

Minutes of a Meeting of the Events & Community Projects Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on 29 June 2015

Present Councillor M Day (Vice Chair, in the Chair), Councillors S Brooks, LJ Chaney, S Evans, WM Howell, M Johnston, R Jones and TA Matthews..

Also David Collins (Clerk to the Council)

ENT15/006 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor WJ Walker (medical) & KK Manneh (family commitments)

ENT15/007 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.

ENT15/008 Summer Playschemes 2015

The Clerk to the Council reported progress on a number of matters relating to the Playschemes.

Members noted that the current position in relation to staff appointments and DBS checks. Good progress had been made in appointing staff. A "reserve list" was also in place. The Clerk explained that one member of staff had withdrawn from the Playscheme that day.

All eligible children who had applied to attend the Playschemes had been offered a place. There were still vacancies at all sites (except Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran). The Clerk explained the financial implications of reduced attendance this year but confirmed that the Playschemes were still being widely advertised in the community. He gave examples of recent opportunities taken to publicise the Playschemes, such as the Big Event on 13 June 2015 and Sustainability Awareness Day at Cwmbran Shopping on 25 June 2015. He also referred to feedback from some parents about the new arrangements put in place for this year's Playschemes.

Members noted that a grant had been received from Cwmbran Trust and noted the current position in relation to applications for funding from Children in Need and the Police & Crime Commissioner's Partnership Fund. The Clerk also described areas where it had been possible to make financial savings this year, or maintain spending at last year's rates.

It was **recommended** that

- (1) the above information is noted.
- (2) Members' visits to Playschemes take place in the third week of the Playschemes and the Clerk is instructed to agree the date in consultation with the Chairman of this committee.

ENT15/009 Big Event 2015

Members reviewed the Council's involvement in this year's Big Event and considered potential proposals for the future of the event.

The Council had been present throughout the day at this year's Big Event and members and officers had attended to help run the Council's stand. The event had once again proved a good opportunity to meet the public and discuss Council services. It had also provided a valuable networking opportunity. Members discussed various aspects of this year's Big Event, including the need to provide safe access, keeping paths clear of brambles etc.

Members also considered a report about a meeting attended by the Leader of the Majority Group and the Clerk, with representatives of Torfaen County Borough Council and other local councils. The meeting had been held to discuss the future of the Big Event and the potential for the Council to play a greater part in the planning and funding of the event. Members noted that a further meeting was planned for September 2015, which would allow any decisions to be taken as part of budget setting for 2016/17. Members emphasised the need for full information on costs & income before any decisions could be taken.

It was **recommended** that the above information is noted.

ENT15/010 Armed Forces Day: Wednesday 24 June 2015

Members reviewed the success of the event held by the Council to commemorate Armed Forces Day.

The event had been well attended by the Armed Forces community and veterans. The event had also enjoyed good support from other community organisations such as local churches. The event had the potential to become an established feature on the Council's programme of events. Members discussed opportunities to raise greater awareness of the event amongst the general public in future years. Members discussed the extent to which the Council's existing notice boards were used to advertise events in the community. The Leader of the Majority Group highlighted the importance of keeping the notice boards up to date. He stressed the need for members to take the lead on this.

Members agreed that the children from Our Lady of the Angels RC Primary School had made a valuable contribution to the success of the event and noted that the Chairman had written to the school to express the Council's appreciation. The Chairman has also written to Ysgol Gyffun Gwynllyw to thank Isabelle Winter who had read the lesson in Welsh.

It was **recommended** that

- (1) the success of the above event is noted.
- (2) any events held in future years take place on the Wednesday of Armed Forces Week.
- (3) the Clerk to the Council is instructed to write to all members who currently have keys to the Council's notice boards to ask if they still wish to retain the keys and establish whether they were still willing to keep the content of the notice boards up to date.

ENT15/011 Events Calendar 2015/16

Members considered the Council's programme of forthcoming events, as described in a leaflet which had been prepared and circulated by the Clerk. The leaflet had already proved successful in raising awareness of the Council's Events and Community Projects at various local events. Members discussed other opportunities to raise awareness of the many services provided by the Council.

It was **recommended** that

- (1) the programme of events is endorsed.
- (2) the leaflet describing the programme of events and projects is endorsed.
- (3) the Clerk to the Council is instructed to prepare a handbook describing the various services and events delivered by the Council.

ENT15/012 Dates of Future Meetings

Members noted that, in consultation with the Chairman of the committee, the meeting of this committee arranged for Monday 12 October 2015 at 6.00pm would now take place on Monday 19 October 2015 at 6.00pm. This was to accommodate an overlap of staff holidays which had only recent come to light. (The meeting of the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Committee due to take place on 12 October would also be rearranged.)

It was **recommended** that the above information is noted.

Signed

(Chair, Cwmbran Community Council)