

Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council

**Minutes of the meeting of FULL COUNCIL Council Offices, Newport Road,
Bedwas on Thursday November 2nd 2017 at 6.30pm**

<u>Present</u>	<u>Apologies</u>
E. Aldworth	
E. Davies	
DJ. Davies	
J.Gale	
D.Havard	
L. Phipps (from 7pm)	
A McConnell	
C Morgan (Chair)	
	K.Regan
P.Rosser	
J. Walsh	
J. Winslade	

Also Present: Inspector Gavin Clifton, Jolene Dalton (Clerk), Gill Howells (Deputy Clerk)

Declarations of Interest: Councillors

POLICE & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

- 116.** Inspector Gavin Clifton attended the meeting and provided information on his background and priorities for policing in the BTM area along with an update on the officers in the area

Members raised questions about the extent of vehicle crime in the area and the potential of re introducing Fun Days at the stations. The Inspector advised that vehicle crime is not a big concern at present in the area with the officers currently focusing on violence, criminal damage and shoplifting. The Fun Days at the station have currently been withdrawn due to the unavailability of officers during these events. However Inspector Clifton advised that they could look to join in and have a presence at other BTM Council Events should it be feasible. Members were also invited to participate in a 'Ride Along' Scheme which are run monthly and target specific areas of crime i.e parking, Anti Social Behaviour.

Members raised the issue of local parking issues which the Inspector took away with him.

Members discussed with the Inspector the Stagecoach proposal to move the Bedwas Bus Stop and police consultation on the matter.

Members requested information on specific police activity and drug related crime and arrests in the area. The Inspector clarified the position with the activity in the Council area.

Members requested confirmation of the attendance of a local police officer at the Remembrance Day Service on the 12th November.

The Inspector issued an open invitation to the Members of the Council to visit Bedwas Police Station.

FULL COUNCIL

117. Apologies for absence- The apologies were noted and accepted.

Members were reminded that they must notify the Clerk prior to the meeting of any apologies.

118. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2017

No matters arising

Resolved: That the minutes of 5th October 2017 be accepted as a true record for signing by the Chair.

119. Chair's Announcement and Report

All matters for update are included on the agenda. The chair welcomed Gill Howells to the Council as the Deputy Clerk.

120. Clerk's Announcement

The Clerk reported the BBC had used the Chamber for filming a local welsh TV Programme over two afternoons which resulted in income of £300. The company expressed a potential interest in future use when they are filming in the area.

Rialtus Financial system training has been arranged for the 23rd November for both the Clerk and Deputy. The Chair of the Finance Committee is also attending and there is also one more place available should any other member be interested.

Resolved: That the Council note the update.

Two requests had been received in relation to the siting of storage containers in the car park. A request had been received from Caerphilly County Borough Council to site containers whilst they are completing WHQS work in the area. Another had been received from Caerphilly Scouts to site a container and store tents and other items.

Members discussed the proposals for the containers and also noted that there is an existing container used by the Royal British Legion in Machen which possibly has space.

Resolved: The Caerphilly County Borough Council request has been agreed and clarification will be sought for the period of the container placement and confirmation of insurance provision. The Caerphilly Scouts request will be considered following further information about the space in the Machen Royal British Legion Container.

121. Budget 2018/19

Members were reminded to put forward their proposals for future projects with outline costings for inclusion in next years budget.

Resolved : Members to submit their proposals with outline costings in time for review and inclusion on the next meeting papers which will be distributed on the 28th November 2017.

122. Local Resolution Protocol

The report drawn up by One Voice Wales outlining a protocol for dealing with low level complaints about members was provided for endorsement by the Council.

Resolved : A copy of the Model itself would be obtained and be circulated to all Members. The item is to be carried forward to the next meeting.

123. Review of Community and Town Council Sector in Wales

Welsh Government consultation is currently underway to review the operation of community and town councils in Wales. The Review Panel are seeking responses to

- a) What should Community and Town Councils be responsible for?
- b) How should they operate?
- c) What's standing in their way to deliver for the local community?
- d) How do council's ensure that they best represent their local community?

Resolved : Clarification will be sought on the response date and all Members to respond individually to adolygiad.ctc.review@gov.wales either directly or via the Clerk.

124. Draft Annual Report of the Remuneration Panel

Members requested that this report was circulated for review and discussion took place at the meeting. The report is draft for comment by the 29th November.

125. Forward Plan

Resolved:

1. That the Risk Assessment is moved from December to February.
2. Next Years Events to be added into September
3. Christmas Donations will be added into November

FINANCE COMMITTEE

126. Chair's Report

The bill for the Remembrance Service wreaths totalled £84 and this will be rounded up to £100 to include a donation.

A cost of £86.40 to plant each Christmas Tree has been provided. The sites to include Graig Y Rhacca School. Lower Graig Y Rhacca Estate, Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen.

Resolved :

1. To include a donation in the payment for the wreaths
2. Go ahead with the planting of the Christmas Trees.

127. Payments made since last meeting

Resolved: That the payments be noted and approved as set out in the paperwork.

128. Quarterly Budget Monitoring

Resolved:

1. That the information be noted and approved as set out in the paperwork.
2. Feedback to be obtained on the Sports Scheme attendance

129. Ward Project Expenditure

Resolved: To note the expenditure

130. Applications for Financial Assistance

Lisa Phipps declared an interest in the applications for Home Start Caerphilly and BTM Brass Band

RESOLVED:

1. To award £350 to Machen Monkeys from the Machen Ward
2. To award £300 in total (£100 from each Ward) to Home Start Caerphilly
3. To award £300 in total (£100 from each Ward) to BTM Brass Band

LAND & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

131. Chairs Report

Matters for discussion were included on the agenda

132. Workmen's Hall – Update on the Drains and Toilets

The Chair reported that quotes had been obtained for the drains problems at the Workmen's Hall. Portaloo's had been hired for two weeks due to the lack of toilets but these have now been removed as they were not being used. Members discussed the situation and the requirements for reporting on emergency expenditure.

Members thanked the Chair for his action

Resolved: Quotations for the remedial drain works to be brought to the next meeting.

133. Workmen's Hall – Cleaning / Caretaker Needs

Volunteers at the Hall have raised concerns and issues over the quality of the work being carried out and lack of attendance to clean as agreed. Volunteers are struggling to keep up with these additional duties.

Members discussed the possibility of using the monies spent on the cleaning contract to be used for employing a Caretaker / Cleaner for the Hall directly and the need for a contribution by the Workmen's Hall to such costs.

Resolved: The Employment Committee to put together a proposal with the Clerk and Workmen's Hall Committee to bring back to Council for consideration.

Whilst reviewing the alarm requirements at the Workmen's Hall a review was also undertaken of the systems for security and fire alarms in the Council Offices. It was noted that the fire safety in the Council Offices is completely inadequate and based upon an individual actually setting off the alarm themselves.

Resolved :

1. Quotes to be obtained to bring the the security for both the Workmen's Hall and the Council Office into the same contract.
2. Quotes to be obtained for the installation of appropriate fire safety in the Council office.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

134. Application 17/0741/RM – Members have raised parking concerns and privacy

Application 17/0783/FULL – Members have raised parking concerns due to removal of garage space

Application 17/0746/FULL– No objection

Application 17/0839/TPO – No objection

ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE

135. Chair's Report and planned events

The Chair reported the following:

- A very successful litter pick in Redbrook woods in association with Keep Wales Tidy, Lower Graig Y Rhacca Community Association and Councillors Lisa Phipps, Amanda McConnell and Jill Winslade. In total 32 bags of rubbish collected.
- Contact has been made with the Local Allotment Association and Bedwas High School with regard to the Peace Garden
- A Dog Show is planned for Sunday 27th May 2018 at the Rhymney Riverside Walk in association with Hope Rescue
- The Chairs Award Ceremony is booked for Thursday 5th April 2018 with 14 Award Categories. Details are included in the Newsletter to be circulated shortly and the closing date for nominations is the 30th January 2018
- The Workmen's Hall had a successful Tina Sparkle event.
- The Workmen's Hall has a Mrs Brown event on Saturday 18th November 2017
- The Workmen's Hall Pantomime tickets are selling very well with over 280 sold for the 3pm matinee session
- A curry and quiz night is being held on the 10th November 2017 in the Top Club, Machen to raise funds for Machen Primary PTA
- A quiz is being held on the 16th November 2017 in the Front Bar, Machen Legion for Lower Graig Y Rhacca Community Association

Councillor Amanda McDonnell attended the "Voluntary Sector Achievement Awards 2017" at Blackwood Miners Institute on 19th October 2017. Claire Kulisa who was nominated by Councillor Amanda McDonnell was awarded

runner up in the Parent Volunteer Category for her work on the Sensory Room campaign. Through Claire's tenacity she secured a Sensory Den (worth £10,000) for children with additional educational needs at Machen Primary School. The official opening is on Tuesday the 7 November 2017. Congratulations were also passed onto Andrea Soulsby (nominated by Yvette Levy) who received the "Winner Award" in the Trustee Category and to Billy Hughes (Trethomas Allotments) who came runner up in the Environmental Volunteer Category.

The following future events were also noted

- Aber Valley Male Voice Choir have a concert at the Top Club, Machen on the 24th November 2017 raising money for the Brains Trust Charity
- Christmas Table Top Sale in Bedwas OAP Hall on the 30th November 2017
- Machen Village Hall Playgroup are holding a disco at the Top Club, Machen on the 8th December 2017

Councillor Lisa Phipps raised a request from Prostate Cymru to take part in a 'Big Breakfast' event to raise awareness of prostate cancer during November and the introduction of Litter Pick Champions in each of the Wards.

Resolved :

1. It was felt that there was insufficient time to arrange a 'Big Breakfast' event during this November with other events ongoing therefore this would be considered for next year
2. A scheme for Ward Litter Pick Champions was agreed and £100 from each ward would be awarded to the individual in that ward once identified. They are also supplied with equipment and training by the County Council.

136. Remembrance Day 2017

Members confirmed the arrangements for the Services on the 12th September. The Chair would attend the Machen service and the Vice Chair would lay the Council wreath in Bedwas. Councillor Lisa Phipps would lay the County Council wreath in Bedwas. BTM Band are providing the music for the service and Gay Hollywell will be officiating.

Refreshments would be offered to all those attending any of the services in the Council Offices.

Members discussed the purchase of the Silent Soldier for the Council

Resolved:

1. Councillor Lisa Phipps was provided with a budget of £100 to purchase refreshments
2. The purchase of one Silent Soldier at a cost of £250 for the Council Peace Garden

Councillor Jan Walsh updated the Council to advise that the Plan being compiled from the first two workshops with the Workmen's Hall has been updated and passed back to them. It will be circulated to the Council when appropriate

Machen Rural Markets are now operating on the first Saturday of the month in Machen Church Hall.

Members were also updated on the pending closure of the Graig Y Rhacca Resource Centre on 1st December 2017 and the Council plans to run the Centre via a Volunteer Committee.

Meeting End 9.00pm

.....CHAIR OF COUNCIL