



Minutes of a HYBRID meeting of the **CAERAU WARD MEMBERS** held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg and remotely via Microsoft Teams and, on **Monday, 28th April 2025**

PRESENT: Deputy Clerk

COUNCILLORS

IN PERSON: K Duggan, M Rowlands

ONLINE: AR Davies, P Davies

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

**520. TO DISCUSS QUOTES RECEIVED FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF
BLAENCARAU PLAY AREA**

Cllr M Rowlands started the meeting and believed that this meeting was called prematurely as there are still quotes to come in that had yet to be circulated. He continued, stating that he felt that even if the additional quotes he received recently had been shared today then this would not have given members time to read and digest them.

Cllr Rowlands suggested that this meeting reconvene at a later date when all quotes are in. He also suggested a more personal meeting take place and a 'table read' take place with a more informal back and forth to confirm what apparatus are best for the park.

Cllr Rowlands addressed the missing of the deadline to apply for grant funding with BCBC and advised that he provided the overall figure of several quotes which he believes would have been fine to submit to BCBC for the grant funding. The Deputy Clerk advised that the offices understanding was that the full quotes were needed to assist the application.

It was confirmed that BCBC have a keen interest in supporting this application when the funding opens again hopefully in the summertime. By this time members should be fully prepared to submit a detailed application.

Prior to the meeting Cllr AR Davies raised the following in the team's chat:

'Prior to this meeting commencing, can we ask that all councillors are happy to proceed given the issues highlighted in my email? Despite a promise this morning that we would receive additional information from Matthew Rowlands, this has yet again

not been forthcoming and is a recognisable trend regarding anything relating to this project. I don't see how we can fairly judge tenders this evening when we haven't had time to scrutinise quotes like the others received. I am equally concerned that our discussions will therefore be heavily influenced by Matthew Rowlands as he is the only one who has been privy to this information prior, not even our clerks and therefore makes the tendering process biased'.

When all members arrived, this statement was shared with them. Following the statement from Cllr Rowlands, all members agreed that it was best to postpone this meeting until the full facts and figures are received and then shared ready for the next round of funding from BCBC.

521. RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Reconvene the meeting when all quotes are in, and a request is received by the Caerau ward members confirming their readiness to attend a meeting armed with the quotes and other information.

**Minutes emailed to all Councillors to Read on 30th April 2025
Read and accepted at a remote meeting of the Council held on 6th May 2025**

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Mayor