

Meeting Of Economic Group 4th. March 2020

AGENDA

- **Apologies for absence**
- **Involvement of local businesses in Christmas festivities.**
- **Siting of benches on Cowbridge Road.**
- **Parking**
- **AoB**

Meeting was held in Café 50 on 04/03/2020 at 7pm.

The following Community Councillors attended:- Gwyn Jackson,(Chairman) Anne Jackson, Paul Griffiths, Martin Ashford, Neil Holley and Mike Davies.

The following business people were also in attendance:- Simon Cole - Pipeworks, Lisa King - The Deli, Jenny Watts - Ammonite Yarns, Becky Eyres - Scissors, Elisha Hole - Sandwich Bar, Alun Reynolds - Barber.

Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Griffiths, Lauren Roche - Full Stop Law and Simon Fullbrook -Fullbrook's Bistro.

The meeting was called to discuss the involvement of local businesses in the Christmas festivities around the arranged Christmas Fair to be held on November 28th. at the Athletic Club, the placing of two benches at a suitable location on Cowbridge Road and availability of car parking in Pontyclun.

Christmas Festivities.

There was a lively discussion on the possible activities that could be held in addition to the usual MacMillan led Christmas Fair at the Athletic Club.

Suggestions ranged from

- a Children's Lantern procession along the main street,
- the reintroduction of reindeer,
- moving the staging to the Community Council Car Park,
- inviting street food vendors to set up on the car park,
- the Pipeworks and Thirsty Elephant would arrange to have music through the evening.
- It was suggested that local store/business owners dress up in fancy dress for the day.
- One of the business people suggested that 10% of monies raised on the evening could be donated to MacMillan.

- Another stated that she would prefer a late evening shopping event that was separate to the Christmas Fair.

During the meeting, it became apparent that the date for the Christmas Fair clashed with a rugby international match. It was proposed that the date be changed to December 5th.

Benches.

The owner of the Thirsty Elephant was enthusiastic about having a bench placed outside his premises but stated that he had approached RCTCBC to gain permission to have a seat and table but had been refused. Paul Griffiths agreed to investigate on his behalf. No further progress has been made on contacting the other business owner.

Parking.

The parking issues were raised at the February Community Council meeting. County Councillor Margaret Griffiths was expected to meet with RCT/Network Rail to discuss the planned car parking adjacent to the railway station. A significant number of additional spaces would then be available. It is anticipated that this will be in place by late 2020/early 2021.

Research undertaken by the Community Council indicates-

- Commuters/locally employed people do not want any changes to the current arrangements;
- Local residents do not want changes as they fear that people will park on their streets;
- Local businesses/shoppers would welcome a 4-hour restriction.

The Community Council has agreed to review ownership of the car park once the position regarding additional parking at the railway station is established.

AoB

None.

Gwyn Jackson.

