LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL

UPDATES MAY 2023

1.Introduction

This is a general update on the Council's activities and a report from the Town Clerk on activities and progress on projects. Weekly inspections of all the council's sites are completed and logged on the website under documents and inspections.

2.Financial

The management accounts up to 30th April 2023 have been issued to the Chair and Vice Chair. A full financial report will be given at the June 2023 council meeting. The bank balances are being reported to council at each meeting.

The school crossing accounts have been queried as there has not been a dedicated person in the role for at least a year. Also as there is a new school arrangement in place things have changed. Powys County Council has also been requested to supply a copy of any agreement, this is still awaited.

3.Audit

The internal audit is under way with completion due first week in June. The external audit for the past 3 years completion certificate is still awaited. Delay due to backlog of work with Welsh Government. All local councils in the same situation.

The 2022-2023 Welsh Government Audit focuses on councillor allowances and records. We have them in order so there is not issue for us to be concerned about.

4. Annual return and annual report

The annual report and the annual return will be ready for the council meeting to be held on 26th June 2023.

5. Mount Field – Agreements with LUFC

Meeting being arranged between Cllr R Astley and Cllr C Evans with the football club to take agreements forward as per council approval.

6.Grants

The current grant aid is as follows:

i) £250 for a bird box scheme to support the Pied Flycatcher.

- ii) £7,000 for a trim trail for Deri Woods.
- lii) £9,950 for the Youth Club (for 2 years start up cost)

cont...

iv) £15,000 (provisional) for a feasibility study into the Leisure Centre future.

v) £15,000 (provisional) for a feasibility study into Town Regeneration.

vi) £15,000 (provisional) for a feasibility study into a Healthy Llanfair Caereinion.

For the Autumn:

i) Grant aid application for toilets refurbishment.

ii) £15,000 to be applied for a feasibility study into tourism for Llanfair Caereinion.

7. Grass cutting contractor

The new grass cutting contract is in place and being delivered.

8. Erw Ddwr and Chapel of Rest

i) Tree works at Erw Ddwr

A tree report has been received and various minor works to trees will take place over the autumn period.

ii) Chapel of Rest

The external redecoration of the chapel is completed as are the gate repairs. The facia board to the rear store has been replaced and the store emptied of rubbish.

iii) Chapel of Rest (electrics)

Instructions to the contractor have been issued. Awaiting works to

take

place.

9. Deri Woods/Goat Field

I) General maintenance

The general maintenance is progressing with the Friends of Deri Woods. They are working to an agreed plan which Council. The meadow is progressing and some tree thinning has been completed. No further trees are to be felled without the express approval of the council Deri Woods representatives via the Clerk.

ii) Deri Woods Grant

Drainage of the lower path in Goat Field has been completed as part of the grant aided scheme. There is work required to the tributary around the dam which is damaged. There maybe a need to fell two trees close to it so that work can take place. This has yet to be approved.

lii) Ash Die Back disease

The Ash trees affected are at the Llanfair end of Goat Field. There are around 15 trees to be felled.

A report has been commissioned and notification to PCC has been submitted. No response from PCC so the council has consent to proceed. The tree works are due to take place in the early autumn.

iv) Future works

A meeting of the Deri Woods Councillors with the Clerk is due to take place in May to determine a way forward with planning and a tree planting proposal.

10. Public Toilets

i) Refurbishment and repair

A plan with grant aid is to be prepared for presentation to Council early in the autumn for redecoration and improvements to the disabled toilet as per the Town Plan action plan. Also included are baby changing facilities and a water bottle point.

11. St Mary's Churchyard

ii) Retaining wall behind the Institute

Instructions to the contractor for the works have been given. Latest start date in later in May.

lii) Path

Investigations into the best way to repair the surfaces of the path from the West end gate to the Toilets have been completed. It is understood that Powys County Council has responsibility for maintenance of the path, contact has been made with them.

v) Boundary wall along High Street/Broad Street

The contractor has been asked to include a day's work on repointing the stonework. A section a year to be completed. This should take place in the summer months.

vi) No dogs' signage

Dog signs for all entrances have been put in place.

vii) Lychgate

The brick/stonework either side of the lychgate will need attention during the summer months. An estimate will be gained for approval by council.

12. Glenafton Playground

Retaining banks

The two banks (top and bottom) have timber supports. The rotten ones have now been replaced.

13. Tennis Courts

The surface has been brushed and a preservative coat added. The courts should, following this treatment, be in good repair for a few years now.

14. Street scene

i) Seating and bin (A483 & Bridge Street) Instructions to the contractor to complete works in autumn have been issued. Awaiting contractor to carry out works when he has a space.

ii) Phone box Watergate Street

No success in finding a contractor wiling to do the painting. Cllrs Rob Astley and Ursula Griffiths investigating alternatives.

15. Bus stops

The bus stop scheme is progressing. Posts sizes assessend along with timetable and flag fittings. Locations agreed are the railway station, lychgate, Erw Ddwr and Banwy Mill caravan park Melin y Ddol. Also new flags for Watergate Street. A timetable case at the top of Watergate Street.

16. Tourism display boards

The English Town Trail leaflets have ended, mew stock arrived. Designs for display boards awaited.

17. Town Wifi

All units installed around the town centre. Commissioning due to take place by Monday 15th May.

18. Yellow Line Review

No further action by Powys County Council at this time. Awaiting an update.

19. Youth Club

The Youth club is progressing to a 1st June start in the Institute. DBS checks completed on those personnel to be involved on the ground. Background paperwork being completed.

20. Community Cafe

The Community Cafe is going well with over £320 banked on top of float monies kept. Review due after 8 weeks which will be the end of June 2023.

R A Robinson Town Clerk