

MAESTEG TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an **EXTRAORDINARY HYBRID** meeting of the **Council** held remotely via Microsoft Teams and at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Tuesday, 19th September 2023**.

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS:

R Martin (Mayor)

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

NO APOLOGIES were received

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

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

Cllr C Davies declared an interest in the discussion on Caerau Christmas Tree

249. TO DISCUSS THE QUOTES FOR THE CHAMBER UPGRADE DUE TO THE INCREASE IN COSTS

The Clerk advised that the winning tender for the Chamber Audio upgrade had submitted an additional quote for 20 mics and 20 delegate units as per the request of the Communications Committee.

The original quote was for 18 delegate units and 18 flex mics = £29,652.00 + VAT
Updated quote for 20 delegate units and 20 flex mics = £34,049.00 + VAT

Members discussed the two quotes and agreed to proceed with the original quote of 18 delegate units and 18 mics, 2 charging bays, 1 x master controller = £29,652.00 + VAT

It was agreed that the Finance Committee investigate the budget as additional money would need to be moved into the chamber upgrade budget.

RESOLVED:

- To proceed with the original quote of £29,652.00
- Finance Committee to look into additional money being added to the Council Chamber audio upgrade

250. TO DISCUSS CHRISTMAS LIGHTING SCHEME PROPOSAL FROM CENTREGREAT

Members were provided with copies of the proposed lighting scheme from Centregreat. Unfortunately, Centregreat had not provided costs for purchasing or leasing the lights.

Members discussed the proposal and agreed not to decide on the colour scheme until the costs were received for purchasing or leasing the lights.

RESOLVED:

- To wait for costs for purchasing or leasing the lights and meet again to discuss

251. TO DISCUSS CHRISTMAS 2023

Clerk provided a list of additional Christmas celebrations that need excluding the Christmas Parade and Santa's Grotto to be discussed and authorised:

1. Date of parade to be confirmed:

Clerk advise that this was in the tender for Christmas Parade as the first Saturday in December = 2nd December 2023

2. School competition poster for Christmas Parade

a. Small gifts for the schools that enter the competition

(in 2022 small art sets were given to the 3 children whose posters were judged)

Members agreed to this request.

3. Number of lorries for Christmas Parade –

In 2022 there were 18 vehicles that we too many, other problems include groups arranging their own lorries but hadn't applied first to MTC.

Members agreed to keep to the number of vehicles (including SW Fire, SW Police & Limousine), however ALL applicants to be part of the parade to register with the office.

4. Selection boxes for the 6 schools within MTC boundary

Members discussed this and it was agreed to include the 2 primary schools outside of MTC boundary.

5. Care Homes – gifts for residents of Bryncelyn, Tŷ Llwynderw & Tŷ Newydd = 80 residents in total

Members agreed to this request.

6. Shop window display – Commercial Street & Talbot Street – will we be asking for donations towards Christmas Lights?

Members agreed to this request, however not to ask for donations.

7. Is MTC contributing towards the Christmas Tree in Caerau?

Members discussed the Christmas Trees and agreed that MTC should pay for one tree in each Ward in the following locations.

Caerau	Maesteg East	Maesteg West	Nantyffyllon
Caerau Square	Outside Celtic	Maesteg Park	As per last year

Members also requested where the Christmas Tree is to be relocated from outside the Council building to outside the Town Hall. Clerk advised that investigations will be made with BCBC / AWEN Cultural Trust.

Also discussed was the re-distribution of old Christmas lights to other areas – Members to provide suitable areas / locations and this information to be passed onto Centregreat.

8. Performances in the Market Square and tea / coffee / hot chocolate & mince pies.

Members agreed to invite local groups / choirs to perform in the Market Square on the Saturdays leading up to Christmas and that the groups be given a £50 donation for performing.

Due to the uncertainty of Casey’s Café, members agreed to ask all local cafés to provide tea / coffee / hot chocolate & mince pies during the performances.

9. BridgeFM Pod

Members queried the location of the BridgeFM pod, Clerk advised that EPM will be contacting BrideFM.

10. Members queried when a meeting would take place with EPM

Clerk advised that EPM are meeting with SW Police on 20th September and following this we will call a meeting with all members.

RESOLVED:

- To proceed with all the above approved requests.
- Contact BCBC / AWEN Cultural Trust for locating the Christmas Tree outside the Town Hall
- Ask Centregreat the costs for Christmas Trees in the 4 wards and costs for re-distributing the old Christmas lights throughout the wards.

Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 20th September 2023
Minutes accepted at a HYBRID meeting of the Council
held on 3rd October 2023

.....
Mayor