

MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an **EXTRAORDINARY HYBRID** meeting of the **Council** held remotely via Microsoft Teams and at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Tuesday, 29th June 2022**.

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS:

A James (Mayor)

F Abedalkarim, R Collins, AR Davies, P Davies,
K Edwards, P Jenkins, R Lewis, R Martin,
R Penhale-Thomas, M Rowlands, G Thomas, L Thomas
and I Williams

APOLOGIES were received from Cllrs C Davies, C Knight and G Williams

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None received

63. ANNUAL RETURN OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Members were provided with copies of the Annual Return for the Year ended 31 March 2022 that was given to the Internal Auditor. Unfortunately, the Internal Auditor failed to complete the annual audit of the accounts and failed to give the report in time for members to read before the meeting.

The Chair of Finance advised members of the report he received 5 minutes before the meeting and passed this to the members within the Chamber. Regrettably, there was no time to scan and send a copy of the report to those attending remotely.

Members queried that without having time to read the report before the meeting it would be unwise to complete the annual return and send a half completed report to Audit Wales.

The Chair of Finance advised that in part 1 (Annual Governance Statement) of the annual return the RFO had certified the accounts before tonight's meeting, it was part 2 of the annual return (the Annual Internal Audit Report) that was missing.

Cllr K Edwards **proposed** and was seconded by Cllrs P Jenkins, G Thomas, R Penhale-Thomas, L Thomas that:

1. the Clerk and Chair of Finance write to Audit Wales explaining the lateness and ask for dispensation due to the Internal Auditor not providing the report in time for Council to digest
2. the Clerk and Chair of Finance invite our former internal auditor to complete the internal audit as soon as possible.

Members also **agreed** to look at the internal auditor's contract at a finance meeting along with the recommendations from an Audit Wales report given to members in 2019.

RESOLVED:

1. the Clerk and Chair of Finance write to Audit Wales explaining the lateness and ask for dispensation due to the Internal Auditor not providing the report in time for Council to digest
2. the Clerk and Chair of Finance invite our former internal auditor to complete the internal audit as soon as possible.
3. To agenderise in the next finance committee meeting:
 - a. look at the internal auditor's contract
 - b. the recommendations from Audit Wales report given to members in 2019

Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 29th June 2022

**Minutes accepted at a remote meeting of the Council
held on 5th July 2022**

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Mayor