ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2024

PR114/24: PRINCIPAL OFFICER UPDATE

1. ABERGAVENNY EISTEDDFOD

The Y Fenni Eisteddfod Committee wish to request funds to support the annual children’s event held in March. There has been a change in venues which is currently being confirmed. The art and photography competition that has previously been ‘sponsored’ by the Town Council was also open to students at many primary schools outside the Town Council catchment, so the proposal will be for the contribution that they will be requesting next month, be used towards the medals for the whole event, and for the new Town Council logo to be on all certificates as a supporter of the Children’s Eisteddfod.

The Principal Officer would like to request an agenda item be listed to allow a grant proposal to be considered at the next Policy and Resources meeting in order for a decision to be reached in good time for the Eisteddfod Committee to make use of the funds for the competition planned for March 2025.

1. ALLOTMENT PROVISION UPDATE

Cllr Burch would like to bring a report to the next Policy and Resources Committee or Environment Committee for consideration regarding a possible site which will involve the Town Council taking on management of a site for up to 10 plots in the town.

1. ONE VOICE WALES POLICY AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

New Finance Regulations and Guidance documentation has been received and circulated to all Councillors. These are to be utilised when considering replacing any policies relating to financial arrangements for the Town Council. Updates to the Local Government Finance Modules will reflect these new documents should any Councillors wish to take up the training.

1. ONE VOICE WALES RESPONSE TO SENEDD CONSULTATION

Policy and Resources Committee responded to the recent Local Government and Housing Committee consultation on the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector, which was circulated to all Councillors. One Voice Wales has shared their in-depth response which has been circulated to all Councillors and is to be noted.

1. ACE COOPERTION AGREEMENT PROPOSAL FOR RENEWAL

Cllr Jones attended the recent board meeting at the Abergavenny Community Enterprise Partnership and minutes of this meeting have been circulated for your attention.

Some of the points raised were answered in part at the board meeting when raised by Cllr Jones. A further email sent prior to the meeting to gain full clarification has been sent to the group and a response is yet to be received.

They have been in touch asking if the £18,000.00 per year requested as part of the renewal cooperation agreement is likely to be agreed. A response with a counter proposal of £12,000 - £15,000 per year and a re-write of deliverables with more clarification on what the monies will be used for (as wages can’t form part of this), has been returned to them.

1. 7 CORNERS UPDATE

A newsletter has been received for information from 7Corners.

There is a possibility future funding could be affected by a youth worker registration system which has been under consideration by Government for some time. This would mean formal registration for all who work with the teens that attend the centre, including volunteers. This would be a requirement when applying for any funding in future. An offer of support to any responses required has been extended to the team.

A request has been received from the Chair of the Board of Trustees to facilitate workshops to allow the teens to gain knowledge of how to use social media safely, including how to film/photograph, edit and post content on the usual platforms. The Principal Officer would like permission from the Town Council to investigate using some of the monthly hours paid for through our current social media and website management company to see if this may be something they can assist with.

1. REVIEWING THE USE OF ‘X’ AS A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM

Recent statistical report received from The Media Agency shows the amount of people being reached via ‘X’ has dropped considerably. It is recommended that, as this is always a very restrictive social media site to post content on to, that we cease all posts on this platform with immediate effect, but keep the account in order to receive any information from groups still using this medium to communicate in the short term.