

Minutes of a **HYBRID** meeting of the **Projects Committee** held remotely via Microsoft Teams and at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg, on **Wednesday, 28th August 2024**.

PRESENT: Deputy Clerk

COUNCILLORS

IN PERSON: **M Rowlands (Chair)**
F Abedalkarim, C Davies and R Martin

APOLOGIES: G Thomas

167. TO RECEIVE THE FRIENDS OF MAESTEG WELFARE PARK

Members welcomed several members of the friends of Maesteg welfare park who presented two events that the already agreed upon funds from Maesteg Town Council would be used for along with itemised quotes.

Event 1 – proposed date 8th December (day after Christmas parade).

This will be following on from last years successful ‘Christmas lights’ walk through the Welfare Park and would be as followed:

- *Lighting Display: Enhanced with additional funds, featuring a more extensive setup using generators sourced by EPM.*
- *Live Entertainment: Performances by school choirs and local performers, with a simple marquee stage and sound system.*
- *Food & Drink Stalls: Local vendors offering seasonal treats; vendor participation is free, with takings from public sales.*
- *Family Activities: Santa’s Grotto in the Learning Den, craft workshops, and festive decorations involving local schools.*
- *Community Involvement: Engage with local organisations such as Awen and Nature’s Print Maker for workshops to create lanterns, and Caerau’s Men’s Shed for Santa Claus.*

Indicative cost £13,000 + contingency of £1,500 - totalling £14,500

The projects committee highlighted several items of the quote that could be amended and taken out which would not affect the event but would decrease the overall costs by using the Councils gazebos, printing facilities etc.

It was mentioned that the old Town Council lights that have been offered to the friends are normally powered through lampposts so either a generator would be needed, or another method would need to be considered. The committee requested that the deputy clerk ask Centregreat for their input on how best to power and install the lights.

Event 2

Centenary Festival (Victorian-Themed) 2-day event. Proposed date TBA.

- *Theme: Victorian-era celebration, reminiscent of the historical hospital fetes once held in the park.*
- *Opening Parade: Involving local schools, community groups, and historical reenactments.*
- *Performances: A main stage hosting local school performances, choirs, bands, and historical reenactments.*
- *Traditional Rides and Games: Victorian-themed rides and games, such as carousels, coconut shies, and hoopla.*
- *Market Stalls: Victorian-style market stalls featuring local artisans, food vendors, and historical crafts.*
- *Involvement of Local Schools: Schools will be invited to create performances, art displays, and historical projects related to the park's history.*

Indicative cost £30k + contingency of £4.5k - totalling £34.5k

The committee agreed that this event should be reduced to a one-day event and some items should be removed from the quote to reduce the overall costs which would enable another event to be run as part of the centenary celebrations.

The committee agreed to recommend that next years events be considered in further detail in 6-8 weeks' time.

168. TO RECEIVE UPDATES ON THE COUNCILS ONGOING PROJECTS.

- **Bridge Street:** The CAT officer is off on sick leave currently so there are no updates to share.
- **Digital Notice Board:** The conservation officer wants to see the chosen notice board (none selected currently), she will then determine if we can place this outside the building. The projects committee wish the digital notice board location to be where the current wooden notice board is located.
- **Crash Site Bench:** Cllr Rowlands attended a memorial service where the site was marked of the spitfire crash. The exact location is on farmers land which has

long since been worked, however, there is a bridleway nearby which would be suitable for a memorial bench to be placed. We would need to check with the farmer as this would increase the amount of footfall through his land. Cllr Rowlands also advised that Llangynwyd Middle Council would be interested in splitting the costs of this venture.

- **Land CAT Transfer Outside B&M:** no response to our initial email and have chased. The committee wished to have a contingency toilet plan and this preferred location is the currently occupied Knox and Wells office in the market square, the plan would be to convert the unit into public toilets. The Town Hall have advised that their toilets will be open to the public when it reopens later this year.
- **Hybrid Meeting Equipment:** the Deputy Clerk met with ITCS to discuss the screen requirements and current setup with overlapping wires and old system wires being still in situ under the table in the chamber. It was also asked about the current clerk laptops and ITCS will review the current setup and provided an itemised cost to improve our current setup.
- **Graffiti Mural, Commercial Street:** The projects committee are still to meet on location to discuss ideas and the problem with the tree. It was mentioned that other Councillors have an interest in attending and it was noted that these Councillors would be welcome.

169. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To approve a £14,500 budget for the Christmas lights through the park event. (£13,00 actual and £1,500 contingency).
2. Deputy Clerk to ask Centregreat for their input for powering and installing the loaned Christmas lights.
3. The committee and the friends to meet in 6-8 weeks to discuss next years events in more detail.
4. Proceed with installing a bench on the crash site location, pursue joint funding with Llangynwyd Middle Council.
5. Request a response from BCBC in regard to the CAT transfer of the land outside of B&M for the installation of a public convenience. If this is not possible, ask if the Town Council could convert the Knox and Wells unit in the market into a toilet facility.
6. Projects Committee to meet on site (Commercial Street) to discuss ideas

Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 29th August 2024
Minutes accepted at a remote meeting of the Council held on 3rd September 2024

.....
Mayor