**MINUTES OF ESTATES COMMITTEE COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD AT 10/12 ORCHARD STREET, NEATH**

**ON THURSDAY, 12TH MARCH 2020**

**AT 6:25 P.M.**

**PRESENT: CHAIRMAN: CLLR. A. SIMS**

**COUNCILLORS: J. EVANS**

**MRS L. JONES**

**MRS J. L. LOCKYER**

**G. MORGAN**

**MRS S.M. PENRY**

**R. PRICE**

**J. WARMAN**

**IN ATTENDANCE: KATHRYN CHARLES**

**SARA WHARMBY**

**SARAH WILLIAMS**

**HEDLEY LOARING**

**ANN BOWDEN**

**1823 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Ms T. Davies, Cllr. G. L. Evans Cllr. D. Flynn and Cllr. Paul James.

**1824 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**

There were no Declarations of Interest received from Members.

**1825** **TO WELCOME REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH OLD ROAD AND FAIRYLAND ALLOTMENTS AND DISCUSS ALLOTMENT ISSUES**

The Chair welcomed the representatives of the Fairyland Allotment site.

Mr Loaring asked if a decision had been made regarding car parking on the allotment site.

Cllr. J. Warman entered the Meeting at 6.27pm.

The Town Clerk stated that Councillors had agreed not to support the car park and explained the reasoning behind their decision. Mrs Bowden asked if they could look at obtaining a grant for the work and how the Council would be involved. The Town Clerk stated that plans would have to come through Council to be agreed for any work on the Fairyland Allotment site.

The Meeting discussed grants that the Fairyland Allotment Society could apply for. The Town Clerk stated that support could be provided.

The Town Clerk explained the Local Places for Nature scheme that Members would be discussing. The Representatives were told that they could apply for funding and the Town Clerk would let them know when the funding is released. **RESOLVED**: Members agreed to proceed with the Grant (outlined below).

The Chair thanked Mr Loaring and Mrs Bowden for attending and they left the Meeting at 6.38pm.

Members were informed that the Old Road Allotmenteers were having issues regarding their Society and details were given. **RESOLVED**: Members suggested contacting the Allotmenteer involved and requesting information on their accounts.

**1826** **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON** **BUS SHELTERS & ROADSIDE SEATS UPDATE**

Members were informed that a shelter on Afan Valley Way had damaged panels.

The Town Clerk stated that they would need to determine whether the roadside seat on Afan Valley Road was NTCs. A Member stated that it needed to be replaced.

A Member asked if another shelter could be replaced. The Town Clerk stated that a bus shelter had been budgeted for. **RESOLVED:** Agreed.

**1827** **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON HALLS**

The Town Clerk informed the Meeting that the work on the floor at Melin Community Centre had been completed.

Members were informed that the new blinds at Cimla Community Centre had been installed.

**1828 TO DISCUSS LOCAL PLACCES FOR NATURE SCHEME AVAILABLE FROM WELSH GOVERNMENT AND WHETHER NTC AND FAS CAN UTILISE THE INITIATIVE**

The Meeting discussed their options. **RESOLVED:** It was proposed, seconded and agreed to apply for a butterfly garden.

**1829** **TO REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Correspondence Received*** | ***Actions*** | ***Resolutions*** |
| An email from Cllr. Bob Price regarding cleaning the green street property. | Members to discuss. | Agreed. |
| An email regarding lighting the Castle for Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness. | Members to discuss. | Agreed. |

**1830 TO CONSIDER** **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no objections to the following planning application(s) which had been received:-

P2020/0035

P2020/0204

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting:**  **Estates March 2020** | **Planning Schedule** | | | | **Date sent: 06.03.20** |
| **No. of Application** | **Applicant** | **Proposal** | **Location** | **Planning Officer** | **Recommendation** |
| P2020/0035 | Mr Hawking | Demolition of existing offices and construction of a 3 storey residential block  providing 6 No. 1 bed apartments. (Amended roof design and inclusion of  obscured glass to a number of windows) | 26 Alfred Street  Neath SA11 1EH | Christopher Davies | No objections |
| P2020/0204 | Mr & Mrs Mark & Donna Williams-Bevan | Construction of a two storey and a single storey rear extension | 110 Lewis Road, Neath SA11 1DQ | Jennifer Griffiths | No objections |

**1831 TO DISCUSS ANY COUNCILLOR ISSUES AND RECEIVE REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL**

A Member stated that a request had been received from Neath Town Centre Consortium, asking if they could borrow NTC marquees for the Ale & Cider event.

**1832 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

There were no items received for the next Agenda.

**1833 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS – TO CONSIDER PASSING A RESOLUTION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1(2) OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960, IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS ABOUT TO BE TRANSACTED, IT IS ADVISABLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING**

The resolution was duly passed.

**1834** **TO DISCUSS INVESTMENTS PROPERTY LEASING ISSUES AND COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS**

Members were informed that the previous tenant had refused to transfer funds into the NTC bank account. The Town Clerk asked if Members were happy to proceed signing the legal letter. **RESOLVED**: Agreed.

Members discussed the treatment work to be started in the new few weeks on the frontage of the Burton Block. **RESOVLED**: Members agreed to power wash/clean the cement work before the resealed treatment works commenced.

1. **TO DISCUSS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPAIR WORK TO THE PERIMETER WALL AND REAR WALL RESTORATION WORK AT NEATH CASTLE**

Members were informed that the license for the scaffolding had been agreed.

1. **TO DISCUSS THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE TOWN HALL RESTORATION PROJECT**

The Town Clerk stated that there would be a pre-contract meeting on Thursday and it would take 20 weeks to complete the works.

1. **TO DISCUSS THE NEXT STEPS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF 1-4 NEW STREET**

Members were updated on the Meeting with contractors.

**1835 TO DISCUSS ANY STAFFING ISSUES**

Members were informed that the staff members currently off sick would be returning to work in April.

**1836 TO DISCUSS HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES**

Members were informed that staff had received Fire Awareness Training.

The Meeting discussed the Coronavirus and what would need to be put in place. Members discussed postponing Council Meetings and events should the situation worsen in the next few weeks.

**1837 TO FIX A DATE AND AGREE AN AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

The Chair advised that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 14th May 2020. An agenda would be circulated in due course.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.