KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

4th JULY 2023

At the Hybrid MEETING of the FULL COUNCIL held on Tuesday 4th July 2023 at 6.30pm.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Present | Town Mayor | C.Peters |
|  | Deputy Mayor | C.Morgan |
|  | Councillors | J. Gilasbey, C.Peters-Bond, A.Herbert, J.Tarsnane, J.Maclaughland, G.Bras, J.Westlake, H.Griffiths, |
|  | Town Clerk | Virginia O’Reilly |
|  | Town Secretary | A Padgett |
| Apologies | Councillors | L.Jones, E.Reeves-Davies, G.Beer, |

65 MEMBER’S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute 69 – Councillor J.Tarsnane declared an interest.

Minute 71 – Councillor J.Westlake declared an interest and left the meeting

**66 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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

* Full Council 6th June 2023
* Policy Committee 6th June 2023
* Estates Committee 13th June 2023
* Community Development 13th June 2023
* Finance Committee 13th June 2023

**68 TOWN CLERK’S REPORT**

The report had been circulated. Matters arising:- There were no matters arising

detailed written report had been submitted. Additional matters considered:-

Former Town Hall:

Conservation requirements necessitate additional work in storing the stonework at the Industrial museum which is not a secure site. This will cause a delay in opening the road. First Cymru buses are refusing to drive eastwards through the town. Residents are not being informed of any activity at the site nor of proposed future developments. These issues will be addressed.

**Matters arising from Full Council on 6th June 2023**

**69 PRINCESS GWENLLIAN CENTRE – FUTURE GOVERNANCE**

The bank account can now be accessed. Negotiations are ongoing for the trust to become a C.I.O. charitable incorporated organisation. Insurance liability has been formalised. An independent website is being created. Various working groups are forming policies covering, marketing, social media, fundraising and event licensing. Considerable work has already been done.

**70 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. The minutes outlined the current position and the steps being taken to improve the situation. A working group to progress the matter lead by Councillor Herbert with councillors Beer and Maclaughland to assist has been set up. Councillor Herbert detailed the proposed BT infrastructure improvements and the implications for residents.

County Councillor Lewis Davies had provided information about the new 3 mobile coverage and the activities of the county council in upgrading the town wifi.

**71 LOTTERY UPDATE AND SURVEY**

The lottery project has been extended until the end of July 2023.

Banners – designs had been altered to reflect the comments made at the last meeting. The cat design has been replaced by the traditional Kidwelly cat to better reflect the town logo. Stronger colours have been used. One banner has been printed and will be used as a sample at the carnival on 8th July 2023. Other designs will also be on show for consultation. Costs will be provided.

Heritage trail – QR codes are being created. The urgent task now being undertaken is that of forming the basic written content. This can be expanded upon at a later date and updated when required.

**72 HALBERDIERS**

There are 6 halberdier positions, only 3 being filled by hereditary precedent. The 3 vacancies will now be offered to those outside the designated families. An outline of the historical position will be posted on the website and social media.

**73 KIDWELLY INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM**

The museum has a 125 year lease, under a partnership agreement between the local authority and trustees. Health and Safety issues forced closure in 2017. Since then, the 3 remaining trustees have been refused entry unless accompanied by a county council officer. Maintenance has been minimal and the site is deteriorating. Many town artifacts are stored in the museum in unknown condition. Legal negotiations between trustees and the county council are complex and ongoing.

The town clerk will ask the county council for sight of any maintenance schedules, or condition surveys and details of the town artifacts kept there.

**74 CADW**

The 10 Towns initiative is liaising with Cadw. However, Cadw is poor at communication with the community and has weak links with local organisations. Efforts will be made to open clearer communication lines. The castle lighting plan will be reinitiated.

**75 COMMUNITY HALLS SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS**

**Mynydd hall**: A fete will be held on 19th August 2023 – to include: craft stalls, games and music. A largest vegetable competition will be held.

**Police:**- The officers are keen to hold surgeries with the public. Problems of access to the 101 phoneline have been resolved. The Youth Hut has been vandalised again. St Mary’s Church has been damaged resulting in possible restricted access to the public.

**Carnival:**- 8th July – organisation is progressing well. The route has been altered this year. There are not so many volunteers. The police will be present. Raffle tickets are available but selling fast.

**Twinning** – A fundraising twmpath was held at the Gwenllian Centre on 25th June 2023. It was well attended and a great success. Teachers and pupils from Lesotho performed. Many from Ukraine attended.

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | DATE | APPOINTMENT |  |
| 1st July | Kidwelly Women’s Institute | 12 noon |
| 3rd July | Towns Growth Meeting | 6.00 p.m. |
| 4th July | Full Council & Policy Committee | 6.30 p.m. |
| 8th July | Kidwelly Carnival | All day |
| 15th July | Carmarthen River Festival | 2 p.m. |
| 11th July | Estates, Community and Development and Finance Committees | 6.30 p.m. |
| 12th July | Carmarthen Area Committee, St Peter’s Civic Hall, Carmarthen | 6.30 p.m. |
| 16th July | Llanelli Rural Council Chairman’s Civic Service | 10.30 a.m. |
| 19th July | Training: Sustainability/Wellbeing of Future Generations | 6.30 p.m. |
| 25th July | River Trip from Ferryside to Kidwelly | 10.30 a.m. |
| 1st July | Kidwelly Women’s Institute | 12 noon |
| 12th August | Kidwelly in Bloom at the allotments | 2.00pm |

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| DATE |  |  |
| 11th July | Estates, Community Development and Finance Committees | 6.30 pm |
| 5th September | Full Council and Policy Committee | 6.30 pm |
| 12th September | Estates, Community Development and Finance Committees | 6.30 pm |

The mayor thanked all who attended his Civic Service on 2nd July 2023. Visiting dignitaries expressed their pleasure to see that Kidwelly councillors were hands on in their help during the event.

**77 EXECUTIVE ACTION DURING RECESS**

It was **RESOLVED** that Executive Powers be delegated to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chair(s) of relevant committee(s) during the summer recess. Any action taken during this period will follow the established procedures.

**78 CORRESPONDENCE – JUNE/JULY 2023**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | J.Williams | Request for council involvement for ECOFEST. |
| 2 | Betty Duke | Concerns had been expressed over the Gwen Gwen Festival. |
| 3 | Mundy Group |
| 4 | B.A.Williams |

All correspondence was referred to the Estates Committee on 11th July 2023.

At the Civic Service on 2nd July 2023 reference was made to the “Weigh the Mayor” tradition held annually at Royal Wooten Bassett. The mayor was eager to participate in such an event and was consequently weighed at the conclusion of the meeting. He will be weighed again at the end of his term of office. It will be presumed that if he weighs less, he would have worked hard. If he weighs more it must be assumed that he has partaken of too much mayoral hospitality during the year.

Weight recorded; **15st 7lb**