

REPORT OF A NATION'S TRIBUTE CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, 16TH JANUARY 2018
AT 1.00 P.M. IN ANNEX B ROOM, OLD SCHOOL, LLANTWIT MAJOR

PRESENT: Councillor Dr. P.D. Ellis - Chairman
Councillor G. Thomas
Councillor Mrs. J. Norman
Councillor G. Morgan

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. M. Geary-Andrews (Chair) and Mrs. H. Fox (Treasurer) of the
Llantwit Major Branch of The Royal British Legion
Mr. S. George – Llantwit Major History Society
Mr. I. Colston – St. Illtud's Church
Mrs. C. Ingram (Chair) and Mrs. J. Jenkins (Secretary) of
Llantwit Major's Chamber of Trade
Warrant Officer D. Stroud – MOD St. Athan
Reverend P. Hibbert – Minister – Bethel Baptist Church

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and the various representatives to the Meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Councillor J. W. Evans, Councillor E. Williams, Councillor Dr. P. Dickson and Mrs. L. Evans, of Llantwit Major Events Group.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORMS. No Councillors completed Declaration of Interest Forms.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES. The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 21st November 2017, having previously been circulated, were taken as read and it was **RESOLVED – THAT** such Minutes be approved as a true record.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

A NATION'S TRIBUTE CELEBRATION COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee's Terms of Reference, as Adopted by Full Council on Thursday, 30th November 2018, were accepted.

TO DISCUSS PROGRESS:

a. **BEACON OF LIGHT**

(1) **Confirmation of Purchase of Beacon.** Committee was informed, as previously agreed, that the Beacon has been ordered with Bullfinch (Gas Equipment) Limited.

(2) **Beacon Location.** Councillor G. Thomas had approached Llantwit Major Rugby Club and had received verbal approval.

(3) **Additional Beacon – St. Ittud’s Church – Tower.** Attached to the Agenda were details of Councillor E. Williams’ proposal for an additional Beacon, designed and manufactured by RAF MOD St. Athan, to be placed on the top of the Church tower. The proposal will be subject to the Church tower being able to accommodate a Beacon. There will be no cost to Llantwit Major Town Council for this Beacon.

RECOMMENDED: Committee agreed the ordered Beacon and location at Llantwit Major Rugby Club’s Recreation Field. A letter is to be written to Llantwit Major Rugby Club confirming the date and outlining plans.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED. Committee recommended Council accept the proposal for the second Beacon subject to the RAF ensuring the Beacon can be safely located on the Church Tower. Also, nearer the date, it will be decided whether to consider ‘staggering’ the lighting time of the two Beacons. A propane gas cylinder will be used. All Health and Safety Regulations will be strictly adhered to (as stated in the Battle’s Over Guide.) There will be full publicity coverage detailing the event - lighting up times etc., nearer the time.

b. **COMMEMORATIVE DECORATED PATCHWORK WALL HANGING**

(1) **Progress on Fabric Squares Sales and Returns.**

Llantwit Major’s Town Mayor together with Mrs. J. Jenkins, Secretary of the Chamber of Trade, and the Town Clerk had visited Foyes Fabric to select the material and colour. Foyes Fabric had kindly donated the material. Samples of the material were shown at the Meeting.

Even though each square will be cut into 8” x 8” a one inch border is required. The actual square size to be decorated is 6” x 6”. Each square purchased, at a cost of £1.00, will have full details of the size of square, design and poppy pattern. The Town Clerk stated that any assistance with cutting squares of material will be greatly appreciated.

The date for the first stitching of the squares together, in Llantonian Hall, is Thursday, 19th April 2018. The next dates will be the 27th June and the final date for returning completed squares will be 28th September 2018. All the squares will be handstitched together. The Town Clerk was meeting the local Arts and Crafts Group to discuss further.

(2) **Cost of Embroidered ‘Town Crest’.** Details are awaited.

RECOMMENDED. Committee agreed the proposed dates for stitching of the squares and relevant information regarding the size and a poppy pattern is attached to the material. It was also recommended that square samples are placed in suitable business locations and posters giving details of the locations where the squares can be purchased throughout Llantwit Major.

- c. **PUBLICITY.** The Town Clerk stated that full publicity of the proposals will commence next week in The GEM, noticeboards and Facebook. Those present were asked to widely circulate the information.

RECOMMENDED: Committee and representatives unanimously recommended that details of the event should be widely circulated.

d. **FIRST WORLD WAR MEMORABILIA**

- (1) **Progress on First World War Memorabilia.** A notice will be placed in The GEM, noticeboards and Facebook asking residents to consider loaning their First World War Memorabilia to Llantwit Major Town Council.

- (2) **Samples of Display Cabinets.** Several samples of display cabinets and costs were also attached to the Agenda. Councillor G. Morgan stated that he held 3 volumes of WW1 illustrated books which details 3 years of conflict and had copies of the Daily Post Newspapers. Due to the illustrated books being heavy any cabinets purchased would need to be substantial. Both Councillor J. W. Evans and Councillor G. Morgan had WW1 shell cases that could be displayed.

Mr. S. George, Llantwit Major History Society, suggested that there should be various size cabinets and the area should be manned all time whilst the exhibition is open to the public.

WO. D. Stroud agreed to approach the Curator of Porthcawl Museum to enquire whether they had WW1 items they would be willing to loan to the Town Council. It was also suggested that Cardiff Museum/Western Front Association be contacted to see if they could assist.

Residents can e-mail WW1 photographs to the Town Council. Any volunteers will be informed of the specific volunteering required.

The exhibit will be open to the public from the Wednesday, 8th November to Sunday, 11th November 2018. Should memorabilia be received from other War conflicts an area will be set aside for a separate display.

Llantwit Major's Chamber of Trade together with Llantwit Major's Branch of The Royal British Legion had organised this year's window displays in local businesses. Details of this year's "poppy trail" will be placed in either A3 or A4 picture frames in the windows of local businesses.

RECOMMENDED. All present unanimously recommended that the artefact does not specifically need to be from Llantwit Major. Loaned First World War memorabilia, including old coins, will be safely stored in secure cabinets/furniture and rooms are manned when the rooms are open for viewing.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED: Volunteers will be fully informed of the specific type of volunteering required. The exhibition will be held over 5 days from Wednesday, 8th November until Sunday, 11th November 2018.

5. **TO RECEIVE LETTERS OF SUPPORT.** The two letters received were also attached to the Agenda and circulated prior to the Meeting.

RECOMMENDED: Committee noted the letters of support.

6. **FURTHER UPDATES, SUGGESTIONS, OR COMMENTS FROM OUTSIDE REPRESENTATIVES**

- a. **Crochet Poppies on Llantwit Major Town's Lampposts.** Mr. S. George had approached two local ladies – Mrs. Annie Paine and Mrs. Miriam Dudley enquiring if they would be prepared to crochet large poppies which will be placed on lampposts throughout Llantwit Major. Mrs. Dudley had agreed. Mr. George agreed re-approach Mrs. Paine for a decision. He also agreed to inform both ladies that the suggested size for the poppies should be 10" x 10".
- b. **Fundraising Concert.** Councillor G. Morgan suggested a fundraising Concert to be held to assist funding the events. The local ukulele band is willing to participate. One of the members, who is an excellent singer, may be willing to take the 'lead' at a fundraising Concert.
- c. **Purple Poppies.** Members were informed that requests had been received for purple poppies to be sewn/embroidered onto the squares in remembrance of animals that served and died in the First World War.
- d. **Cascade of Poppies.** MOD St. Athan had kindly agreed to provide camouflage netting. Poppies are to be placed on the netting. A local firm had agreed to erect scaffolding and place the cascade of poppies onto the Town Hall roof. The scaffolding will be re-erected to remove after the event.
- e. **Roll of Honour.** A Citation would be read out prior to the names of the fallen being called out and wooden crosses being planted in the flower bed at the Cenotaph. The Town Clerk had prepared a draft Roll of Honour Citation which was read out at the Meeting.
- f. **Support from Local Schools.** The only response currently received was from Llantwit Major Comprehensive School informing of their support for the event next year and also outlining the School's ideas for projects next year. Local Schools will be re-approached and Councillors, who are School Governors, will also be asked to chase up.
- g. **Silhouette Soldier – Permanent Location.** Even though the grass verge outside of Llantwit Major Cemetery is owned by Llantwit Major Town Council it was necessary for permission to be obtained from the Vale of Glamorgan Council to erect the silhouette soldier on this verge.
- h. **Sewing of Poppy Seeds.** The 40,000 wild poppy seeds, already purchased, will be sewn during June/July. This area was one of the areas selected for the poppy seeds to be sown.

RAF St. Athan - March Past. Members were informed that RAF St. Athan was holding a 'March Past' in Llantwit Major on Saturday, 28th April 2018 at 10.45 a.m., involving approximately 150 personnel. The Parade will commence from Llantwit Major's Rugby Club to the Cenotaph where a wreath will be laid. The event is to commemorate the 80th Year of the Anniversary of RAF being at St. Athan and 100 Year Anniversary of the formation of St. Athan. Permission will be sought from the Town Council for refreshments to be available at the Rugby Club.

The Chamber of Trade had sufficient bunting available to decorate the Town.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 10th April 2018 at 1.00 p.m., which will be held in the Annex B Room of the Old School, Llantwit Major.