



**MINUTES OF THE BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL  
MILITARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) MEETING  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 at 10.00am at Evergreen Hall**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b><u>Present:</u></b> | Cllr A Wathan, Chair of Military Advisory Committee<br>Cllr T Wood, Vice Chair of Military Advisory Committee<br>Cllr D Unwin, Chair Finance<br>Cllr S Bletsoe<br>Cllr C Webster |
|------------------------|--|

**In attendance:** Town Clerk, Mrs L Edwards, Deputy Town Clerk, Mrs D Jones and Mrs J Griffin, Democratic Services Administration Officer.

**1. To receive apologies for absence:**

Apologies were received from Cllr I Robson, Tracy Evans and Mr J Harris.

**2. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest in respect of the business to be transacted:**

Cllr C Webster – Item 5 (Update on the Heritage Walkway Project) – Member of BCBC Planning Committee.

**3. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Military Advisory Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018:**

**Resolved:** To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Military Advisory Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018 as a true and accurate record.

**4. To consider any matters arising from the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018:**

- P2 Deputy Clerk reported that a diary note has been made for the repainting of the Dias to take place in September.
- P2 Deputy Clerk to confirm the provision of the Remembrance Café for both the Saturday and Sunday with Fran Kelly.
- P2 Mr Harris had not confirmed if a new flag is being produced for the WW1 Commemorations. Enquiries to be made. The Town Clerk advised that Mr Harris has taken a sabbatical for 2 months for personal study.

- P4 The Town Clerk confirmed that the Official Beacon Lighting is to take place on 11<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.
- P2 Cllr S Bletsoe referred to why the councillors were marching; on behalf of the residents. It was agreed this should be clarified.
- P2 Members agreed that the Remembrance Café at Carnegie House was a great success and this year, the Café should be advertised wider and earlier on social media, in the press etc.
- P5 The Deputy Clerk advised that two flag poles had been repaired and that a further two flag poles now require repair.

**Resolved:** The repairs to the two remaining flag poles should be carried out.

**Resolved:** The Clerk should make enquiries into obtaining 'listed building consent' for installing flag poles on Carnegie House.

*Cllr C Webster left the meeting for the duration of the next item.*

#### **5. To receive an update on the Heritage Walkway Project**

The Town Clerk updated Members with regard to the Appeal made on the decision of the Planning Application. Disappointment was expressed that the application was 'Officer delegated' and was not considered by the Planning Committee. The possibility of a compromise is being sought should the Planning Appeal be unsuccessful. The aim is for the project to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

#### **6. Review of the RAF 100 Beacon Lighting.**

The Town Clerk gave an overview of the last Beacon lighting. It has been suggested that a 'gas lit' beacon is purchased. A Commemorative Beacon for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WW1 is available costing £350.

**Resolved:** The suggestion that the Town Council purchase a Commemorative WW1 Beacon is placed on the agenda of the next Finance Committee with supporting details of the purchase price and installation costs.

#### **7. To discuss Wartime Bridgend Event 2018: and subsequent Beacon Lighting.**

- Deputy Town Clerk/RFO updated Members of the progress for Wartime Bridgend 2018 arrangements.
- Clerk advised Members that in light of a planned event at the United Services Club on the evening of Wartime Bridgend the RBL were unsure if they would still plan an evening event at the Castle on Newcastle Hill. She explained that if this event does not go ahead there will be no requirement to light the Beacon; Members will be advised as soon as confirmation is received.

#### **8. To receive an update on the Silent Soldier Campaign.**

- Two 'Silent Soldiers' have been ordered and delivery is expected next week.
- One 'Silent Soldier' will be sited at the top of Nolton Street with the other adjacent to the Job Centre. Both 'Soldiers' will be lit from spotlights on nearby trees. It was agreed that there should be no ceremony following the siting of the 'Soldiers'.
- It was suggested that further soldiers could be produced from a suitable material to be placed on some buildings throughout the town.

- Suggestion was made that a third 'Silent Soldier' could be purchased for siting near the Railway Station. It was acknowledged that the 'Soldiers' cost £250 each.

**9. To discuss arrangements for Remembrance Day 2018.**

- 'Twin towns' and the 'friendship link' town have been invited to the Remembrance Day Service 2018. The Town Twinning Association will host the visitors and there is a formal greeting plan in place.
- Wreaths to be ordered early June.
- The 'Beacon' lighting at 7pm was discussed. The event has been registered. A programme of timings will follow. It was suggested that consideration is given to purchasing a gas beacon which could be easier to use. It was noted that it will be 'dark' so health and safety requirements should be considered. Possibly the use of floodlighting could prove beneficial particularly as the steps can prove difficult to negotiate.
- A request has been made for the 'bell ringers' to be on site but no response has been received as yet.

**10. Correspondence**

Cllr T Wood advised that he had been contacted by a member of the public who is very active with regard to Military Bands. It was suggested that the gentleman is invited to a future meeting as he may have contacts who could provide a band for Armed Forces Day 2019.

**Meeting Closed: 11.05am**

**Signed:..... (Chair of MAC)**

**Signed:..... (Mayor)**

**Date:.....**