

## KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

14<sup>th</sup> JULY 2020

At the **VIRTUAL** meeting of the **ESTATES COMMITTEE** held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020

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

Mr Peter Huw Thomas attended and spoke on matters relating to Minute 87 below.

Dr Stephen Finch attended and spoke on matters relating to Minute 86 below.

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

Minutes 76, 84, 85, 86, 88 – Councillor J.Gilasbey declared an interest. Did not speak or vote.  
Minutes 76,84,86 – Councillor A.Jenkins left the meeting.

### **72 ESTATES OFFICER REPORT**

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

#### Commissioner's bridge flower planter

The flower planter needs to be replaced due to dilapidation. Councillor C.Peters has cleared the old foliage. New timber has been ordered. Councillor J.Mayne will assist in instillation.

#### Benches at Mynydd y Garreg

5 benches at Mynydd y Garreg Hall are in need of attention. Two have been taped off but need additional tape. Two options for replacement have been costed. This matter was referred to the Finance Committee.

#### Tanyffynnon – flooding

It was previously **RESOLVED** to clear the whole length of the ditch. This additional cost would be £2443.

#### The quay – interpretation panel

The panel has been vandalised and removed for safety. Quotes for a metal surround will be sought.

#### GL43

The agreement has been signed with access to the marshland included.

#### Diana Garden Ivy

The ivy growing over the wall into 1 Lady Street has been cut back.

#### Church Clock

The clock is not chiming. Costs to reactivate would be £5613.60. The work will be scheduled.

#### Garage Space GS8

A request to rent this space has been received. It was **RESOLVED** to grant a license at £300 per annum.

#### Bridleway (11/31a) transfer

For clarity this item was considered under Minute 88

## **Matters arising from the Estates Committee Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

### **73 CEMETERY**

The contractor has cleaned the paths and weeded the memorial garden. Tree cutting has commenced.

### **74 REGISTRATION OF LAND AT MYNYDD PLAY AREA**

The council solicitor has indicated that the unregistered area of land cannot be claimed by the town council as proof of use has not been proven. The asset transfer documents will be scrutinised to determine whether possessory title of this area was included in the transaction.

### **75 LAND NEAR 27 HOREB ROAD – PURCHASE OF H3 – “*in camera*”**

This matter was held *in camera* because of its financially sensitive nature. It was noted that the sale has been delayed by the Pandemic lockdown.

### **76 ANIMAL HOUSING ON GL20**

The estates officer had previously carried out a site visit and prepared a report addressing the issues arising from housing pigs on the land. It was noted that retrospective planning will be needed to formalise the buildings already erected. Planning will be required for the additional building requested. The tenant had responded stating that he was awaiting a planning opinion. The matter was deferred until further information has been received and the tenant's response has been considered.

### **77 HISTORY SHED EXPERIENCE**

The council has agreed in principal to support the venture, which is recognised as a valuable asset to the town. A plan of the proposed location has been put onto the website and the site physically staked out so that residents can identify where the buildings will be erected. It was previously **RESOLVED** to draw up a draft lease which will be necessary when seeking grant funding for the project and will also assist in the planning process. It was also previously **RESOLVED** to proceed with a pre-planning application at a cost of £250. This will detail any positive or negative issues which may arise at the full planning stage.

### **78 H19 H15 A12- RENT REVIEW – *in camera***

A valuation is being determined.

### **79 KIDWELLY IN BLOOM - ROUNDABOUTS**

Two local businesses have agreed to sponsor development work on the two roundabout at Parc y Bocs and Commissioners's Bridge. It was previously **RESOLVED** to obtain licences from the county council to allow work to be carried out at these locations.

### **80 KEEP WALES TIDY**

The estates officer is liaising with an officer of Keep Wales Tidy with a view to making Kidwelly Town Council a hub for tidying initiatives.

### **81 FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Arrangements for the town will be curtailed due to the Pandemic lockdown. A limited number of planters have been put into the town square by the estates contractor who will also water them.

## **82 BLACK CAT SCULPTURE**

It was previously **RESOLVED** in principal, to investigate options for erecting a black cat sculpture on the roundabout at Commissioner’s Bridge to respectfully mark the pandemic of 2020. The long-term project would require planning permission. Decisions on size, style and materials for the sculpture and also cost options need to be assessed.

An interpretation panel could be mounted on the pathway from Pembrey, near the roundabout, which would explain about the story of the cat and how it has entered into the folklore of the town. Visitors could then see the significance of the sculpture and learn a little of the history of the area.

The “10 towns” initiative will provide a consultant who will ensure community engagement with the project and advise on all aspects of the installation.

## **83 SKATE BOARD PARK**

A request for a skate board park has been received. It was previously **RESOLVED**, in principal, to support the project. It had been noted that there is money in the budget for parks development which could be used, in part, for match funding provided that an officially constituted group of skate park users be formed to manage the project and work with the council. The estates officer has meet with those involved and identified land that could be used – play areas at Water Street and Ger y Gwendraeth. Members were informed that residents of Ger y Gwendraeth had objections to use of land near their homes. Two further sites are possible and will be considered, the rear of the Gwenllian Centre and part of Parc Stephens.

## **84 AGRICULTURAL TENDERS**

GLH14 - It was **RESOLVED** to accept the tender of £960 per annum for a 3 year tenancy.

GLA6 – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the tender of £625 per annum for a 3 year tenancy.

GL25 – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the tender of £3351 per annum for a 3 year tenancy.

It was noted that the erection of “Land to Let” signs had increased the number of tenders submitted. More substantial signs will be sourced.

## **85 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Ref	Type	Development	Location	Applicant
S/40748	Full	Construction of vehicle sales showroom upon existing operational forecourt and yard	Pembrey Road Kidwelly	Gravell’s Ltd

A letter of support will be submitted.

## **86 HEDGE AT LLYNFAWR LANE**

The hedge at the entrance to the property opposite Glannant has been topped and cut back and a fence erected. The landowner has provided a written statement of his intentions regarding the boundary hedge and future developments. As the document was received shortly before the meeting, members did not have time to consider the content, so the matter was deferred until the next meeting. Dr Finch had attended with a view to commenting on this issue. The town clerk will speak with Dr Finch regarding the matters he wishes to raise.

## **87 COCKLE HARVESTING 2020**

Full Council had previously resolved to grant a harvesting license to Kingfisher Seafoods Ltd who would monitor the harvesting arrangements and health & safety issues.

Three local cocklers had objected in writing to this and Mr Thomas attended as local cockling organiser. He stated that the license with Kingfisher Seafoods had the following implications:-

- It denied access over the slipway to local cocklers
- The alternative was for them to travel 35 miles to launch their boats
- It allowed northern cocklers access – with possible Coronavirus repercussions and accommodation problems
- It allowed large numbers of cocklers out of local control

He suggested the contract should have gone to tender as he would have guaranteed more favourable financial terms.

Members noted the comments submitted by the local cocklers. The mayor wished it noted that she fully supported employment for local residents.

Concern was expressed over the chaos that ensued during last year's season which was only 8 weeks long. This year the beds will probably be open from now until the end of October. Considerable damage was previously done to the quay area with restrictive bollards being lifted and thrown into the canal. Anti-social behaviour was noted by residents who felt threatened. Cockle vehicles blocked the car park. It was reported that only a fraction of cocklers actually paid a slipway fee resulting in damages far exceeding income.

After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to rescind the decision to grant a license to Kingfisher Seafoods and contact the Crown Estate for written permission to lease the use of the slipway on a commercial basis.

It was noted that to rescind the decision a Notice of Motion, signed by 7 councillors had to be submitted.

It was agreed that the estates officer negotiate with Kingfisher Seafoods to allow local cocklers to use the slipway.

## **88 BRIDLEWAY TRANSFER – YSGOL GWENLLIAN DEVELOPMENT**

The county council wishes to add the footprint of part of the bridleway (11/31a) to the school development site. Planning permission for the new school will not be approved unless this is done. Various options were considered. 1. A land swop 2. Leasing the land 3. Selling the land to the county council for £1. It was **RESOLVED** to investigate the land swop option.

## **89 REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

CASTLE LIGHTING:-

Various options had been previously considered and quotes received. It was previously **RESOLVED** to purchase 14 Samsung 300 watt 24000 lumens at a cost of £3290. 11 of the protective cages need attention. Options for repair/replacement will be investigated. For clarity this item will be re-named "Castle Lighting" and referred to the Finance Committee.

## **90 CORRESPONDENCE JUNE/JULY 2020**

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