

Minutes of a Meeting of the Events & Community Projects Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on Monday 20 November 2017

Present Councillors M Day (Chair), Councillors SWJ Ashley, Rh Bennett, AL Bird, SJ Brooks, PJ Cathcart, JS Davenne, LG Johnston, RD Kemp, M Villars and WJ Walker.

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

ECP17/023 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors R Jones (illness) and M Johnston (illness)

ECP17/024 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.

ECP17/025 Senior Schools Choral Festival 9 November 2017

Members considered a report which reviewed the success of the above event, held at Cwmbran High School. The event had once again proved to be a successful evening with lively and varied performances from three local high schools.

Members considered that, whilst the event continued to be an important feature in the Council's calendar of events which demonstrated a strong relationship with local schools and young people, there was the potential to review some of its features to ensure that it retained its vitality.

Issues discussed included:

- speaking to schools about the potential to hold the event at a different time of the year, taking into account other demands on the schools' time and the Council's existing programme of events.
- options to widen the festival to include other forms of entertainment provided by young people.
- the potential to encourage schools to perform extracts from their existing proposed musical performances and concerts.
- options to widen the festival to include groups from other institutions, such as CCYP and Bron Afon.
- the need to continue to encourage schools that had participated in the past to support future events.
- costs of holding the event.
- the potential to hold the event at a different venue, such as the Congress Theatre.

It was **recommended** that the Clerk examine the above issues as part of an ongoing review of future arrangements for this event.

ECP17/026 Remembrance Sunday Parade 12 November 2017

Members considered a report which reviewed the success of the above event,

The Clerk drew attention to the success of the event and the support which it had attracted from the community. He also described the Council's role in co-ordinating the arrangements for the event and the discussions which were held with the various participants. He drew attention to interest in the event across social media and the written press. The event was an outstanding example of a council bringing the community together for an important community occasion.

The Clerk confirmed that the amount included within the approved estimates for Remembrance Sunday for the current year was £3,000 and not £4,000 as stated in his report.

Issues raised by Members included:

- approaching local organisations and individuals for suggestions on ways in which the centenary of World War One could be appropriately commemorated in 2018.
- staffing cover provided by council staff at the Parade (the Clerk confirmed that staff received time off in lieu and that no overtime costs were incurred)
- the potential to introduce wild flower poppy seeds in the vicinity of the parade.
- the potential to display artificial poppies on lamp posts along the route of the Parade.
- the potential to provide support to the organisers of the Remembrance Service held at Pontnewydd in future years, such as help with publicity or advice on administrative arrangements.
- the role of the Royal British Legion and Torfaen County Borough Council Members in providing financial support to the Parade at Pontnewydd.

It was **recommended** that the Clerk examine the above issues as part of an ongoing review of arrangements for this event.

ECP17/027 Provisional Programme of Events

Members considered the provisional programme of events for 2017/18, details of which were included on the agenda.

The Clerk encouraged all Members support the programme of events.

It was **recommended** that the provisional programme of events for 2017/18 is endorsed.

ECP17/028 Committee Estimates 2018/19

Members considered proposed estimates for the committee for the coming year. The Clerk agreed to provide Members with a summary of expenditure for previous years.

It was **recommended** that the estimates are approved, subject to an increase to allow for inflation.

Signed.....

(Chair, Cwmbran Community Council)