

Minutes of a Meeting of the Events & Community Projects Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on 4 April 2016

Present Councillor WJ Walker (in the Chair), Councillors SJ Brooks, M Day, S Evans, R Jones, M Johnston, KK Manneh, TA Matthews and J Rees

Also David Collins (Clerk to the Council) and Clare Facey (Administrative Officer)

ENT15/042 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor LJ Chaney (personal) and WM Howell (illness)

ENT15/043 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.

ENT15/044 Summer Playschemes 2016

The Clerk and Administrative Officer updated Members on arrangements for the 2016 Playschemes, following consultation with the Play Policy Officer at Torfaen County Borough Council on 4 April 2016.

They referred to the venues which were to be used this year and outlined the current position in relation to various aspects of the planning and delivery of this year's Playschemes, including staffing. The Clerk offered to provide written details to all members.

It was **recommended** that details of the current position in relation to arrangements for the 2016 Playschemes are made available to all Members via the weekly "Members Matters" newsletter.

ENT15/045 Commemorative Plaque at Blaen Bran Woodland

The Clerk referred to the Council's decision to fund certain works at the above woodland. (Minute ESP15/043).

The works would include a commemorative plaque. It was proposed to use a similar inscription on the plaque to that used to dedicate the flagpoles at the Council House, which were re-dedicated to those who gave up their lives in the struggle for liberty (see "Members Matters" 15 March 2016.) This matter was being reported to this committee for information as any plaque would be funded from the Remembrance budget, which was held by this committee (code L10). (The allocation for this budget heading for the current year was £4,000.)

The Clerk reported details of a generous discount on the cost of construction, fitting, laying and engraving of the plaque from Mossfords.

Other opportunities would be sought to commemorate the contribution of former Members who have passed away, which members had suggested in discussing the above works.

It was **recommended** that

- (1) the above information is noted.
- (2) the generous support of Mossfords is welcomed.

ENT15/046 Primary Schools Choral Festival 1, 2 and 3 March 2016

Members reviewed the success of the above event, which had been well supported by local schools once again. The event provided an exciting opportunity for local primary school children to perform in a traditional theatre setting and had also helped raised funds for the Chairman's charity. Members referred to the support provided at the event by Reverend Canon Harald Thomas MBE, who had acted as "MC" on each of the three nights.

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

ENT15/047 "An Evening to Celebrate Cwmbran and its Communities" 5 March 2016

Members reviewed the success of the above event. The event had been well attended by many individuals and organisations who had made important contributions to the local community and many of the Council's key partners. The event had provided an excellent opportunity to showcase the work of the Council and helped to raise significant sums for the Chairman's charity.

Members discussed the potential to widen the list of organisations invited to attend in future years to include the Council's growing network of private sector partners, though the success of the event would mean that the number of people invited to attend in future would need to be carefully monitored.

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

ENT15/048 Big Event 11 June 2016

Members considered a proposal to purchase commemorative coins to celebrate HM Queen's 90th Birthday for distribution at the Big Event. A sample coin was available to view at the meeting. The Clerk advised that purchase and distribution of the coins would fit in well with the proposal to invite the public to sign a large birthday card for Her Majesty at the Council's stand. (Minute ENT15/041).

Members discussed the practicalities of distributing the coins fairly and suggested other ways in which the Council could engage with the community to help celebrate HM Queen's 90th Birthday. The Clerk referred to the sum of £1,000 which had been included within the Council's approved estimates to fund the Council's participation in the Big Event.

It was **recommended** that:

- (1) no action is taken in relation to the proposal to purchase commemorative coins to celebrate HM Queen's 90th Birthday for distribution at the Big Event.
- (2) the Clerk is instructed to examine the potential for obtaining large, commemorative birthday cards for distribution to each local school to help commemorate HM Queen's 90th Birthday

Ent15/049 Christmas Entertainment 2016

At a meeting held on 7 March 2016, the Council's Policy & Finance Committee had asked this committee to review the fees paid to providers of Pre-Christmas entertainment. (Minute PF15/069 (2) refers.

Members noted that budget for this has already been approved by the Council and had been included within the approved estimates for 2016/17. £1,500 was included for "Pre Christmas Entertainment" (L06) and £4,000 had been included for "Christmas Trees & Carols" (L09).

The Administrative Officer described the arrangements for the provision of Christmas entertainment in the town centre. It was hoped that the entertainment provided by the Council at Cwmbran Shopping would return to its traditional location this year, which was more popular with performers and audiences. The Clerk described the arrangements for delivery and erection of the Christmas Trees obtained by the Council for use at The Council House and in Pontnewydd.

Members discussed the potential for arranging entertainment at other locations in Cwmbran in order to share events and activities around the town.

It was **recommended** that:

- (1) the referral from the Policy & Finance Committee is noted.
- (2) a report is submitted to the next meeting of the committee on options for arranging Christmas Entertainment in 2017 at other locations in Cwmbran.

Signed

(Chair, Cwmbran Community Council)