KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

4th JULY 2023

At a Hybrid meeting of the POLICY COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 4th July 2023

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| Present | Town Mayor | C.Peters |
|  | Deputy Mayor | C.Morgan |
|  | Councillors | J.Gilasbey, G.Bras, A.Herbert, C.Peters-Bond, J.Maclaughland, J.Westlake, H.Griffiths  J.Tarsnane |
|  | Town Clerk | Virginia O’Reilly |
|  | Town Secretary | A Padgett |
| Apologies | Councillors | L.Jones, E.Reeves-Davies, G.Beer |

**78 MEMBERS’ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**79 STANDING ORDERS**

One Voice Wales has produced new model Standing Orders which have been updated to reflect changes in legislation and more modern working methods. The main changes involve:

Arrangements for Hybrid meetings

Agendas and paperwork sent by e-mail

Code of Conduct training to be undertaken within 6 months of taking office

Standing when speaking at Full Council

It was recognised that Standing Orders are practical aids to ensure business is conducted lawfully and efficiently. They also set out rules for the conduct of councillors.

In the current orders some of the language used is obsolete eg “mayoress” and they do not take into account modern working practices eg use of email and social media.

It is necessary to update the orders while retaining the ancient traditions of the town.

It was acknowledged that retaining ceremonial traditions is a separate issue but vitally important to the historic legacy of the town.

The current Standing Orders are laid out in sections. It was agreed that each portion will be considered separately in manageable units. These units being circulated well in advance of the meetings.

It was recognised that working together on the Standing Orders, which lay out the ethos of the council, would be enabled by more social interaction between councillors. This matter was referred to the Community Development Committee for consideration.

**False e-mails**

Members were warned against responding to false e-mails currently circulating. E-mail addresses should be checked before replying. Risk exists for both individual councillors and the council as a whole.