

**MINUTES OF EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICES
WEDNESDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2019**

In attendance:

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

Councillors in attendance: Ms K. Arthur, Mrs J. E. Jones, N. Jones, Mrs R. Matthews, Mrs N. P. Parrish

Officers: Mrs C. Challenger, Ms J. Wright

222 **Apologies**

Apologies received and accepted from Councillor Mrs G. E. James and N. Simons.

223 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors 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.

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224 **Party in the Park**

The Finance & Events Manager informed the meeting that Party in the Park had been booked for Saturday 11th July next year and all the necessary paperwork had been sent to SAG at Torfaen for approval, she said work on Party in the Park would commence in January due to other forthcoming events taking precedence. In respect of entertainment, enquiries have been made to book Circus Whiz again as this act was able to cater for 50 children at a time and she was looking at other acts that could accommodate a significant amount of children to avoid queues and be much more cost effective. She would also be booking the face painters and balloon makers again as these proved very popular. Other acts she was looking to book include an Inflatable Rodeo Bull, The Mighty Smith show and a trampoline enclosure.

All members felt these would be very popular at Party in the Park and needed to be booked as soon as possible with the Entertainment company. She further added that a request had been put to the Sports Development Team at Torfaen requesting the Climbing Wall; a member asked if she had she received a reply from them to which she stated she had not and had put the request in a month ago. It was agreed that the Finance & Events Manager follow up this request as the Committee felt a month to reply was unacceptable.

Reference was made to the fact that the main headline act at Party in the Park had been the same for the last two years and the Council should be looking for a change. A member felt that if this headline act pulled in the crowds it was unwise to change a winning formula, however it was agreed that if an alternate act could be found that could produce a show with the same quality that this be considered.

RECOMMENDED: that the information and any actions in relation to Party in the Park be noted and progressed.

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225 **Eisteddfod 2020**

The Committee received a detailed report on the 2020 Eisteddfod. The Chair informed the meeting that normally the Eisteddfod took place over a Wednesday and Thursday however for 2020 Pontypool Leisure Centre was unable to accommodate the Thursday so the Eisteddfod would take place over the following dates:

Foundation Phase – Tuesday 10th March
Key Stage 2 – Wednesday 11th March 2020

All primary schools in Pontypool had been asked to participate and the following had agreed to take part in principle: Padre Pio, New Inn, Griffithstown, Garnteg, Ysgol Bryn Onnen, George Street, Penygarn Community Primary, Ysgol Panteg and Cwmffrwdroer.

The Finance & Events Manager informed the meeting that she and Mrs AA had met with Ms Delyn Fritter from Menter Iaith to see if she could find a replacement compere for Miss C. Cartwright who was unable to compere next year and Ms Fritter was very optimistic that she would be able to find a

replacement bilingual compere. An alternative musical judge would need to be sought if Mr R. Appleby is unable to judge due to an impending hip operation and Ms Alison Lee has confirmed that she will judge the dancing competition on both days.

In respect of the Art element of the competition it was unanimously agreed that a “theme around Easter” be chosen.

In respect of transport in the past the Council has used Peakes Coaches to provide transport for the schools, unfortunately Peakes are no longer in business, so local companies have been asked to quote. The quotes received have increased significantly since last year so this will need to be factored into the budget for the event. As Edwards were unable to accommodate the times that the schools needed to arrive and leave it was agreed that Phil Anslow be booked at a cost of 1 x 70 seat coach @ £200.00 per school and 1 x 53 seat coach @ £170.00 per school, however it was agreed Stagecoach also be contacted to see if they were in a position to supply a quote and that Phil Anslow be contacted to see if they were able to negotiate the cost of the buses. An item would be need to be placed on the budget day to factor in the increase of transport on the Eisteddfod budget for 2020.

The meeting was informed that previously the Eisteddfod was held over three days to include the secondary schools, unfortunately for a few reasons the secondary schools element was cancelled. At last year’s Eisteddfod Mrs Green who is the Head of Welsh at West Monmouth and was a judge, stated that she was keen to ask if the Council would re-establish the secondary school competition in future years. The Finance & Events Manager informed members that it would not be worth re-establishing unless three secondary schools participated. It was agreed in the first instance that the Events Officer write to the secondary schools in Pontypool to establish if they were able to give a firm commitment in participating in the secondary school competition before the budget day in order that an informed decision can be made.

RECOMMENDED:

- (i) that the report be noted.
- (ii) that the theme for the

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art competition be around Easter and the schools be informed to this effect.

(iii) that the secondary schools in Pontypool be contacted.

(iv) that Stagecoach be contacted to see if they were able to give a quote.

(v) that Phil Anslow be contacted to see if they could negotiate on the prices given.

(vi) that an item be placed on the budget day to factor in the increased cost of transport on the 2020 Eisteddfod budget and to consider a budget for 2021 once all the appropriate information has been obtained from the secondary schools.

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226 **Annual Dinner**

It was agreed that the Annual Dinner be held at Pontypool Golf Club on Friday the 20th March 2020 subject to availability. If this date was unavailable then to look at alternative dates of Friday the 27th March, Friday the 3rd April or Friday the 17th April in that order [Friday the 10th April Good Friday].

RECOMMENDED: that the Annual Dinner be booked at Pontypool Golf Club on Friday the 20th March 2020 as outlined above.

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227 **Chairman's Charity Concert**

In respect of the Chairman's Charity Concert, the Chair said she would like the concert to take a different format next year in the form of either a rock and roll concert, or a 60's or 70's evening at the Comrades Club. It was agreed that the Finance & Events Manager would liaise with the Chair and Events Officer in respect of progressing the Charity concert and she stated that due to the Eisteddfod and Annual Dinner taking place in March it would be more appropriate to hold the Concert sometime in April 2020.

RECOMMENDED: that the Finance & Events

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Manager and the Events Officer liaise with the Chair of Council to progress the Charity Concert as outlined above.

228 **Events Report**

The Committee received a report on new ideas for Events as agreed at the last Events meeting. The Chair stated that as the report is very informative with some really good ideas she proposed that a working party be set up consisting of members of the Council and staff in order to progress these ideas forward and to this effect an item be placed on Council to serve on this working party, this was unanimously agreed by members.

Members liked the idea of opening up the photography competition to include a Junior Section and having the same theme for the Poet of Pontypool Competition "Four seasons". It was agreed that the photography next year could just include one photo of one of the seasons. In respect of the poetry competition it was agreed that short stories be accepted as well as poems for 1 year to see how this affects entry numbers.

The Chair of Events stated that with a working party all the new ideas for events could be considered far more exhaustively including the resource implications involved.

RECOMMENDED: that an item be placed on Council to nominate members to serve on an Events working party to progress new ideas.

JW

75th end of World War 2 Commemoration

The Committee received information to consider whether to commemorate the 75th anniversary after the end of the 2nd World War. The Chair personally felt that it was extremely important that the Council should commemorate the anniversary as a number of personnel died to give us our freedom today. It was agreed that this item be deferred to Full Council for further consideration.

RECOMMENDED: that this item be deferred to Full Council for future consideration.

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