

Minutes of the meeting of the Events & Community Projects Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on Monday 10 January 2022 at 6.00 pm.

Venue: The meeting was held remotely and at the Council House, Ventnor Road, Cwmbran NP44 3JY in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

The recommendations below will be submitted to the Council Meeting to be held on 9 February 2022.

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the meeting of the committee to be held on 14 February 2022.

Present: Councillors M Day (Chair), Councillors SWJ Ashley, AL Bird, SJ Brooks, LJ Chaney, JS Davenne, M Villars, WJ Walker and LE Williams

(Councillors Ashley, Chaney, Davenne, Villars and Williams participated in the meeting via remote means)

Also David Collins (Clerk to the Council) and Clare Facey (Administration Officer.) Clare Facey attended via remote means.

Absent: Councillors RhM Bennett, LG Johnston, KK Manneh and LM Ryan

(Councillor M Johnston passed away on 8 January 2022.)

(No Public Participation Session was held at this meeting.)

ECP21/007 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors KK Manneh (personal) and LM Ryan (personal). Apologies for absence were also subsequently submitted by Councillor RhM Bennett.

ECP21/008 Members' Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests that they may have and sign the Interests Sheet to give details of the nature of the interest. Councillor JS Davenne declared a non-prejudicial interest in Minute ECP21/011 below (Christmas Play Provision) due to his employment by Torfaen County Borough Council as Play Service Manager. He remained in the meeting.

ECP21/009 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2021 were confirmed as a correct record, subject to the amendment of the date "1982" to "1972" in Minute ECP21/006 (Provisional Programme of Events.) The Chair signed the minutes.

ECP21/010 Tree Lighting Events: Christmas 2021

Members considered a report on tree lighting events held on 1 and 3 December 2021. Members discussed the potential for the use of artificial trees in future and a smaller tree at the Council House.

It was **recommended** that

- (1) the success of the above arrangements is noted.
- (2) the Clerk is instructed to examine the potential to obtain artificial trees and a smaller tree in future for the Council House.

ECP21/011 Christmas Play Provision

Councillor JS Davenne declared a non-prejudicial interest in this matter due to his employment by Torfaen County Borough Council as Play Service Manager. He remained in the meeting.

Members noted that Torfaen Play Service had provided support for families over the Christmas period. A series of Play and Wellbeing Camps were delivered in local primary schools. All provisions were delivered by volunteers supported by paid staff. Play and resource packs were also given out to families designated in Cwmbran.

Members also noted that over 1000 festive gnomes were distributed to families as part of a community art project. Many festive gnomes were distributed from The Council House by Cwmbran Community Council staff, under strict health & safety conditions.

Councillor Walker asked to receive details of future meetings relating to Play Provision.

It was **recommended** that the arrangements are noted.

ECP21/012 Provisional Programme of Events

At a meeting held on 15 December 2021 the Council resolved that:

- (1) the Community Celebration Dinner is not staged this year, with financial savings arising being used to support local Foodbanks (Local Government Act 2000 s2 (Power of Well-being))
- (2) the Primary Schools Choral Festival is held remotely this year, with any financial savings being used to support local music-related charities (Local Government Act 1972 s.145). Participating schools each receive £125 (Local Government Act 1972 s145)
- (3) the Schools Eco Quiz is held remotely. (Local Government Act 2000 s2 (Power of Well-being)/Environment (Wales) Act 2016).
- (4) a report is submitted to the next meeting of the committee in relation to the potential to stage the Cwmbran Big Event.

In relation to the Community Celebration Dinner, Members noted that the Clerk was in contact with several local Foodbanks. Members suggested other local Foodbank projects that could be supported.

In relation to the Primary Schools Choral Festival and Schools Eco Quiz, the Administration Officer updated Members on current arrangements and the level of interest from schools.

Members noted that, traditionally the Big Event would take place on the second Saturday in June (11 June 2022.) Members noted however that the current situation in relation to Covid-19 was fast changing and hard to predict for June 2022. Current restrictions would see the Big Event cancelled if the position

remained unchanged. There may also be uncertainty about the viability of support being available from the Council's usual event safety management providers. Members discussed other potential models for the Big Event, including delaying the event until later in the year. Members discussed the potential to associate the event with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Members also noted that the normal graveside service proposed for 22 January 2022 would not take place but that other arrangements were under consideration to allow a safe commemoration of the life of John Williams (Fielding) VC. This was an event which the Council had traditionally supported in the past.

It was **recommended** that:

- (1) the decisions of Council are noted.
- (2) funds available to support schools participating in the Eco Quiz are spread evenly amongst participating schools rather than award prizes for the winning schools.
- (3) the Council continues to prepare to stage the Big Event on 11 June 2022 but those arrangements are kept under review.
- (4) the Chairman of the Council is authorised to attend the service to commemorate the life of John Williams (Fielding) VC on 22 January 2022 together with Councillors M Villars and WJ Walker as Ward Members.

ECP21/013 Committee Estimates 2022/2023

Members considered estimates for the forthcoming year.

It was **recommended** that:

- (1) subject to the deletion of the sum of £1,000 identified for Other Miscellaneous Events (L08) the estimates are approved.
- (2) further consideration is given to events or projects to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of HM The Queen.

Signed.....
(Chair, Events & Community Projects Committee)