KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

5th DECEMBER 2023

At the Hybrid MEETING of the FULL COUNCIL held on Tuesday 5th December 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.Maclaughland, G.Bras, L.Jones, J.Westlake, G.Beer, |
|  | Town Clerk | Virginia O’Reilly |
|  | Town Secretary | A Padgett |
| Apologies | Councillors | H.Griffiths, J.Tarsnane, S.Ratty, E.Reeves-Davies, S.John |
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235 MEMBER’S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute 243 and 257 – Councillor J.Gilasbey declared an interest.

**236 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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

* Full Council 7th November 2023
* Policy Committee 7th November 2023
* Establishment Committee 7th November 2023
* Estates Committee 14th November 2023
* Finance Committee 14th November 2023

**237 TOWN CLERK’S REPORT**

The town clerk had submitted a written report. Matters arising:-

Telemat – it was recognised that the boxes have not been maintained and have deteriorated. The town clerk will contact telemat and update progress.

**238 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

C.Cllr L. Davies attended. Matters arising and not considered under minutes below:-

**Kidwelly Industrial Museum:** this discussion is noted below under minute 257.

**Flooding**: considerable rainfall has led to flooding in Ferry Road and Llys Gwenllian. It was recognised that this problem needs a multi-disciplinary approach from all agencies involved in flood prevention. Meetings with the county council will be arranged.

**Bus services**: The half hourly X11 service will become hourly. There is no planned change to the 198 service. However, the services are unreliable and subject to cancellation. Pressure needs to be exerted onto First Cymru to provide an adequate service. Smaller buses would be suitable for the small number of passengers travelling.

**A.I. Conference**: An introductory information day has been held for county councillors.

**Trains**: It was noted that trains are not keeping to time and many are cancelled. A letter to Transport for Wales will be sent requesting improvement to services.

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

**239 PRINCESS GWENLLIAN CENTRE – FUTURE GOVERNANCE**

The trustees have taken over management of the hall from Nurture, as from 1st September 2023. A liquor licence has been granted. A new heating system is being installed.

**240 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. A working group to progress the matter lead by Councillor Herbert with councillors Beer and Maclaughland to assist has been set up.

**241 LOTTERY UPDATE**

A meeting with the Lottery Officer has taken place. He confirmed that all is in order and once the £2,400 remaining has been spent on work to the benches, the project can be concluded and the accounts published.

Banners – have been manufactured and delivered. The current lamppost brackets do not comply with pending legislation. Consequently new stronger brackets will be erected. The county council has funding for signage. The banners will be erected in the spring after the bad winter weather has passed.

**242 HALBERDIERS**

There are 6 halberdier positions, only 3 being filled by hereditary precedent. A resident with long standing family ties to the community has expressed an interest in the role and will be invited to take up the position.

**243 KIDWELLY INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM**

It was noted that the trustees and county council will meet in the next week to plan future developments. A maintenance schedule is needed as the artifacts are deteriorating due to dampness and general disrepair of the buildings. Items owned by the town council need to be rehoused. Matthew Rollason will liaise with the county council to find a solution to this problem.

**244 DEVELOPMENT OF TOWN SQUARE**

It was reported that all approvals for the project had been received and work can commence in January 2024. Further details will be available at the Estates Committees as the build progresses. Note and **Close** this item.

**245 COMMUNITY HALLS SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS**

**Mynydd hall**: Fireworks night was attended by over 1,000 people and an enjoyable evening was experienced by all. An event is planned for New Year’s Eve, a Quiz night in January and a Bingo evening. Redecoration continues. Maintenance issues are ongoing.

**PGC:** One trustee has resigned but 2 new trustees are being appointed. The Christmas Fayre held on 3rd December was well attended and successful. New events are being planned for the new year. The financial position is healthy.

**Police:**- Cllrs J.Gilasbey and C.Morgan attended an information day at police HQ on 15th November 2023. Valuable data about police activities was disseminated. A report is awaited.

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | DATE | APPOINTMENT |  |
| 10th December | Community Carol Service – St Teilo’s Church | 6.00 p.m. |
| 13th December | Ysgol Mynyddygarreg Candle & Carol Evening | 6.00 p.m. |
| 17th December | 9 Lessons and Carol Service | 5.00 p.m. |

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| DATE |  |  |
| 5th December 2023 | Full Council and Policy Committee | 6.30 pm |
| 12th December 2023 | Estates, Community Development and Finance Committees | 6.30 pm |
| 9th January 2024 | Full Council and Policy Committee | 6.30 pm |
| 16th January 2024 | Estates, Community Development and Finance Committees | 6.30 pm |

**247 USE OF GLAN YR AFON**

The Welfare Committee have requested that Glan yr Afon be used as a site for the Kidwelly Carnival on 13th July 2023. It was **RESOLVED** to agree to this. Note and **Close** this item.

**248 CHRISTMAS REVIEW**

The lighting event was held on 23rd November 2023. Ian Jackson was thanked for his effective use of the speaker system and musical input. The decorated window/house competition will be judged, a plaque to be presented to the best dressed business window. Organisation for Christmas 2024 will commence in the spring. Note and **Close** this item.

**249 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Interviews were held during the afternoon of 5th December 2023. No decision was made at the time. Further consideration will be made and the results reported for ratification to Full Council on 12th December 2023. Note and **Close** this item.

**250 BUDGET 2024-2025**

The final draft of the budget had been circulated. It was **RESOLVED** that the precept be £325500, an increase of 5% from last year. It was noted that there had been no increase in the previous year. Note and **Close** this item.

**251 CORRESPONDENCE – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023**

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