KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

11th JULY 2023

At the Hybrid meeting of the ESTATES COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 11th July2023 at 6.30pm

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| Present | Town Mayor | C.Peters |
|  | Deputy Mayor | C.Morgan |
|  | Councillor | J.Gilasbey, C.Peters-Bond, A.Herbert, G.Bras, L.Jones, J.Tarsnane, S.Ratty, J.Maclaughlan, E.Reeves-Davies, |
|  | Town Clerk  Estates Officer | Virginia O’Reilly  Mark Stephens |
|  | Admin Assistant | Jacinta Bell |
| Apologies | Councillors | J. Westlake, H. Griffiths, Gary Beer at 19:55 lost phone power left the meeting |
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80 MEMBER’S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute 81 (d) - Councillor C..Peters declared an interest and left the room.

Minute 81 (c) – Councillor C..Morgan declared an interest

Minute 81 (c) – Councillor J. Gilasbey declared an interest

**81 ESTATES OFFICER REPORT**

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

1. **Cemetery and Memorial Garden**

Stephanie Davies spoke to the meeting. In March 2022 she was assured that remedial work was going to be in hand in the Memorial Garden, prior to interment of her father’s ashes. This has not been the case. The work that has been done is poor and Stephanie had to wash the graves down following completion of the work. Stephanie reported that the condition of the ground is unsafe and there are no safety rails. This is having an adverse effect on the loved ones of those associated with the Memorial Garden as they can’t visit any more because of the deteriorating condition underfoot. Other local people and three local undertakers have also complained about the conditions in the Garden. Many Kidwelly residents now choose to be buried in Burry Port because of the poor condition and additional expense at Kidwelly cemetery. Stephanie argued that the Memorial Garden deserves a higher standard than reusing paving slabs from town square. The Estates Manager has measured the area and is looking to get plans and costings ready to submit to Council for the September meeting. Work in the Memorial Garden has been budgeted for in this financial year. Cllr. Morgan asked about siting a bench in the garden for the time being. The Estates Manager said there is a spare one that could be used. Councillors thanked Stephanie for the work she has done in the Memorial Garden and Cllr Peters-Bond, as Chair, reassured her that the work would be actioned as soon as possible. Stephanie Davies and her daughter left the meeting.

1. **Gwen Gwen festival**

TheCouncil is not involved with the Gwen Gwen festival this year. The organisers of the festival have answered some of the queries regarding using Glan yr Afon as a camp site. There was discussion about outstanding concerns, including insurance (would not be finalised until 2 weeks before the festival), badger sett on site, lack of consultation with community, camping request for 9 days rather than 4. Questions on social media are not being answered by organisers, who have already advertised Glan yr Afon as an official camp site for the festival. Cllr Maclaughland proposed to decline their request to use Glan yr Afon as a camp site; seconded by Cllr Herbert, vote taken, unanimous. **RESOLVED**. It was noted that next year it would be prudent of the organisers to ask for permission to use the site earlier (Council only had the request 9 weeks ago) so that they are able to carry out an environmental assessment and public consultation in order to provide clearer information for the Council to make its decision.

1. **Car Parking**

This work has been completed. Fr. Jim has asked if it is possible to have a designated parking space for the church to use for disabled parking. There are 11 spaces in total now available. With 7 spaces already let and 1 given over to the church, this allows 3 more spaces to be let. The Estates Manager has interested parties to approach.

1. **Old Quarry Lane**

Cllr Carl Peters-Bond left the meeting. Cllr Christopher Peters-Bond attended a site visit. He is comfortable with the recommendations; very similar to work carried out less than 50 yards from site where there have been no adverse environmental issues. Cllr Bond proposed to accept the work, seconded by Cllr Maclaughland. For – 8; against – 1; abstained – 1. **RESOLVED.**

1. **New Street site**

A new offer has been made for this site.

1. **Parc Stephens**

Parc Stephen sensory garden have asked if the Town Council could provide a standpipe for watering the plants in the garden. The Estates Manager has received a quote from Dwr Cymru of £4,900 to take water from the road to the edge of the Parc, so there would be an additional cost to instal it in the garden. It is not in the budget and there were concerns about creating a precedent to pay for this. Councillors considered other ways of assisting them, such as providing them with a second water container on site. Cllr. Maclaughland proposed to decline the request but seek alternative ways to support them, seconded by Cllr Peters-Bond and voted through unanimously. **RESOLVED**.

**Matters arising from the Estates Committee Meeting of 13th June 2023**

**82 TOWN SQUARE PLANS**

The architect has reissued the tender with a date of 7th August 2023. Cllr Gilasbey is concerned about one of the paving slabs which needs removing – Mark will again ask the contractor to deal with it and to remove the broken bench.

##### 83 H19 H15 A12- RENT REVIEW “in camera”

Discussion held *in camera*

##### 84 HISTORY SHED EXPERIENCE

No meeting from trustees yet, but they may be downsizing the scheme. Cllr Maclaughland noted the Facebook discussion had produced positive comments with local people wanting it to proceed siting it in Kidwelly.

**85 CASTLE LIGHTING**

Email form CADW regarding the castle lighting boxes, which is the responsibility of KTC. Having received a quotation for £8,250 for the supply only of 11 replacement boxes, the situation needed discussion. Cllr Peters-Bond suggested having a meeting with CADW to discuss taking back the Castle into Council ownership. There is a meeting next Monday on Zoom called by CCC Ten Towns initiative and he would like to discuss taking the castle back at that meeting. He said there is income to be had for the town as the castle receives 32,000 visitors per year. As this was a new proposal it was agreed to put it on as an Agenda item for the next Estates meeting as the council were unable to vote on it immediately.

##### 86 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | REF | TYPE | PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT | LOCATION |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |

There were no observations made.

##### 87 AGRICULTURAL TENANCIES

10% uplift on all of them with a 4 year lease until 2027 same anniversary date

GLH14 – 01/08/2023

GL42 – 13/07/2023

GL25

##### Proposed Cllr Christopher Peters-Bond; seconded Cllr Morgan; no amendments; passed unanimously

##### 88 REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Gwen Gwen Festival camping referred from Full Council – see Minute 81 (b) above.

##### 89 CORRESPONDENCE JUNE/JULY 2023

##### (a) Kidwelly Quay

Cllr Jones had emailed the Estates Manager regarding issues with camper vans at the Quay and resulting waste disposal problems. She suggested height restrictors might prevent this. The suggestion has been considered previously but local residents are against it because of disabled access and it would discourage tourism. Possible solution might be signage, which has been taken forward by the Estates Manager. Currently camper vans are able to stay at the Quay using Britstop. Cllr Tarsnane said that the Princess Gwellian Centre was putting in for a 5 camper van site to include waste disposal. Cllr Gilasbey asked Virginia to send a letter to CCC to provide signage in Glan yr Afon car park regarding overnight camping.

**(b) Ecofest**

Request for the Town Council to pay for the hall. Cllr. Gilasbey said it should be referred to finance committee.