

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Events & Community Projects Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on Monday 9 January 2017**

**Present** Councillor LJ Chaney (in the Chair), Councillors SJ Brooks, J Davenne, S Evans, R Jones, KK Manneh, RA Seabourne and TA Matthews.

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

**ENT16/022 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor WJ Walker (illness)

**ENT16/023 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. Councillors Evans and Seabourne declared an interest in Minute ENT16/026 (Primary Schools Choral Festival 21, 22 and 23 March 2017).

**ENT16/024 Christmas Entertainment Programme 2016**

Members reviewed the success of the Council's programme of Christmas entertainment. The programme had featured tree lighting ceremonies at the Council House and Pontnewydd, together with entertainment at Cwmbran Shopping. The events had been well attended and also provided an opportunity for Members to meet the public. The Chairman of the Council paid tribute to the hard work of the Council's staff in delivering the successful programme of events.

The Clerk referred to discussions among Members about future options for the location and financing of the Christmas Trees. (Minute PF16/059 refers.) He advised that he had examined the potential for sourcing the Christmas Trees from alternative local sources in future. Currently the trees were supplied, delivered, installed, decorated and removed by Torfaen County Borough Council. The trees were ordered through a local garden centre and sourced from a commercial grower. Blaen Bran Community Woodland had been able to donate trees in the past but this arrangement had ended due to the practicalities of transporting and installing the trees. Members noted that alternative suppliers could be examined but considered that the arrangements with Torfaen County Borough Council, as described by the Clerk, worked well as an overall package.

Members also considered the potential to provide trees at other locations as an alternative/addition to Pontnewydd in future years. (Minute PF16/059 refers). The Clerk advised that alternative locations could be examined but that this would require sites to be identified, discussion with landowners, risk assessments and identification of finances etc. He referred to the facilities already available at Pontnewydd which were able to support a tree lighting event. Members discussed other potential locations and referred to views expressed by residents about the potential to examine other locations for Christmas related events.

It was **recommended** that

(1) the success of the Christmas Entertainment Programme 2016 is noted.

(2) the Council record its appreciation of the hard work of the Council's staff in delivering a successful Christmas Entertainment Programme

- (3) the existing arrangements for sourcing the Council's Christmas Trees, as described above, are continued.
- (4) further consideration of options for location of Christmas Trees is deferred until after the forthcoming Local Council Elections.

**ENT16/025 "An Evening to Celebrate Cwmbran and its Communities" 4 March 2017**

Members considered progress in relation to the arrangements for the above event, which would be held at Greenmeadow Golf Club.

The Clerk advised that, in keeping with the Council's usual practice, discussions had taken place with the Chairman of the Council about the overall "look and feel" of the event. This included the provisional guest list, menu options and entertainment. Members were pleased to note that Torfaen Sea Cadets had agreed to assist with the entertainment, The Clerk also outlined other arrangement which were being put in place in relation to this event.

It was **recommended** that the arrangements for the above event are noted and agreed.

**ENT16/026 Primary Schools Choral Festival 21, 22 and 23 March 2017**

Councillors Evans and Seabourne declared an interest in this item.

Members considered progress in relation to the arrangements for the above event, which would be held at the Congress Theatre, commencing at 6.00pm on each occasion.

The Administrative Officer confirmed that all local schools would be invited to take part and that it was proposed to donate £125 to each participating school as usual. Schools would retain the income from the sale of tickets, which would be priced at £2.00. Some tickets would also be available from the Council.

It was **recommended** that the arrangements for the above event are noted and agreed.

*Signed* .....

*(Chair, Cwmbran Community Council)*