KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

18th APRIL 2023

At the Hybrid MEETING of the FULL COUNCIL held on Tuesday 18th April 2023 at 6.30pm.

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

Malcolm MacDonald attended and gave a verbal update on the closure and future of Kidwelly Industrial Museum. This was noted in Minute 415 below.

399 MEMBER’S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute 415 – Councillor J.Gilasbey declared an interest.

**400 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** that the following minutes be confirmed:-

* Full Council 7th March 2023
* Policy and Community Development 7th March 2023
* Estates Committee 14th March 2023
* Finance Committee 14th March 2023

**401 TOWN CLERK’S REPORT**

The report had been circulated. Matters arising:-

Mail boxes of some members are full. It was recognised that the current system is inadequate. E-mail management, security, data storage and spam issues were discussed. It was **RESOLVED**, in principal to move to a more efficient system. Costs and practicalities will be investigated. This matter was referred to the Finance Committee.

Two new members of staff have taken up positions, bringing staff levels up to 5 individuals. This has additional employment implications. Quotes from companies providing this support will be sought.

**Matters arising from Full Council on 7th March 2023**

**402 DEVELOPMENT OF TOWN SQUARE**

The growth team has allocated a further £75K capital to the project.

**403 PRINCESS GWENLLIAN CENTRE – FUTURE GOVERNANCE**

The Nurture Centre is unable to take over the lease of the hall at present. Various options for future management are being investigated. Setting up a charity is the preferable option, as a charity would be exempt from the non-domestic council tax charge of £63k. The AGM will held on 20th April 2023 to work towards this end with new trustees to be appointed. It is hoped that councillors will be among the new appointees.

**404 CONECTIVITY**

Councillor Herbert had submitted comprehensive minutes of a meeting held with Lee Waters MS and county councillor Lewis Davies on 17th February 2023. The meeting had identified the many problems, the most urgent being: base line infrastructure is not present, making working from home difficult, market traders are losing trade because of poor signals. The minutes outlined the current position and the steps being taken to improve the situation. A working group to progress the matter lead by Councillor Herbert with councillors Beer and Maclaughland to assist has been set up. Councillor Herbert detailed the proposed BT infrastructure improvements and the implications for residents.

County Councillor Lewis Davies had provided information about the new 3 mobile coverage and the activities of the county council in upgrading the town wifi.

**405 CORONATION**

The coronation of King Charles 111 will take place on 6th May 2023. There is a bank holiday on 8th May 2023. The council will support any community groups which wish to organise any celebrations. The town square will be decorated. Mynydd y Garreg will hold an event in the hall. Financial assistance for both these initiatives will be considered by the Finance Committee. A Coronation Civic Service will be held on Sunday 7th May 2023 at 2.00pm in St Mary’s Church. Note and **Close** this item.

**406 LOTTERY UPDATE AND SURVEY**

The lottery project has been extended until the end of July 2023. Production of banners and development of the Heritage Trail are ongoing. The community has been consulted over banner design. Picnic tables have been ordered.

**407 COMMUNITY REVIEW**

A community review for town and community councils is being undertaken by the county council. Consultation commences on 13th March 2023 and ends on 24th April 2023. It will consider:-

* Number of members on the council
* The division into wards
* Boundaries of the wards
* Names of wards

A map of the current wards will be circulated.

**408 EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT**

The report is awaited but has not been received yet. Members were informed that many community councils are in this position.

**409 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Councillor Crisial Davies attended and had provided a written report. Concerns raised:-

One way system in Causeway Street: cars are driving through regardless of the No Entry signs. This is a police matter but repositioning the signs or installing traffic lights will be considered.

First Cymru buses have been rerouted, people having to climb the hill in Causeway Street to access a bus stop. The route will be queried.

Section 106 money attached to several developments in Mynydd y Garreg has been allocated without any public consultation. Details of the allocations and the amount of money still to be utilised will be queried. It was noted that the school is in need of assistance.

**410 COMMUNITY HALLS SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS**

**Mynydd hall**: The Quiz on 14th April was a great success. Thanks were expressed to all who assisted. A coronation party on 5th May will be held in the hall with community viewing on a large screen. A summer fete is planned for 19th August and a Beer Festival in September.

**Police meeting**:- Minutes are awaited.

Carnival:- 8th July – all attractions have been booked and arrangements progressing. Help is needed to set up and man the gates.

**411 MAYOR’S DIARY / FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| | DATE | APPOINTMENT |  |
| 24th April 2023 | Kidwelly Growth Team Meeting | 6.00 p.m. |
| 25th April 2023 | Kidwelly Town Council – Estates and Finance Committees | 6.30 p.m. |
| 29th April 2023 | Llanelli Charity Carvery Evening | 7.00 p.m. |
| 7th May 2023 | St Mary’s Church service for the Coronation of King Charles III | 2.00 p.m. |
| 12th May 2023 | Carmarthen Mayor’s Installation Ceremony | 6.00 p.m. |
| 14th May 2023 | Carmarthen Mayor’s Civic Service | 10.00 a.m |

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| DATE |  |  |
| 18th April 2023 | Full Council and Policy committee | 6.30pm |
| 25th April 2023 | Estates and Finance Committees | 6.30pm |
| 7th May 2023 | Coronation Civic Service – St Mary’s Church | 2.00pm |
| 16th May 2023 | AGM and all committees | 6.30pm |

**412 COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Policy and Community Development Committee be split. Policy Committee will be held after Full Council. Community Development Committee will be held after the Estates Committee and before the Finance Committee. This will commence in the next mayoral year. Note and **Close** this item.

**413 FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL**

The event was very well attended and positive feedback was received from all attendees and stall holders. The family orientated event was full to capacity. With a few invoices still to be paid, it has proved to be financially viable. Due to its success a similar event will be planned for next year. Thanks were expressed to Councillors E. Reeves-Davies, J.Tarsnane and others who assisted for the extremely hard work undertaken. Note and **Close** this item.

**414 HALBERDIERS**

There are 6 halberdier positions, only 3 being filled by hereditary precedent. The 3 vacancies will now be offered to those outside the designated families. An outline of the historical position will be posted on the website and social media.

**415 KIDWELLY INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM**

Mr MacDonald gave a brief history of the museum, detailing the vital importance of retaining the unique features located there. It is the only site in Wales where tinplate manufacturing buildings and equipment can be seen. It was noted that the museum has a 125 year lease, under a partnership agreement between the local authority and trustees. Health and Safety issues forced closure in 2017. Since then, the 3 remaining trustees have been refused entry unless accompanied by a county council officer. Maintenance has been minimal and the site is deteriorating. Many town artifacts are stored in the museum in unknown condition. Legal negotiations between trustees and the county council are complex and ongoing.

The town clerk will ask the county council for sight of any maintenance schedules, or condition surveys and details of the town artifacts kept there.

**416 CORRESPONDENCE – MARCH/APRIL 2023**

A request for financial assistance for a Green Eco Fest was referred to the Finance Committee. Note and **Close** this item.