

Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council

Minutes of the meeting EGM on Thursday 12th September 2024 – 6.30pm

| <u>Present</u> | | <u>Apologies</u> |
|------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| P Rosser (Chair) | C Morgan | E Aldworth |
| D Davies | K Ingram | D Havard |
| L Phipps | | E Phipps-Magill |
| J Winslade | S Aicheler (Via Teams) | |
| A McConnell | | |
| N Bull | A Butler (Clerk) | |

Extraordinary General Meeting

1 Declarations of Interest:

No declarations of interest although it was noted all members are part of the community being discussed

2 Cllr Rosser chaired the meeting that commenced at 6.30pm. Attendance noted as above.

3 Cllr Rosser opened the meeting with a statement and his interpretation of the errors made in recent weeks regarding the arranging of fireworks, namely we did not approach Art of Sparks for a full quote and availability on date required and we did not share our safety concerns from last year's event. Cllr Rosser proposed a face-to-face apology with Art of Sparks

4 Breakdown in communication and misunderstandings. Art of Sparks approached BTMCC via WhatsApp and suggested a larger show for this year at an increased cost, and also offered two dates. The proposed cost from Art of Sparks of £4,000 was above the budget set - £3,000 for fireworks and £2,000 for safety equipment, and the dates were not suitable. Council did not pursue this with Art of Sparks but went ahead to get other quotes

5 It was noted the Facebook response to Art of Sparks statement, and our subsequent press release have included harassment, bullying, abuse and intimidation. Safety concerns were raised if we go ahead with the planned event on 4th November. Threats of disruption and protests have been made, members don't feel safe to steward the event

- 6 A motion was proposed to offer an apology to Art of Sparks for failing to give an opportunity to quote for this year's event and for failure to give feedback on our concerns from last year. The vote was 8 in favour and Cllr Ingram abstained. Clerk to contact Rhys Norman to request a meeting with Cllrs Rosser and Winslade

- 7 The BTMCC Fireworks event originally planned for November 4th will be cancelled. Not enough stewards to safely run the event. The recorded vote to cancel was 7 for and 2 against, namely Cllrs Ingram and Aicheler

Signed: **P Rosser** Chairperson Date: 17th September 2024