

## KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

**28<sup>th</sup> JULY 2020**

At the {virtual} **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of the **FULL COUNCIL** held on Tuesday 28th July 2020 at 6.30pm.

Present	Town Mayor	D. Lloyd-Waterford
	Deputy Mayor	A.Jenkins
	Councillors	J. Gilasbey, C.Peters, C.Peters-Bond, J. Mayne, G.Beer, J.Bezant, J.James,
	Town Clerk	V. O'Reilly
	Estates Officer	Mark Stephens
	Town Secretary	A Padgett
	Admin. Assistant	O.Davies
Apologies	Councillors	T.Burnett, P.Thompson
No apologies		C.Davies

### **101 MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

### **102 ARRANGEMENTS FOR COCKLING**

Current position;-

The council holds a lease of the foreshore from the Crown Estate, which allows the public access over the slipway to launch boats. The Crown agent has indicated that charges can be levied for use of the slipway if the income is used for maintenance of the quay area.

If a license granting exclusive use is issued to one commercial enterprise a sub-lease from the Crown Estate would be needed. This would be complex, time consuming and not financially viable. Cockle beds would be closed during this period.

The estates officer had prepared a report with 3 options:-

1. Continue to implement the present exclusive use contract, which will require a sub-lease from the Crown Estate.
2. Rescind (1) above and negotiate 2 non-exclusive access licenses with (a) Kingfisher Seafoods and (b) a consortium of local cocklers.
3. Rescind (1) above and not allow any access to the cockle beds.

Since submitting his report the estates officer informed members that Welsh Fisheries have banned the use of mechanical lifting machines and limited cockling to one tide a day and not two. This would indicate the need to reduce the number of boats being included in the license agreements.

Members expressed concerns over Health and Safety at the Quay, access issues for unlicensed boat owners, financial provisions, monitoring arrangements and the level of council staff involvement in the day to day activities.

The estates officer stated that these matters would be included in the license agreement a draft of which had been circulated previously. Any breach of terms would mean the slipway could be closed to all cocklers.

Two substantial lockable bollards have been ordered and will be placed on the slipway. Only the two licensees will have keys and therefore access.

Vehicle registration numbers will be declared and payments will be made in advance.

A Notice of Motion to Rescind had been submitted by 7 councillors:

Cllrs D. Lloyd-Waterford, A.Jenkins, C.Peters, C.Peters-Bond, G.Beer, J.James, J.Bezant

Full Council 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020 - Minute 65 (2) was rescinded

“It was **RESOLVED** to accept Kingfisher Seafoods Ltd proposal and grant a license, noting that all income will be ringfenced for maintenance of the quay area.”

A new resolution was then proposed and passed:-

It was **RESOLVED** to issue two non-exclusive licenses to (1) Kingfisher Seafoods Ltd and (2) Cocklers consortium. The estates officer is to negotiate terms regarding the number of boats to be licensed and agree to the parties that make up the cockler consortium. He was given emergency powers to close the slipway if he deemed it necessary to ensure the license arrangements are not breached and a safe environment is maintained at the quay.

A named vote was taken:-

FOR		ABSTAIN
G.Beer	C.Peters	D.Lloyd-Waterford
J.Bezant	C.Peters-Bond	J.Gilasbey
J.James	J.Mayne	A.Jenkins

It was noted that:-

The estates officer will provide regular updates of the situation during recess.

The police will be informed of contact numbers for the license holder representatives.

## KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

22nd SEPTEMBER 2020

At the {virtual} **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of the **FULL COUNCIL** held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 at 6.30pm.

Present	Town Mayor	D. Lloyd-Waterford
	Deputy Mayor	A.Jenkins
	Councillors	J. Gilasbey, C.Peters, C.Peters-Bond, G.Beer, J.Bezant, J.James
	Town Clerk	V. O'Reilly
	Town Secretary	A Padgett
	Admin. Assistant	O.Davies
Apologies	Councillors	J.Mayne, P.Thompson,C.Davies

### **162 MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Minute 166 - The town clerk advised Councillor A.Jenkins that he had a prejudicial interest. He declared an interest and left the meeting.

### **163 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATIONS "in camera"**

It was noted that 4 councillors had resigned during the last 6 months. Reasons expressed in the resignation letters were considered and the positive outcomes noted below.

### **164 RECRUITMENT PLAN**

It was recognized that some individuals become councillors with expectations that are not realistic. Recruitment details should include, duties, responsibilities and the commitment expected from councillors. The Code of Conduct should be available for potential candidates to consider. Training schedules should be specified and potential councillors should be aware of training requirements. It should be made clear that any political party allegiance must not override the local decision-making democratic process. An experienced councillor will be allocated to a new councillor as Mentor for an induction period. The need for team working should be made evident.

### **165 ADVERTISING**

The usual methods, website, noticeboards, word of mouth will continue. In addition, local organisations will be targeted along with social media. Local press and local magazines should have the vacancy information. Community projects should be highlighted so that interested parties could join the council and participate in making them happen. The current virtual meetings rule enables members of the community to join a council meeting while remaining in their homes, participation should be encouraged.

### **166 GRANT FUNDING – COASTAL COMMUNITIES**

A self-funding project officer has, with the assistance of the town clerk, prepared a funding bid for "Rebranding Kidwelly". Members had been provided with comprehensive details of the bid, which included a Black Cat Trail and glamping facilities in Mynydd y Garreg. A public consultation will be held. It was recognized that this was a first stage bid and many additional details would need to be considered should this stage of the application be successful. The town clerk was thanked for her work in the speedy preparation of this funding bid – closing date 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the 1<sup>st</sup> stage bid.

## **167 CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS**

A meeting will be arranged with the lighting contractor to assess the feasibility of new festoons on the square and 2 new replacement lamppost decorations for Mynydd y Garreg. No official switch-on event will be held but a video recording will be made for the website. Barriers will be ordered for the trees in Plough Gardens and New Street.

A picket fence was considered to protect the main tree. Costs of fencing, delivery logistics and possible painting will be sought.

It was noted that many works of art and craft had already been produced to attach to the barriers by members of the community and they were much appreciated. These will be incorporated into the square decorations. Requirements for siting these works will be considered and the number of barriers ordered according to need.

It was **RESOLVED** that picket fencing be put around the main tree (logistics allowing) and barriers be ordered for placement of the works of art.