



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, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

**PRESENT:** Clerk & Deputy Clerk

**COUNCILLORS  
IN PERSON:**

**C Davies (Mayor)**  
C Knight, A LeGeyt, R Martin, M Rowlands, G Thomas,  
L Thomas, G Williams and I Williams

**ONLINE:** R Collins, AR Davies, P Davies and R Lewis

**APOLOGIES:** F Abedalkarim – holiday  
K Duggan – on a training course  
P Jenkins – illness  
R Penhale-Thomas – work commitments

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

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

Cllr C Davies and G Williams declared an interest in any items that may relate to Caerau Men Shed.

Cllr P Davies declared a prejudicial interest in the request for MTC to attend a meeting with BCBC on ‘The Future of Local Service Delivery’.

Cllrs P Davies and R Martin declared an interest in any items that may relate to Llynfi Valley Rivercare Group.

**209. POLICE MATTERS**

The Mayor welcomed Sgt Watts to the meeting. Members were provided with the following crime figures prior to the meeting.

## Maesteg Crime Statistics for September 2024

	<u>Caerau/ Nanty</u>	<u>Maesteg East</u>	<u>Maesteg West</u>	<u>Llan</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Robbery</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Drugs</b>	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Dwelling Burglary</b>	1	0	1	1	<b>3</b>
<b>Burglary other</b>	2	0	1 (att)	0	<b>3</b>
<b>Theft of vehicle</b>	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Theft from vehicle</b>	0	3	0	1	<b>4</b>
<b>All other theft</b>	3	8	7	3	<b>21</b>
<b>Damage</b>	1	1	5	1	<b>8</b>
<b>Violence against a person</b>	21	10 (3)	7 (1)	2	<b>40</b>
<b>Domestic related</b>	5	2	3	0	<b>10</b>
<b>All Crime TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>ASB</b>	15	5	15	2	<b>37</b>
<b>Drink Driving</b>	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>

Members raised the following:

- Were the fires in the Llynfi Rd car park that were on social media reported to the police?

Sgt advised that this was reported but is unable to comment due to ongoing investigations. Llynfi Rd car park is a favourite site for ASB and Operation Sentinel is targeting the high ASB areas within our area. Llynfi Rd car park being one of these areas whereby a uniformed police officer visits all the ASB favourite areas.

- There was a crash on the Bwlch over the weekend, whereby the car raced off towards Ogmere Vale, it later turned out that this car was reported as stolen – is this within the above figures?

Sgt advised that this was reported as the theft of vehicle in Maesteg West, but is unable to comment due to ongoing investigations.

Sgt Watts advised members that the next few months are usually a busy time for SW Police and that if anyone is aware of any events e.g. Halloween, Fireworks, Remembrance Sunday, Christmas etc then to let Sgt Watts know in order that they can be available if possible.

Members are having difficulty in getting through by telephone to Sgt Watts and that his current answerphone message is that he is out of office and returning until the new year 2021.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

### **210. TO RECEIVE THE NEW CMO**

The Mayor welcomed the new CMO to the meeting. Members welcomed him to the Council and asked whether the CMO has come across any problems?

The CMO advised that both Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed are becoming increasingly widespread throughout the area and wonders if there is anything the Council can do to eradicate it? Clerk advised that this is not within the ROW Agency agreement and that Council does not have the permission to spray on private land.

A member raised the issue that the gazebos need some attention whereby some of the bolts are missing. The clerk advised that she was unaware of this and that any reports need to be given to the Clerk / Deputy Clerk who will then arrange with the CMO a day where the CMO, Clerk, Deputy Clerk and any available Cllrs can meet to make the necessary repairs as the gazebos require 4 people to open them. This will be arranged in due course now we are aware of this.

**RESOLVED:** To arrange a day to repair the gazebos.

## 211. **THE MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Cllr C Davies attended the following events:

14 <sup>th</sup> September	Llynfi BMX race day
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Mayors Charity Fund meeting
21 <sup>st</sup> September	Maesteg Ukulele Festival
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Mayors Civic Sunday

**RESOLVED:** To note the information.

## 212. **MINUTES**

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

- **Full Council** – 03/09/2024 emailed 04/09/2024

The **Fianance Committee** 17/09/2024 emailed 17/09/2024 were taken as read and all recommendations were accepted.

1. Q1 accounts are accepted.
2. Ask 2023-24 Internal Auditor if he would like to continue as MTC internal auditor for another year i.e. 2024-25
3. Financial Regulations
  - a. Item 2.2 should say until end of December and not end of January
  - b. Add item 5.4 All Council donations to be accompanied by identifying bank statements
4. S137:
  - a. Increase the amount to schools to £500 for a specific project
  - b. the following is added to the local groups/clubs: ‘in exceptional circumstances the full council may grant additional grants to multiple age groups’

**RESOLVED:** to note the information and accept the recommendations from the minutes.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **213. MINUTE 170**

#### **POLICE MATTERS**

05/09/24: Emailed both Sgts with Council concerns

**Response 05/09/24:** Apologies for not being there on Tuesday however I have only yesterday returned from annual leave.

The issue around attendance at the meetings is difficult for multiple reasons, firstly the meetings do not occur during any of our roistered duties, our pattern is such that all of our community officers are off duty by 6pm on Tuesdays.

Their working pattern ranges from 0800-0200hrs and 7 days a week in order to meet demand. Generally, we are able to be flexible and fit these meetings in, however in recent months both our demand and resourcing levels have impacted on our ability to attend.

Thank you for the heads-up regarding my answerphone message- I will try and get it changed, e-mail remains the most efficient way to make contact as I am often unable to take calls, but the number is still active and in use.

I have looked over the figures and can offer some reassurance that the violent crime figures do not offer cause for concern, there are many offences which fall into the category of violence which do not involve any physical violence. Examples of this would be public order offences such as abusive language in a public place causing harassment/alarm/distress.

On the sheet that was sent out there are 2 figures in each column for violence, the first figure is the full data and in brackets are the incidents of physical violence with injury.

	<b>Caerau / Nanty 5901</b>	<b>Maesteg East 5902</b>	<b>Maesteg West 5903</b>	<b>Llan 5904</b>	<b>Total in category</b>
<b>Violence against the person</b>	22 (3)	14 (2)	17 (3)	2	<b>55 (8)</b>

So from the above this means 8 offences of physical violence with injury across the Llynfi valley in August, and 47 offences without injury, the majority of these are verbal arguments / threats between individuals.

I hope this helps, I would be happy to meet or discuss with the council or individual members if needed.

I will make every effort to ensure we are present at the next meeting but please don't wait until then to raise any issues.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**214. MINUTE 172**

**PROJECTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *To approve a £14,500 budget for the Christmas lights through the park event. (£13,00 actual and £1,500 contingency).*
  - **04/09/24: Friends have been advised.**
  - **23/09/24: EPM telephoned to ask who is paying EPM, will MTC pay EPM directly or will FMWP get the payment and then they pay EPM?**
  - **FMWP have requested that MTC pay EPM directly, EPM will provide a payment schedule**
  
2. *Deputy Clerk to ask Centregreat for their input for powering and installing the loaned Christmas lights.*
  - **04/09/24: Email sent requesting a site visit**
  - **16/09/24: Chaser email sent as no response**
  - **23/09/24: EPM met with Centregreat on 20/09/24, they are unable to use the old Christmas lighting features in the welfare park as there are no street lamps for the connections to be installed from, they should be able to use icicle lights and a generator – they are currently awaiting costings from Centregreat**
  
3. *The committee and the friends to meet in 6-8 weeks to discuss next years events in more detail. TBA*
  
4. *Proceed with installing a bench on the crash site location, pursue joint funding with Llangynwyd Middle Council.*
  - **04/09/24 We advised Llangynwyd Council of this recommendation. Their clerk will take this to their next full council meeting.**

*Response 13/09/24: During our Full Council Meeting last night, the matter in question was discussed. However, a decision has been deferred pending the following:*

  - a. *Permission from the farmer.*
  - b. *The cost estimate.*
  - c. *A health and safety report from the British Horse Society.*
  
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.*

- **04/09/24 Emailed property department and officers. Forwarded original request that was sent August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024.**  
**09/09/24 Reply received:** *'I know we had previous discussion with the removal of the previous toilet facility, (attached) it is BCBC land however whether we can do a CAT transfer is far beyond my comprehension due to the agreements in place which make for light reading. If the legal team could peruse, they may be able to assist on this, in principle I cannot see an issue as far as Parking services concerned'*

6. *Projects Committee to meet on site (Commercial Street) to discuss ideas.* **Date TBA**

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**215. MINUTE 174**

**SOLAR PANELS FOR COUNCIL OFFICE ROOF**

05/09/24 Clerk contacted CADW for advice.

**Response 05/09/24** Thanks for your email. I'm afraid you've been misadvised by Bridgend Council officers. It is the council who would consider whether the proposals are viable, rather than Cadw, and who would ultimately decide whether to grant Listed Building Consent. We are only the regulator in the process.

I'm not clear who you've spoken to, but I would suggest contacting either Moira Lucas or Claire Hamm in the council who will be able to give you in-principle advice – contact details below. You might want to give some thought to which elevations you'd wish to attach the units to – e.g. flat roofs and rear elevations may be more viable than main elevations – and how you'd affix them, before contacting them.

06/09/24 Emailed CADW back to advise it was Moira Lucas who gave the advice.

**Response 17/09/24:** BCBC advised – we have been forwarded your email by Cadw in relation to the above proposal and just wanted to clarify the position with regard to the determination of any such application for listed building consent. As Maesteg Town Council Offices is a Grade II\* Listed Building, the consideration and determination of any listed building consent application for the building is the subject of potential “ call in” by Welsh Ministers if necessary. To clarify therefore the application is considered and determined by BCBC but a decision cannot be issued until the 28 day call in period has expired. I hope this clarifies the situation, sorry for any confusion caused. This Authority currently has powers to determine listed building consent applications in relation to Grade II buildings.

Going forward, and in line with Cadw advice to you, it may be worth obtaining some specialist heritage advice on options available to improve energy efficiency whilst preserving the special architectural and historic interest of the building , as well as preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of the Conservation Area. In

addition to the guidance provided by the conservation officer, I attach some additional guidance that has been issued by Cadw for consideration. We are happy to meet on site for a pre application discussion once some options have been considered and submitted to us.

Members discussed the responses and agreed for Clerk to ask MTC Agent for advice

**RESOLVED:** To ask the agent for advice

**216. MINUTE 175**

**REQUEST TO VISIT THE MINER**

17/09/24: I am pleased to advise your application re the above has been approved. We're able to trial the Permission for a 12-month period. Could you let me know the date you'd like the Permission to start please?

Members advised that the Spirit of Llynfi Woodland group were planning a date in March/April and it would be wise to liaise with them to arrange suitable dates. A member queried how much the transport would cost, this has not been sought yet as the 1<sup>st</sup> hurdle was getting a license from NRW. Another member advised that previously Bridgend Community Transport was used, although there is a charge for this service.

With regard to the license from NRW it would be good for this to start early next year i.e. March / April then we will have it for a year to arrange trips to the miner.

**RESOLVED:**

- Liaise with Spirit of Llynfi Woodland group for dates
- Advise NRW for the license to start in March / April 2025
- Get quotes from minibus companies to provide the service

**217. MINUTE 176**

**MAESTEG FOOTPATH 64 (HEARTS OF OAK)**

03/09/24 Forwarded Cllr P Davies email from BCBC to all members

04/09/24 Forwarded Cllr R Penhale-Thomas email from BCBC to all members

A member advised that the Llynfi Rivercare Group recently cleaned this area and the culvert was blocked with bracken. Another member advised that when the river rises the area floods, unfortunately in a previous meeting with NRW they won't do any of the dredging of this area.

Cllr P Davies advised he would continue to chase BCBC regarding this matter.

**RESOLVED:** Await further update from BCBC members.

**218. MINUTE 177**

**CHRISTMAS PARADE 2024 – TOWN HALL**

12/09/24 Emailed AWEN Town Hall Manager to ask if there are any costs involved should we use the Town hall for performances during the weekend leading up to Christmas.

19/09/24 Clerk met with the Town Hall (TH) manager to discuss Christmas activities and has advised of the following:

- Christmas Fayre is being organised by AWEN and no payment needed from MTC – this has been advertised on their website and social media.
- Performances on Saturdays leading up to Christmas: we can use the atrium free of charge, however the space is limited, and some bookings have already been made.
- AWEN are paying for drummers to be part of the parade and would like the use of the upstairs meeting room before the parade – Clerk has given permission for this.
- They will not be holding a disco after the parade as per pre-renovation works.

Other miscellaneous discussions:

- Christmas Tree can be located outside the Town Hall as per pre-renovation works.
- Planters from outside the MTC building can be moved back in front of the Town Hall as per pre-renovation works.
- TH manager will see what dates are available for members to have a visit although once the builders have finished AWEN will be busy kitting out the town hall. – TH Manager has checked about the tour for the Town Council and we're not doing any for anyone at the moment while we make the last push to get the building open. They are on my radar, though, so if there is an opportunity to take people round before we open, the Town Council will be on the list.
- TH will be available for bookings e.g. civic events / afternoon teas and they have their own inhouse caterers and will be discouraging outside caterers.
- TH manager would welcome attending an events committee meeting to discuss events for the summer festival.
- The new pricing rates is in the process of being finalised, they have 3 different rates, 1 for commercial, 1 for not for profit and 1 for regular user groups / partner organisations. The manager confirmed that MTC would be considered as a regular user group / partner organisation.
- There are opportunities for AWEN & MTC to partner on projects, which would be separate to a dry hire agreement, and can be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

Members agreed for the TH manager to attend an event committee meeting

**RESOLVED:** To note the information



**219. MINUTE 180**

**CLERK MOBILES**

- 18/09/24 Proceeded to apply for the new mobiles with Option 2 for Clerks mobiles, however, there is a new iPhone 16 Pro and O2 are currently have an offer for 2 mobiles for £39 per month and £30 upfront cost. Clerks have proceeded with this newer offer.
- 24/09/24 New Clerks mobile phone numbers sent to all members.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**220. MINUTE 181**

**SPONSORSHIP OF LOCAL RUGBY CLUB ANNIVERSARIES**

- 06/09/24 Emailed Nantyffyllon RFC to advise of the sponsorship for 2024/25 year and to request an invoice and bank details for the grant.
- 11/09/24 Invoice received and grant issued.
- 19/09/24 Emailed Celtic RFC to advise of the sponsorship grant
- 19/09/24 Completed an online form for Maesteg 7777's RFC to advise of the sponsorship grant
- 24/09/24 Just a quick note to thank you for your very generous sponsorship of the club in this our 125th season, would you please extend our gratitude to the Council members.

I understand that Gavin Thomas is in contact with our coach Dean Ronan to arrange for the Council's logo to be displayed on a pitch-side banner to advertise your sponsorship.

The club is hosting a Q&A evening with Rob Howley on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> October, we would like to invite two councillors to the event that includes a small buffet with a donation being made to Velindre Cancer Fundraising – I know that Chris Davies and Gavin Thomas are both ex-players and would enjoy the event.

Cllrs C Davies & G Thomas will attend the event

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**221. MINUTE 188**

**OFFICE CONDITIONS**

Would need listed building consent to add a commercial air conditioning unit. Can either have fans or compressor unit to the external of the building. If listed building consent is denied – portable units can be purchased.

Fixed and portable units offer air cooling and heating so would be usable year-round.

Members agreed for Clerk to ask the Agent to apply for listed building consent as portable units are not reliable.

**RESOLVED:** To contact agent to apply for listed building consent

**222. MINUTE 189**

**BICENTENARY GROUP REQUEST**

06/09/24 Emailed the bicentenary group member to advise that they have to liaise with Cllr G Thomas for requests.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**223. MINUTE 190**

**LATE DOUG DIXON MEMORIAL**

06/09/24 Emailed the family of the late Doug Dixon to find a suitable alternative location.

11/09/24 Family happy to have the bench installed in Maesteg Welfare Park

11/09/24 Emailed BCBC & Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park for permission and suitable location for a memorial bench

**Response 11/09/24** Thank you for your email, it has been forwarded onto the officer that deals with memorial benches.

Once you decide on a location then I will issue a license which is just a formal agreement for you to carry out the installation. The type of bench is completely your choice however it should be in keeping with the area. Most local authorities are installing benches with armrests which are deemed inclusive enabling the less mobile to stand and sit. I would suggest once you decide on a type bench to show it to the Friends of the park (FMWP) for their agreement.

20/9/24 Emailed FMWP to ask for suitable location.

**Response 23/09/24** Thank you for seeking the views of the Friends regarding the placement of a memorial bench. This is of course a matter between the family and BCBC but in deciding on a location we would offer the following suggestions.

Depending on the style chosen we would advocate any old style benches to be located in or around the tennis courts next to the existing benches to fill in the gaps that currently exist. This would be in keeping with the heritage of the park.

If they are the new style composite benches then these would be better placed around the playground area for families to use.

We understand the family planted a fruit tree in our orchard so a bench near there may be suitable - for example opposite the information board at the entrance to the park.

Finally, we are very supportive of anyone who wants to secure a memorial bench in the park as we believe more benches will make the park more accessible and enjoy.

We would be happy to offer a view if specific locations are chosen by the family.

Quotes for memorial benches:

- Barriers Direct
- Bin Shop
- Broxap
- Glasdon

Quote 1	Quote 2	Quote 3		Quote 4
£899.82 ex. VAT Does not include a plaque	£907.93 ex. VAT Does not include a plaque	£664.00 ex VAT + Delivery	£607.00 ex. VAT + Delivery	£733.16 ex. VAT Inc. delivery

Members agreed that £907.93 is set aside and for the Clerks to be given delegated powers to purchase the most suitable bench.

**RESOLVED:** Clerks to purchase the most suitable bench

**224. MINUTE 191**

**DEGRADED BENCH NCN885**

04/09/24 Asked both CMO's for ideas for replacing the degraded bench and for them to count and measure up the ones that need to be replaced.

Following companies contacted to quote for log benches:

- Caledonia Play
- Furnitubes

The benches quotes exceeded 1 tonne in weight and require mechanical unloading on location which we are not able to accommodate. We have asked the new CMO to provide supplier information for log benches based on his experience. He has advised that unless we can find suppliers who supply the logs to farms etc, a normal bench would suffice and he is able to install a slabbed plinth to place the bench on.

Due to no quotes being received in time for the meeting, it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk look for quotes for composite bench to be installed instead of a wooden log as previously installed. A member had received a request from the Spirit of Llynfi Woodland for the degrading bench to be left in situ for the vertebrae and fungi to feast upon.

**RESOLVED:**

- To get quotes for composite benches
- Keep the degrading bench in situ

**225. MINUTE 193**

**TRAFFIC CALMING BRIDGEND ROAD.**

06/09/24 Emailed BCBC Planning to see if there are any updates on the remediation works at the entrance of the Celtic.

No response to date

**RESOLVED:** To await a response

**226. MINUTE 194**

**IRON WORKS MONUMENT**

03/09/24 – Cllr R Penhale-Thomas sent the following response from BCBC that was sent in April 2024:

*Following a visit from our Health and Safety Team last week, concerns have been raised regarding the type of rubbish at the site including broken glass, discarded cylinders and there is a risk of discarded drug paraphernalia being present too. The site is therefore considered not safe to enter in its current condition. Nevertheless, I have arranged for the rubbish to be cleared as soon as possible.*

Awaiting further advice from BCBC members

Cllr P Davies advised he would chase this issue with BCBC

**RESOLVED:** To await a response from BCBC

**227. MINUTE 196**

**CLLR P JENKINS REQUESTS:**

**Heritage community hub**

06/09/24 Emailed Church In Wales to ask what their plans are for St Davids Church Meeting to be arranged with Rev Gratton.

**RESOLVED:** To await a meeting

**228. MINUTE 197**

**CAERAU WARD FUND REQUESTS**

**1. REAR OF BEDW STREET FOOTPATH**

Waiting for quotes

**2. SKIP FOR RIVERCARE GROUP**

Waiting for date

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**229. MINUTE 198**

**BIN OUTSIDE B&M**

04/09/2024 Asked CMO to provide a key & bags for the bin outside B&M to the B&M manager.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**230. MINUTE 199**

**SPRING BULBS 2024-25**

06/09/24 Ordered 42 x 25kg sacks – sacks to be delivered week beginning 23/09/24

Clerk advised that they have been delivered and that the CMO will be contacting all the requestees for a suitable date to deliver over the next couple of weeks.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**231. MINUTE 200**

**FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

Letter of thanks received from the following organisation:

- Caerau Men Shed

**232. LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2024**

**RESOLVED:**

That the tables of **Expenditure (£50,774.21)** **Income (£2,323.03)** during the month of September 2024; 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 October 2024 totalling **£4,826.47**
- A copy of the Receipts and Payments Account which includes expenditure against the budget and the budget remaining and an income analysis.

This month have included me training the new CMO, Lester. This month we have been: Weekly building checks that include:

- fire alarm
- emergency lighting
- legionnaires disease
- Twice weekly bin emptying on the cycle track.
- Daily emptying bins in car park
- Inspect and, where necessary, cut back overgrowth or clear debris:  
Fp. 2a  
6, 20, 27, 36, 37a, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44, 52, 57, 62, 74, 77, 82
- Milage at start of month – 59294 at end 59542 (248 total miles)
- Delivered dog waste bags to Maws.

- Delivered gazeboes to Llynfi Valley BMX
- Showed Lester all the non-numbered lanes, paths that he will need to maintain.

### **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
- Daily bin emptying in Llynfi Rd car park
- Inspect and, where necessary, cut back overgrowth or clear debris on rights of ways.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

Emailed to all Councillors for information:

- Maesteg Hospital Briefing - September 2024
- OVW - Recruitment Induction and Retention of Clerks Guide - Amended Version
- Maesteg Town Hall Update
- Capital Grant Funding Programme
- Vacancy - Credit Union
- OVW - Practice Development Note 8 Code of Conduct: Members and Officers
- Bridgend County Borough Jobs Fair
- OVW - TRAINING DATES - SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER
- Llais monthly newsletter
- Welsh Government - Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024 - Publication of consultation paper – **consultation ends 13/12/24**
- Welsh Government - Consultation: Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2025-26 – **consultation ends 29/11/24**
- Welsh Government support with cost of living

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

### **234. REFERRALS**

**06/09/24:** fallen nuts on the pavement between the war memorial and old post office

**Acknowledgement 06/09/24:** Thank you for submitting your query regarding: Road or Pavement Issue. This has been passed to the relevant team for further investigation. You can track the progress of this report online. Simply log in to your account, select "My Requests" and look for Case-ID: HW644466808.

**Response 19/09/24:** The defect you refer to is not a matter for the Highway Maintenance team, your report has been forwarded to the waste department for their consideration.

**10/09/24:** Our Cleaner has taken the attached photographs of a raised slab in the market square that she tripped on Saturday. The workmen with the Town Hall moved one of the benches on top of the raised slab to stop other people tripping over this hazard.

The slab is located at the front of the 'band stand' between the red and blue bin – it is not on the raised part of the band stand but just in front of it.

Please can someone come and make this slab safe .

**Response 11/09/24:** I have asked our highways department to resolve this asap. Many thanks for bringing to my attention.

**10/09/24:** Bridge Street – leaves that fall from the trees build up on the pavement, making the pavement slippery and also blocking residents drains and also the highways drains

**Response 18/09/24:** No action is required as there is no defect in excess of safety defect criteria for this category of street

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**235. REQUESTS CLLR F ABEDALKARIM**

Due to Cllr F Abedlakarim giving apologies, the requests have been deferred to November Full Council meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To discuss the requests in November full council meeting

**236. REQUEST – CLLR AR DAVIES**

With regards to the Llynfi River Care Group, I am in complete agreement with funding the group. However, I would like to explore alternative avenues as to how we can better fund this group moving forward. They are covering the Llynfi Valley area as a whole, not just one area. £500 through S137 funding is not enough and I know it has been questioned whether it is in our remit but we have just funded £3000+ to one group, with I proposed, with full support of the council. The answer is clearly yes.

If it means asking each ward fund to contribute £250 or £500 each towards this group annually, or an alternative route such as setting up a budget line like the defibrillators, I am happy to explore but can we please agenda this for discussion, with the agreement of the Mayor, for the next Full Council Meeting? These groups are effectively doing the work of what tax payers have paid our county council to do so we should support them with every means necessary!

Responses from other Cllrs:

- I agree with Cllr ARD, a worthy cause. This group is certainly an asset to our community. Fully support a larger donation
- Place into capital commitments next financial year, I would suggest

Members agreed that this is a good request to add to 2025-26 budget

**RESOLVED:** To be added to the budget discussion for 2025-26

**237. REQUEST – LAND REGISTRY SEARCH**

Pen y Garn Terrace - The trees are now dangerously close to the house roofs and would severely damage the houses opposite them, should a storm or heavy wind affect their stability in the coming winter months. They are also blocking out natural light.

The land ownership is currently inconclusive.

Members agreed for the Clerk to complete a land registry search

**RESOLVED:** To complete the land registry search

**238. WAR MEMORIAL CLEANSING BEFORE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

Previously MTC have engaged with the local stonemason to clean both war memorials (Maesteg & Caerau) during the week before remembrance Sunday.

In 2022 there was some confusion as to authorised this and Clerk advised that this authorisation is given every year to the Stonemason as this is an annual occurrence and that the local stonemason is used.

In 2023 the stonemason was asked to clean both war memorials before Remembrance Sunday.

The Vice-Chair of Maesteg Branch RBL has also requested that the top of the Maesteg War memorial is jet-washed as there is bird excrement on the statue. Clerk unsure if the stonemason is able to do this?

Members agreed for the stonemason to carry out the cleansing prior to Remembrance Sunday and if possible to jet wash the top of the Maesteg War memorial, if unable Clerk to source a company to complete this work.

**RESOLVED:**

To engage with the stonemason to carry out the cleansing prior to Remembrance Sunday and if possible to jet wash the top of the Maesteg War memorial, if unable Clerk to source a company to complete this work.

**239. REQUEST CLLR P JENKINS**

Due to Cllr P Jenkins giving apologies, the request has been deferred to November Full Council meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To discuss these requests in November full council meeting

**240. WARM HUBS 2024/25**

Mayor has requested:



Please can we agenda the possibility of the Maesteg council supporting warm hubs this winter again owing to the worsen situation of the winter fuel allowance being withdrawn for many old age pensioners in our community.

Members discussed this request and all agreed that there needed to be more guidelines and criteria for organisations to apply for this as last year caused some confusion and complaints. Again members deliberated how this could be quantified? Would we ask for list of attendees? Will the hubs be advertised sufficiently as many didn't know where or when the hubs were running last year.

Cllr AR Davies shared a Warm Hub Toolkit in the online chat on Microsoft Teams which can be used as a guideline – this will be shared to all members.

Cllr I Williams **proposed**, seconded by P Davies that a warm hub scheme is supported. All members agreed to the proposal, Chair of finance stated that a sum of money would need to be decided and then applicants would be agreed on a 1<sup>st</sup> come 1<sup>st</sup> serve basis.

Cllr L Thomas **proposed**, seconded by Cllr G Thomas that £5,000.00 is set aside for Warm Hub schemes and that applicants can apply for £500 per application. Members agreed to this proposal.

**RESOLVED:** To note the information

**241. 24 OCTOBER 2024, 5.30PM: THE FUTURE OF LOCAL SERVICE DELIVERY - CO-PRODUCING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES**

Cllr P Davies declared a prejudicial interest in this item as a BCBC Cabinet member, left the meeting and therefore did not take part in any discussion on this matter.

I am writing to invite you and one other representative of Maesteg Town Council, to join myself and Bridgend County Borough Council's Cabinet, for a meeting to discuss the future of local service delivery across our region.

As you will be well aware, local government throughout Wales and the UK is facing a fundamental challenge in that costs and demands on services are rising faster than funding which means the council – just like every local authority – will need to change the ways in which services are provided. The council has finally reached a point where we can no longer provide everything that we have done in the past in the same way.

However, the council also has a strong record of working with partners to deliver services in innovative ways. This includes Halo Leisure Ltd who took on the management of sports centres and swimming pools which resulted in a multi-million pound programme of investments, and Awen Cultural Trust who manage libraries and cultural arts venues enabling multi-million pound makeovers for the likes of Maesteg Town Hall and the Grand Pavilion. We are keen to build on these successes by working in equally innovative ways with Town and Community Councils.

I am therefore reaching out to all Town and Community Councils to discuss how we can work together to retain other highly valued services by finding new models of local delivery. I envisage this being the first of an ongoing discussion about how, through co-production, we enable our communities to thrive and establish a future for Bridgend County Borough that is secure, sustainable, and brighter.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices at 5.30pm on 24 October 2024 and is anticipated to take approximately two hours. Please confirm your attendance by contacting membersbcbc@bridgend.gov.uk

I do hope you can join us and look forward to talking with you on 24 October.

Clerk advised she is available and would need a member of the Council to also attend. It was **agreed** that the Chair of Finance Cllr G Thomas would attend.

**RESOLVED:** Advise BCBC that the Clerk & Cllr G Thomas will attend.

**242. TO DISCUSS OFFICE HARDWARE**

All the below items are in response to the ongoing chamber issues regarding no WIFI, poor performance of current hardware and the current office equipment exceeding its current lifespan. We attempted to call a communications committee meeting prior to this meeting but time did not allow.

**a. CHAMBER SOUND AND WIFI**

The below quote is to replace the obsolete cabling in the chamber from the previous microphone system, bring WIFI into the chamber and the additional items to add monitors that would be placed behind the Mayors seat.

To note: The clerk laptop that runs the meetings will have a wired connection as part of this proposal – the WIFI option is if Councilors deem it appropriate for WIFI to be extended into the chamber for guests, members etc.

The below are the purchasing costs, there are also monthly payment options available which include interest on top, we can obtain these if required.

Quantity	Product Description	Unit Price	Costs
1	Wireless Access Point	£185.00	£185.00
1	5 Port POE Switch	£85.00	£85.00
2	CAT5 Cable 10m (this replaces the current borrowed item)	£9.00	£18.00
2	10m HDMI Cable	£15.99	£31.98
1	Misc Items	£50.00	£50.00
1	Setup, delivery & Installation	£350.00	£350.00
2	32” TV/Monitor	£165.00	£330.00
1	Laptop Docking Station	£195.00	£195.00

		<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£1,244.98</b>
		<b>VAT</b>	<b>£249.00</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,493.98</b>

Members discussed the above quote and **agreed** that this is needed for H&S as currently there is cabling running from the meeting room next to the office into the Chamber being held up by duct tape, if this was to fall down there would be a hazard of low hanging cables. A member queried the set up, delivery and installation costs – to which Clerk and Deputy Clerk explained that we are not experts and that there is a multitude of cables under the desk that we are not knowledgeable enough to remove etc. It was **agreed** that the quote is accepted and works proceed as a matter of urgency.

The item below shows that there is a monthly ongoing cost relating to the above. We asked why we would need this as we believed this would just be an extension of our current network, ITCS confirmed the following:

‘The solution quoted is for a managed WIFI System. The £40.00 covers the cost of the Managed WIFI Controller and support for the access point.

The WIFI Controller is managed online, and, in the cloud, this means our customers don’t need to worry about maintaining or updating the hardware on site.

ITCS regularly monitors the WIFI Controllers and ensure all updates and security patches and updated to ensure the network is consistently running smoothly and securely.

We can remove this line item, however if there is any issue with the WIFI it would mean ITCS would need to charge you to look at it instead of it being covered in the monthly cost for you which can become more expensive.’

After setup its difficult to determine if issues would arise regularly enough to justify the extra expense or if it would be worth removing this item and reviewing how often we need an engineer, if at all, and then adding this at a later stage if necessary.

Quantity	Product Description	Minimum Term	Costs
1	ITCS hosted WIFI management controller	12 Months	£30.00
1	WIFI support for 1 access point	12 Months	£10.00
		Total Monthly Cost	£40.00

Members discussed this and agreed **NOT** to proceed with this Wi-Fi support.

## **b. OFFICE SERVER**

Members were provided with information regarding the office server – it was agreed that the Communications committee would look into this.

## **c. CLERK LAPTOPS**

Since the introduction of the new sound system in the chamber the clerk laptops have not been able to keep up with the demand. There are still ongoing issues which we are in contact with the manufacturer and contractor to sort but there has been a clear sound and video improvement since using the deputy clerks personal laptop.

The role of the clerk has evolved majorly over the past 4-5 years as has the technical demand of the day-to-day. ITCS have advised that support for the office desktops from Microsoft ran out several years ago and they have just been ticking over ever since. Both the clerk laptops and desktops have issues managing normal daily activities and we are regularly met with error messages or program shutdowns from simple email searches.

The best course of action instead of replacing everything is to decommission the current ‘towers’, retire the current laptops and purchase 2 new laptops that will be able to run meetings and conduct our daily activities (word processing, financial management/modelling, video editing, graphic design etc.) whilst supporting hybrid working. The new laptops would be able to utilize our current monitors, keyboard and mice to work as normal from the office but will have the added benefit of being portable, eliminating costs for having 4 machines instead of 2.

The deputy clerk has visited several computer hardware shops, spoken with ITCS and researched online and the consensus is that we need machines that can easily meet our current demands but also continue to meet demand until 2030.

There are many laptops available so a budgeted price would need to be agreed as we were advised the more you spend the longer the laptops will last in terms of processing power, build quality etc. From working with professional computer people, we have identified a price point of £900 - £1500 per laptop (sale depending) the recommended requirements are at least 16GB of RAM, minimum of a 12<sup>th</sup> gen Intel Core i7 processor (or Ryzen equivalent) an SSD of at least 512GB and some form of graphics card to take the load off the processor.

Apparently, this is for laptops in the ‘mid-range’ of overall performance and they should last until the next decade and be able to cope with our current and future work demands. Replacing the current desktops and laptops to achieve the same outcome would come with a cost far exceeding this in both the short and long term (maintenance).

Members discussed this and agreed to proceed with the purchase of 1 laptop up to £1,500.00 to be used for the online meetings and for the Communications Committee to discuss the office IT upgrade.

**RESOLVED:**

- To proceed with the quote from ITCS to install appropriate hardware for hybrid meetings.
- To proceed with ordering 1 laptop up to £1,500.00 for use in the Chamber for online meetings.
- Communications Committee to meet to discuss the ITCS contract before looking at the office IT upgrade

**243. TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE GRANT FUNDING FOR BLAENCAERAU PLAY AREA**

Cllr P Davies has advised that MTC may be eligible to apply for the Town & Community Council grant in 2025-26, applications are currently not open, however we should be notified in January.

With this in mind, Cllr P Davies has advised Clerk to proceed with a draft application and once the fund is open, we have the application ready to be submitted.

Members were provided with a DRAFT application form which needs to be updated with the quotes etc. If agreed this can be used to apply for the grant as soon as it is open. It was noted that anything in RED on the application form needs to be amended once the information is received.

Members discussed the draft application and noted that the Clerk had worded the application appropriately and **agreed** that once the official application is received the Clerk can proceed with the application.

**RESOLVED:** To await the necessary quotes and to proceed with the application once the formal application is received.

**244. FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

**213. NOTEWORTHY CHOIR**

Date received: 10/09/2024

Request £500 towards a £17,000 overall cost as Noteworthy have been invited to represent the UK at the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemoration of the Liberation of the City of s'Hertogenbosch, Netherlands at the end of October 2024. While the invitation is a huge honour, the trip is self-funded. The city was liberated by a Welsh Battalion in 1944 and each year the city commemorates the liberation. We will perform on four separate occasions - a Welsh Concert, a service at St. Jan's Cathedral, at the Memorial and at the Cemetery in Uden. At the Memorial, we will lay a wreath on behalf of the

people of Wales. Each performance opportunity is very high profile and will be attended by various dignitaries including Government officials.

Not previously received S137 grant funding.

Recent bank statement provided, Statement of income & expenditure for the year ending 30/09/2023, copy of invoice for flights

Members discussed the application and agreed that as they were representing Maesteg it would be appropriate to donate £1,000.00 towards the costs.

**RESOLVED:** Council to donate the sum of £1,000.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

## **214. DELEGATES REPORTS**

### **Maesteg Bicentenary**

#### **25/09/2024 – Cllr G Thomas emailed:**

The Bicentennial Events committee are generating a list of events to run throughout the year from January to December 2026. The official date of the town founding is in March which will be the highlight with an exhibition in the town hall and a concert, with many more events throughout the year to engage the whole valley.

A list of currently planned events is being generated but there are still some gaps that need to be filled. The group are now starting to apply for funding but would like Maesteg town council to consider supporting them given this is a celebration of the whole valley with the founding of Maesteg as an official settlement.

One of the big events that they would like to hold is a summer street food & music festival that they would like the town council to support. At the moment prices are being obtained but it's expected to be in the region of £30K to stage and there will be lots of other expenditure such as prices and marketing for the other events.

At this stage the Events committee would like Maesteg Town council to consider allocating a sum of £50K to their 2025 budget to allow the committee to commit to these projects. Exact funding requirements and quotes etc would be produced prior to any money being released but the grant expression would allow them to develop the plans and ideas.

Cllr G Thomas explained that there would be a 3 day Summer celebration and have asked if MTC will allocate £50,000.00 in principle in order that the Bicentenary group can then use this money towards events and as collateral for grant applications where match funding is required.

Members deliberated as there were a number of concerns raised that included:

- if the bicentenary group failed to get grant funding from other sources would MTC be liable to pay for the events?

It was agreed that if money is allocated no further money would be given.

- What if the bicentenary group fails to run events what would happen to the money?

No money would be given to the group until fully costed quotes for the events are received.

- Would giving the £50,000.00 affect the precept?

This would be factored into the budget and can't be quantified at the moment.

- Would MTC run the events?

This would be like the Maesteg Welfare Park 100 year anniversary year, MTC would set aside the money and the group will then bring fully costed projects to MTC. MTC would not run the event but sponsor the event.

Cllr L Thomas **proposed**, seconded by Cllr AR Davies that £50,000.00 is allocated for the bicentenary group, but will only be given with fully costed events. Members agreed to this proposal.

**RESOLVED:** to budget £50,000.00 towards the Bicentenary Group events for 2026.

## 215. PLANNING

A BCBC member queried whether BCBC members who sit on BCBC Development Control Committee should remain in the meeting? It was agreed that the Clerk would double check this, however previously the Monitoring officer had advised that BCBC members can stay if they are not on DC.

The Mayor advised that he currently sits on BCBC DC Committee and left the meeting whilst planning applications were discussed, the Deputy Mayor proceeded to chair this section of the meeting.

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

Members supported the following application:

Ref: P/24/469/LIS

Applicant: Bridgend County Borough Council

Location: Maesteg Town Hall Talbot Street Maesteg CF34 9DA

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for a series of emergency repairs that have been undertaken, consisting of central gantry replacement; reinforcement to joint bearing ends in main hall; dry rot irrigation works and repairs; south roof replacement; removal of stage left/right gables; clocktower base reinforcement; northern truss reinforcement; replacement of north elevation parapet outlets/rainwater pipes; replacement of lead flashing to north elevation parapet and lead capping to southeast/southwest gables; infilling of arched opening to bus stop; installation of windows W0.21 and

W0.22; remedial works to joist ends adjacent to stair 04 and access hatches; arch remedial works; balcony joist bearing end reinforcement; replacement doors, and the proposed installation of digital screens to west elevation beneath the studio and lighting bars to main hall

Ask for: Lee Evans

Ref: P/24/523/BCB

Applicant: BCBC Corporate Landlord

Location: Maesteg Comprehensive School Ffordd Dysgu Maesteg CF34 0LQ

Proposal: Proposed Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) pitch with lighting (8 columns) and a high cube container changing pavilion for out of hours use for the community and outside clubs

Ask for: Kittie Powell

Members **had no objections** to the following applications:

Ref: P/24/531/FUL

Applicant: Mrs E Williams

Location: 37 Salisbury Road Maesteg CF34 9EG

Proposal: Single storey rear kitchen extension

Ask for: Ashita Guru

Ref: P/24/540/FUL

Applicant: Mr A Atak

Location: 30A Commercial Street Maesteg CF34 9DH

Proposal: Change of use from 1no. 3-bedroom apartment on the second and third floor, into 2no. apartments (1 x 1 bed and 1 x 2 bed), no external alterations

Ask for: Lee Evans

Members **noted** the following Planning appeal:

**Planning appeal**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990**

**Appeal Ref: 2015**

Ref: P/24/10/FUL

Proposal: Replace boundary wall with one of increased height; retention of wooden playroom

Site: 5 Belmont Close Maesteg CF34 0LH

Appeal by: Mrs C Lewis

PEDW: CAS-03634-R5M5W0

I am writing to inform you that an appeal has been made to Planning & Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) in respect of the above application. The appeal follows the refusal of planning permission by this Council. The appeal is to be decided on the basis of an exchange of written statements by the parties, and a site visit by an Inspector from PEDW.



## 216. AGENDA ITEM 14 – CHRISTMAS 2024

In addition to the Christmas Parade and Santa's Grotto the following needs to be authorised:

1. School competition poster for Christmas Parade
  - a. Closing date for posters – agreed 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024
  - b. Small gifts for the schools that enter the competition – agreed to proceed with this.
2. Selection boxes

Cadburys Direct checked 19/09/24 for costs for selection boxes.

Selection boxes = 1 box = 26 x 78g selection boxes at £42.90 (inc. VAT)

Schools - Initial pupil numbers checked 19/09/24	69 boxes
Grotto	37 boxes
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>106 boxes</b>

Cadburys Direct do give a 7.5% discount on ordering 106 boxes total cost including VAT = £4,206.34

$£4,206.34 / 120 \times 20 = 701.06$  VAT

$£4,206.34 - 701.06 = £3,505.28$  Nett

106 boxes = £3,505.28

26 selection boxes per box  $£3,505.28 / 106 = £33.07$  per box

$£33.07 / 26$  selection boxes = £1.27 per selection box

Will any wards be donating selection boxes this year? Last year the following donated selection boxes:

Maesteg West Ward	Oakwood Estate	100 selection boxes
Nanyffyllon Ward	Caerau Mens Shed	150 selection boxes

In December 2023 surplus selection boxes from the grotto were then distributed to the following organisations:

- Bocs Bwyd in Garth Primary School
- Bocs Bwyd in Nantyffyllon Primary School
- Bocs Bwyd Cwmfelin
- Food Pantry in CDT
- Food Pantry in Cwm Calon
- Food Pantry in Noddfa

It was **agreed** to proceed with ordering the following:

<b>Number of boxes</b>	<b>for</b>	<b>Budget</b>
106 boxes of 26	Schools & Grotto	Christmas

4 boxes of 26	Oakwood estate	Maesteg West Ward Fund
6 boxes of 26	Caerau Men Shed	Nantyffyllon Ward Fund

It was **agreed** that Wards have until 15<sup>th</sup> October to agree any other requests for selection boxes from their ward funds as the order will be made on 16<sup>th</sup> October. Any surplus from the grotto will be donated as per last year.

3. Care Homes – gifts for residents of Bryncelyn, Tŷ Llwynderw, Tŷ Newydd & Heol Gelli Lenor supported living = 91 residents in total

Members agreed to continue with this scheme.

4. Shop window display – Commercial Street, Talbot Street & Castle Street – will we be asking for donations towards Christmas Lights? Date for judging? Need the plaque from 2023 (Beautiful Blooms).

Members discussed and agreed not to ask for donations towards the lights.

Cllr G Thomas **proposed**, seconded by Cllr I Williams to introduce a £100 prize for the best displayed shop window in addition to the plaque.

Date for judging to be discussed next month.

5. Is MTC contributing towards the Christmas Tree in Caerau? What about other areas?

Cllr G Thomas **proposed**, seconded by Cllr P Davies that all Christmas trees within the 4 wards are included within the Christmas lights budget.

6. Parade Video

In 2023 the parade video cost £1,400.00 and membrs queries its value for money?

Have spoken to ColourBlack Productions and the price would be about the same as last year as this is for 2 people filming plus the editing afterwards.

Members asked that this goes out to tender and discussed in next month's meeting.

7. Fireworks

Have emailed the following companies to quote for both normal fireworks display and quieter fireworks display:

Crackerjack Fireworks  
 Night Life Fireworks  
 The Art Of Sparks  
 The Fireworks Hut

Only one quote received:

**Quote 1**

These quotes include the following-

Site meet up  
Risk assessment  
Insurance  
Method Statement  
Code of practice  
Set up, Electronic Firing and Clean up.

Normal

Quiet

£1500 (Inc vat) - approx 7 min Shell and cake display fired electronically at count down.

£1800 (Inc vat) - LOW NOISE Fireworks fired electronically, the extra cost is for the extra clean up that low noise fireworks produce, and more product that has to be fired to make up for no noise.

Members discussed that there was only 1 quote received and Cllr G Thomas **proposed**, seconded by Cllr AR Davies that the quote for normal fireworks is accepted.

8. Mince Pies & hot drinks

Will MTC be engaging with local café's this year? Clerk advised that BCBC will not allow a café to come into the market square to supply hot drinks and mince pies as the sweet shop has facilities for hot drinks. In addition to this we have also been granted the use of the Atrium in the Town Hall for performances and the Town Hall has its own café. A member stated that last year many complaints were received from café's in Commercial Street. Members deliberated and discussed a number of options including giving grants to the café's, however someone would need to speak to each café owner as dropping letters last year to staff didn't get passed onto the owners. Another member felt that traders should be traders and that the Council shouldn't subsidise the provision of host drinks and mince pies.

Cllr L Thomas proposed that MTC supply traders with grants to supply hot drinks and mince pies. This proposal was NOT seconded, and the proposal fell.

**RESOLVED:**

- School competition poster for Christmas Parade
  - a. Closing date for posters – agreed 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024
  - b. Small gifts for the schools that enter the competition – agreed to proceed with this.

- Selection boxes

It was **agreed** to proceed with ordering the following:

<b>Number of boxes</b>	<b>for</b>	<b>Budget</b>
106 boxes of 26	Schools & Grotto	Christmas
4 boxes of 26	Oakwood estate	Maesteg West Ward Fund
6 boxes of 26	Caerau Men Shed	Nantyffyllon Ward Fund

It was **agreed** that Wards have until 15<sup>th</sup> October to agree any other requests for selection boxes from their ward funds as the order will be made on 16<sup>th</sup> October. Any surplus from the grotto will be donated as per last year.

- Care Homes – gifts for 91 residents are purchased
- Shop window display - £100 prize money for best shop window display, discuss date for judging to be discussed
- Christmas Trees in all Wards - included within the Christmas lights budget.
- Parade Video – go to tender
- Fireworks – Accept Quote for normal fireworks
- Change the switch on time to 5pm
- Close applications to be part of the Christmas parade as all lorries have been allocated

It was **resolved** to go into committee to discuss group applications for the parade and a personnel item.

**RESOLVED: THAT THE COUNCIL GO INTO COMMITTEE**

**Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102 ‘Members of the public/press can be excluded by resolution if publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of confidential nature of the business and arising out of the business to be transacted’**

**218. RESOLVED: THAT THE COUNCIL COME OUT OF COMMITTEE**

**Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
Read and accepted at a remote meeting of the Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

.....  
**Mayor**