**C Y N G O R T R E F C A E R F F I L I**

**C A E R F F I L I T O W N C O U N C I L**

**CLERC Y TREF: MAER Y TREF:**

**TOWN CLERK: TOWN MAYOR:**

**P G Davy Cllr M Prew**

13th November 2023

An **Ordinary Meeting** of the **Caerphilly Town Council** will be held on **Monday 20th November 2023** at **6.30 pm** by **Multi Location**

Any Member requiring further information on any item should contact me before the Meeting.

Phil Davy

Town Clerk

**A G E N D A**

1. To note Members’ attendance and to receive any apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest in any item.

3. To receive and if thought fit to confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting

held on Monday 16th October 2023. .

4. Matters arising from the Minutes if not covered by the Agenda.

5. **COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

6. **TOWN MAYOR’S DIARY**

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

**Address: Twyn Community Centre The Twyn Caerffili CF83 IJL**

**Telephone: 07950 935822**

 **E-mail: caerphillytowncouncil@outlook.com**

 **Office hours: By Appointment Monday to Friday**

8. **TOWN CLERK’S REPORTS**

 8.1 Review of Community Arrangements.

 8.2 Budget Estimates 2024-25.

 8.3 Independent Renumeration Panel for Wales (IRPW)

 Draft Annual Report 2024.

 8.4 Local Government Pay Agreement 2023-24

9. **PLANNING MATTERS**

10. **PAYMENT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

 10.1 List of Payments.

 10.2 Bank Account Balances.

 10.3 Applications for Financial Assistance.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE**

 11.1 Cul de Sac signage at Castell Y Fan.

12. **MEMBERS REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS**

The meeting will be held in accordance with Section 47 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 by multi location.

Any member of the public or media wishing to attend this meeting by remote access should contact the Town Clerk at:

caerphillytowncouncil@outlook.com

All documentation about and relating to this and any other Town Council meeting undertaken by hybrid format or fully by remote access will be made available on the Town Council website:

[www.caerphillytowncouncil.co.uk](http://www.caerphillytowncouncil.co.uk)

**C Y N G O R T R E F C A E R F F I L I**

**C A E R F F I L I T O W N C O U N C I L**

**CLERC Y TREF: MAER Y TREF:**

**TOWN CLERK: TOWN MAYOR:**

**P G Davy Cllr M Prew**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF CAERPHILLY TOWN COUNCIL HELD BY MULTI LOCATION ON 16TH OCTOBER 2023**

**Present:**

Councillor P J Bevan, M Downes, C Elsbury, J Fussell, S Kent, C Lewis, A Broughton Pettit, M Prew, P Reed, D Roberts

**Apologies:**

Councillor J Pettit, J Grenfell

**In Attendance:**

P Hudson, Business Enterprise and Renewal Team Manager, CCBC

J Hillier Raikes, Town Centre Manager, CCBC

R Collins, D Greedy, Gwent Police

P G Davy, Town Clerk

CCBC officers outlined the new town centre management model with an annual audit, quarterly updates, and stakeholder meetings. There was a focus on encouraging businesses to engage by keeping meetings informal. Various funding sources were explained including grants from the Shared Prosperity Fund, and budget allocations to town centre management, Green Team, and Public Realm. The possibility of Business Improvement District (BID) was under consideration and the operation of the business levy was explained.

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**56 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**

**18TH SEPTEMBER 2023**

Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on 18th September 2023 were received and confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

**57 MATTERS ARISING**

Minute 48. Although there had been no response from CCBC on the footbridge it was understood an options appraisal was being undertaken.

**58 COMMUNITY SAFETY MATTERS**

Gwent Police had provided a written statement which had been circulated to Members.

The current main issues:

* Shoplifting, particularly Morrisons
* Regular patrols are undertaken at Asda/Starbucks car park, and Morgan Jones Park
* Operations will be in place for Halloween and Bonfire Night
* Isolated incident on Nantgarw Road dealt with and no ongoing concern

In response to concerns about speeding near Caerphilly Miners and on St Martins Road the police advised that monthly speed gun checks will be undertaken. Other matters raised by Members:

* Lane between Glyn Derw complex and Asda/ Starbucks
* Loose dogs on Castle View estate, police had adopted the Lead Initiative to educate dog owners
* Advice to schools about the dangers of throwing fireworks

**59 TOWN MAYOR’S DIARY**

The Mayor had attended an Air Ambulance event hosted by the Caerphilly Ladies Choir and a visiting choir from Australia; and the Wales Strongest Man at Caerphilly Rugby Club.

**60 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

The following matters were raised:

* A number of supermarket trolleys had been dumped in the river by Aldi
* The condition of the Virginia Park housing site and how contaminated water will be addressed, an update was requested from CCBC
* CCBC Members had been invited to identify areas in need of weeding

**61 TOWN CLERK’S REPORTS**

1 Tender for the supply of summer floral displays (2024)

Two tenders had been received. For the core service, the supply of plants, there was a price difference of 23% between the two tenders. The company with the lowest price had also tendered for the complete turnkey solution of supply watering and maintenance. This is a benefit to the Town Council in only having to deal with one contractor. The tender evaluation was based on quality (50%) and price (50%). The company offering the complete turnkey proposal achieved the highest marks.

It was resolved:

1 To award the tender for the summer floral displays in 2024 to J S Lee Services Ltd for the turnkey proposal at a total cost of £14000 +vat, and with the option to extend for a further two years (2025 and 2026).

2 The continuation of the contract for 2025 and 2026 will be dependent on the quality of the floral displays supplied and maintained in 2024, and any uplift in costs due to inflation will be negotiated based on CPI in the preceding September for the relevant year.

Councillor J Fussell declared an interest and did not take part in the decision making on this report.

2 CIL / Events Working Group

The Working Group had met on 11 September 2023 and had made a number of recommendations. It was noted that currently there are no CIL projects to be taken forward by the Town Council.

Since the Working Group there had been a meeting with the CCBC ESAG about the Christmas Lights switch on event. Concerns had been raised about public safety due to the large number of people attending the event in 2022. The Working Group had recommended scaling back the event. ESAG had requested additional traffic and pedestrian management measures along Cardiff Road.

It was resolved to accept the recommendations from the Working Group and it was noted that as well as scaling back the Christmas Lights switch on event additional public safety measures were being pursued, including a rolling road closure on Cardiff Road.

3 Q2 Budget Monitoring 2023/24 Financial Year

Expenditure in the period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023 was £52,195-27 which represents 38% of the annual estimate approved in November 2022.

The report was noted.

4 External Audit Report 2022-23

The external audit of the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2023 has been

completed by Audit Wales. The Auditor General for Wales has issued an unqualified audit opinion. Attention was drawn to a typographical error relating to the value of Fixed Assets.

It was resolved to approve and accept the Certified Annual Return.

**62 PLANNING MATTERS**

A list of all the planning applications received since the last Town Council in September 2023 was included in the agenda as confirmation of consultation by the Local Planning Authority. The applications are now circulated as soon as received on an individual basis from CCBC and it is for Members to identify any matters they wish to raise before the expiry of the 21 day consultation period.

23/0614/RET – it was agreed to raise objections to the retention on grounds of unsuitability of the location in proximity to Caerphilly Mountain.

Councillor J Fussell declared an interest and did not take part in the discussion or decision making on this application.

**63 PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1 List of payments were noted and approved

2 Bank account balances were noted

3 Applications for Financial Assistance

 None had been received.

**64 CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

**65 MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE REPORTS**

There was a request to pass traffic related information received by Councillor P Bevan to CCBC.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

**Agenda Item 8.1**

**Report to Town Council 20 November 2023**

**Review of Community Arrangements County Borough of Caerphilly**

The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission has published Draft Proposals Report in relation to the review of the community arrangements of the County Borough of Caerphilly. The section on Caerphilly Town has been extracted from the Report and is attached with the agenda papers.

The Town Council currently has 7 wards with a total electorate of 12071 and is represented by 12 community councillors.

The Commission proposes to apply 4 changes to the existing internal community boundaries, which includes the transfer of areas between the following community areas:

* Parcyfelin to Tonyfelin
* Tonyfelin to Parcyfelin
* Tonyfelin to Parcyfelin
* Castle to Bryncenydd

There would be no change to the total electorate within the Town Council area.

In order to provide effective and convenient local government the Commission has proposed the Town area be represented by 14 community councillors with Tonyfelin and Watford each gaining an additional member.

As a consequence of the proposed changes to the community ward boundaries the Commission also propose the same changes are applied to the existing electoral ward boundaries of Morgan Jones and St Martins.

The consultation period commenced on 10 October and will close on 4 December 2023.

Members are invited to consider whether any representations should be made to the Commission on the draft proposals.

Phil Davy

Town Clerk

**Agenda Item 8.2**

**Report to Town Council 20 November 2023**

**Budget Estimates 2024/25**

The revised estimates for the current year project that expenditure will exceed income by £12400 which requires a contribution from balances. This is 50% lower than the projection when the estimates for the current year were approved in November 2022. There has been a reduction in income of £5130 due to no CIL payment, and no fireworks sponsorship and street collection, but expenditure is also projected to be £19883 lower than the original projection. This is primarily due to the fireworks not taking place in 2023 resulting in a budget saving of £18000.

The estimates for 2024/25 are in the context of the ongoing cost of living crisis and all sectors of the economy facing increased costs due to inflation. The CPI inflation rate for September 2023 was 6.7%. Although the energy cap has come down from the peak domestic users will still be paying more for energy this winter. At the present time there does not seem to be any prospect of the government stepping in to help domestic customers with their energy bills. Whilst there are likely to be increased costs for supplies and services Members will be mindful of not putting additional pressure on households when it comes to the precept. The fundamental assumption is therefore not to increase the precept but to rely on using balances to achieve a balanced budget. Balances can only be used once and are not normally the appropriate strategy for meeting recurring revenue expenditure. The balances have built up in the last 4 years due to cancelled events and generally lower expenditure so it does make sense to part utilise the balances to absorb the inflationary pressures. But this limits the scope of activities to the status quo and does not allow for any review of staff resources as referred to in previous reports. There are also concerns about the management and supervision of major events (Christmas Lights and Fireworks) which are becoming more onerous and costly and may require a radically different approach if these events are to continue.

In preparing the budget estimates for 2024/25 the following assumptions are made:

* No increase in the precept which is kept at £15-50 for Band D properties
* Inflationary pressures are absorbed through use of balances
* Mandatory allowances budgeted for all Members
* No provision for optional attendance allowance
* No provision for carers costs (mandatory if eligible claim)
* No new areas of expenditure
* No change to staff resources other than local government pay award provisionally at 3% for existing employees

Taking these assumptions into account a budget expenditure of £140740 is proposed. This is an increase of £24912 on the revised projected expenditure for the current financial year. Income is projected at £108600 (90% relates to the precept). The excess of expenditure over income will require £32140 to be met from balances to achieve a balanced budget. The outturn position for 2023/24 is a projection and is subject to change over the remaining part of the financial year which will affect the carried forward

balances (either plus or minus). The estimates show that the call on balances in 2024/24 will result in a 33% reduction. Members should be aware that the level of expenditure proposed for 2024/25 cannot be sustained in future years without an increase in the precept or alternatively reducing expenditure through savings.

Recommendations

1 Members approve the budget estimates for 2024/25 set out in the attached tables.

2 The Council Tax for Band D properties is set at £15.50 for 2024/25.

3 The budget is updated as necessary following completion of the year end accounts in April 2024

Phil Davy

Town Clerk

**Cyngor Tref Caerffili**

**Caerphilly Town Council**

**Estimates 2024/2025 - Income**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Actual Received****2022/23****£** | **Original****Estimate****2023/24****£** | **Revised****Estimate****2023/24****£** | **Estimate****2024/25****£** |
| Precept | 97547.39 | 97547.00 | 97404.64 | 97500.00 |
| Bank Interest | 37.74 | 10.00 | 119.30 | 100.00 |
| VAT | 7777.08 | 5000.00 | 5877.93 | 5000.00 |
| CIL | 1371.35 | 1000.00 | 0 | 1000.00 |
| Fireworks Sponsorship | 0 | 3000.00 | 0 | 3000.00 |
| Fireworks Collection | 0 | 2000.00 | 0 | 2000.00 |
| Miscellaneous  | 0 | 0 | 25.00 | 0 |
|  |  |
| **Total Income** | 106733.56 | 108557.00 | 103426.87 | 108,600.00 |

**Cyngor Tref Caerffili**

**Caerphilly Town Council**

**Estimates 2024/2025 - Expenditure**



|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Actual****2022/23****£** | **Original****Estimate****2023/24****£** | **Revised****Estimate****2023/24****£** | **Estimate****2024/25****£** |
| **Members** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Town Mayors Allowance | 900.00 | 900.00 | 900.00 | 900.00 |
| Members Allowances | 1050.00 | 2500.00 | 2288.00 | 2500.00 |
| Civic Regalia  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Travelling | 0 | 0 | 50.00 | 100.00 |
| Election Costs | 9932.67 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Staff** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |
| Salaries /Statutory Deductions | 21526.53 | 21570.26 | 22000.00 | 22700.00 |
| Travelling | 0 | 500.00 | 0 | 0 |
| Payroll Admin | 84.00 | 100.80 | 115.20 | 120.00 |
| Pension (Employer) | 162.84 | 160.00 | 160.32 | 170.00 |
| Employer N.I. | 1028.87 | 980.00 | 980.00 | 1000.00 |
| Audit Fee | 200.00 | 600.00 | 600.00 | 600.00 |
| Insurance | 1110.61 | 1500.00 | 1149.22 | 1500.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Administration** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |
| Office Rent / Business Rates  | 4141.13 | 6000.00 | 6000.00 | 6000.00 |
| Tel/Postage/Stationery | 897.53 | 1500.00 | 1500.00 | 1500.00 |
| Furniture/Equipment | 0 | 1000.00 | 1000.00 | 1000.00 |
| IT / IT Support | 2326.11 | 2500.00 | 2500.00 | 2500.00 |
| Training | 110.00 | 1000.00 | 500.00 | 1000.00 |
| **Sub total C/F** | 43,470.29 | 40,811.06 | 39,742.74 | 41,590.00 |

**Cyngor Tref Caerffili**

**Caerphilly Town Council**

 **Estimates 2024/2025 - Expenditure**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Actual****2022/23****£** | **Original****Estimate****2023/24****£** | **Revised****Estimate****2023/24****£** | **Estimate****2024/25****£** |
| **Brought forward** | 43,470.29 | 40,811.06 | 39,742.74 | 41,590.00 |
|  |  |
| Sponsored Events  | 13056.06 | 17600.00 | 16000.00 | 19800.00 |
| Concessionary Hires | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fireworks Display | 0 | 18000.00 | 0 | 20000.00 |
| Floral Displays | 14221.50 | 18000.00 | 17764.56 | 17000.00 |
| Christmas Lights | 7375.73 | 10000.00 | 10000.00 | 10000.00 |
| Lantern Parade | 11000.00 | 10000.00 | 11000.00 | 11000.00 |
| Financial Assistance (Grants) | 2750.00 | 6000.00 | 6000.00 | 6000.00 |
| Autumn/Summer Sports Scheme | 0 | 9000.00 | 9000.00 | 9000.00 |
| Fireworks Charity Donations | 4000.00 | 4000.00 | 4000.00 | 4000.00 |
| Floodlighting – St Martin’s Church | Inc in sponsored events | 400.00 | 400.00 | 400.00 |
| Subscriptions | 287.00 | 250.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| Twinning | 0 | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| Newsletter | 0 | 900.00 | 870.00 | 900.00 |
| Miscellaneous  | 2752.75 | 500.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| VAT | 5877.93 | VAT included in above figures |
| CIL Projects | 8328.31 | Only recorded when expenditure incurred |
|  |  |
| **TOTAL** | 113119.57 | 135711.06 | 115827.30 | 140740.00 |

 Transfer to reserves + 1371.35

 BT Credit - 19.00

 114471.92

**Cyngor Tref Caerffili**

**Caerphilly Town Council**

**Estimates 2024/2025 Balances**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Actual****2022/23****£** | **Original****Estimate****2023/24****£** | **Revised****Estimate****2023/24****£** | **Estimate****2024/25****£** |
| **Balances B/F** | 111808.23 | 98961.63 | 107580.61 | 95180.18 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Excess of Expenditureover Income | - 4227.62 |  - 27154.06 | - 12400.43 | - 32140.00 |
| Surplus of Incomeover Expenditure |  |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Balances C/F** | 107580.61 | 71807.57 | 95180.18 | 63040.18 |

 £

Balance B/F from 2022/23 107580.61

Revised Income 2023/24 103426.87

 211007.48

Less revised expenditure 2023/24 115827.30

 95180.18

Bank account balances projected at 31.03.24

 £

 Current Account 74488.18

 Operational Reserves 10701.69

 Restricted Reserves 9990.31

 95180.18

**Agenda Item 8.3**

**Report to Town Council 20 November 2023**

**Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Draft Annual Report 2024**

The IRPW has published draft proposals for 2024. There are no significant changes that affect community and town councils with mandatory and optional payments the same as 2023.

Determination 6

Members of Community and Town Councils will be paid £156 a year towards the extra household expenses (including heating, lighting, power and broadband) of working from home. Councils must either pay their members £52 a year for the cost of office consumables required to carry out their role, or alternatively councils must enable members to claim for reimbursement for the cost of their consumables.

In 2023 the Town Council agreed to make one lump sum payment of £208 to cover both items to simplify the administration.

Members can individually decide to opt out of the mandatory payments.

Determination 8

The Panel proposes that from September 2024 the returns need only show the total amounts paid in respect of mandatory payments in Determination 6.

All other Determinations set out in the 2023 Annual Report of the Panel remain valid and should be applied.

Cost of care or personal assistance remains mandatory, but no claims have been made and currently is not budgeted. Payments to Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Attendance Allowance, Financial Loss, Travel and Subsistence are all optional.

The report is for information.

Phil Davy

Town Clerk

**Agenda Item 8.4**

**Report to Town Council 20 November 2023**

**Local Government Pay Agreement 2023/24**

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has reached agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2023, covering the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The new pay rates are based on an increase of £1925 on each spinal column point (SCP). The application of the flat rate payment results in a differential percentage increase as below:

Administrative Assistant 8.8%

Town Clerk 5.5%

Provision was made in the budget for 2023/24 for a pay increase of 3% (minute no 59.1 21.11.22).

If the new pay scales are adopted by the Town Council the annual increase in salary costs will be £1352.70 (based on pro rata hours for the Administrative Assistant and Town Clerk). A 3% increase on current salaries would be £638.92. The pay agreement will therefore require an additional £713.78 virement to salaries to meet the full costs in 2023/24.

Recommendation

Members are invited to determine whether they wish to implement the local government pay agreement effective from 1 April 2023 as approved by the NJC.

Phil Davy

Town Clerk

**Agenda Item 9**

**Report to Town Council – 20 November 2023**

**Planning Matters**

This is a list of all planning applications received since the last Town Council meeting in October 2023. The applications were circulated to Members as soon as received from CCBC but no comments have been made on any of the applications. They are included on the agenda as confirmation of consultation by the Local Planning Authority. No further discussion is required as in most cases the deadline for any response has already passed.

**23/0690/ADV 6 Market Street, Caerphilly CF83 1NX**

Erect a wall mounted illuminated signboard

**23/0713/ADV Unit 30, Castle Court, Caerphilly CF83 1NU**

Install a new fascia signage and menu board

**23/0716/ADV Nationwide, 36 Cardiff Road, Caerphilly CF83 1UQ**

Replace various signage, fascias and ATM surround. Renew safety manifestations, paint timber frames, remove reminding tiles and render elevation

**23/0717/COU Snowdonia Candles, Unit 3H, 37 Sir Alfred Owen Way, Pontygwindy IE**

Change use from B8 Storage and Distribution to A3 Food and Drink

**23/0732/FULL Unit 30, Castle Court, Caerphilly CF83 1NU**

Install plant and extract equipment

**23/0733/NCC Unit 30, Castle Court, Caerphilly CF83 1NU**

Vary condition 03 (hours of operation) of planning consent 20/0911/COU (Retain Class A3 Food and Drink use at ground floor and seek change of use of first floor storage to Class A3 Food and Drink use with associated external alterations to unit frontage including new windows at first floor level) to allow opening from 9am on Sunday morning to serve coffee and breakfasts on weekends

**23/0641/HH Hawthorn, 14 Underwood, Caerphilly CF83 1HW**

Erect single storey rear extension and roof replacement

**23/0752/HH 19 South Pandy Road, Caerphilly CF83 3HS**

Erect outbuilding to be used as a hobby and games room. Exterior walls will be covered in combination of render and cladding. Roofing materials will consist of slate tiles. Total proposed development is less than 7.5 sq metres in area.

**23/0671/COND Workshop Beddau Farm, 2 St Cenydd Road, Trecenydd, Caerphilly CF83 2TB**

Discharge condition 03 (Car Parking Scheme) of planning consent 23/0431/RET (Retain and complete the change of use of barn to provide natural skincare and two treatment rooms for wellness therapies).

**23/0719/HH 25 Heol y Felin, Caerphilly CF83 1AU**

Erect ground floor extension and demolish single storey outbuilding

**23/0736/CLPU 6 Dan y Coed, Caerphilly CF83 1HU**

Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for proposed dormer roof construction to rear of property

**Agenda Item 10.1**

**Report to Town Council 20th November 2023**

**List of Payments**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque No** | **Payee** | **In Respect of** | **Amount £** |
| Internet | EE Ltd | Mobile Phone | 11.12 |
| Internet | Digital Systems UK | Printing | 44.60 |
| Internet | CCBC | Little Cheese Event | 1750.00 |
| Internet | Twyn Community Centre | Rent/Room Hire | 816.00 |
| Internet | BT | Broadband Service | 31.52 |
| Direct Debit | Sage Global Services Ltd | Payroll Software | 9.60 |
| Internet | CCBC | Summer Sports Scheme | 5000.00 |
| Internet | Town Clerk | Selection Packs | 165.99 |
| Internet | HMRC | Income Tax & NI | 610.46 |
| Internet | Admin Assistant | Salary (October) | 427.49 |
| Internet | Town Clerk | Salary (October) | 797.48 |
| Direct Debit | NEST | Pension (October) | 31.17 |
| Internet | Elsbury Access Platforms | Christmas Tree | 1896.00 |
| Debit Card | Amazon | Haribo Sweets | 60.80 |
| Internet | J E Fussell | Travel to Denbigh | 50.01 |
| Internet | J E Fussell | Sundries Flower Festival | 3.24 |

It is recommended that Members note and approve the payments.

**Agenda Item 10.2**

**Report to Town Council 20th November 2023**

**Bank Account Balances**

Bank account balances as at 1st November 2023

 £

Community Direct Plus Account (current account) 124,814.33

Corporate Instant Deposit (operational reserves) 10,777.87

Corporate Instant Deposit (restricted reserves) 10,061.42

Members to note the information.

**Agenda Item 10.3**

**Report to Town Council 20 November 2023**

**Applications for Financial Assistance**

Budget 6000

 Commitment 2700

 Available 3300

Caerphilly and District Floral Society

The application is for assistance with meeting the cost of flower arranging tutors. The Society has 8 members who are resident in the Town Council area. On the basis of the policy on financial assistance a grant of £150 could be awarded. The financial assistance expenditure would be authorised under the Local Government Act 1972, section 137. A grant of £150 was given to the Society in May 2022.

**Financial Assistance – Application Form**

**Name of Organisation**

Caerphilly and District Floral Society

**Purpose or Activities of Organisation**

To arrange classes in the art of flower arranging

**Membership of Organisation / or Beneficiaries of Activities**

8 members

**Membership Fees**

£45 pa

**Present Financial Position**

We have £1953.81 at present. We have 7 more classes this year whcooh will copst£483 for the tutor and room hire

**Purpose for which assistance is required and estimates of costs**

To help pay for flower arranging tutors to take the class. We have had to reduce the number of classes recently. We are planning a fundraising demonstration in December. We are also planning to promote the classes on Facebook to increase our membership.

**Agenda Item 11**

**Report to Town Council 20 November 2023**

**Correspondence**

11.1 Cul de Sac Signage at Castell Y Fan

The following correspondence has been received from a local resident:

“This plea for help is at Castell Y Fan, Parc Pontypandy

It’s “The why do residents of the 28 properties on Castell Y Fan feel disenfranchised.”

In the immediate locale, six other similar housing sites and roadway constructions namely Heol Van Heulog, Heol Cae Bach, Heol Celynnen, Heol Berllan, Parc Avenue, and Linden Grove ranging from the late nineteenth century to the 1970s and 1990s have cul de sac signage, yet Castell Y Fan with its much higher traffic flow off the adjacent Heol Ty Merchant dores not.

Strangely for four of the above locations it is visually evident of the cul de sac nature, but the L shaped Castell Y Fan is not.

Amazingly, although raised as an issue in 2021, no traffic review or consultation by the county council highways engineering was implemented.

It’s past time for the county council to rectify this error and install a correct roadside sign to show that Castell Y Fan is a “no through road.””

The correspondence has been acknowledged and referred to CCBC for a response on the request.