



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, 4th March 2025**

PRESENT: Clerk & Deputy Clerk

COUNCILLORS

IN PERSON: **C Davies (Mayor)**

F Abedalkarim, P Jenkins, C Knight, A LeGeyt, R Penhale-Thomas, M Rowlands, G Thomas, G Williams and I Williams

ONLINE: AR Davies, P Davies and K Duggan

APOLOGIES: R Lewis and L Thomas

NO APOLOGIES: R Collins and R Martin

An email was received after the meeting to advise that Cllr R Martin had technical difficulties attending remotely.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

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

Cllr M Rowlands declared a personal interest in any matters pertaining to Noddfa Community Centre

Cllr R Penhale-Thomas declared a personal interest in any matters pertaining to the Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park as Vice Chair of the group.

453. POLICE MATTERS

SW Police were not in attendance and did not give apologies prior to the meeting. Members were provided with the following crime figures prior to the meeting:

Maesteg Crime Statistics for February 2025

	<u>Caerau/ Nanty</u>	<u>Maesteg East</u>	<u>Maesteg West</u>	<u>Llan</u>	<u>Total</u>
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs	0	1	1	0	2
Dwelling Burglary	2	1 (attempt)	1	0	4
Burglary other	1	2	1	0	4

Theft of vehicle	1	1	0	0	2
Theft from vehicle	0	9	1	0	10
All other theft	7	9	18	0	34
Damage	7	2	1	1	11
Violence against a person	22 (3)	13 (0)	18 (1)	4 (0)	57 (4)
Domestic related	9	4	6	1	20
All Crime TOTAL	40	38	41	5	124
ASB	14	8	8	2	32
Drink Driving	0	0	0	0	0

Clerk advised all members that if they have any concerns to email the SW Police Sgt's directly as this was supplied on the paperwork.

Members were disappointed with the lack of attendance again and requested that the Clerk email the Sgts again.

RESOLVED: To email the Sgt's about non attendance again

454. THE MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Cllr C Davies attended the following event, he noted that he was unable to attend the Eisteddfod for Nantylffyllon Primary school due to his wife being unwell on the day.

RESOLVED: To note the information.

455. 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:

- **Finance Committee** – 03/02/2025 emailed 03/02/2025 were taken as read and the following recommendations were accepted:

1. Q3 accounts are accepted.
2. Move money to cover the overspends:

3. Staff Costs	4. £10,000.00
5. Maesteg Festival - Keeper Run	6. £1,508.70

7. To agree to purchasing accounting software from Scribe
8. To agree to committee budget delegation whereby committees can spend to budget and to authorise up to £5K per item
9. Property Committee to look at the asset register.
10. Chair of finance and clerk to update the risk register and bring back to finance committee to be agreed
11. Accept the new Model Financial Regulations 2024 and upload to website
12. Clerk and chair of finance to produce a future wellbeing plan ready to be reported during the AGM.

A member did query recommendation 8 and asked if this was allowed. The member was advised that this was a proposal put forward in the new NALC model financial regulations posted by One Voice Wales.

- **Full Council** – 04/02/2025 emailed 07/02/2025 were taken as read and accepted as a true reflection of the meeting.
- **Events Committee** – 11/02/2025 emailed 17/02/2025 were taken as read and the following recommendations were accepted: Cllr R Penhale-Thomas declared a personal interest in the following item as Vice Chair of the Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park – he took no part in its discussion.
 1. To await for an event quote for Maesteg Welfare Park’s summer event. Maesteg Town Council will manage the payment of invoices as part of the event and not transfer directly to the Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park as they have had a change in staff who would prefer a large amount of monies to be managed by the Council.
 2. To accept the following quote from EPM:

MTC 5270/A	keepers run excluding the t-shirts and water.	£16,510.00
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 3. To agree to charge £5 per race entry for the 5K & 10K races
 4. To purchase trophies for 2025:
 - i) Men 10k & 5k
 - ii) Women 10k & 5k
 5. Order 100 plain white children’s t-shirts with the MTC logo.
 6. Decline EPM price of water (£1,170) and clerks to investigate price and delivery of waters to fun run.
 7. To get quotes for race t-shirts and sell at cost to runners. Clerks granted delegated authority to design t-shirts.
 8. To accept the following quote from EPM:

MTC 5271/A	Christmas Parade	£16,715.00
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 9. EPM setup a ‘parade specific’ email address for general enquiries and for those who will be on the floats to have a contact instead of the office acting as a third party between stakeholders
 10. To move the parade to 29th November 2025
 11. To set allocate a sum of money and delegate powers to the Clerks to arrange the VE day afternoon tea.
 12. To agree the criteria and application form (see appendix 1 & 2) for Civic Awards Ceremony
 13. To get costs and dates for hiring Maesteg Town Hall for the Civic Awards Ceremony in February 2026

For item 10, members queried the rationale for changing the date from the traditional 1st Saturday of December. The member was advised that as the first Saturday falls almost a full week into December this year, it will be best to hold the parade a week prior and will ensure that the Town is lit up for the entirety of December with little to no cost

difference. A member stated that bus tours run from Maesteg to other places for Christmas markets so this new date will have to be advertised in advance.

For item 11, members agreed to delegate authority to the clerks to arrange the VE day event. Cllr G Thomas proposed, seconded by Cllr F Abedalkarim, that a budget of £3,000 be set to arrange the event. There were no objections.

For item 12, it was agreed to combine categories 3 and 4 (of appendix 1 & 2) which were more or less the same in criteria.

- **ROW Committee** – 18/02/2025 emailed 19/02/2025 were taken as read and the following recommendations were accepted.
 1. To no longer pursue the CMO being trained in weed spraying and consider a contractor if permission is granted by the landowners to spray in the future.
 2. Cllr P Davies to check the spraying regulations within BCBC to see if there is a feasible way the Council can undertake weed spraying.
 3. To proceed with the digital trails app at £7,000. Annual and daily costs to be clarified for the future.
 4. To issue an amount of money, up to £500 in value to run an advertising campaign upon the launch of the app.
 5. To advise BCBC ROW and Tourism that MTC intend to proceed with the digital trails app to be implemented in 2025/26 financial year and to include the following trails with a provision to add public ROW and the Llan Middle CC trail:
 - i. Llynfi Valley Walk 1
 - ii. Llynfi Valley Walk 2
 - iii. Llynfi Valley Walk 3
 - iv. Llynfi Valley Walk 4
 - v. Llynfi Valley Walk 5
 - vi. Historical Buildings Walk
 6. To seek views from Llan Middle Community Council to see if they would like to add their trails to the app and be granted access. If costs are associated, the Council to review this decision.
 7. Chase BCBC ROW for clearer maps.

For item 3, a member requested that we ask the developer if notifications can be sent on the app to notify people of the closure of certain rights of way. A member did state that they believed this was a feature of the app but is happy for the office to double check this information.

For item 6, a member requested that we contact Llangynwyd Middle Community Council as soon as is possible so that their rights of way committee can discuss their involvement and contribution to the application. It was noted that Maesteg Town

Council would only demand a peppercorn amount in contribution to the application at this time.

- **Policy Committee** – 25/02/2025 emailed 25/02/2025 were taken as read and the Policy recommendations 1 through 3 were accepted and to be uploaded onto the website:
 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
 5. ~~Accept the Grant monies issued outside of S137 Policy~~

For item 1, a member commented that for the next financial year, there is no budget line to run warm hubs as the grants were being administered by BAVO/BCBC. The member was advised that the policy is now there for the future as it was previously requested to be created and is now there if the Council hand out warm hub grants in the future.

For item 5, members stated that this policy should be reviewed again as it is not fully clear what the policy is discussing so this recommendation was declined at this time.

RESOLVED: All accepted recommendations enacted

MATTERS ARISING

456. MINUTE 404

MINUTES – COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMEDATIONS

- 1) The committee to review the provider of the Microsoft 365 licenses (Cllr Emails and Microsoft applications) at their next meeting to take place before August 2025.
- Ongoing
- 2) Notice to be served to ITCS to cancel the Veeam backup software as soon as is possible. With the auto renewal, the contract will end in February 2026 so notice will be served after the next meeting.
- Notice served
- 3) Deputy Clerk to investigate the correct use of One Drive for Council use. If not appropriate, then quotes from an alternative Cloud Server to be sought.
- Ongoing
- 4) Clerks to purchase at least 1 portable hard drive and 1 memory stick for offsite storage of Council data – This can be fulfilled when the final decision is made on how data storage will work in the future at the next meeting.
- Currently postponed
- 5) Purchase an additional laptop to the value of up to £1,500 excluding VAT to allow both clerks to run meetings and work from a single machine. Both laptops

need to be on the ITCS servers currently, this entails a fee of up to £50 per laptop.

- Completed

6) Deputy Clerk to seek quotes from other companies to run the Council website.

- Quotes below due to time constraints

~~7) Deputy Clerk to create a demo site for the committee to review practicalities of bringing the website ‘inhouse’.~~

~~8) Website internal/external feasibility to be reviewed at the next meeting of the Communications Committee.~~

9) The committee would like Councils input on offering a bilingual option for the website if possible.

- Completed

10) Clerks to proceed with quote QH-04680 which is to purchase a .gov.wales domain name for the website at £120 per year. Associated costs, up to £200 to be covered if ITCS charge to change the domain name (this does not happen automatically when purchased).

- Discussed as part of the website quotes

11) Pursue quote QH-04923 for the ‘Decisions’ app for up to 3 users. (2 clerks and a nominated member). Cost: £2,712.50 +VAT with the annual cost going forward of £825.

- Awaiting an onboarding date from supplier.

The current website is due to be taken down on May 1st 2025. This means we have a small window to start the process of changing website providers when considering the communications committee have to meet and discuss then have their recommendations approved which, at the earliest, could only happen in Aprils full council. The website companies usually need a few weeks at a minimum of turnaround.

QUOTE 1	QUOTE 2	QUOTE 3	QUOTE 4
Build price £899 +VAT	Website creation £379 (one off cost)	Website build £1149	Website Build £749
Annual hosting and support (from year 2 onwards) £299 +VAT	Website Hosting £225pa	Annual cost £249.99	Annual cost £336
.gov.wales £120/year	.gov.wales £120/year	.gov.wales £50/year	Domain purchased separately (est. £120/yr)
<i>Current website migration £10 per page £1 per document.</i>	Events Calendar / What’s on – £100 one off		Latest news section included
	News Section – £100 one off		Events calendar included

	Data migration: FREE		
	Current website redirect for 6 months: FREE		
£899 upfront	£379 upfront	£1149 upfront	£749 upfront
£299/year support	£225/year support	£249/year support	£336/year support
£120/year domain	£120/year domain	£50/year domain	£120/year domain
Extra cost for data migration and more features (below).	Extra cost for more features		

Quote 1 extras:

- 1) Forms & polls module (you can add as many forms/polls/consultations to the website with an easy-to-use module - £50 + VAT per year
- 2) Planning portal integration – which pulls all the planning applications from your principal authority’s system and displays them on your website - £100 + VAT per year
- 3) Online payments (for things like room hire, allotment fees, market stall trader fees etc) - £500 + VAT one off
- 4) Event tickets module to create events and add tickets to sell online - £250 + VAT (does require payment module)
- 5) Private members area for councillors (good for reviewing draft or sensitive documents) £100 + VAT per year
- 6) Bi-lingual module (ENG & WELSH) - £100 + VAT per year

** The website will need updated images of the area – we could request some from our appointed photographer at her half day or day rate.

Members discussed the website quotes and agreed to proceed with Quote 1 and add on the bi-lingual module at £100+VAT. It was noted that Quote 1 provides many benefits to the Council and the provided examples would be a great transition from our current provider. Members also agreed to ask the Councils photographer to provide new images for the website as the current ones are rather pixelated and one is not of Maesteg. The Council are happy to compensate the photographer up to her full day rate for these.

RESOLVED: To note the information and proceed with Quote 1 for website

457. MINUTE 408

LITTER BIN – CHURCH STREET RIVER WALKWAY

06/02/25 1 Bin ordered for Church St river walkway to be paid by Maesteg East Ward

06/02/25 Emailed BCBC for permission for MTC to install and empty bin
Response: BCBC have no objections to Maesteg TC installing and servicing bins at these locations
10/02/25 additional wheelie bin ordered
24/02/25 bins installed.

RESOLVED: To note the information

458. MINUTE 411

MAESTEG EAST WARD FUND REQUEST

06/02/25 Chased BCBC Parks for permission to install handrail at Maesteg Celtic.
No response to date.

Cllr P Jenkins has emailed the Chief Executive at BCBC who has advised that he will chase this with the officer.

RESOLVED: To continue to chase

459. MINUTE 412

LIFT REPAIR QUOTE

05/02/25 Chased OTIS – awaiting a date for the repairs to be made
06/02/25 Email response from OTIS forwarded to all members: to advise that OTIS have planned an engineer to attend site on Monday and Tuesday for you (10 & 11 February 2025)
14/02/25 Lift back in full working order

RESOLVED: To note the information

460. MINUTE 415

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2025

06/02/25 Chased Sunbelt rentals for quote for Remembrance Sunday 2025 road closures with the new route
12/02/25 Quote for Remembrance Sunday Road Closure Q5995319 = £1,563.20 + VAT

RESOLVED: To accept the quote for Remembrance Sunday Road Closure

461. MINUTE 419

FLAGPOLE

06/02/25 Emailed BCBC Conservation Officer & Highways etc to ask for permission to relocate the flagpole.
Response: Can you provide the preferred location and the dimensions of the pole please?

Response: Can you confirm the location of the flag pole as the coal dram is not on the highway. We will also need a copy of the design specification, and in particular the foundation details for the new pole.
14/02/25 Emailed Centregreat to see if they install flagpoles

A member advised that there is a local company on the Forge industrial estate who install flagpoles, and they are worth considering. Another member asked for the installation point of the flagpole and noted that their suggestion previously was to have it outside the window on the first floor of the building – the member was advised that quotes would be obtained for flagpoles being installed outside the building on the pavement and on the building.

RESOLVED: To obtain quotes for installing a flagpole outside the building or on the building itself on the 1st floor.

462. MINUTE 424
TO DISCUSS BCBC REVIEW OF COMMUNITY ARRANGEMENTS OF THE COUNTY OF BRIDGEND

06/02/25 Emailed BCBC to advise that MTC support the draft proposal of merging MTC with Llan Middle CC

RESOLVED: To note the information

463. MINUTE 428
ELECTRICITY/GAS/WATER/WASTE - THE GREEN ENERGY ADVICE BUREAU

06/02/25 Emailed to decline the advance procurement service

RESOLVED: To note the information

464. MINUTE 429
CLLR R MARTIN REQUEST – BIN MAESTEG PARK

06/02/25 1 x bin ordered

06/02/25 Emailed BCBC for permission for MTC to install and empty bin

Response: BCBC have no objections to Maesteg TC installing and servicing bins at these locations

19/02/25 Bin installed

RESOLVED: To note the information

465. MINUTE 431
LLYNFI VALLEY COUNCIL OF CHURCES – GOOD FRIDAY PARADE

06/02/25 Emailed LVCC to advise MTC will pay for road closures and to ask what time the road closure needs to be arranged
Timings for road closure = procession starts at 10:45am

- 19/02/25 Emailed Sunbelt Rentals to accept the quote for road closure and give them the times
- 21/02/25 Following a site visit and the necessity to close access to Station Hill and Church Street and the additional TMO (traffic management officers) the quote has gone up from £2,140.10 to £2,460.41
- 21/02/25 TTRO application sent to BCBC for the event

RESOLVED: Members agreed to proceed with the additional cost of the road closure at £2,460.41

466. MINUTE 433

ROSPA PLAYGROUND INSPECTION TRAINING. - WALES

- 06/02/25 Emailed Llanharan Community Council to advise that MTC would like 2 delegates to attend ROSPA training

RESOLVED: To await dates and costs

467. MINUTE 436

BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY

- 05/02/25 Emailed OVW with Cllr P Jenkins contact details

RESOLVED: To note the information

468. MINUTE 437

DISABLED TOILET REFURBISHMENT

- 05/02/25 2 companies came to quote for the flooring
- 15/02/25 Quotes received.
- 24/02/25 Electrician came to quote for the installation of electric door – awaiting quote

The deputy clerk advised that BCBC wish the works to be completed by the end of March. Given the awaiting of quotes, site visits and ongoing back and forth with BCBC regarding payment of the contractors, the refurbishment may not go ahead.

RESOLVED: To note the information

469. MINUTE 439

FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS

Emails of thanks received form:

- Caerau Community Growers CIC
- West Glamorgan RAYNET

RESOLVED: To note the information

470. LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2025

RESOLVED:

That the tables of **Expenditure (£104,205.64) Income (£77,258.27)** during the month of February 2025; 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 2025 totalling **£32,651.55**
- A copy of the Receipts and Payments Account which includes expenditure against the budget and the budget remaining and an income analysis.

The chair of finance **proposed**, seconded by Cllr R Penhale-Thomas that money from reserves is used to clear the overspends. This was unanimously agreed.

The Chair of Finance also advised members that as part of the acceptance of the Finance Committee recommendations, certain budget lines have monies moved into them to ensure that they do not run over budget. He also advised that the Council is looking strong and steady financially with an estimated £270,000 left to be utilised in the next financial year.

A member queried why the Council were to be overspent in certain budget lines. The member was advised that since the Council received notification of the upstairs of the Council Offices, that was previously occupied by Citizens Advice, then the Council are subject to larger rates each month than was previously normal. This was on top of the backlog of payments to cover the missing rates since Citizens Advice moved from the building in 2018. There have also been other large fees such as the fixing of the lift – monies of which were not part of the maintenance contract, an unforeseen bi-election and staffing costs increasing as the previous CMO left and we had to take on another CMO alongside the current one for training so the wage bill for the CMO was doubled for a 6-week period. It was also noted that all quotes were brought to Council before being enacted and no thought was considered as to which budget they would be taken from. The Chair of Finance advised that from the new financial year each time a quote is brought to Council the question will be asked from which budget with fund the item/service.

CMO Summary Report – February 2025

This month I 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. 23a, 27, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45a, 46, 46b, 48, 52, 57.

- Milage at start of month – 60416 at end 60538 (122 total miles)
- Delivered dog waste bags to Council Offices & Llan shop
- Sanded and varnished wood for office handrail
- Revised for the pesticides course and attended exam
- Grit school bridge
- Cleaned out van
- Met with Dawsons builders to discuss ongoing works
- Removed excess rubbish from offices
- Long drive in van to burn off carbon
- Awaiting delivery and installed bins in Maesteg East and West
- Moved furniture and goods out of the way for the painter and decorator
- Attended Council offices for a Rights of Way committee meeting
- Picked up materials from LBS to install benches

Works to be Carried out Next Month.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

471. NEWSLETTERS / FLYERS / BRIEFING NOTES/ CONSULTATIONS

Emailed to all Councillors for information:

- BCBC Letter from the Leader: Meeting on 21 January with T&CC's -Future of local service delivery, co-producing with our local communities OVW: 2025 TRAINING DATES - JANUARY - MARCH 2025
- BCBC: Mayor's Citizenship Awards 2025
- BCBC: News bulletin for councillors- Maternity and neonatal services set to return to Princess of Wales Hospital
- Boundary Commission: 2025 Electoral Review Programme
- St David's Day service invitation to all Cllrs - St. David's Church Maesteg on Saturday 1st March, 10am.
- letter received in post today regarding litter
- AWEN - Llynfi Valley Welsh Film Festival
- OVW - Latest Development Notes from One Voice Wales
 - Organising a successful event
 - Asset Register
 - Meetings Administration
- IRP – Annual Report 2025-2026

- BCBC - News bulletin for councillors: Welsh Guards to join St David's Day Parade

RESOLVED: To note the information

472. REFERRALS

03/02/25: Coegnant road, Caerau, - Fly tipping

03/02/25 Response: We are aware of the above from a previous report.

21/02/25: Lane leading to Bronfair Allotments - Himalayan Balsam growing in lane leading to allotments, asked if council could cut it back as it's their land. Running alongside the allotments is a private road/ lane also full of Himalayan Balsam, it belongs to the farm at the end of the lane, they use it for access, this is blowing seeds into the allotments, spreading it everywhere, badly affecting the bottom plots, contaminating everywhere. The allotments are Council owned land. Can they help with this issue? Could they insist the landowner cuts back/ pulls up this prolific weed?

21/02/25 Response: As the Himalayan is growing in the lane this would be a Highways issue for the adopted part. I have copied in talktous to log a call for highways

Still waiting for a response from highways

RESOLVED: To note the information

473. MARKET SQUARE – EGG

13/02/25 The egg in the market square that is supposed to open up but has been idle for years is having some works done to it today. There's a lot of workers from BCBC out and I spoke with one of the engineers and he confirmed that the electrics under the square aren't in the best shape with too much water getting in.

I understand that this topic comes up fairly frequently and many members are approached by the public asking its use and purpose but at first inspection the guys suspect it may be taken away.

I did speak briefly with the town centre manager several months ago and he said that they will be reviewing the electrics in the market square as the ones in the floor are experiencing issues.

RESOLVED: To note the information





474. REQUEST – CLLR K DUGGAN – BENCHES ON CYCLE TRACK

the state on some of the log benches across the cycle track from the Dyffryn hotel in Nantyllyllon all the way up to the spirit of the Llynfi woodland. Is there the possibility of replacing these if there is a budget for the rights of way committee. There also used

to be a bench located near the top of Evans Terrace which is no longer there I believe if that may be worth replacing also. These benches have been widely used and I feel are an asset to the routes for those wishing to rest on a walk

Also with the consultation going on with the possibility of the merger with Llan middle, would it be worth discussing the impact this may have when the councils merge on the digital rights of way if this gets accepted.

List of benches with What3Words locations provided:

	What3Words location		Location	Notes
1				Advised this has already been replaced, old bench being left to decompose
2	economies.client.slurs		NCN885 to the right of Bangor Terrace	Nantyffyllon Ward
3	region.fence.clubs		NCN885 to the right of Coegnant Rd	Nantyffyllon Ward
4	family.brink.riverside		NCN885 to the left of BMX track	Nantyffyllon Ward

N.B. the bench that was replaced in November 2024 to a composite bench cost: £585.00 + VAT

The Nantyffyllon Ward members **agreed** to replace the three benches within their ward from the ward fund out of this years budget. It was noted that the current log benches reside within the spirit of the Llynfi Woodland and the group have requested that the rotting benches remain in situ as they form an excellent environment for bugs and insects. Members agreed with this request and advised that the new benches be installed on the same basis as the bench on the right of way opposite High Street, Nantyffyllon.

A member asked who was responsible for the ‘miner sculpture’ which is also within the Llynfi Woodland area. This is because the miner is starting to show signs of wear and tear with many imperfections and parts falling off. The member was advised that this was the responsibility of NRW, and we are happy to pass concerns onto them.

RESOLVED:

- Nantffyllon ward fund to pay for 3 new benches to be installed near the current log benches.
- Advise NRW of the current state of the miner sculpture.

475. BUILDING WORKS – ADDITIONAL WORK

Dawsons are only working to the letter of the maintenance and repair schedule and are not incorporating re-painting of walls / skirting etc. they have provided the following quotes for additional works N.B. all quotes ex.VAT:

Q4202g	Ground and first floor rooms adjacent lift entrance. Rub down prepare and redecorate timber skirting and ceiling coving within the areas re-rendered around window frame. As an off set to this the three windows on the East elevation do not need the mastic seal applied on the other elevations. I will delete this cost in the next valuation. Moving forward we are planning to remove the scaffold from the chimney next week. This will allow us to check the roof before dismantling the full scaffold the following week.	£654.00
Awaiting further quotes for each room within the building, hopefully this will be received before full council		

A quote was received after the paperwork had been sent out to members. This quote was reviewed by members and the Council would like to invite more quotes in to ensure that the Council are receiving the best value for money.

RESOLVED: To invite quotes for painting the inside of the building.

476. MARKET SQUARE – ASB

We've just concluded a rights of way committee meeting, I have had to contact the Police once again as there are youths in the market square and town causing grief. Just an FYI if anyone receives reports – its already been reported through 999 as previously recommended by the local Sgt.

RESOLVED: To note the information

477. REQUEST – LLAN MIDDLE CC

We are considering the installation of a dog bin on both Llan Road, Cwmfelin and Llan Road, Llangynwyd. In light of this, we kindly seek the Town Council's approval for your maintenance officer to service these bins. We understand that this will incur a cost, which we are prepared to cover.

Members were advised that this request is now for 1 bin, but its location is yet to be determined. The Council deliberated and considered the cost of the CMO driving to the bin location, emptying and disposing of the waste.

Cllr G Thomas **proposed**, seconded by Cllr R Penhale-Thomas that a fee of £25 per visit would be appropriate. The proposal was accepted by members.

RESOLVED: To advise Llangynwyd Middle CC that we will service the bin for them at the cost of £25 per visit.

478. REQUEST – MAESTEG CELTIC BOWLING CLUB 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

I am writing on behalf of Maesteg Celtic Bowls Club. The club will be celebrating its Centenary in 2026 which coincides with Maesteg 200-year anniversary.

We will be hosting many clubs including the county finals. To showcase the club in the best light we need to replace the rotting timbers around the Ditch, and the renewal of the infill. This at a cost of approximately £3,000

We have twelve months to achieve this and other improvements. Our request to the Council is for any financial help they can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Clerk has supplied the club with S137 Application form.

Clerk advised that Maesteg Celtic Bowling Club have yet to complete their CAT or licence to manage the area. However, a member has advised that a new lease is due to be signed imminently with BCBC being the leaseholder of the ground.

Members agreed to await the submission of the S137 form and the application will be judged based on its merits.

RESOLVED: To await the submission of an S137 form from Maesteg Celtic Bowling Club.

479. CiLCA QUALIFICATION

Clerk has passed CiLCA qualification – awaiting Ascentis for ratification.

Members congratulated the Clerk on the achievement.

RESOLVED: To note the information

480. REQUEST TO HOLD A BEGINNERS CERAMIC SCULPTURE CLASS

Email received requesting to use the Town Council as a venue to host a beginners ceramic sculpture class, further email received to advise that this is for hand building /

sculpture class for beginners so there would be minimal mess made. No throwing / pottery wheels required.

Members asked what a ceramic sculpture class is and if this would result in a lot of mess upstairs. They were advised that the person running the workshop has said that there will be very little to no mess as its a sculpting out of clay and not using water and wheels as is the norm in pottery turning. Members agreed to grant the request for use of the room on the basis that the room is returned back to its normal state after its use. Members also stated that they would be happy to help in the form of posting information on our Facebook page and website if the person needs.

RESOLVED: To grant use of the upstairs room on basis that it is returned to its original state afterwards and to offer marketing assistance if required.

481. DELEGATES REPORTS

1. Cllr G Thomas provided the following verbal update:

Himself and the clerk attended the Town and Community Council forum that was setup by another Community Council so exists outside of BCBC. He noted that the main issue every Council share is the lack of responses from BCBC. The result of the meeting was that a letter will be drafted and sent to BCBC which will note the request that the local authority wishes to devolve more responsibilities to more Town and Community Councils, however, no Town or Community Council will accept any further responsibilities until a service level agreement (SLA) is in place that ensures a better working relationship between Town and Community Councils and Bridgend County Borough Council.

Cllr P Davies declared an interest in this statement, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion.

Members agreed that an SLA should be signed and that this was a reasonable request. It was agreed that, when the time arises, the sitting Mayor signs the letter confirming our support of this motion.

The Clerk advised that an additional item from the meeting was a 'directory of contractors'. It was noted that the Borough contractors are large scale companies, and they don't take the small jobs that arise from Town and Community Councils. This does make it difficult to find contractors who understand the lowest form of government and are willing to work for it so this directory will be contributed to by all Councils in Bridgend and will hopefully make the procurement process faster for all participating Councils.

IT was also agreed that the meetings would be hosted by all TCC's who wish to be part of the meeting and venues to be hosted at a different TCC each time. The next meeting will be held in MTC in May.

2. Cllr M Rowlands provided the following verbal update:

In relation to antisocial behaviour (ASB), there are quarterly meetings between stakeholders such as the Police, Fire Service, BCBC, youth working groups etc. These meetings discuss the ongoing issues with ASB and how it is being combated.

SW Police advised during this meeting that they are currently implementing operation sentinel which means there is more Police presence in problem areas. The Police presence is in person 'on the beat' to further deter ASB. Cllr Rowlands advised that members should consider going to the future meetings to see how ASB is being combated.

A member did ask if these invitations are sent out to all members. Another member confirmed that they receive these notifications from the Clerk when they arise. Cllr Rowlands advised that he would contact the organiser of the meeting and ask her to review the mailing list so that all members can be included.

RESOLVED:

- The Mayor to sign the letter requested an SLA from BCBC prior to taking on further responsibilities from the local authority.
- Cllr Rowlands to email the organiser of the ASB meeting and ask for all members to be included in the original invitation.

482. FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS

1. CISS (CANCER INFORMATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES)

Date application received: 29/01/2025

Request £500 towards counselling support to individuals affected by cancer in the CF34 postcode.

Bank Statement & Financial Statement to 31 March 2024 received 29/01/2025

Last received S137 grant funding December 2023

RESOLVED: Council to donate the sum of £500.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

2. NODDFA – YOUTH & COMMUNITY PROJECT

Cllr M Rowlands declared an interest in this item, left the room and therefore took no part in the discussion on this S137 application.

Date application received: 31/01/2025

Request £500 towards the following resources and equipment for the youth club provision:

- hair and beauty £100
- gaming £250
- music £70
- sports £80

Bank Statement received 31/01/2025

Last received S137 grant funding March 2023

RESOLVED: Council to donate the sum of £500.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

3. **THE FORCES FITNESS TEAM**

Date application received 03/01/2025

Request £500 towards running Health and well-being workshops in Schools, Youth groups, community organisations & Sports teams to give them the knowledge of how to live a happy healthy life through working together in teams.

Bank Statement received 03/02/2025

Not previously received S137 grant funding

RESOLVED: Council to donate the sum of £500.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

4. **MAESTEG UKULELE CLUB**

Date application received 20/02/2025

Request £500 towards hiring the Town Hall for a 10-year celebration of the Ukulele festival.

Bank Statement received 20/02/2025

Not previously received S137 grant funding

RESOLVED: Council to donate the sum of £500.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

5. **VALLEY FOXES FC**

Date application received 21/02/2025

Request £500 towards pitch hire costs and purchasing 2 new goals.

Bank Statement received 21/02/2025

Last received S137 grant funding June 2023

RESOLVED: Council to donate the sum of £500.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

6. **MENTER BRO OGWR**

Date application received 21/02/2025

Request £500 towards to acquire essential equipment for our after-school provision at Ysgol Cynwyd Sant. The after-school club operates daily during term time only and is open to all children enrolled at the school.. We will purchase storage containers, Sports equipment, Play equipment, Arts and Crafts resources

Bank Statement received 25/02/2025

Not previously received S137 grant funding

RESOLVED: Council to donate the sum of £500.00 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act (as amended).

483. **PLANNING**

Members had **no objections** the following application:

Ref: P/25/86/FUL

Applicant: Mr F Lusha

Location: 99 Bridgend Road, Garth, Maesteg, CF34 0NB

Proposal: Detached garage to rear garden and associated works

Ask For: Julie Earp

Members **supported** the following applications:

Ref: P/25/42/FUL

Applicant: Rev R Gratton

Location: St Mary the Virgin Church Bridgend Road Garth Maesteg CF34 0NB

Proposal: New pedestrian access, fencing, Cross relocated and mounted on plinth and associated works to the existing remembrance garden

Ask for: Abigail James

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 and a high cube container changing pavilion for out of hours use for the community and outside clubs (Amended proposal and plans)

Ask for: Kittie Powell

Members wished to **issue a comment** on the following application citing that the home has been reported by local residents as being an Air B&B and is not built to code as planning has been requested for a storeroom structure and not a liveable structure.

Ref: P/25/40/FUL
Applicant: Mr N Guild
Location: Hyfrydol House, Turberville Street, Garth, Maesteg, CF34 0LP
Proposal: Retention of attached storeroom structure to rear garden
Ask for: Huw Boaler

Members wished to **not support** the following applications on the basis of it being a precursor to another wind farm which will encase the valley and continue to erode the surrounding environment both visually and mentally for the local residents. Members noted that there has to be a sustainable development plan for wind farms otherwise every mountain in Wales will have one with the energy being quickly exported out of the local economy. They also noted that the windfarm bases permanently alter the ground and sky with the amount of reinforced concrete needed to erect each windmill this ruins the habitat of wildlife on the mountains and those animals which take flight.

Ref: P/25/41/FUL
Applicant: Pennant Walters Ltd.
Location: Land at Pwll Yr Lwrch (1.7km to east of Maesteg and 3km west of Blaengarw) Maesteg
Proposal: The installation of a 90m high anemometer mast for a temporary period of up to three years
Ask for: Dion Douglas

Ref: P/25/43/FUL
Applicant: Pennant Walters Ltd
Location: Land at Cynhordy 1.6km east of Maesteg and 2km west of Pont-y-Rhyl
Proposal: The installation of a 90m high anemometer mast for a temporary period of up to three years
Ask for: Dion Douglas

**Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 5th March 2025
Read and accepted at a remote meeting of the Council held on 1st April 2025**

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Mayor