

REPORTS TO BLACKWOOD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2ND. MARCH 2015

AGENDA ITEM 3 CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence has been received since the last meeting –

Caerphilly C.B.C.	Invoice – Room Hire at Institute - £17.32
	Notification of Community Council Liaison Sub-Committee Meeting to be Held at 6.30pm. on Wednesday 4th. March at Council Chamber, Penallta House, Tredomen
	Notification of Blackwood Town Centre Management Group Meeting to be held at 1.30pm. on 20 th . March at Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen
Blackwood Musical Theatre Soc.	Invitation to Mayor to attend production of Me & My Girl
Blackwood Crime Prevention Panel	Invitation to attend 20 th . Anniversary production of Wings to Fly at Blackwood Institute
Kidney Wales Foundation	Invitation to hold a Walk for Life on Sunday 26 th . April 2015
Blackwood Neigh. Policing Team	Request for funding towards football tournament for local schools to be held on Thursday 16 th . April. (144 children taking part) We supported this very successful event last year (£250)

AGENDA ITEMS 6 & 7 MINUTES OF EVENTS COMMITTEE

It is considered appropriate that a number of issues be highlighted for specific agreement by Town Council –

- Continued sponsorship by last years sponsors if they are agreeable
- The possible inclusion of boys/ young males into the Carnival Court process
- Negotiation with Classic Catering to provide Staging, Marquees etc. & Sound System for this years carnival – with potential savings of approx £650
- Cancercareline be invited to assist in hospitality at Carnival, Awards Evening & Christmas Carol Concert

AGENDA ITEM 8 FLORAL DECORATIONS/ DISPLAYS IN HIGH STREET

Members may well recall that Caerphilly C.B.C. as part of their budget savings strategy have decided that from 2016/2017 they will not provide hanging baskets/floral displays within town locations across the borough. Initially it was thought this would be implemented this calendar year, but thankfully the decision was postponed for a year.

In September 2014 we were notified that the costs of supplying/ planting/installing/removing 58 hanging baskets/ floral displays would cost £1,673, whilst watering same between mid April & mid September would cost £4,610.94, a total cost of £6,283.94.

Members seemed adamant at that time that we should do all possible to ensure that the provision of hanging baskets /floral displays continue, to project the town at its best throughout spring/summer period. Whilst the cost of supply etc. of baskets/ floral displays was not considered too problematical, the cost of watering same did cause concern. These concerns were relayed to C.C.B.C. and they are now looking to provide plastic hanging baskets as opposed to the wire baskets used previously, and possibly reconsider some of the plants included in the displays. This should reduce the requirement for frequent watering. Both Caerphilly Town Council and ourselves have asked the Parks Section to re-cost the figures given these changes to provision, based on the current 58 baskets and reduced number they consider viable without a detrimental effect.

Whilst we would not be funding until 2016/2017 financial year, it is thought beneficial that a decision be taken now as to whether Town Council will continue the service. If no other funding streams/sponsorship or savings in current budget are achievable, then worst case scenario would result in an increase in precept equivalent to approx £2.20p per Band D equivalent dwelling (based on quoted figures above)

AGENDA ITEM 9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications have been received since the last meeting –

15/0019/FULL	D Lewis	Erect a menage to rear of stables Gelli Farm, Tredegar Road, Blackwood
15/0081/FULL	Ixion Devel.	Erect 3 no. free standing wooden poles to support 3 no. bat boxes (temporary bat migration) Former Junior School, Pentwyn Road, Blackwood
15/083/NOTD	Ixion Devel.	Demolish former school Former Junior School, Pentwyn Road, Blackwood
15/090/ADV	ACCA Ltd.	Erect fascia sign & projecting sign Y Coed Duon, high Street, Blackwood