KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

13th JUNE 2023

At the Hybrid meeting of the ESTATES COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 13th June 2023 at 6.30pm

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

34 MEMBER’S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute 35 (e) – Councillor C.Morgan declared an interest.

Minute 35 (f) - Councillor C.Peters declared an interest and left the room.

Minute 49 – Councillor L.Jones declared an interest an left the room.

**35 ESTATES OFFICER REPORT**

The estates officer had provided a written report which was considered. Items noted:-

**(a) Floral displays** – Some surplus baskets have been replanted into flower boxes. Volunteers will transplant others into sites where plants have been removed by persons unknown. It was noted that it was distressing to find that plants, recently planted, had been lifted and taken.

**(b) Footpath network** - 15th June, Public Rights of Way Conference – attending. In conjunction with St Ishmael’s Council, the paths network will be upgraded.

**(c)** **Cemetry** – the Memorial Garden is in urgent need of upgrading. A design scheme to remodel the path network will be created. This information will be put onto the website to inform the public of council’s intentions.

**(d) Gwen Gwen festival –** request received to use Glan yr Afon grassed area for a Disabled and Event Personnel camping. Full health and safety risk assessments, detailed emergency and security services protocols, general waste disposal arrangements have been received as requested. However, proof of Public Liability insurance is required. Concerns were expressed over; disability access, proximity to the river, one access point to the compound, fire, access, camper vans and toilet waste disposal and public consultation, if any. A decision was deferred until the next meeting when more information should have been received.

**(e) Car Parking–** at rear of St Mary’s church. Work on the rough surface is to begin next week.

**(f) Old Quarry Lane** – A resident wishes to infill a section of an open culvert to improve access to his property off the lane. To enable a decision to be made, a site visit will be arranged.

**Matters arising from the Estates Committee Meeting of 16th May 2023**

**36 TOWN SQUARE PLANS**

The architect and the quantity surveyor have prepared and submitted the tender documents to the county council. Tenders were sent out but due to the short time period for submission only one was admissible. A second tender process will therefore be necessary, with a 6 week return period. This will delay the project, resulting in the square not being available for the Christmas lights. Alternative arrangements will be needed. It was **RESOLVED** to pay the quantity survey an additional £500 for the extra work involved with the new tender round.

##### 37 H19 H15 A12- RENT REVIEW “in camera”

A valuation has been determined and disputed by the leasees. Council’s solicitor will be serving notice as several attempts at continuing dialogue have gone unheeded.

##### 38 HISTORY SHED EXPERIENCE

The HSE officers have been requested to clarify the position in relation to applications for grant funding and future spends. A response is awaited.

**39 CASTLE LIGHTING**

CADW requires a work method and risk assessment to be prepared and a contract to be signed before work to renew the castle lights can commence. They also would prefer a separate electricity meter to be installed. The council’s obligation to pay for the lighting was queried. Due to the lack of co-operation with Cadw on many previous and ongoing projects it was felt that a meeting between the council, Cadw and Lee Waters A.M. might expedite matters. This will be arranged as soon as possible.

**40 PRINCESS GWENLLIAN CENTRE**

The hall needs a replacement rear door. It has been ordered and should be in situ by the end of the month. Hall and office security system is being installed.

**41 HERITAGE TRAIL**

It may be possible to have assistance from students in developing the heritage trail. It was noted that Burns Pet Nutrition, which owns the river bank, has expressed an interest in building a boardwalk bridge across the river. A community group of interested individuals and organisations could be formed in conjunction with the town council to bring this forward.

##### 42 ADDITIONAL LAND – “in camera”

The council agent is in negotiation and will value the land.

##### 43 TRANSFER OF SILICA SITE AT THE QUAY

The county council has offered to transfer land, near the quay, to the town council. The town council had requested this many years ago, as it maintains the existing footpaths. The bridges and stiles are maintained by the county council. Clearance and fencing would be needed. As a former industrial site, contamination may be present. The county council will be requested for details of the state of the land, for contamination tests and possible cost implications. The county councillors will be requested to help in this matter.

##### 44 PROPOSED SOLAR PARK AT PEMBREY ROAD

A comprehensive consultation report has been circulated detailing proposals of a large solar park on Gravell’s land adjacent to the by-pass. The concept of creating renewable energy was commended. It was recognised that Gravell’s is a large employer and contributes greatly to the local economy. A benefit to the community from the energy generation would be welcomed. Concerns raised:- visual impact from the by-pass, glare onto traffic and risk of combustion.

##### 45 CCC CONSULTATION – 20MPH SPEED LIMIT

The county council has created an interactive street map illustrating the roads where the speed limit will be reduced. In general, the current 40mph will become 30mph and 30mph will reduce to 20mph. It was previously **RESOLVED** to support this initiative with an additional request: the 40mph from Parc y Bocs to Water Street be reduced from 40mph to 30mph. There is no pavement and lots of children walk to the play area at the Burns facility.

##### 46 CYCLISTS/DOG WALKERS AT THE QUAY

Near collisions and verbal confrontations have been reported between dog-walkers and cyclists. Quotes for signage have been requested for sites at the Quay, Canal and Glan yr Afon. It was recognised that warnings on signs may not be observed. It was noted that dogs are often off leads and may be aggressive by nature, intimidating some walkers. It was reported that Wildfowlers are training hunting dogs on the marshes. The legality will be queried.

**47 CHURCH CLOCK**

Requests for costs for refurbishment have been sent out to several companies. The options are to renew the mechanical mechanisms or electrify the clock. It was noted that the spire in which the clock is housed is damp.

##### 48 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | REF | TYPE | PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT | LOCATION |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |

There were no observations made.

##### 49 AGRICULTURAL TENANCIES

GL25 – a 25 year lease is being prepared.

##### 50 REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Council website – One quote has been received. A further two are awaited. It was noted that quality control needs to be exercised over the specifications in the tender document. This will be monitored.

##### 51 CORRESPONDENCE MAY/JUNE 2023

There was no correspondence not considered above. Note and **Close** this item.