

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, on **Monday, 27th February 2023**

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: **A James (Mayor)**
F Abedalkarim, R Collins, AR Davies, C Davies, P Davies,
P Jenkins, C Knight, A LeGeyt, R Lewis, R Martin,
M Rowlands, R Penhale-Thomas, G Williams and I Williams

APOLOGIES were received from Cllr: G Thomas

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None received

482. TO RECEIVE SAFE HAVEN MAESTEG

The Mayor welcomed 2 members from Safe Haven Maesteg (SHM) to the meeting. Whereby they explained that SHM was created to assist those fleeing the Ukraine when the war broke out, however they now assist anyone who requires a safe haven from any country they are fleeing. The group provides emergency toiletry packs to those coming to the area and they run a drop in hub within the Salvation Army on Castle Street. Many members also host families and provide other support to these families. The Salvation Army provide the meeting space and local police and other interested parties come along to chat to the refugees. Due to the circumstances of these families fleeing their countries it takes a lot of time for the families to trust and accept the help being provided. Last summer the group held an event for Ukrainian people to which when asked about an event this year they just asked for the same as last year.

The group also work closely with BCBC to know who is coming to Maesteg in order for the emergency toiletry packs to be available and tailored to those arriving. There are currently 62 individuals living in Maesteg and further afield in Bryn. SHM is also currently working with BAVO to become a registered charitable organisation and are also in the process of setting up a bank account to accept donations and grants.

Members raised the following:

- Members thanked the team at SHM for the continual support they give to those families.
- Are there any other nationalities that are being supported?

SHM advised yes they have 1 Kurdish person and 1 Icelandic person.

- Cllr F Abedalkarim advised he will offer his support to those who speak Arabic or need help with any of those nationals from that part of the world.

- A member asked if there were any sessions late afternoon / early evening since many members work and would also like to show their support.

SHM advised they can look into this, however they currently have to pay to hire the room in the Salvation Army.

- A member queried if they were able to claim warm hub grants from BCBC? SHM advised that as the Salvation Army had already applied they were unable to apply as its for the same location.

- Many members echoed previous members comments and commended the team at SHM

SHM thanked individual Cllrs for their support whereby other organisations (Garnwen Trust) had provided holidays to Ukrainian families

- A member asked if they require financial support please put in S137 or something with MTC.

The Mayor thanked the members for attending and SHM advised that if anyone requires any further information they can email: Safehaven063@gmail.com

RESOLVED: Clerk to forward S137 application form to SHM

483. TO RECEIVE THE TOWN CRIER

The Mayor welcomed the Town Crier to the meeting. Whereby the Town Crier provided an informative presentation on the history and role of the Town Crier with the following items to note:

- Town crier since 2012 to assist in Parade and it's been a privilege.
- Would like to see a competition for a junior town crier.

Many members commended the Town Crier for his role and Cllr AR Davies **proposed** and seconded by Cllr F Abedalkarim that MTC should reimburse any costs incurred whilst providing the service of Town Crier.

The Town Crier advised he doesn't want any reimbursement as he considers it a privilege, however would like the MTC crest embroidered onto his livery.

Members agreed with the proposal and agreed to fund the costs for having the MTC crest added to the livery. The Mayor thanked the Town Crier for his presentation.

RESOLVED: Town Crier to provide invoices for any costs incurred whilst providing the service of Town Crier.

484. ADDITIONAL FINANCE PAYMENTS

Members were provided with 3 additional invoices to be paid totalling £61,116.59 were agreed to be paid.

Members were advised that DefibWorld advised that the order of the Lifepak CR Plus 2 x sets of pads for CDT defibrillator that was made on 23/01/2023 is currently out of stock and they are unsure of ETA for more stock. They apologised that it was showing in stock when purchased as this was a technical error. They have agreed to send a single set and to refund the difference. – Maesteg First Responders have been notified.

TELEPHONE & BROADBAND - contract

Following Minute 365 in December 2022 full council whereby permission was granted for Solutions in Technology to look at the telephone & broadband the following quote has been received:

Your new costs for everything would be £75.00 per month for a 24 month contract compared to the current £116.40 per month

Members agreed with the new contract.

RESOLVED:

- To pay the additional invoices
- To proceed with changing the telephone & broadband contract

485. TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND - HISTORIC APPLICATIONS

Emails received from BCBC regarding historic T&CC fund applications/allocations:

Further to a report made to Cabinet dated 19th July 2022, I am writing to chase up progress on the projects for which Town & Community Council Funding was awarded. Below is a summary of the awards:

<i>14/15</i>	<i>15/16</i>	<i>16/17</i>
<i>£3,109.00</i>	<i>£5,000.00</i>	<i>£20,000.00</i>

As you can see, there are three applications for Maesteg Town Council dating back to the financial year 2014/15 and for the two years following, and combined they total £28,109.00.

Can you let me know if these projects are continuing, please and whether they will be completed within this financial year 2022/23? If not, I regret to inform you that we will need to withdraw the funding we have offered.

If you could let me know at your earliest convenience what the status of these projects is please, I would appreciate it.

Clerk responded: Can you offer any further information as all of the below are from before I was employed at Maesteg Town Council.

I have cc'd current Members for information and to see if any of those remember the projects.

BCBC response: I can only really comment on the application from 2016/17 because that is when responsibility for the fund was passed to me. The 16/17 application was for a safe route to school/community route extension.

I will get in touch with the officer who was running the fund prior to me when I'm able but this will be in the new year now; I hope that's ok.

Cllr AR Davies: Sorry, can I just confirm, has this money actually been awarded to MTC in terms of the transfer being complete from BCBC monetary pots to MTC?

£20,000 is a significant amount and the project in questions is still a massively significant bone of contention for children/parents of children in Caerau. I was elected in May 2017 and this is news to me. This is of significant interest to Caerau Ward Members and our constituents as to whether this money is ring-fenced, allocated or no longer available.

BCBC: I can confirm that the money has been awarded in principle but no financial transfer takes place for this fund until there has been evidence of expenditure. Therefore, if the grant offer is withdrawn, Maesteg Town Council won't need to pay back any funding.

Cllr P Davies: Could this be something to do with a project that was looked at in the Maesteg East Ward, possible a grant for a feasibility study to put a path from the top of Tuberville Estate along the former railway line emerging near the road leading to Maesteg Cemetery? There was a land ownership issue and the proposal never made any headway, the 20K figure sounds familiar but it was a while back so I could be wrong, perhaps our Maesteg East colleagues could enquire with former Cllrs for that ward to see what they can remember?

Cllr I Williams: It was my suggestion some years ago to resurrect the plan to continue the pathway from the cemetery the short distance to turberville estate to ensure that the children had an easier and safer route to Maesteg School. This plan failed because the monies we had would only pay for an ecological study of the site so we decided not to continue with the idea.

BCBC: Further to my last email I have received an outline of the applications for Maesteg TC for the years 2014/15 and 2015/16 which are summarised in the table below.

Council	Project	Funding Requested	BCBC Improvement Priorities	Proposed Allocation 2014/15
Maesteg TC	Highway safety – paved area adjacent to Llynfi Surgery	£3,365 (total project cost £6,730)	Supporting Children & Families, Help Vulnerable & Older People	£3,109

Council	Project	Funding Requested	BCBC Improvement Priorities	Proposed Allocation 2015/16
Maesteg TC	Vehicle activated signs	£5,000 (total project cost £10,000)	Supporting Children & Families, Help Vulnerable & Older People	£5,000

Could you let me know if any works on these projects have been undertaken to date please, or if there are immediate plans for the work to be undertaken? If nothing has been undertaken the funding will be withdrawn at the end of the financial year. However, this does not preclude Maesteg TC from submitting an application for these projects in future.

Clerk advised that unfortunately MTC does not have any records of these works as the finance files for these years are not within the Council. Members deliberated the information provided information and discussed the following:

- The project in 2014/15 paved area adjacent to Llynfi Surgery was completed approximately 10 years ago and BCBC should have all the relevant documentation
- The project in 2015/16 Vehicle Activated Signs was also completed by BCBC and they should have all the relevant documentation.
- The project in 2016/17 was to extend the safe route to school path from Caerau to Tuberville estate to save children from walking on a road. MTC were going to contribute £20k and BCBC were going to match it. When it was looked into further the costs of the feasibility study was more that the funding requested. Following this the project was cancelled.

Members discussed that with the zebra crossing in Garth we were able to come to a middle ground, perhaps chair of finance can approach BCBC having that relationship already and maybe receive 50% of the grants?

RESOLVED:

- Clerk to ask the relevant departments within BCBC if they have records of the projects being paid.
- Chair of Finance to discuss with the T&CC Fund officer the possibility of claiming 50% of the grants.

486. 2023 EVENTS & ESAG (Events Safety Advisory Group)

Bridgend County Borough Council maintains an Events Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) for public events and have established partnerships with selected agencies which offer specialist advice. The ESAG considers the requirements of large-scale public events with more than 500 expected attendees. Smaller events may also require the involvement of ESAG depending on the event.

The Event Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) is not a decision-making body, and the group cannot stop an event taking place. Its role is to give advice and guidance to organisers on safety related aspects of their planned event.

Please note: ESAG meetings are monthly. Event plans should be supplied at least 10 working days prior to a meeting if they are to be included on the agenda for discussion.

Event organisers are encouraged to engage early with the ESAG process and before incurring costs or promoting events. This is so discussion can be enabled, and safety measures can be assessed.

RESOLVED: To note the information

487. NEWSLETTERS / FLYERS / BRIEFING NOTES/ CONSULTATIONS

Emailed to all Councillors for information:

- Maesteg Hospital Briefing January 2023
- Changes to VAT on sports fees effective immediately
- Welsh Government - Consultation on the Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill – consultation closes on 17 March 2023

RESOLVED: To note the information

488. MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL - SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE

Email sent to the company that installed the internet into the Council Chamber to ask them to quote for the sound system upgrade. When we originally looked at the current sound system it seemed to be working, however since using them for the online meetings the sound quality is poor.

Response: Acknowledged email and advised they are looking into the issue raised.

Deputy Clerk advised that the company are coming to the town council building on Friday 10th March 2023.

RESOLVED: To note the information

489. MEETING REQUEST TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF A TRIAL BUS SERVICE ON THE FORMER BUS ROUTE 37

Many thanks for your e-mail, and apologies for the delayed response.

I'm happy to assist where I can, and also happy attend a meeting to discuss the proposed route, and the possible grants available, such as BSSG KM Support (which replaced BSOG/Fuel Duty rebate in 2013) and the Concessionary Fares scheme. The Cabinet Member for Communities (Cllr John Spanswick) would also like to attend the meeting, and our preferred option for meeting would be via Microsoft Teams. Therefore, can you please provide some dates and times, in order for me to consult Cllr Spanswick's and my calendar?

Clerk advised that a meeting was arranged on 21/02/2023, however only Cllr F Abedalkarim attended – a delegates report / update to be provided at the next full council meeting.

RESOLVED: To await an update

490. SERVICE RESPONSE PROVIDED: MEMREF-480433019 - INFORMAL RECREATIONAL AREA BETWEEN COMMERCIAL STREET AND BRIDGE STREET, MAESTEG

Email received via Cllr F Abedalkarim forwarded to all members along with email trail between MTC and BCBC regarding the land between Commercial Street and Bridge Street, Maesteg. Whereby BCBC Parks and green spaces team have advised:

As far as Green Spaces are aware, we have not received an expression of interest from Maesteg Town Council about the possibility of their providing funding the supply and installation of a new children's play area. The site could easily accommodate a children's play area.

Green Spaces are tasked with refurbishing existing play areas and not on developing new sites.

I have alerted Guy Smith, Community Asset Transfer Officer as this may be a way forward.

Also The Council's Town & Community Council Capital grant scheme for 2023/24 which closes on 28 February 2023 may be a way of providing some match funding towards the cost of a new play area subject to any funding application being considered against competing bids from other town and community councils.

Further email sent to BCBC Terrier department to seek a response.

Cllr P Jenkins advises: There may be scope for MTC to put in bid for this area, if it wishes to do so, after careful consideration, even under CAT it would need ongoing upkeep and everything associated, we would have to get our skates on.

What would be an idea for this land would be on smaller scale than that in Llan, a nature park small trails wild life trees shrubs flowers fruit trees, benches a mini central park in town

RESOLVED: To note the information

491. BENCH ON INCLINE TO MAESTEG COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Following the below emails I have asked the CMO if he would be willing to install a bench (now that he has already installed a new bin on his own) and he has advised that he will 'give it a go'

I have looked online and the type of bench is available on the following websites:

Glasdon	https://uk.glasdon.com/street-furniture/seating/street-benches/lowther-seat	£631.77 excluding VAT Includes bolts
Barriers Direct	https://www.barriersdirect.co.uk/street-furniture-c1210/outdoor-seating-c1056/park-bench-with-traditional-modern-look-at-2-metres-long-shipped-assembled-2-year-warranty-p13971	£685.92 excluding VAT
Bin Shop	https://www.bin-shop.co.uk/seating/premium-metal-seats/brighton-seat	£872.50 excluding VAT + £28.56 for Bolts

N.B. This if from September 2021 full council

MINUTE 181

AGENDA ITEM 15 – TO DISCUSS BENCHES FOR THE CYCLE TRACK

Cllr Jenkins has requested the above agenda item as he has received many requests from residents for more benches along the cycle track especially on the incline up to Maesteg Comprehensive School.

Cllr Jenkins advised that he had received many requests from elderly residents for a bench halfway between Crown Road and Maesteg Comprehensive School due to the steep incline.

Cllr G Thomas proposed and seconded by Cllr A James that prices for benches is sought and to ask BCBC whether permission could be granted to install a bench halfway between Crown Road and Maesteg Comprehensive School

RESOLVED:

- Contact BCBC for permission to install a bench
- Once permission is granted seek prices for benches

Cllr R Lewis: Perhaps Councillor Jenkins could fund this bench from ward specific funding? It would be an excellent use if said funds for Maesteg East I think

Cllr P Jenkins: The perfect location is approx. several meters from the turning circle and RD to miner/ community route. It is on level surface has no immediate shrubbery, gauze, surrounding it. Comes straight off pavement no trip hazard, if sunk into footings , thus requires no step up or off. Perfect area, perhaps next financial year, one could be placed opposite side so one could look up onto the mountain, other down valley.

Members discussed this bench and for the funding to come out of Maesteg East ward fund.

Cllr F Abedalkarim **proposed**, seconded by Cllr P Jenkins that option 3 is purchased as it has 3 legs and therefore stronger for kids jumping on them. It was also discussed

that a concrete base would be needed and that a suitable contractor would need to be hired to install a concrete base and install the bench.

A member queried how much of the Maesteg East ward fund was available and the Clerk advised that current systems were not working and she is unable to give the exact figure, however believes most of the fund has been unused. The member continued to state that in his opinion there seems to be a stigma attached to spending ward specific fund, how are ward members going to justify not spending a £10k budget to improve the ward to their constituents.

An East ward member stated there nothing saying monies cannot be taken forward, want project that monies is worth spending on not just spending for the sake of it.

The Clerk advised that any unspent funds unless already agreed will be placed back into the Council reserves at the end of the financial year.

Another East ward member stated that discussions have been made between the ward members to extend the Christmas lighting down to Garth however this has yet to be costed. We thought if we were having the £10k then this would have covered it but if the funds are not carried forward then we can't.

RESOLVED:

- To purchase option 3 bench
- To tender the installation of a concrete slab and installation of the bench

492. DEFIBRILLATOR ENQUIRY

An email received from a defibrillator company called Severnside Defibs, based in Wales enquiring to see whether you would be interested in finding out more information / purchasing a defibrillator for your local community?

I can supply you with a defibrillator and an external cabinet, as well as ongoing support, ensuring your defibrillator is always rescue ready. I can also offer a defibrillator familiarisation session to your community so that they are familiar with it and have the confidence to use it.

Clerk has responded to advise that MTC work closely with Maesteg Community First Responders regarding defibrillators etc.

Maesteg Town Council only own the Town Council building that is Grade II* listed. We are unable to attach a defibrillator onto the external walls as we have previously asked permission with Bridgend County Borough Council Conservation Officer who stated that it would not be in keeping with the listed building status.

RESOLVED: To note the information

493. CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS PAINTINGS

A member of the public came into the building 02/03/2023 and asked to see the Christopher Williams paintings, Clerk showed the resident the ones in the meeting room next to the office and the ones upstairs in the conference room. The resident was dismayed at the conditions of the paintings especially the one of the Llyn Peninsular as the photo online it is vibrant (<https://artuk.org/discover/curations/the-sea-the-irish-sea-st-patricks-day-2021/template/showcase/slide-page/8>) and is photo credited to BCBC.

Clerk has emailed the BCBC Conservation Officer again to ask for ownership details, however no response received to date.

The resident came into the building again on 03/02/2023 with his daughter and both were saddened that the paintings have not been restored. The resident advised that he had also spoken to the Mayor regarding his disappointment.

Clerk also advised the resident that AWEN Cultural Trust are running a number of sessions throughout the year to celebrate 150 years since Christopher Williams was born. In addition to this the AWEN Heritage Officer is attending MTC March Full Council meeting to give a talk to the Council and that he would be welcome to join the meeting.

Members discussed this and some were dismayed that any individual can come in and judge the condition of paintings that are over 100 year olds. Other members stated that the building is a public building and that anyone can ask to see the paintings. The Clerk advised that the person had already spoken to the Mayor prior to attending the building and the Clerk was with individual during both visits.

Clerk also updated members that BCBC had asked us not to go to tender for restoring the paintings until ownership had been agreed. Members also queried why had restoration companies been asked to tender the restoration without the ownership being agreed. The Clerk advised that following a recent full council meeting the Clerk was instructed to go to tender in order that the costs involved are given if ownership is given to Maesteg Town Council.

RESOLVED: To await ownership details

494. REQUEST FOR BINS

Cllr P Davies: Could we also put on the agenda for Tuesday additional rubbish bins on the section of thack between the Dyffryn Hotel and the top of Evans Terrace. I have been approached by a constituent regarding a lack of bins along that section.

Following this and other requests for litter bins it was agreed that each ward is to provide 4 suitable locations within their wards for litter bins to be installed. A BCBC member advised that currently BCBC Cleaner Streets do not have the funding to add additional bins and they may not have the funding to empty the additional bins. Another member asked what arrangement the CMO has for emptying the bins along the cycle track, to which the Clerk advised we have a cleaner streets agreement where

the CMO empties the bins and disposes of the bins with the Cleaner streets operatives in Heol Ty Gwyn. A member queried if the same agreement could be used for new bins? Clerk advised she would need to discuss with BCBC.

Cllr P Jenkins: Dear clerk please could you add an urgent request for a litter bin to be placed between the rail carpark Asda and Ferriers Row, although an area of ASDA stores hopefully if emptied by BCBC when emptying South Parade at other side of bridge. Of course, permission sought from Asda. Please to could I request before the spring rapid growth that the shrubbery alongside this area be cut back by our CMO, thus enabling the easier access to litter picking, should this be favourable.

RESOLVED:

- Clerk to contact BCBC to ascertain if they would empty any new bin installations
- Wards to provide 4 locations within their wards for new litter bins.

495. REQUEST FOR BINS FROM CLLR C KNIGHT

Request regarding bins, after a report about rusty broken bins in Celtic Children's Playing Field. They BCBC removed the bins but I've been told not replaced

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact BCBC to see if they will be replacing the bins

496. REQUEST FROM CLLR R MARTIN

Can we agenda at some point a 4-year business plan, ideally this should have been done after the elections. We should be looking at the Llynfi Valley as a joined-up service. Yes there will be emergencies and requests from members of the public, but shouldn't we be looking at the whole of llynfi Valley and have a 4 year plan of actions for improvements for the whole of the valley. We are reactionary to issues coming in. A good organized council should sit down together and put together a plan.

Members agreed MTC need to consult with public as part of local government act to find out what the residents priorities would be for Maesteg.

It was deliberated which committee should lead with a consultation with the following committees being named: Finance, Policy and Projects.

It was agreed that the Policy Committee should look into a consultation questionnaire before a 4 year plan can be agreed.

RESOLVED: The Policy Committee to look into a consultation

497. CLASSIC CAR SHOW FOR 2023

I have secured 2 dates for a classic car show at Tesco overflow car park this year after the great success last year April 30th & August 27th do the council want to get involved in the August event like last year ?

Members agreed to this request as the Classic Car show brings residents into the town.

RESOLVED: To advise that MTC will assist like last year.

498. DELEGATES REPORT

Report from Blaencaerau PlayPark – meeting 30/01/23

Here are some brief notes of the discussions and actions we agreed.

Blaencaerau playpark is in a serious state of disrepair. Residents and Cllrs have reported concerns of the condition and safety of the playpark children are missing out as they do not have a safe and usable playpark in the area.

Group including local project, residents, Cllrs and V2C have been trying to work on this for some time (pandemic also hindered progress). Playpark was mistakenly part of a stock transfer from BCBC to V2C a number of years ago. The anomaly of the transfer only came to light following the playpark concerns being raised as a result V2C do not have the playpark on their inspection and works schedule. BCBC have continued to inspect (and carry out relevant safety works) - report of annual external inspection is available. BCBC have not included the play park in their county wide refurbishment programme. Caerau Cllr's have raised the issue of the play park with Maesteg Town Council, who have in principle agreed to explore the possibility of a CAT with V2C/BCBC (confirmed it will be with V2C). V2C would need to facilitate this CAT with MTC. BCBC CAT Board support BCBC facilities in a CAT (this play park is no longer a BCBC asset), however, this is a unique situation due to the complexity of what has happened and the current situation. ZS suggested a proposal could be made to the CAT Board to consider providing funding towards a CAT on this facility, this would also require Cabinet sign off, and will discuss with JS. Best outcome for the play park facility and the children can be achieved through V2C, BCBC and MTC working and funding together funding the refurbishment/renewal of the playpark: 'like for like' estimate is approx. £45,000 based on playpark work. BCBC have been undertaking require quotes from play park companies - names of reputable companies required quotes would need to include 'like for like' up to 'full new improved play park' (with additional apparatus etc.) need to consider; play surface, apparatus, bins, fencing, accessibility whether build or design & build target age group of the play park (currently under 12) cost could be shared three ways if V2C, BCBC and MTC in agreement possibility to look at other sources of funding such as Invest Local Caerau (ILC) draw on BCBC playpark knowledge and expertise to support the planning and build consider other associated costs such as ongoing maintenance and safety inspections. RL informed the group she will relay all the information to DD and seek his advice etc. on behalf of V2C.

Undertake consultation with local children on the design and style of the play park (age group specific). Look at how children play and natural forms of play - play audit. Agreed that this was an extremely informative, productive and positive meeting and hopefully with all continuing to work together a new playpark will be the outcome for the community.

Sustaining momentum and drive will be pivotal from here in order to achieve this. Noted that all Caerau Cllr's are working together on this (and many other issues and projects) - two Labour and two Independent Cllr's!!!

Actions

copy of external playpark inspection report - ZS/PB
names of reputable playpark companies - PB/KM
place Blaencaerau playpark on the MTC Full Council agenda for next week - AJ
inquire whether BCBC CAT Board would consider funding - ZS (with JS)
inquire whether ILC is able to contribute funding - MR
initiate CAT transfer process between V2C and MTC - RL/DD/MTC Cllr's
undertake consultation with children on the design and style of the play park - AJ/RD/MR/RL
seek estimates on costings - RL/MR/AJ/RD
arrange follow up meeting with progress update - MR

Email 03/02/2023: V2C are happy to support a community asset transfer of the playground to Maesteg Town Council.

Perhaps we can arrange a follow up meeting appropriate representatives for MTC etc to discuss next steps?

Email 08/02/2023: Zak Shell, Head of Community Operations, has outlined a recent meeting between the Town Council, Valleys to Coast (V2C) and BCBC regarding the potential transfer of Blaencaerau Park from V2C so that Play Area improvements can be undertaken. Zak highlighted a commitment from all parties that the costs for the redevelopment should be shared under a tripartite basis with an additional contribution possibly being sourced under the Building Communities Trust project at Caerau.

Zak has asked me to liaise with the Town Council who potentially will be managing the project to outline two possible sources of funding from BCBC to fund our contribution: the CAT Fund which has no specific closing date and the Town and Community Council Capital Grant scheme which closes for 2023-24 on 28 February.

Can I suggest that we arrange a Microsoft Teams meeting to discuss the project and for me to outline the funding sources currently available from BCBC.

If you can suggest a couple of days / times for next week I will get a meeting invite arranged.

Members thanked the Caerau Cllrs and commended that more has been progressed in the last few months than had been done over the last few years. Cllr Rowlands advised that they are waiting V2C and have a meeting arranged for Tuesday 7th March to see if they will offload it and commit financially. Email from Guy Smith RE CAT transfer about options and finance available. £45k plus looking at the moment for a like for like.

RESOLVED: To wait for further outcomes

499. PLANNING

A list of the following planning proposals received from BCBC to date, for discussion and observation.

The following application had no objection, however it was queried why V2C are to demolish the garages when there is a lack of available garage space?:

Ref: P/22/843/DPN
Applicant: Valleys to Coast Housing
Location: Garage site west of 103 Tudor Estate Maesteg CF34 0SP
Proposal: Prior notification to demolish 2no. garages (no.s 21 and 22)
Ask for: Julie Jenkins

The following application had no objection:

Ref: P/22/840/FUL
Applicant: Industrial Pipework Ltd
Location: Unit 11 Heol Ty Gwyn Industrial Estate Maesteg CF34 0BQ
Proposal: Retention of 4 starter units in steel framed structure
Ask for: Lee Evans

500. TO APPOINT DELEGATES TO THE COMMITTEES FORMER CLLR EDWARDS BELONGED TO

Following the resignation of Cllr K Edwards from the Council and the Co-Option of Cllr A LeGeyt, the following committees now have vacancies:

- Finance

A member raised the issue of Authorised Signatories not authorising payments when they have been agreed in Full Council. Clerk advised that would be a matter for the Finance Committee to discuss. Tonight is about filling vacancies to the committees following the resignation of former Cllr K Edwards.

Nominations	Vote	Confirmed on Committee
Cllr A LeGeyt	No further nominations	Cllr A LeGeyt

- Rights of Way & Environment - member from Maesteg East

Nominations	Vote	Confirmed on Committee
Cllr I Williams	No further nominations	Cllr I Williams

- Projects - member from Maesteg East

Nominations	Vote	Confirmed on Committee
Cllr P Jenkins	No further nominations	Cllr P Jenkins

- BCBC Town & Community Council Forum

Clerk advised that BCBC members are already on the committee and that they were unable to be the MTC representative.

Nominations	Vote	Confirmed on Committee
Cllr F Abedalkarim	No further nominations	Cllr F Abedalkarim

RESOLVED: The above be added to the retrospective committees

501. PROBLEM WITH LIFT

06/02/2023 U3A were due to hold a meeting with one member requiring the lift. Deputy Clerk went to let the member into the lift whereby they got in but the lift wouldn't move. Clerk tries to call the lift to the ground floor and the upper floor but the lift wouldn't move. Clerk had to then go to the basement and use the override key to open the lift and let the U3A member and Deputy Clerk out. KONE have been called and have advised a new electrical node is required to the sum of £2,016.32 (£2,419.54 inc VAT).

08/02/2023 – quote received from KONE plc for replacing the faulty node board and forwarded to all members. Members queried that 3 quotes were needed, clerk advised that this was the quote from the lift maintenance and service company and would also seek other companies to quote. N.B. the lift is out of order until the faulty board is replaced. The cleaner has also advised that she is unable to clean the disabled toilets properly due to not being able to carry buckets of hot water and bleach around the front of the building and all her other equipment and requests that this be done as soon as possible.

Response from Keighley Lifts UK Ltd and Swansea Lift Repair & Service Ltd:

Thank you for your enquiry.

We are familiar with the type of lift however having looked at the cost of a replacement floor node and the attendance required to actually confirm the issue with the lift I believe the associated costs for our company to complete the required works would exceed your current quotation.

We are sorry that we cannot be of any further assistance on this occasion but would welcome the opportunity of tendering for works going forward.

A Cardiff based lift company has advised of the following: We would need to assess for ourselves the fault diagnosis and if/what parts maybe required.

Our rate for a Technicians attendance to non-contract clients is £300.00 + VAT which covers up to x2 hours including travel time and is payable in advance via pro forma invoice, with each subsequent hour required needing to be authorised and is charged at £150.00 + VAT per hour.

Once the lift is back in operation, we would be in a position to offer an annual maintenance contract along with substantially reduced hourly rates.

If you would like to go ahead with the attendance then please advise on the below points so that we can set you up on our system and book in the attendance.

- 1) Full site address, contact name and telephone number
- 2) Full invoicing address, contact name and telephone number
- 3) Lift manufacture for each lift
- 4) No of floors each lift serves
- 5) Last copy of LOLER examination report (insurance report) for each lift
- 6) Current lift maintenance provider (if not confirm they have been regularly been maintained)
- 7) How many times per year you currently have each lift serviced (min 4 for passenger lift) (min 2 for platform or service lifts)
- 8) Confirm the lifts are normally in good working order and/or if there are any known unresolved or reoccurring faults.

24/02/2023 The Chair of Health and Safety would like the lift repairs approved as a matter of urgency as the cleaner is unable to do her job without it. Currently she attempts to take buckets of water from the office, out the front and around the back, with her having knee problems as well this isn't viable.

Members discussed this issue and agreed that the H&S and Property Committee meet to consider this as the lift repairs have to be done. It was noted that the lift hadn't worked properly since it was installed. Members discussed getting quotes not only for the repair but for new a lift.

Chair of H&S and Property asked about the fire escape door at the rear of the boiler room, Clerk advised we are at a stalemate between the BCBC Conservation Officer and the Carpenter.

Another member queried the lack of hot water in the disabled toilet, Clerk was advised that the sink in the disabled toilet is unsuitable to fill a bucket, hence why the cleaner carries the bucket of water around from the ground floor to the rear of the building.

RESOLVED: To wait for further quotes

Minutes emailed to Councillors to Read on 1st March 2023

Minutes accepted at a Hybrid meeting of the Council held on 7th March 2023

.....
Mayor