk ask for a catalogue from this company.

- b) Ask local choirs to sing carols in the band stand throughout December – ask local Cafés to provide mince pies and hot chocolate?

Members were advised of an email received from Maternal Harmony requesting if they can sing outside the Council Offices with use of an electricity supply for their piano.

Members thought this was a good idea but to ask all local choirs if they would like to use the bandstand. Additionally ask local cafés if they would like to supply mince pies and hot chocolate to the choirs and spectators.

- c) Caerau Men’s Shed – what about the partnership of Santa on a sleigh going around the Wards?

Members agreed that a small task group should meet with Caerau Men’s Shed to discuss this further. It was agreed that Cllrs AR Davies, A James and R Penhale-Thomas form the sub-committee and to meet with Caerau Men’s Shed before the next full council meeting.

- d) Cllr P Jenkins **proposed** and was seconded by Cllr G Thomas that MTC investigate the costs involved in producing a video highlighting Christmas Parades throughout the years.

**RESOLVED:**

- Clerk to contact Centregreat to advise that Option 1 for refurbished light features be installed at the following locations:

Caerau	BCBC lighting column below 7 Rathbone Terrace
Maesteg East	As near as possible to the Celtic along Bridgend Road
Maesteg East	By the Iron Bridge – on the Boundary with Nantylffyllon
Maesteg West	On metal lamppost on the island by St Davids / Fairfield Avenue
Maesteg West	By the Maesteg entry sign on Llwydarth Road
Nantylffyllon	BCBC lighting column on the green in High Street

- Clerk to send out Tender for Events Management Company to run the Grotto
- Contact local Choirs to sing Carols in the Bandstand on Saturday afternoons in December

- Contact local Cafés for costs to give a free mince pie & hot drink to spectators and Choristers.
- Clerk to arrange a meeting with Caerau Men’s Shed for Santa on a sleigh around the Wards
- Investigate costs involved in producing a video highlighting Christmas Parades throughout the years.

**242. TO DISCUSS HANGING BASKET TENDER FOR 2022**

Cllr G Thomas requested that as this item had interests declared by members that this is moved to the end of the meeting.

The Mayor agreed to discuss this at the end of the meeting.

**243. TO DISCUSS FURTHER WORKS QUOTED BY DAWSON STONEMASONRY FOR WEST ELEVATIONS AND SOUTH ELEVATIONS**

Members were presented with a quote from the stonemason for further works. A member queried what about the previous quotes, to which Clerk advised that previously Council had quotes that had been agreed in August and that this was in addition to the previous quotes to maximise the use of the scaffolding.

Cllr W May **proposed** and was seconded by Cllr L Thomas that the quote for the works are agreed.

**RESOLVED:** Advise the Architect that Members agree to the quoted additional works for the West and South elevations.

**244. TO DISCUSS WHETHER MTC APPLIES TO BE ON THE PILOT OF COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS SELF-EVALUATION TOOLKIT – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Email was received and forwarded to all members with regards to a pilot scheme for the above. OVW and Audit Wales require 50 T&CC’s to be part of the pilot and members decided that Maesteg Town Council should express an interest in being part of the scheme.

**RESOLVED:** Advise OVW the Maesteg Town Council do want to be part of the pilot scheme.

**245. URGENT QUOTE TO REPLACE FAILED FIRE EXTINGUISHER EQUIPMENT**

Clerk advised that following the annual service of the Fire Extinguishers on 19/10/21 - 5 fire extinguishers failed the test and the 2 fire blankets in the kitchens also failed the test. FireRite have not replaced the failed items but have sent a quote for their replacements and additional ID Cards at a cost of £225.30 + VAT

Members agreed to the quote as they are statutory requirements for the building.

**RESOLVED:** Proceed with ordering the necessary replacements.

**246. TO DISCUSS HANGING BASKET TENDER FOR 2022**

Following the advice received from BCBC Monitoring Officer and OVW, Cllrs AR Davies and A James declared an interest in this item left the meeting; therefore, took no part in the discussion on hanging basket tenders.

Cllr W May requested that following the advice of both BCBC Monitoring Officer and OVW that we go into committee to discuss the tenders.

**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’**

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

**248. TO CONFIRM HANGING BASKET TENDER FOR 2022**

Following a confidential discussion, the winning tender was Option 1 at a cost of £19.47 per hanging basket.

**RESOLVED:** Contact the winning tender and arrange for the current hanging baskets to be delivered to them by the Winter Display contractor.

**Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021  
Minutes accepted at a remote meeting of the Council  
held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**

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**Mayor**