

Minutes of a HYBRID meeting of the **POLICY COMMITTEE** held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg and remotely via Microsoft Teams and, on **Tuesday**, 25th **February 2025**

PRESENT: Clerk

COUNCILLORS

IN PERSON: R Martin (Chair),

C Knight

ONLINE: R Penhale-Thomas

APOLOGIES: R Collins & R Lewis

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas declared a prejudicial interest in the Maesteg Town Hall Hire Grant Policy

451. TO DISCUSS THE CREATION OF THE FOLLOWING POLICIES:

1) Warm Hub Policy

Members were provided with a draft warm hub policy & draft application form. Members went through both documents and made necessary amendments.

It was noted that as BCBC via BAVO were supplying warm Hub Grants that this wouldn't necessarily be needed for 2025/26, however the policy would be in place for future years.

2) Selection Boxes

Members were provided with a draft selection box policy. Members discussed the policy and agreed that selection boxes should be limited to schools and MTC Santa Grotto, any additional requested should use the S137 application.

3) Mayor & Deputy Mayor Roles

Members were provided with a draft Mayor and Deputy Mayor Roles policy. Members discussed the policy and agreed that at events organised or funded by Maesteg Town Council, both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor may wear their chains of office by prior agreement of the Council.

4) Town Hall Grant Funding for groups

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas declared a prejudicial interest in this policy, this therefore made the meeting inquorate to discuss the policy. It was **agreed** that the Policy Committee is to meet in March to discuss this policy.

5) Grant monies issued outside of S137

Members were advised that until Maesteg Town Council has the General Power of Competency (GPoC Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021) the Town Council is unable to issue any grants or money outside of S137 unless the grant is covered by any other statutory provision.

For grants issued to Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park and Maesteg 200 Council have agreed to issue the grants and we should request invoices and receipts as Maesteg Town Council are not managing the events for them.

The Clerk had completed CiLCA and that at the AGM in May 2025 Council can declare that they have GPoC as we have 2/3 elected members and 3 years of unqualified accounts. The Clerk advised this can only be declared at the AGM.

It was agreed to recommend the amended draft policies to full council.

452. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Accept the Warm Hub Policy & Application form
- 2. Accept the Selection Box Policy
- 3. Accept Mayor & Deputy Mayor Roles Policy
- 4. Policy Committee to meet to discuss the Town Hall Hire Grant Policy & Application form in March 2025
- 5. Accept the Grant monies issued outside of S137 Policy

Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 25th February 2025
Read and accepted at a remote meeting of the Council held on 4th March 2025
Mayor