ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 24TH MAY 2023

E57/23: SERVICE DELIVERY UPDATE

1. TOWN TEAM

Currently operating with 2 staff, covering bins on Mon/Wed/Fri, with ad hoc when possible on Tues/Thurs. With warmer weather, Russell Walker who usually covers watering of planters has requested that the Town Team assist with watering until all the Amberol planters are in place and planted up.

Street Furniture repainting and refurbishment will recommence once the team leader starts back 5th June 2023.

Hand weeding of car parks has started when litter-picking and bins are completed each day.

Brewery Yard Car Park – there has been an ongoing issue with large amounts of market waste being scattered across the Brewery Yard Car Park every Wednesday morning. This is due to the cardboard collection being at 3:30pm/4pm on a Tuesday, and all other waste being left until Wednesday at 9am. Access is tricky due to Flea Market Traders setting up, so much of t ends up as litter scattered across the car park. The Town Team empty the litter bins at 6am, so then have to come back after 9am to do this again to clean up after the Waste and Refuse truck has been through. Markets and other services in the Town Hall are negotiating with Waste and recycling as their bill is very high for the building, so currently there is not an easy solution to enable a more effective system to be put in place.

After the walk about with Police and MCC, a request was made if the Town Team would be able to open Fairfield car park every weekday morning. This will be sent to he team leader and operations manager at Llanfoist Depot to see if this is a possibility.

1. TOWN PLANTER WATERING

Aquam have sent a six month price of £520 plus vat for a 6 month hire of the stand pipe for this season, and Russell Walker is carrying out the training this week. Delivery will then be arranged, and this will enable Russell to water town-wide without return journeys to Usk. There is no need for the Town Team to use this equipment at present, but they can carry out refresher training if necessary, should the need arise. Water will then be charged for at £1.5889 per cubic meter of water.

1. GREENFINCH CONTRACT – INCREASE IN LABOUR COSTS

Previously (March 2022- March 2023) agreed 168 hours at £18 per hour. hourly rate going forward will be £22.50, this rate takes into account inflation, increased involvement in design work, plant sourcing and maintenance.

They are suggesting an increase to the number of hours needed for maintenance work as we will be taking on the care for the planting at the Bus Station and the Train Station bed, adding approximately a third more hours, which works out at 60 hours extra.

March 2023 - March 2024, 228 hours at £22.50 per hour (£5130).

They will be invoicing separately for the design, planning and sourcing for the Bus Station beds.