



Report for Community Engagement and Wellbeing Committee 8th March 23

Armed Forces Day 2023

Suggested Outline of Armed Forces Day in Bridgend

Following the Armed Forces Day report presented to the meeting of Full Council on Monday 20th February 2023, this report outlines a suggested running order for the day for consideration and approval.

The event will run from 10.30am to 2pm.

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| 10.30am – 2pm | Stands and activities in Dunraven Place |
| 10.30am – 1.45pm | Entertainment (RAF St Athan Band, 157 Regiment Drum Corps, Choirs) |
| 11am – 11.30am | Official Opening of Armed Forces Day and Parade |
| 11.30am – 12.30pm | Mayor's Reception in Carnegie House to thank invited Armed Services Personnel |
| 1.45 – 2pm | Drumhead service to close event |

Parade

The parade will consist of military personnel, cadets, veterans and armed forces families. In order for the event to be associated with Bridgend Town Council I suggest that the parade starts outside Carnegie House.

To distinguish the event from Remembrance, the parade will follow a similar route to the Remembrance Parade, but in reverse.

Parade Route

- Muster outside Carnegie House, forming up back towards the top of Wyndham Street
- Step off towards War Memorial
- Left at War memorial in front of The Wyndham Arms
- Left into Caroline Street
- Left into Adare Street
- Straight across to York Place

- Left into Market Street
- Left into Dunraven Place
- Salute taken at the War Memorial
- Left after War Memorial into Wyndham Street
- Parade ends

I have contacted 157 Regiment Corps of Drums and the South Wales Police Band to lead the parade and am awaiting a response. Swansea Pipe Band are already booked for an event on 24th June which has been in their diary since last year.

Mayoral Reception in Carnegie House

The Mayor could invite selected Armed Forces Personnel to a small reception in Carnegie House (Tea and Cake) to thank them for their service. The St Athan Voluntary Band could provide a quartet for this.

Drumhead Service to Close Event

It is traditional for Armed Forces Events to close with a short Drumhead Service which originates from a religious service attended by members of a military unit while in the field. The St Athan Voluntary Band will provide the musical accompaniment for the short service of thanks.

Activities

Forces Fitness will provide a manned 45ft long inflatable assault course suitable for children and adults which subject to further investigation will be situated in Dunraven Place.

MPTC to provide activities (TBC)

Entertainment

There will be an entertainment area which will feature the following ensembles from 10.30am to 10.55am and 12 to 2pm):

- RAF St Athan Band
- Bridgend Rock Choir
- Bridgend Carers Choir (TBC)
- 157 Regiment Corps of Drums Static (TBC)

Stalls

We anticipate there will be 10 organisations participating with stalls, which will all have association to military organisations.