

KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

29th NOVEMBER 2022

At the Hybrid **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of the **FULL COUNCIL** held on Tuesday 29th November 2022 at 6.30pm.

Present	Town Mayor	Carl Peters
	Deputy Mayor	
	Councillors	G.Bras, C.Davies, C.Peters-Bond, J.Gilasbey, H.Griffiths, D.lloyd-Waterford, G.Beer, S.Ratty, E.Reeves-Davies, J.Tarsnane, J.Westlake, A.Herbert
	Town Clerk	V. O'Reilly
	Town Secretary	A Padgett
	Admin. Assistant	O.Davies
Apologies	Councillors	J.James, C.Morgan

Richard James director of the Hub attended.

219 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors C.Davies and J.Tarsnane declared an interest and left the meeting.

220 BLACK CAT TOURISM STRATEGY

A financial report was circulated. To enable members to study it, the meeting was adjourned for 45 minutes.

[A] PROGRESS REPORT

Richard James, Director of the Hub gave a progress report on the project. He stated:-
There were 5 objectives for the project,

- 1 Gwen Gwen festival
- 2 Design of tourist website
- 3 Town branding
- 4 Workshops
- 5 Heritage trail

The Lottery Officer had agreed to discontinue 4 and 5 and allocate that funding to the festival. 2 and 3 would continue. It was noted that the intention was not to make a profit but to encourage tourism and regeneration.

Festival

Public consultations were favourable: 92% and 95% in favour of the event.

Business consultations were also favourable although some responses were awaited

[B] GENERAL DISCUSSION

Financial concerns:- The council had paid £8k of outstanding invoices. Ticket sales of £5k are also due and unlikely to be recovered in the immediate future. Reasons for the deficit were requested. Lack of scrutiny was noted. Doubts were expressed that the project could continue to be economically viable, even with the final lottery payment.

Consultation concerns:- Many businesses had not been consulted over the festival. Stalls had not been contacted.

Reporting concerns:- Delays in providing progress reports and financial statements have been frequent occurrences and failure to respond to requests was noted. Adequate time for absorbing information before meetings was not possible.

Staffing levels:- 2 staff remain employed on the project at a cost of £3k per month. It was noted that council staff had banked up 72 hours of project related work. This needs to be addressed.

Website:- concerns over software standards and practices were expressed. The timespan for developing the website may be too short before the project ends.

[C] OUTCOMES

2 options are available:-

Carry on with the project, delivering the website and 2 events. Concern that the lottery would not consider future bids if this project failed was noted. The tourism website is needed for the town.

Close down the project. Any remaining funds to be managed by the council.

It was **RESOLVED** to postpone any decision until Full Council on 6th December 2022.

A named voted was taken.

FOR		ABSTAIN	
J.Westlake	H.Griffiths	C.Peters	L.Reeves-Davies
J.Gilasbey	G.Bras	A.Herbert	D.Lloyd-Waterford
C.Peters-Bond	G.Beer	S.Ratty	