

MINUTES OF THE BLACKWOOD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH. JULY 2014.

Present : Councillors J Criddle, P Cook, Z Hammond, D Davies, M Veater MBE
Inspector Mark Thomas

The Clerk informed those present that six members constituted a quorum, and therefore the meeting was inquorate.

It was, however, decided to continue with the meeting, and whilst not in a position to make decisions, would report back to the next Council Meeting, to be held on 1st. September 2014

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors N Turner (Attending function on behalf of Mayor),
A Parsons & G Hale

2. Policing Matters

Inspector Mark Thomas reported the following to members –

Blackwood crime figures show a 6.1% decrease on the same period last year, this representing 12 less victims over the comparison period.

Anti Social Behaviour figures showed a 11.2% increase on the same period last year, the majority of the increase relating to problems around the Cliff Road area during the Easter school holidays, and represented an additional 14 ASB calls over the comparison period.

Over the past 3 months, the Neighbourhood Policing Team had –

Increased patrols around Cliff Road to reduce ASB and this has been successful
Worked with retailers to try and prevent theft of alcohol by youths from stores
Townsafe Patrols have continued with a deterrent effect and low numbers arrested
4 Section 27 Direction to leave warnings have been issued over the past month to move people from the town for 48 hours
1 Youth has been issued with an ABC
Cruiser Op took place one Thursday night, however, it was relatively quiet that night
Roads Policing Unit have been spending more time on the By Pass to deal with speeding
Carried out engagement work during the Beach Party, and were joined by the Crime Prevention Panel and a Police Cadet. An additional 205 residents were signed up for OWL
Test Purchase for underage sales in pubs – no offences in Blackwood

Things planned over the next few weeks are –

Parking Enforcement day in Town Centre to deal with people parked illegally
Support at Blackwood Carnival
Late night refreshment test purchase operation to deal with fast food premises staying open late

The Inspector was thanked for his report, and he left the meeting.

3. *Mayoral Announcements*

None in absence of the Mayor

4. *Correspondence*

The Clerk presented his report on correspondence received. It was proposed all items be noted.

In respect of Celebration of 20 Years Friendship with Pisek, Councillor D Davies expressed an interest in attending.

5. *To Confirm Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 2nd June 2014*

Members present proposed acceptance of the minutes

6. *Matters Arising*

There were no matters identified

7. *To Receive the Minutes of the Event Committee Meetings held on 10th. & 24th. June 2014*

Members present proposed the minutes be received

8. *To Receive the Minutes of the Town & Community Councils Joint Liaison Committee Meeting held on 29th. January 2014*

Members present proposed the minutes be received

9. *Blackwood in Bloom Competition*

The Clerk reminded members present of their responsibilities in making nominations, and said he would remind other members via e-mail

10. Welsh Government Consultation Document on Access to Information on Community & Town Councils

It was agreed this be reported to next meeting

11. Planning Applications

The Clerk presented his report on planning applications received since the last meeting. Members present proposed that no objections be raised at this point, albeit Councillor Criddle had reservations regarding the following and agreed to follow up with CCBC officers –

14/0343/FULL 6 Cilgerran Way, Blackwood

14/0290/ COU 201 High Street, Blackwood

14/0367/FULL 31 Clos Coed Bach, Blackwood

12. Reports

It was agreed the report prepared by Councillor Criddle be reported to the next meeting