Minutes of a Meeting of the Events & Community Projects Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on Monday 19 November 2018

Present Councillors M Day (Chair), Councillors SWJ Ashley, Rh M Bennett, AL Bird, SJ Brooks, PJ Cathcart, M Johnston, LM Ryan, WJ Walker and LE Williams

Also David Collins (Clerk to the Council)

ECP18/023 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors JS Davenne (work commitments) and M Villars (personal).

ECP18/024 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.

ECP18/025 Senior Schools Choral Festival 7 November 2018

Members reviewed the success of the above event.

Members agreed that the event had been a success and that the use of the Congress Theatre had added to the success of the event and provided a positive experience for pupils. Members expressed their disappointment that some members of the audience left their seats during performances, which distracted attention from the performers at times. The Clerk agreed to keep this under review for future years.

Other issues raised by Members included clarification of the fee paid to the Congress Theatre (the Clerk confirmed that a hire fee was still payable even though the Council helped to fund the theatre) and the potential to hold the event at different times of the year to ease congestion in the Council's calendar of events. Members suggested that this could be the subject of discussion with schools to establish their preferences.

It was **recommended** that

(1) the success of the above event is noted.

(2) the Clerk is instructed to contact local schools to establish the potential for staging the event at an alternative time of the year in future.

ECP18/026 Remembrance Sunday Parade 11 November 2018

Members reviewed the success of the above event.

At the request of veterans, the parade had followed a new, shorter route this year. The new Team Rector of Cwmbran (Rev'd Nick Perry) had conducted the Act of Remembrance at Cwmbran Park and a new Parade Marshall had been in charge of the parade (Squadron Sergeant Major (SSM) Kevin Ilsley). Sergeant Lee Rees of Gwent Police attended his first parade to ensure a valuable police presence.

Apart from one or two expressions of dissatisfaction about the new route though,

all these new arrangements had proved successful. The parade had been extremely well attended despite the poor weather. Members were especially pleased at the support provided by children and young people, such as the "Mini Police" who had assisted with distributing Order of Service sheets. Observations about the pace of the parade had been referred to the Parade Marshall to inform next year's parade.

Members discussed the potential for improving press coverage of the parade in future years and for arranging good quality photographs. The Clerk referred to significant press coverage about the parade before the event (including publicity for the new route) but there had been less press coverage of the event itself.

Social Media had been used to provide lively publicity though the wet weather had made it difficult to take too many photographs. Members discussed the potential to approach local photographers to volunteer their help with photographs in future years.

The Leader confirmed that the Remembrance Sunday Parade and Act of Remembrance, was owned by the community as a whole, rather than the Council. The Council funded the use of a Public Address system at Cwmbran Park, modest refreshments for children and the production of a simple Order of Service sheet.

Seated, opaque silhouettes provided by the Council as a commemorative installation to the fallen of the First World War as part of the "There But Not There" initiative were installed at St Gabriel's church for use during the church service which followed the parade. These were obtained at no cost to the Council from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund.

The Clerk confirmed that discussions would take place with veterans' organisations and other community organisations to inform the planning of future parades.

Members also discussed the Remembrance Service at Pontnewydd, which several Members had also attended. Members discussed the potential for the Council to provide additional support for the event at Pontnewydd should this be requested.

It was **recommended** that

(1) the above information is noted

(2) the suggestions referred to above are used to inform the planning of future parades.

. **ECP18/027 Provisional Programme of Events**

Members considered the provisional programme of events for 2018/19, details of which were included on the agenda. All Members were encouraged to support the programme of events.

Members discussed the historical context of the John Fielding memorial event in January.

Members noted the arrangements for the Grants Presentation/Community Awards Presentation on 22 November 2018.

It was **recommended** that the provisional programme of events for 2018/19 is

endorsed.

ECP18/028 Play Sufficiency Audit 8 November 2018

Councillor WJ Walker presented an oral report on the above meeting. He also referred to the report presented to Members about the Playschemes and the positive feedback from all parties about this year's Playschemes (Minute ECP18/018 refers). He referred to the potential for the Play Service of Torfaen County Borough Council to help inform play provision in other local authority areas.

Councillor Walker referred to the opportunity for Members to take part in a consultation exercise in relation to Torfaen County Borough Council's Play Sufficiency Assessment. The assessment was a large piece of work which was carried out every 3 years. It was a requirement of Welsh Government that the assessment was strategically coordinated by the Play Sufficiency Action Group. The assessment covered a broad range of topics linked to play. This included population data, providing for diverse needs, open spaces for children to play, staffed provision, access to provision, transport and traffic initiatives , housing initiatives, community engagement, securing and developing the workforce and play within all policy and agendas. The assessment covered provision for all ages and looked at both staffed play, youth, sports, leisure, early years and recreational provision.

Councillor Walker encouraged all Members to take part in this consultation exercise. It was hoped that all consultation responses would be collated by the end of December. The full assessment would be considered by Torfaen County Borough Council in February to be returned and signed off by Welsh Government in March.

Members discussed the importance of providing stimulating play and outdoor experiences for children and the funding pressures which impacted on open space provision. Members also referred to an assessment of Open Space provision being undertaken by Torfaen County Borough Council.

It was **recommend**ed that:

(1) the above information is noted.

(2) the Clerk is instructed to re-circulate information about the above consultation exercise to all Members.

Signed……...
(Chair, Cwmbran Community Council)