

**MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of a HYBRID meeting of the **FULL COUNCIL** held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg and remotely via Microsoft Teams and, on **Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**PRESENT:**

**COUNCILLORS:**

**A James (Mayor)**

F Abedalkarim, R Collins, AR Davies, C Davies, P Davies, P Jenkins, C Knight, A Le Geyt, R Martin, R Penhale-Thomas, M Rowlands, G Thomas, L Thomas and I Williams

**APOLOGIES:**

Apologies were received from Cllrs AR Davies (who was able to attend), R Lewis and G Williams

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Cllrs R Collins, C Davies, P Davies, P Jenkins and R Penhale-Thomas declared an interest in any items relating to Bridgend County Borough Council.

Cllr R Collins declared an interest in in the financial application relating to Plasnewydd Primary School

Cllr A James declared an interest in the financial application relating to Nantyffyllon Primary School

Cllr C Knight declared an interest in the financial application from Bronfair Allotments.

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas declared an interest in items relating to Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park.

**557. POLICE MATTERS**

The welcomed Sgt R Lea to the meeting and the following crime figures were provided:

**Maesteg Crime Statistics for March 2023**

	<b>Caerau / Nanty</b>	<b>Maesteg East</b>	<b>Maesteg West</b>	<b>Llan</b>	<b>Total in category</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Drugs</b>	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Dwelling burglary</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Burglary other</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Theft of vehicle</b>	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Theft from vehicle</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>

<b>All other theft</b>	3	4	6	1	<b>14</b>
<b>Damage</b>	3	1	3	1	<b>8</b>
<b>Violence against The person</b>					
	26 (7)	12 (1)	20 (5)	3	<b>61 (13)</b>
Domestic related Occurrences	7	3	5	0	15
<b>All crime total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>ASB total</b>	17	5	15	1	<b>38</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	0	1	0	0	<b>1</b>

The following questions were raised by members:

- Concerns by residents at the junction of Bank Street & Bridge St about a van regularly parked there causing an obstruction onto Bridge Street.  
Sgt Lea advised they will look into the issue.
- Are SW Police and SW Fire & Rescue fully prepared for the potential of grass fires and apprehending those caught lighting fires?  
Sgt Lea advised that they had been working closely with SW Fire & Rescue and that all incidents are investigated.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

#### **558. MAYORAL EVENTS**

The Mayor advised that he attended the following events;

- 9<sup>th</sup> March – 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary
- 29<sup>th</sup> March - Love it don't trash it presentation
- 30<sup>th</sup> March – 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

#### **559. MINUTES**

The following minutes, copies of the which minutes have been circulated to Members, were read, and recommendations accepted as a true record and signed by the Mayor:

- **Full Council – 07/03/2023 emailed 09/03/2023**
- **Full Council (Confidential) – 07/03/2023 emailed 09/03/2023**
- **Extraordinary Council – 28/03/2023 emailed 28/03/2023**

The **Finance Committee – 03/04/2023 emailed 03/04/2023** minutes were read, and recommendations discussed with the following observations:

- 1) The Proposed budget as per Appendix 1 agreed

Looking at the revised budget a member stated that the money that was set aside for the traffic calming measures should now go back into reserves and not allocated to a different project. It is believed that this is the proper process and the member requested

that we check with the internal auditor. The Chair of Finance disagreed and advised that this is a Council decision and not the auditors.

2) Agree to the new Pensions Employer Contributions - Accepted

3) Discuss giving back delegated powers to Committees at the AGM – Agreed to discuss at AGM

A member raised concerns about proposed delegated authority to committees by the finance committee as this Council is only recently out of the woods with regards to previous financial activities so this would be too soon and the strict financial measures that are in place are working effectively. The Chair of Finance responded stating that authority is given to committees and that any financial spend still has to come before the full council.

4) Chair of Finance to contact BCBC regarding the ROW Agency Agreement allocation

A member asked if we could request more money from BCBC for the maintenance of the rights of way as more costs are incurred than we actually receive within the Agency Agreement. Council agreed that the chair of finance contact BCBC regarding the ROW agency agreement and explore options.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **560. MINUTE 506**

#### **PRESENTATION ON CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS**

08/03/2023: Emailed the Heritage Manager at AWEN Cultural Trust the outstanding amount needed for the restoration of the Llynfi Iron Works painting and the bank details for us to make the payment.

14/03/2023: Payment made under S145

16/03/2023: Letter of thanks received for the donation

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

### **561. MINUTE 517**

#### **CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS PAINTINGS – WITHIN MTC**

09/03/2023: Email received and forwarded to members to advise that the BCBC Property dept will be looking at the ownership details next week.

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

### **562. MINUTE 520**

#### **GRIT BOXES REQUESTS**

10/03/2023: Letters sent to residents for permission to locate the grit boxes at the following locations:

- AT THE JUNCTION OF IVOR STREET AND YR YSFA
- CHURCH PLACE AT THE JUNCTION WITH BRYNMAWR PLACE

- END OF UPPER STREET, MAESTEG NEAR THE FOOTPATH TO TESCO
- OUTSIDE SPECIAL FAMILIES - FAIRFIELD CENTRE, MAESTEG, CF34 9LR
- OUTSIDE CDT - WOODLANDS TERRACE, CAERAU, MAESTEG CF34 0SR

13/03/2023: Letters sent to residents for permission to locate the grit boxes at the following locations:

- UNION STREET, NANTYFFYLLON, CF34 0BG

## **RESPONSES:**

### **Ivor Street:**

- agree there is an issue in this area but the problem lies with water flowing from the verge at the top of the street all year long but in winter time becomes a danger when freezing, there is a grit box in West Street and agree placing one at the top of Ivor Street just below the verge may elevate prospective issues but work must be carried out on the water problem first by either Welsh Water or Local Authority
- I have received a letter to say about a grit bin going outside my property which I am not happy about where on earth are you going to put it with all the cars and vans that are parked on the pavement outside my house if you contact who every messed the Kirb stones at the lane at top of Ivor street you wouldn't need to have a grit bin the water is constantly pour down the street even in the warm weather really annoyed about this.

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas advised it was one of the above residents who requested a grit bin but hadn't discussed it with their partner. Cllr R Penhale-Thomas will go and speak to the residents for an alternative location.

Still waiting on location for Priory Terrace as there is already a grit box near the junction with Vicarage Terrace.

**RESOLVED:** to proceed with ordering the grit boxes excluding Ivor Street and Priory Terrace

### **563. MINUTE 522 REQUEST FOR BINS**

10/03/2023: Emailed BCBC Cleaner Streets to see if the additional bins can be added to the Cleaner Streets agreement.

To date no response received.

**RESOLVED:** to chase BCBC

## 564. MINUTE 523

### LIFT MAINTENANCE

13/03/2023: Contacted KONE plc for information regarding current lift maintenance contract as MTC have paid the following:

- 07/09/2022 Maintenance & Service for 01/08/2022 – 31/07/2023 £710.76 + VAT
- 03/11/2022 Call out charge £122.44 + VAT
- 08/02/2023 Call out charge £203.88 + VAT

KONE have advised that MTC have been on a rolling 3-year contract since 2009 and the current contract ends 01/08/2024. However, there are no fees for terminating the contract early as long as 90 days written notice is given via email.

Several emails have been received from members regarding the lift being out of order and include the following:

- I am a member of the Maesteg U3A and one of our members, you may well know is in a wheel chair. We had to abandon a meeting in MTC a few weeks ago as he was stuck in a faulty lift.

In our U3A meeting today the question was asked is it fixed ? We understand that there is an issue with a maintenance contract? I would have thought that MTC would be very keen on “inclusion” and had it fixed a few weeks ago, there is plenty of money in the kitty, we were all wondering what the holdup is.

- A resident approached me about another issue as he wanted some help on . I mentioned to him that when he’s next talking to Sian maybe he’d mention it.

He did e-mail her and got a reply that it was to do with a renewal of a maintenance contract. It’s been out for weeks; I would have thought there would be many companies who would love the contract - what’s the delay?? I thought MTC would be on the case especially with all this talk about inclusion with disabled people.

Clerk and Deputy Clerk have advised members that there was a repair needed to the lift and a quote was received but Council asked to find other quotes. Other companies won’t touch the lift as its currently under contract, Council have since decided to go with another lift maintenance company who will be sending out details any day now and from that they will be doing a full lift appraisal and giving us a quote for works they deem necessary to have it in working order.

At the moment we cannot say when the lift will be working.

Clerk advised Council that an email had been received from the previously discussed new company the day of Full Council meeting advising:

There are 4 levels of service cover we can offer for your platform lift but I believe the 2 below are best for you.

Our options are:-

Level/Inclusions	SERVICE (Standard)	SOLUTION (Comprehensive)
Scheduled Servicing	YES	YES
Calls In Hours	No	YES
Calls Out of Hours	No	No
Minor Parts	No	YES
Major Components	No	No
Normal Response	12 Hours	8 Hours
Entrapment	1 Hour	1 Hour
Service Visits/Annum	2 visits - £266 4 visits - £494	2 visits - £488 4 visits - £740

All rates above exclude VAT at the prevailing rate.

Not covered by ANY contract are call outs as a result of misuse/abuse, running on arrival, obsolete equipment or factors outside of the company control (such as power failure to building)

When we take on any new contract we will complete a free of charge dilapidation report with our first service visit.

This gives both you and us a clear indication of the condition of the unit when we take it on contract.

If there are any repairs deemed necessary, then we will provide a formal quotation for these. We cannot go ahead with these repairs without your consent.

By being an “ON CONTRACT” customer then you would receive preferential rates for any quotes we provide.

The figures above are based on a 1 year only term (if you require a longer term such as 3 or 5 years then the figures may be reduced)

At the end of the “initial term” then the contract will “rollover” in 1 year increments only, should you not cancel giving at least 3 months’ notice.

Members recognised the importance of fixing the lift as soon as possible. They mentioned that given previous history with the current provider, if the quoted fix was paid for then it’s likely the lift will break again and the Council would be out of pocket to the tune of thousands. It was **agreed** to enter into contract with a new lift maintenance company on a 4 yearly visit, fully comprehensive cover. It was advised that under the new contract a dilapidation service will take place and they will recommend what is needed to have the lift in proper working order going forward

**RESOLVED:** To cancel the current contract and proceed with a new company.

**565. MINUTE 531**

**MAESTEG WEST WARD FUNDS – MAESTEG WEST WELFARE PARK**

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas declared an interest as a member of the Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park.

Emailed Friends of Maesteg Welfare park for details in order to place the order for the noticeboards – order placed and paid to the sum of £876.45 (ex VAT).

Due to the noticeboards ordered being less than the requested £1,100.00 (Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park unaware we could reclaim VAT) the Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park have asked would it be possible to order 4 x A4 poster cases at a cost of £187.52 (£46.88 excluding VAT each) plus fixtures.

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to the additional purchase of 4 x A4 poster cases.

**566. MINUTE 533**

**ONE VOICE WALES MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL – 2023-24**

08/03/2023: Membership renewed

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

**567. MINUTE 534**

**RECOGNITION LETTER AND PLAQUE FOR PC HUNTER**

13/03/2023: Letter and plaque posted to PC Hunter

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

**568. MINUTE 538**

**MAESTEG WEST WARD FUNDS – MAESTEG SPORTS CENTRE  
PLANTERS**

Waiting for more information from Cllr R Collins

Chair of Finance raised that there was no provision for these spends into 2023-24 and that the budget would need to be looked at again unless the money comes from the 2023-24 ward fund.

**RESOLVED:**

Cllr R Collins and A James will meet up shortly to discuss options

Clerk & Chair of Finance to look at the budget for the agreed spends for Ward Funds.

**569. MINUTE 541**

**CAERAU WARD FUNDS**

08/03/2023: Emailed BCBC Planning regarding Graffiti murals at the following proposed Caerau location:

- Adjacent to the pillars of Caerau on an end terrace elevation. The owner of the business has been approached and is happy to proceed with a piece of local graffiti art depicting Caerau's industrial heritage.

1. Llynfi Road Car Park - underground car park
2. WILKO – Llynfi Road
3. BLUE PEARL F&C Llynfi Lane
4. Bottom property in Commercial street next to chemist and by the crossing....not sure what business is there at the moment.

Location 1 the owner has been contacted and is happy to proceed.

Locations 2 – 5 owners to be contacted and to be from Maesteg West Ward Funds

**20/03/2023 Response:** BCBC Planning Department:

*We can advise that advertisement consent is not required for the graffiti provided it does not contain any branding/logos.*

*Regards, Planning Dept*

To date for Caerau Ward:

1. 10 x Litter picker ordered and delivered – skip hire to be hired once date is arranged
2. Two war memorial benches to be purchased and sited on the green at Caerau Square. 29/03/2023 – Licence agreed from BCBC, need to order the benches and get quotes to install.
3. Graffiti see matters arising and agenda item 9.
4. Planters ordered, purchased, and awaiting delivery. Awaiting invoice for compost
5. Hanging Baskets – Locations agreed by BCBC to install the brackets onto streetlights. Hanging baskets ordered 29/03/2023

There was a discussion on the bringing forward of ward funds from previous financial years if not spent. Members were advised that in previous years this has not been the case and won't be this year. It was advised that projects that are currently in the pipeline and have allocated funds will be able to come out of the ward funds of last year but anything new will now be taken out of the new financial years ward fund.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk & Chair of Finance to look at the budget for the agreed spends for Ward Funds.

**570. MINUTE 543**

**RING DOORBELL**

Online the resale of a ring doorbell varies between £50.00 - £90.00

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to charge £30 for the ring doorbell for the member of staff



**571. MINUTE 546**

**FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

Letters of thanks received from the following:

- Caerau Market Garden

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

**572. MINUTE 547**

**DELEGATES REPORTS**

**c) BCBC T&CC Forum meeting 06/03/2023:**

Officer has been invited to attend a Full Council meeting. Officer is unable to attend 4<sup>th</sup> April and has advised she will attend full council on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023.

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

**573. LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023**

**RESOLVED:**

That the tables of **Expenditure (£20,816.01) Income (£1,896.50)** during the month of March 2023; 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.

Members were also provided with:

- list of payments to be made in March 2023 totalling **£3,591.52**
- A copy of the Receipts and Payments Account which includes expenditure against the budget and the budget remaining and an income analysis.
- Q4 VAT claim totalling **£14,160.23**

The Chair of Finance explained that these finances are the Councils end of year which results in us carrying forward £500,000 in the investment account and £19,000 in the daily account.

**CMO Summary**

The month of March have included the following works:

- Weekly building checks that include:
  - fire alarm
  - emergency lighting
  - legionnaires disease
- Weekly bin emptying on the cycle track
- Inspect and, where necessary, cut back overgrowth or clear debris – Fp 2A, 6, 15, 20, 23A, 27, 37A, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45A, 57, 62, 64, 74, 77
- Attended and helped Llynfi Woodland planting day
- Emptied bucket collecting drips from leak in office
- Repaired public w/c door

- Delivered dog waste bags to CDT
- Collected serviced tools from Aberkenfig

I have taken much of my remaining annual leave during March before the growing/cutting season picks up in April.

### **Works to be Carried out Next Month;**

- Weekly building checks that include:
  - fire alarm
  - emergency lighting
  - legionnaires disease
- Weekly bin emptying on the cycle track
- Inspect and, where necessary, cut back overgrowth or clear debris on rights of ways

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **574. NEWSLETTERS / FLYERS / BRIEFING NOTES/ CONSULTATIONS**

Emailed to all Councillors for information:

- BCBC update – Tondu Water works: Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water have agreed to pause works in Tondu for the foreseeable future with the aim of finding a solution to the consequential traffic issues. The works are taking place at the Maesteg Road (A4063) traffic lights junction in Tondu and will finish for the time being on Friday 10 March 2023. The contractors are now working to reinstate the highway so the original traffic light set up can return in readiness for the weekend. Despite the works being delivered by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, the council has stepped in to monitor the situation at peak times and to meet with the traffic management contractor employed by Dwr Cymru Welsh Water to try and find a solution.  
Due to the nature of the works, the contractors were unable to avoid working at peak times and tried a variety of measures to improve the situation. Further meetings will now be held between the council and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water to plan for the completion of the works possibly later in the year. The council would like to thank residents and motorists for their patience and understanding at this time.
- UK WIDE Government Consultation launched on new registration rules for all bird keepers in Great Britain.’ **Consultation ends 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023**
- (IRP) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report - February 2023
- BCBC Warm spaces update 09.03.23
- Welsh Government Vacancy -- Public Appointments:
  1. Flood and Coastal Erosion Committee Appointment of Member
  2. Statistical Officer
  3. Senior Manager – Childcare and Play Inspection

- Welsh Government Consultations
  - i) Planning Policy Wales: Net benefit for biodiversity and ecosystems' resilience **Consultation ends 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023**
  - ii) Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle (Wales) Bill: white paper **Consultation ends 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023**
- National Lottery - Funding Advice for Older People's Groups
- Tools For Self-Reliance Cymru
- Welsh Government: Written Statement: Digital Health of Community and Town Councils
- Neath Port Talbot Council's Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) (2021-2036): Key Issues, Vision and Objectives Background Paper, Consultation Draft, (March 2023)
- BCBC - Rates Relief Scheme
- LGA Annual Update Bulletin that can be found here- <https://www.lgpsregs.org/bulletinsetc/bulletins.php>
- Welsh Government - Penn Review response (Local Authority Ethical Standards Framework and Code of Conduct)
- Welsh Government - Written Statement on Electoral Reform
- Welsh Government Vacancy -- Public Appointments
  - Appointment of a Member - Welsh Food Advisory Committee (Welsh Desirable)
  - Appointment of a Member - Welsh Food Advisory Committee (Welsh Desirable)
- OVW - APRIL 2023 TRAINING DATES
- A Welsh Water incident may be affecting your area - CWM DU STREET
- BCBC - 20 mph speed limits consultation for roads to remain 30mph

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

#### **575. DOG POO BAGS REQUESTS**

Requests from the following organisations:

- MAWS bookshop – 8 boxes in March
- CDT – 6 Boxes
- Special Families – 8 boxes

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

#### **576. DISABLED TOILET OUT OF ORDER**

08/03/2023: Emailed all members with the following:

The cleaner has just been down to the toilet and someone has defecated faeces all over the floor. We have therefore closed the Toilet to the public – Deputy Clerk will carry the bucket of water down for the cleaner.

Responses from Members:

- for heaven's sake, disgusting, people amaze me. We really need to arrange for hot water and a usable tap in that toilet.
- Thanks for letting us know I'm amazed at the disgusting behaviour some people indulge in.
- This is unacceptable behaviour we supply a facility for the public and they treat it like a farm yard and no cleaner should be faced with this mess to clean up I am bitterly disappointed.

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

**577. .GOV DOMAIN NAME**

13/03/2023 Email forwarded from ITCS who advise In order for us to proceed with the domain, we are required to register with Welsh government. We are going through that process for you now.

Responses from Members:

- Thanks for the info, they have indeed dragged their feet on this.
- This is very disappointing that they've made no progress given the amount of time they've had to work on this. They were equally presented with all the necessary information prior. The process is not a complicated one. There are several councils who have already got a .gov.wales or a .gov.uk name and having spoken to colleagues across the councils, it was a straightforward procedure. Thanks for pursuing this.

Members agreed that the ITCS service we have received for a while has been lacklustre and we should be meeting with management there to discuss the contract. It was agreed to add this to the communications committee agenda.

**RESOLVED:** To add to a Communications Committee meeting agenda

**578. REFERRALS**

- 16/03/2023: Handwritten complaint letter received, scanned, and forwarded to all members regarding litter on footpaths between Maesteg and Nantyffyllon. Scanned copy of the letter also sent to SW Police and Cleanupthecounty:  
**Response SW Police 16/03/2023:** We already patrol these areas frequently as they are main routes but I will add the detail about the rugby club.
- Bin full by nanty park. We have logged a ticket with BCBC 29/03/2023  
**Response BCBC** have arranged for the bin to be emptied by Nanty Park – Heol Tywith/Homfray Street.

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

**579. BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) ORDER 2013 (AMENDMENT No.xx ) ORDER 202-**

I attach for your information Notice in respect of the proposal to introduce a prohibition of waiting loading and unloading at any time restriction as detailed in the attached Notice and shown on the attached drawing Ref **EB22.08**.

Please note that any objections or representations to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be sent in writing addressed to K Watson, Chief Officer - Legal, HR & Regulatory Services – Chief Executive’s Directorate, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB or by email to Jane.Dessent@bridgend.gov.uk by the 14/04/2023.

I trust that this is acceptable however please contact me should you require any further information in respect of this matter. The Council welcomes receiving correspondence in Welsh, any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

**SCHEDULE (PROHIBITION OF WAITING LOADING AND UNLOADING AT ANY TIME)**

**Maesteg Bus Station Access Road, Off Church Street, Maesteg**

- i. On its southern side from Maesteg Bus Stations Southern Entrance, Junction with Church Street, in a westerly then northern direction for approximately 39 meters (43 yards).
- ii. On its northern side from Maesteg Bus Stations Southern Entrance, Junction with Church Street, in a westerly then north Westerly and then north easterly direction for a distance of approximately 46 meters (50 yards).

**Church Street, Maesteg**

- i. On its western side southwards from its junction with Maesteg Bus Stations Southern Entrance, southwards for a distance of approximately 3 meters (3 yards).

A member asked if we can contact BCBC to ask what work arounds there are for parents dropping their children off to the dance school along this route, they added that these parents do not park on the road simply drop off.

**RESOLVED:** To contact BCBC with the above request

**580. PSOW COMPLAINT**

16/03/2023: A complaint has been received by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales regarding a member of Maesteg Town Council. Within the letter received the PSOW advise that the complaint should not be investigated. The Councillor involved in the complaint has been notified.

A member queried whether the Council should investigate the complaint, however as the PSOW have determined that the complaint should not be investigated there is no legal requirement for MTC to investigate.

**RESOLVED:** to note the information

**581. BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL TRA001-1322**

I attach for your information Notice in respect of the proposal to introduce a prohibition of loading and unloading at any time restriction as detailed in the attached Notice and shown on the attached drawing Ref **EB22.12**.

Please note that any objections or representations to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be sent in writing addressed to K Watson, Chief Officer - Legal, HR & Regulatory Services – Chief Executive's Directorate, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB or by email to Jane.Dessent@bridgend.gov.uk by the 14/04/2023.

**SCHEDULE PROHIBITION OF LOADING AND UNLOADING AT ANY TIME**

**Llynfi Road, Maesteg**

- i. On its eastern side northwards from its junction with Upper Street and the Unnamed Road off Llynfi Road, Maesteg, northwards for a distance of approximately 65 meters (71 yards).
- ii. On its eastern side from a point approximately 83 meters (91 yards) northwards from its junction with Upper Street and the Unnamed Road off Llynfi Road, Maesteg, Northwards for a distance of approximately 20 meters (22 yards).

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas requested that council support this as when a singular car parks on the road outside Wilkos it causes pandemonium. It was noted that the free car park now has disabled bays and parent and child bays so everyone will have a suitable place to park.

**RESOLVED:** To support the prohibition order

**582. LLYNFI RD TOILET**

JC DECAUX have advised the following:  
The agreement expiry date is 3 July 2023.

JCDecaux will remove the unit from site following expiry. However, the Council will first need to arrange disconnection of electricity and water supplies. Can you please co-ordinate this with your utility suppliers so that the disconnections and meter removals take place immediately following contract expiry? We will need confirmation that the utilities are disconnected before we are able to remove the unit.

16/03/2023: Contacted EDF to request disconnection of the electricity for the site on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023. EDF advised to phone nearer the date as if they process the request today the meter would be removed in April.

16/03/2023: Contacted Welsh Water via online form to request disconnection of the water for the site on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

**27/03/2023 Response from Welsh Water:** Thanks for taking the time to contact us on our website about a disconnection. Can you confirm whether you would like a temporary or permanent disconnection of the supply please?

Temporary disconnections are free of charge, but there's a £35.00 reconnection fee. The water charge will be cancelled but a standing charge for the surface water drainage will still be payable for the period of disconnection. This charge would be apportioned from the date that the supply is disconnected.

Permanent disconnections have to be requested in writing which we can accept by email, but you must specify you would like the supplies to be permanently disconnected. If you'd like a permanent disconnection, we'll remove all the pipework which means that if you want to reconnect in future, you'll have to pay for a new mains connection.

We'll initially need to make an appointment to meet someone there and complete a site survey so we can plan what work needs doing, then the inspector will make a further appointment to disconnect the supply. This appointment confirmation will be given verbally. Can you confirm the name and contact number of the person meeting us on site to complete the survey please?

A member queried if a full removal was necessary given that it's likely the Council will have to replace the current toilet with another, more suitable one. Members were advised of a quote received to have a new toilet installed. Members asked if this had been budgeted for and it was confirmed that it had but its likely more will be needed.

Council asked if the Clerk can find out the estimated running costs of a new toilet unit so that this can be correctly budgeted for.

Another member mentioned that it's likely the new toilet will be caught up in planning with BCBC so, in the matter of providing a public convenience, the Council should look at a portacabin in the meantime until permissions are granted. It was agreed that the projects committee should look at this.

The Chair of Finance advised that the current toilet in situ has cost the Council around £1 million since its install. Members decided that a temporary disconnection would be satisfactory as its likely another toilet unit will be placed on the site.

**RESOLVED:**

- Proceed with a temporary disconnection
- Projects Committee to look at the options for replacing the removed toilet

**583. NANTYFFYLLON WARD FUND REQUEST**

1. Footpaths around foot path 46 (I believe it is no. 46), become very muddy, and waterlogged in places with the smallest amount of rain. we propose we use chippings to fill in these areas, as they are used daily by school children who use the paths to access the cycle path on their way to school, and also by walkers.

N.B. have contacted BCBC ROW for clarification

2. there are some areas in the ward where benches have been taken away and not replaced, or new benches could be situated, and we would like to place new benches in these areas. It is my understanding that Cllr Davies has more details of where these benches would be situated.

**RESOLVED:** the Nanty ward members advised that they will come back to the clerk with bench locations.

**584. OFFICE 365 ISSUES**

Some Cllrs have advised they are unable to download the Office 365 package onto their personal desktop computers / laptops.

ITCS have been contacted and they have advised that Maesteg Town Council currently have Office 365 Business Basic licenses and this only allows access to Office 365 via the internet and no physical application on the desktop. They can add this to individual members computers at a rate of £175.00 + VAT per desktop/laptop. Another option is to upgrade the licence to Office 365 Business Standard which is £9.40 + VAT per month per licence this is an additional £4.90 per month per user.

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to fund 2 new licenses at £175 + VAT for the 2 members who have requested it

**585. SPEED SIGN PROGRESS**

Cllr G Thomas sent the following email to traffic and transportation at BCBC;

*Can we progress this again now, we have the funding ready and are happy with the GDPR piece due to the signs not having any storage capacity. If we don't order the hard drive then the sign can't store data so GDPR doesn't apply.*

*I can get the price from Westcotec for the sign, can you help identify the 2 locations ( one each way for the traffic flow ) so we can get cost of installation. Do we pay BCBC or do we buy direct from the suppliers?*

The following response was received;

*Our position remains the same as outlined in our last email to you on the matter dated 25th November 22 and previous correspondence on the 29th of April 21 from our Group Manager .*



*The previous decision from the Group Manager with regards to the ANPR signs concludes as follows:*

*As signs mounted on the highway these would be the responsibility of the highway authority in terms of operation, maintenance, and management. Whilst it is appreciated that Maesteg Town council are willing to fund the capital cost of these units the ultimate decision resides with the highway authority.*

*There remain concerns in regard of data recording on the devices, as well as their, perception to drivers as enforcement devices. Whilst we are happy to receive further information on verifiable trials of these devices, we do not consider the authority can currently sanction the use of these devices.*

*We trust the above is of assistance for Maesteg Town Council to investigate this matter further with the GDPR officer.*

Members deliberated this and agreed for the Projects Committee to look into the available options. However, a BCBC member advised that currently until the new 20mph comes into force it is unlikely that BCBC will discuss projects.

**RESOLVED:** Projects Committee to discuss with BCBC available options

**586. WE LOVE TREORCHY**

The Deputy Clerk has been in contact with the lady who runs the events in Treorchy and also Aberdare. She has advised that she organises and project manages these herself and funds it through a BID – Business Improvement District. A business-led and funded initiative that invests its resources in matters that are priorities for our businesses. Love Treorchy delivers services above and beyond those currently provided by the borough council; this additionality is fundamental to the way in which the BID works and is ensured by a baseline agreement between Love Treorchy and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council.

She mentioned that there are 4 ‘strands’ or goals of the scheme and that is marketing the town, making it safer, making it more visible and making it more open. There are more details available here; <https://www.lovetreorchy.co.uk/four-strands/>

The lady is from Maesteg and her parents still live here and she would be very excited to assist on bringing things to life in the town – we only need to contact her.

Members requested that we ask the lady who runs we love Treorchy to attend a Council meeting to establish the finer details of the operation.

**RESOLVED:** Invite the We Love Treorchy officer to a meeting

**587. USE OF MARKET SQUARE**

Request from Llynfi Valley Council of Churches to use the market square platform on good Friday to read out the stations of the cross. They have attempted to do this through BCBC but have been told that BCBC do not own the market square platform – it is unadopted. BCBC also told them that they needed public liability insurance to perform on the platform. We have offered to run this through us so that they come under our public liability insurance as this is an event for the benefit of the community.

Members agreed to grant permission to the Llynfi Valley Council of Churches (LVCC) use of the market square and to come under MTC public liability insurance. Members requested that we find out if the platform in the market is adopted or not and seek to find the correct owners with the hopes to bring it under Maesteg Town Council control.

**RESOLVED:**

- Advise BCBC that LVCC are covered by MTC Public Liability insurance
- Ask BCBC if the band stand is unadopted can MTC adopt it?

**588. REQUEST TO BORROW GAZEBOES – FRIENDS OF MAESTEG WELFARE PARK**

The Friends of Maesteg Welfare park are requesting to borrow 2 gazeboes for their easter egg hunt event on the bank holiday weekend. Clerk has agreed to ask the CMO to deliver them to the Chair of Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April and to collect on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to loan 2 gazeboes to the friends of Maesteg Welfare Park.

**589. ADVERTISING IN AROUND TOWN MAGAZINE**

Telephone conversation and email received from Around Town magazine. What's On is a huge part of the magazine, we showcase the best family events, shows, and activities happening across South Wales every month which is why it is so popular with both our readers and advertisers.

The South Wales Magazine is the biggest what's on and lifestyle magazine for South Wales

- Vibrant A4 What's On and Lifestyle Magazine
- 20,000 copies giving you a readership of 70,000 every month
- Digital magazine sent to our growing subscribers list, currently at 10k.
- Free to pick up in places with high footfall inc Theatres, Museums, Leisure centres, High street shops, cafes, salons etc
- Covering Cardiff, Vale, RCT, Bridgend, Neath, Swansea

**SPECIAL OFFER**

Quarter page advert just £145+vat

Here's the link to this month's issue for you to take a look at - South Wales Magazine, April 2023: <https://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=&edid=1fd74c7e-2b36-4134-95ae-844214dadf14&pnum=1>

Please let me know if I can secure this special offer for you in our June issue.

Members agreed that, with the Councils events coming up, this would be a prudent way to reach members of the community who are not online

**RESOLVED:** Proceed with the advert

## **590. QUESTIONS FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC**

Members were provided with the following questions posed by a member of the public;

1. Speed of traffic through Llwydarth Road into Bethania street. Why has the Council not actioned any speed restrictions or deterrents like they have in other areas of this main route into the Valley. Heavy articulated lorries travel on this road at speeds well over the national speed restrictions. Signs and speed ramps are needed, this road has significant amount of traffic. I would like to know as a Council what action is being taken.

A member advised that BCBC aren't considering any traffic measures until the new 20mph limit comes into force on September 17<sup>th</sup>. The member of the public did state that the current 30mph limit isn't adhered to at the moment so it's unlikely that people will adhere to the new limit. Members agreed that other Borough Councils seem to be more 'on the ball' with traffic calming measures. They noted their disappointment that BCBC do not operate with the same urgency especially after a terrible accident on Llwydarth Road only a few years ago. The member of the public was urged to report incidents of dangerous driving to the Police, this will enable the Police to combat problem areas more effectively.

2. Litter, there is a significant amount of litter in areas of deprivation, if areas are not looked after or inspiration given to these areas then sadly people are less caring to their surroundings. More waste disposal bins should be installed not just in the town. More efforts are needed in and around derelict houses or areas, these can easily be enforced by the Council if care and safety could cause injuries to the public. There is also a significant amount of rubbish in and around Asda, near the railway, does Asda not hold any responsibility to their surrounding area and to its upkeep? Additionally, the train stations in Maesteg have litter in and around them, is there any responsibility from the railroad company to maintain these areas. I have also noticed large amounts of rubbish by the side of garage's just before the main garage on Llwydarth road, can the Council not enforce that this area needs to be cleaned up?

Members advised that this year, for the first time, Maesteg Town Council have allocated £30,000 for street cleaning. This is a first as street cleaning is the responsibility of the Borough (BCBC). The member of the public advised that other Councils have been working with schools to create a mesh type bin that's a bit different and has been proven to decrease litter. Cllr G Thomas asked the Councils permission to approach Maesteg Comprehensive School to perhaps take on this type of project. Council granted permission.

3. Dog bins are lacking and also signs stating it is illegal to leave dog excrement on in public areas. The bin towards the station in Ewenny road is far too high up the lamppost that people are throwing the dog waste onto the side of the railway embankment. Again, people would be discouraged from allowing this if more dogs bins were available and signs stating fines were visible. Just a reminder that dog excrement is incredibly dangerous to children and can actually cause blindness, this should be discouraged.

Members advised that free dog waste bags are available in the Council Offices and in places throughout the Valley. It was noted that this issue is largely an educational one, so, things could be stepped up in that regard and members asked if we can approach BCBC to place more signs around the area.

4. Planning for houses on the old Revlon site, what are the plans for roads routes, obviously more roads are needed and with the Welsh Governments non road building stance, surely this traffic cannot submerge into the main route into the Valley and surrounding areas.

Cllr Penhale-Thomas advised that a consultation for the site went out just before Christmas and the plans are due in the planning committee of BCBC in June. He advised that the current plan is to use existing roads which is less than ideal, however, when working with developers the Council can seek a Section 106 agreement that would declare the highways need for upgrading. Cllr R Collins advised that, as a member of BCBC's planning committee, they would be seeking the full benefit of a section 106 arrangement.

5. Lastly people's actions tend to be determined by the environment that they live in, more could be done to promote Maesteg and its town by making areas more inviting and cleaner. Towns only grow by the actions of the Councillors that are installed by the local communities and their priorities for the local areas that benefit peoples' surroundings. I would like to know what each Councillor is working towards to improve Maesteg and benefit its community.

Members advised that the Council are currently pursuing a project that would place art in the form of graffiti on certain entrances to the town and also the multi-storey car park. This is on top of many wards purchasing hanging baskets, planters, and new benches to make the area more appealing. The Chair of

Finance also advised that our budget for this incoming financial year caters for new bus shelters, traffic schemes and events.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**591. USE OF LAND: BRIDGE STREET, MAESTEG**

The matter was discussed at a meeting of the CAT Operations Group (COG) and it was confirmed that the Town Council would need to complete an expression of interest (EOI) and I have attached a copy of the relevant pro-forma and CAT policy document.

It should also be noted that the COG highlighted issues that may restrict the development of a play area which should be drawn to the attention of the Town Council and these include:

- No vehicular access to the site;
- The site becoming an ecological area.

Discussions at the CAT Operations Group, it was clear that the site would only have very limited opportunities for use / development due to the constraining factors already outlined.

Allotments or more of a wild area that could include outdoors furniture, e.g. picnic tables, etc. may be suitable but again may preclude use by the less able due to there being no vehicular access.

If the Town Council would like to suggest some possible uses for the site we can obtain some soundings from the CAT Operations Group.

Members agreed that this is an excellent idea and to fill in the forms for BCBC so we can look at the finer details. It was noted that in the correspondence from BCBC, they mentioned that vehicle and disabled access would be limited due to the current bridge and steps so members would like to propose to BCBC if a new bridge can be installed could the play area be looked at more favourably. A member asked the Council to be mindful of the residents of River Street as it is residential parking only and the introduction of a new park will likely increase traffic in the area.

**RESOLVED:** To complete the EOI forms

**592. BUS SHELTERS HERMON ROAD**

I've received a message from Bus Shelters Ltd, who have advised that they plan to install the new bus shelter on Hermon Road, Caerau Thursday 13th April 2023.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**593. AGENDA ITEM 9 TO DISCUSS STREET PARTIES FOR THE KING'S CORONATION**

10/03/2023: Emailed EPM for ideas

**Response 13/03/23:** forwarded to all members: *Waiting for a few costs for the Coronation event so send something over when they come in. Going to base it around the national 'The Big Help Out' day that the Royals are doing.*

<https://www.royal.uk/coronation-weekend-plans-announced>

*Do the council have any issues with charities, voluntary groups etc promoting themselves?*

17/03/2023 *Quote forwarded to all members £4,940.00*

13/03/2023: Emailed OVW for advice

**Response 13/03/2023:** forwarded to all members: *Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables local councils to spend a limited amount of money for purposes which they have no specific statutory expenditure.*

*Decisions should not be challenged as long, as the council are satisfied that there was a direct benefit to the area or part of the area or to some or all of the inhabitants and not just to benefit one individual.*

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Further to the above information the **Chair of Finance** has requested:

Given the current cost of living crisis and the challenges faced by many in the community, I would like to build on the suggestions and comments from fellow councillors and make a firm proposal that Maesteg town council support local residents to enable them to organise community street parties to celebrate the Kings coronation.

To make a practical working system considering OVW & other councillors comments I propose that MTC offer a grant scheme to local streets of up to £150 per street. The grants should be limited to 40 streets initially split across the 4 wards on a first come first served basis, with the provision that if there are more than the allocated number apply the council could consider extending the scheme.

The Councils Budget would easily allow for this under our S137 grants and if we ask for two residents names on the application I believe that would satisfy the criteria for S137 funding.

Finally, to ensure transparency and that the money is used for the good of the community and with specific regard to street parties I propose the grant is provided only to facilitate equipment to enable the street party to take place. Such equipment being cost of road closure (if applicable), hire of equipment, Bunting, flags, table cloths, banners, paper plates, childrens games etc.. or items that are clearly only for the purpose of holding a street party, no food, drink, or alcohol should be allowed.

The grant could be administered in one of 2 ways, either the street submits in writing to the clerk the items they would like and the council purchase them for individuals, or individuals purchase items and produce the receipts to the council to retrospectively claim the sums.

I hope you will support this proposal and help the community come together again.

Members agreed, through the use of an S137 grant, to fund £150 for up to 10 streets in the four wards in Maesteg (40 streets in total). This would be on a first come, first serve basis. This will be payable upon receipt of invoices from the applicants but will not cover food, drink or alcohol.

Cllr L Thomas **proposed**, seconded by Cllr A James, that we accept EPM Creatives tender to run a coronation party in the market square.

**RESOLVED:**

- Proceed with the EPM Event
- Advise on the Website and Facebook page That Maesteg Town Council have agreed to grant 40 streets up to £150 towards the celebrations split across the 4 wards on a first come first served basis.

**594. AGENDA ITEM 10**

**TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING TENDER FOR THE AUDIO UPGRADE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER**

Due to only 2 quotes received it was agreed to defer this until the next council meeting.

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to defer this matter until next month to give another company chance to provide a tender.

**595. AGENDA ITEM 11**

**TO DISCUSS CLLR M ROWLANDS PROPOSAL**

Just following up from our conversation the other week about this potential street art project.

Not trying to step on any toes but thought it was worth letting everyone know about some work I've been undertaking and proposing as well as experience I have which all ties in with this, and hopefully how we could make it a success.

I spoke briefly with Cllrs L Thomas and R Martin after the last full council meeting as they brought it up following our ideas for Caerau. Only to let them know that I had been undertaking Detached Youth Work with my team in Maesteg Town due to the ongoing ASB issues and had engaged with young people about what is considered one of the hot-spot areas which is Llynfi Car Park.

We were looking at how the area could be better presented and not look so downbeat with working on a street art youth project for Maesteg and this is something we were hoping to undertake with the young people in the car park and to show the positive side of the youth in our valley too. Following Detached Youth Work we undertook in Bridgend Tow Centre I'd previously instigated the Bridgend street art project at the underground car park at Halo, and that has been a real success.

I work with Bridgend Community Safety Partnership (Hannah Richards) who funded the Bridgend project. I mentioned to the Clerk and Cllr L Thomas that I would contact Hannah to see about a possible partnership approach on this project, she's happy to be involved as well.

The proposal was for the 52 pillars of the underground car park to be graffiti'd in the first instance to rid the obscenities on most of them and to make a more colourful vibrant place. There is also a wall coming down along the steps and just around from the steps to create a possible mural. Cllr L Thomas and co have also mentioned undertaking some work on the walls of Wilko and Llynfi Lane, which would look great. It may be an idea to undertake this in stages, first the pillars and mural, then the walls (with permission from the owners). Some photos attached of areas.

I've worked with a few graffiti artists over the years with our youth projects and so could request some quotes for this work if you'd like?

If Cllr's are keen then we could meet at the Car Park next week to look and discuss?

Members agreed to correspond with Cllr Rowlands and meet at the car park next week and provide a delegate's report following.

**RESOLVED:** To await the outcome of a meeting with BCBC

## **596. FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

Members were provided with application forms from the following organisations:

### **1. NANTYFFYLLON BIG BOCS BWYD**

Cllr A James declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion

Date received: 20/03/2023



Request £500 the restock the big bocs bwyd.

Recent bank statement provided.

### **1<sup>st</sup> time applying for S137**

A member raised concerns about what happens when the replenishing of supplies runs out and what provision do they have to maintain the stock? Members discussed and agreed to donate the requested £500, and hope that the volunteers claim further grants from other sources.

**RESOLVED:** Council to donate the sum of £500 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended)

### **2. PLASNEWYDD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Cllr R Collins declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion

Date received: 20/03/2023

Request £300 to purchase resources for forest school activities.

### **Last received S137 funding in February 2022**

**RESOLVED:** Council to donate the sum of £300 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended)

### **3. MAESTEG CELTIC BOWLING CLUB**

Date received: 31/03/2023

Request £500 to purchase junior bowls to attract younger element to try the game of lawn bowls. More information on the bowls can be found at

<http://www.jackhighbowls.com/guide/best-junior-lawn-bowls/>

Cost of a set of bowls is £140.00 and we wish to purchase 4 sets = £560.00

Recent year end statement and bank statement provided.

### **1<sup>st</sup> time to receive S137 grant from MTC**

**RESOLVED:** Council to donate the sum of £500 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended)

### **4. BRONFAIR ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**

Cllr C Knight declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion

Date received: 03/04/2023

Request £500 towards purchasing another allotment community shed and hanging hooks for 6 people to share. This will enable those who cannot afford to purchase their own shed to store their tools there.

Recent bank statement provided.

Last received S137 funding in July 2022

**RESOLVED:** Council to donate the sum of £500 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended)

**597. DELEGATES REPORT**

**BUS ROUTE SUB COMMITTEE MEETING 24/03/2023**

Report to be given verbally by the attendees of the meeting  
(Cllrs F Abedalkarim, P Jenkins, R Martin and R Penhale-Thomas)

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas advised that we are currently awaiting a meeting with Bridgend Community Transport to see whether a grant can be given to BCBC for them to run the scheme.

**RESOLVED:** To await further information form the sub-committee

**598. PLANNING**

Members deliberated the below application due to its location on a busy main road where parking would be a problem, however also see the positive of occupying a previous empty building.

Ref: P/23/137/FUL  
Applicant: Mr W Videan  
Location: Building on northern boundary of 107 Castle Street Maesteg CF34 0AW  
Proposal: Change of use of vacant bakery (20 years) to beauty salon  
Ask for: Julie Earp

Members wanted to note their **objections** to the below application. They noted that this was first proposed as retail units at street level with living arrangements above but has now changed twice since then and does not benefit the town centre in any way.

Ref: P/23/94/FUL  
Applicant: Mr I Gough  
Location: 38-40 Commercial Street Maesteg CF34 9DH  
Proposal: Change use of retail units on the ground floor (Use Class A1) to offices (Use Class B1)  
Ask for: Steven Jenkins

Members wanted to note **concerns** with flooding regarding the below planning application as previously raised in a previous application

Ref: P/22/710/OUT  
Applicant: Mrs C Eastwood  
Location: Land north of 1-13 Heol Dyfed Maesteg CF34 0PJ  
Proposal: Proposed two-bedroom bungalow (outline application) (Amended Certificate and location plan received)  
Ask for: Steven Jenkins

Members would like to **support** the following planning applications;

Ref: P/23/25/FUL  
Applicant: Llandeilo Building Supplies (LBS)  
Location: Maesteg Depot Heol Ty Gwyn Industrial Estate Maesteg CF34 0BQ  
Proposal: Change use of former bus depot/commercial unit to Builders Merchants(storage,distribution, trade counter, offices and ancillary retail); new warehouse for storage of building materials  
Ask for: Lee Evans

Ref: P/23/109/FUL  
Applicant: Dr R Coles  
Location: 24 Talbot Street Maesteg CF34 9BW  
Proposal: Replacement shop front  
Ref: Lee Evans

**Minutes emailed to Councillors to Read on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**Minutes accepted at a Hybrid meeting of the Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023**

.....  
**Mayor**