ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 17TH JULY 2024

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

PC46/24: EVENTS UPDATE

1. PICNIC IN THE PARK 26TH AUGUST 2024

Friends of Bailey Park have asked for assistance in setting up the second Picnic in the Park on Monday 26th August 2024, 1pm – 3pm. So far, the Borough Band and Choirs for Good have confirmed they are happy to perform once again on the Bandstand, with a second choir being lined up so the time may alter to accommodate this.

With it being the end of the summer holidays, the original plan was to label this as part of our 125th anniversary celebrations, but to take pressure off the council it would be preferrable to have a small team of volunteers to help steward and litter pick, and of course encourage as many people as possible to attend.

St Johns Ambulance Hall is likely to open again and offer refreshments, and there is now a coffee van by the Pavilion. Toilets will be open for the summer holidays so facilities will be available.

The Principal Officer would like 4 volunteers to commit to assisting with this event to ensure the safe running of the event.

1. ABERGAVENNY CARNIVAL 7TH SEPTEMBER 2024

The following correspondence has been received:

“The event will take place on Saturday 7th September and will start at midday in Baker Street. There are only walking entries as logistically and financially this makes the whole event more manageable and means road closures are kept to a minimum.

The local fire brigade lead the parade to ensure safety of the crowds watching by clearing the route for the parade.

 There are many people who turn up to join the fun of the parade, from local families and school children, and more inclusively Pride and the WI. We have found in the past that people browsing around town joined on the end and came along to the main events in the park.

We have also paid bands that are integrated into the parade, The Dixie Landers are at the front and play amazing jazz music that get the crowd going, then towards the end we have the local Upbeat Music and Arts, who also make sure there is plenty of rhythm and beats for the children and families to walk too.

Our route for the day takes us through the town, from The Grofield, up Nevill Street, down Flannel Street and onto Cross Street. We are hoping this year if possible, to walk the parade through the market hall. With the food festival being soon after the carnival we agree that the market hall will be decorated amazingly and be magical for us all to walk through, especially for the children and photos that are taken. Once we leave here, the parade carries on down Market Street, through the alley next to Morrisons, where we cross over to Bailey Park.

Upbeat Music and Arts also do a workshop once in the park, again paid for by Abergavenny Carnival. Alongside these we have paid for Matt Lane to DJ the event in the park and be our PA.

There will be paid stewards on the day to help the day run smoothly, along with many local volunteers.

For the actual event in the park, we have made sure we have plenty of entertainment and things for the families to do. We have also done our best to make sure this can be a free event for everyone who wants to have a fun day in the park with all the activities on offer being free for families. All we are asking for is donations at the gate for the Food Bank and other local groups who support families in the area - bring a tin to get in!

We have a fair, once inside the park for the children, with many food stalls for everyone. Our towns local boxer, Kieron Gethin will be in the ring, for the children to join him and practice and learn boxing. Also local to Abergavenny are Dance Attack who join the parade and once in the park, will go in the main arena and do a performance for everyone. A dog agility show will also be in the main arena, along with a karate group.

There's also circus events and classes for the families, storytelling and walk abouts by Louby-Lou who is always very popular. Organised Kaos are also joining us again this year in the park who are a youth circus act.

Joining us in the walking parade and walking around the park, will be ostriches on stilts, spiderman, jugglers, balloonolgists and this year we have fire eaters which should be very entertaining.

The police and fire engine will also attend the main event in the park for the children and families to see them. Along with many stalls, including charities, of which we don't charge the charity.

As you can imagine there is a lot of effort and money that goes into the day and we would appreciate any sponsor money that you would be willing to put towards The Abergavenny Carnival.

I hope this gives you the information you need and we would greatly appreciate your support and that of the town council. As a group we meet every Wednesday evening in The Grofield at 7pm if you would like to meet us and have an informal chat.”

Cllr Gethin Jones has offered to attend their meeting on Wednesday 24th July to ascertain if there is any assistance the Town Council can offer, and all grant application forms have been sent to them for consideration.

1. WALES IN BLOOM AWARDS 13TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Abergavenny in Bloom volunteers will need additional support on Friday 13th September 2024 to help facilitate and host the Wales in Bloom Awards. Stewards are needed to help with car parking, walking tours, reception and refreshments, and setting up information stands. The town itself will need a spruce up prior to the day to ensure the town is presented in the same light as the week of judging, so again volunteers to carry out weeding, litter-picking and general street clearing in everyone’s local vicinity would be appreciated.

1. WALL2WALL JAZZ FESTIVAL COMMUNITY DAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2024

As part of our support for Black Mountain Jazz, the Council have been asked to assist with a Sunday Road closure to facilitate ethe open air ‘street performances’ which will be popping up around town on Sunday 29th September. The closure will reflect the usual 10am – 4pm closure and be along the exact same route, so volunteers simply need to facilitate the closure at 10am and reopening of the area again at 4pm. Some additional help may be asked for to help set up the street performances, which we will have more information on at the next meeting.

1. EVENT LIST 2024

Abergavenny Food Festival – 21st & 22nd September 2024

Wall to Wall Jazz Festival – 27th – 29th September 2024

Greener Abergavenny – Sunday 20th October 2024

Abergavenny Town Council’s 125 years – 1st November 2024

Round Table Fireworks – Tuesday 5th November 2024

Remembrance Parade 2024 – 10th November 2024

Christmas Light Switch On – 16th November 2024