

**MINUTES OF EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBER, PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICES  
WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2018**

**In attendance:**

Councillor: Mrs E. Chilcott JP (In the Chair)

Councillors in attendance: Mrs G. E. James, N. Jones, Mrs R. Matthews, R. Mills, Mrs N. P. Parrish.

Officers: Mrs R. Tucker, Ms J. Wright

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61. **Apologies**

Apologies received from Councillors N. Byrne, Mrs J. E. Jones and N. Simons.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the apologies be recorded.

62. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Mrs G. E. James, R. Mills, N. Jones and Mrs N. P. Parrish declared an interest in any item on the agenda relating to Torfaen County Borough Council.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the declarations of interest be recorded.

JW

63. **Pontypool Carnival**

Members received the notes from the Party in the Park meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

The Committee was also asked to approve the Council manning a stand at the Party in the Park. The Clerk felt it was important that Pontypool Community Council had a presence in the park being the Community Council for the area. She explained that several years ago they had a stall

which was quite successful. She informed members that there had been a youth council meeting that day and the Youth Councillors were keen to help on the day. The Clerk made reference to a teddy tombolo to attract visitors to the stall but also to raise money for the Chairman's charities. A member stated that you would have to ensure all teddy bears had their safety labels on and were in good condition in keeping with health and safety requirements. The Clerk asked the Committee to support buying environmental friendly canvas bags with Pontypool Community Council logo on so they can be given out on the day and the cost for this would be £200.00 for approximately 400. Another member made reference to the little fluffy stick on bugs that had proved very popular at the stall the last time. The Clerk stated as she did not have an identified budget for Party in the Park the Committee needed to approve £500.00 out of the general fund. This was unanimously agreed.

The Clerk said that a Gazebo would be erected in the Park and tables and chairs provided. Members asked to ensure there were adequate seats in the stall on the day.

**RECOMMENDED:**

(i) that the notes from the Party in the Park meeting be received and noted.

(ii) that a budget of £500.00 be allocated to Party in the Park to purchase items as outlined above.

64. **Photography Competition**

The Committee received a report on the photography competition and was asked to consider a theme for the photography competition and to ratify the terms of entry. The report outlined last year's rules and stated that the prizes this year would be:

1<sup>st</sup> - £50.00 and a canvas of the winning entry  
2<sup>nd</sup> - £30.00  
3<sup>rd</sup> - £20.00

It was unanimously agreed by members that this year's theme would be "Wildlife within Torfaen".

The winners would be announced at the Grants Presentation Evening in October.

The report also stated how the Council's Well Being Objectives were being met.

**RECOMMENDED:**

(i) that the committee endorses the same rules of entry for 2017.

(ii) that the theme for the photography competition will be "Wildlife within Torfaen"

(iii) it be noted that the well-being objectives are being met.

65. **Environmental Quiz**

The Chair of the meeting informed members that the Environmental Quiz had been held yesterday at Griffithstown Primary School. 5 schools were due to participate but one had dropped out. She said it was a very enjoyable occasion. New Inn came 1<sup>st</sup>, Griffithstown 2<sup>nd</sup> and Ysgol Panteg and Padre Pio joint 3<sup>rd</sup> and there was only one point in it between all three schools so it was very close. All the children thoroughly enjoyed it and the school had produced a healthy buffet. The winning school each year normally hosts the following year and New Inn have agreed to host next year.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the information in respect of the Environmental Quiz be noted and to note that New Inn would be hosting the event next year.

66. **Poet of Pontypool**

Members received an update on the Poet of Pontypool competition and Presentation Evening. The judging would be taking place on Tuesday the 26<sup>th</sup> June and Mrs Gwynne Carnell, and Kareene Griffin would be the judges. All finalists will be invited to the presentation evening. The cash prizes are 1<sup>st</sup> - £50.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> - £30.00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> - £20.00 for both Junior and Senior Winners. Pontypool District

Writers pay half of the Junior prizes and Pontypool Community Council pay the remainder at a total cost to the Council of £150.00 plus the winners receive an engraved pen set, framed copy of the winning poem and a trophy. The presentation evening would be taking place in Woodlands Field (Log Cabin) Penygarn on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00 pm.

**RECOMMENDED:**

- (i) that the report be noted.
- (ii) that the cash prizes be noted.
- (iii) to note that the well-being objectives are being met.

67.

**Presentation Evening**

Members received a report on presentation evenings. The first presentation evening this Council year would be taking place at 7.00 pm on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> July at Trevethin Workingmen's Club (This is in the Chair of the Council's ward). The second had been agreed for Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018. The report listed the other venues that had been used, which are large enough to accommodate at least 100 and have a bar. Those used in the last few years are at the bottom of the list. Other venues could be added if requested. It was unanimously agreed that Garndiffaith Millennium Hall be chosen as the next venue subject to availability. If unavailable then the next venue on the list be approached.

**RECOMMENDED:**

- (i) that arrangements for the July Presentation Evening be noted.
- (ii) that the presentation evening in October be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018 subject to availability.

68.

**General Report on events**

Members received a general report on events. The Clerk informed members that the purpose of the report is to update the new Committee members on some of the events the Projects Officer organises on behalf of the Council and to provide an evaluation on the success or decline of such

events.

### Poet of Pontypool

The Clerk informed members that for several years the same people entered year on year in the senior category and it was proving problematic to get the entries from Comprehensive schools or entries from the public for the junior section and there had been very few entries this year. It was agreed that as the event has already been organised for this year to see how it goes. A member made a recommendation that the Clerk writes to the Head of English at all comprehensive schools within the Pontypool area to try and gain interest as well as Pontypool College. This was supported by members. It was agreed that this event be revisited to establish how much enthusiasm there had been after the event had taken place this year.

**Action:** (i) Letters to be sent to Heads of English and Pontypool College to try and gain interest in the Junior Section.

(iii) Event to be revisited once the event had taken place this year.

### Charity Concert

Every year the Chair hosted a charity concert which raised money for his/her charities. The concerts proved to be popular in the past but in recent years the public interest in the event had dwindled. Although money is raised the audience members are mainly friends and family members of the concert participants. The Leader made reference to a rock concert she had put on herself which made a substantial amount for her charities. It was agreed that the Chair of the Council be asked if he had any ideas of the sort of concert he would like to put on or a different type of fundraising event and staff resources could be changed to support him in any ideas he had.

**Action:** Chair of Council to be asked for any ideas in what sort of fundraising concert he would like to put on.

### Photo Competition

As this event is relatively new then this is work in progress but new ideas achieving its well-being objectives would be helpful. The ward member for New Inn Upper said that other organisations had made money from calendars and that Pontypool Community Council could produce a

Christmas calendar from all winning photos of the photography competition over the last few years. Members felt that this was an excellent idea and it was agreed that this idea be explored.

**Action:** Pontypool Community Council producing its own Christmas Calendar from various photos from the photo competitions be looked into.

### Eisteddfod

The Eisteddfod had been running for 19 years and had a steady number of entrants. The competition is held over 2 days with Foundation Phase schools competing on one day and Key Stage 2 competing on another day. The format was changed a few years ago which saw schools lose interest in the Eisteddfod, however this year the Eisteddfod reverted to a competition event and was very successful. It was agreed that the same format be followed next year.

**Action:** that the Eisteddfod for 2019 follow the same format as this year.

### Testimonials

Each year the Council ask the public to nominate people from the Community whom they feel have demonstrated or achieved the following:

Outstanding achievement, overcoming adversity, significant voluntary contribution to the community over a long and sustained period of time and to demonstrate that the contribution has made a difference to other people's lives.

The nominees would then receive an award at the Autumn Presentation evening. Last year the Council awarded 8 citations to members of the public.

A member made reference to the process of awarding testimonials last year being farcical and that the criteria for nominating people needed to be more rigorous to avoid senseless nominations.

### **Action:**

- (i) that members be asked to nominate this year with only outstanding nominations being considered.
- (ii) that the awarding of testimonials be reconsidered next year.

### Environmental Quiz

This event takes place in June annually. There are usually 5 – 8 schools (6 year 6 pupils participating). The event is hosted by the school that won the previous year.

Members agreed that this event will continue as it is reasonably well supported.

**Action:** to continue with the Environmental Quiz

### Christmas Cavalcade

The Christmas Cavalcade is now in its 29<sup>th</sup> year and is the celebration of the Christmas lights and trees switch on in Pontypool town centre as well as the various Communities across Pontypool. It is a day full of activity with many entertainers, free activities for children as well as Father Christmas. This culminates in the parade from the Civic Centre to the disco area on George Street with dance groups, bands and TV characters taking part.

Members stated that members of the public and in their wards always say it is an excellent event, well organised and well supported so it should continue in its current format as it is an event that will always attract crowds. As this will be a standard item going forward on each Events meeting then any ideas or themes members may have in developing the event can be brought up at future meetings.

**Action:** (i) that the event carries on its current format  
(ii) if any members have any ideas these can be brought up at future events meetings.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the actions as outlined above in respect of the Council events be approved.

CHAIR OF EVENTS

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