

MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE & CULTURE COMMITTEE OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD TOWN HALL, FEATHERSTONE ON 16TH APRIL 2014 at 6pm.

Present: Councillor G Isherwood, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor W Mulroe, Councillor J Power (Chair), Councillor M Tennant-King, Councillor S Vickers, Councillor J Wright.

In attendance: Sue Coles (Town Clerk)

339/14 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Councillor C Tennant,

340/14 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

341/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

342/14 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

RESOLVED: that under the terms of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 that the press and public be excluded from any part of the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business being transacted.

343/14 MINUTES OF THE EVENTS 2014 WORKING PARTY MEETINGS:

- a) 13th February 2014, b) 27th February 2014, c) 13th March 2014, d) 27th March 2014

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Events 2014 Working Party meeting a) to d) above and the decisions and recommendations contained therein are approved and signed by the Chairman of this Committee.

344/14 PLANTERS AND HANGING BASKETS 2014

- a) Councillor Mulroe brought a report to the Committee for approval for the placing of planters and hanging baskets for Plantscape contractors 2014. Councillor G Isherwood advised that all the lampposts were replaced in the District by AMEY. Councillor Mulroe will contact Victoria Garden Centre to ascertain if they will sponsor the three lampposts outside their premises
- b) Councillor Mulroe advised Members of the condition of the planters at entrances to the town and the wooden planters in Station Lane

RESOLVED: The Town Clerk is to contact WMDC to remove the North Featherstone planter. That the wooden planters be planted by Town Council contractors. Councillor Mulroe will provide the Town Clerk with a full schedule of planters and hanging baskets to forward to Plantscape and Highways.

345/14 YOUTH AMBASSADORS FOR THE TOWN

A progress report was given at the meeting regarding the appointment of four Youth Ambassadors (2 male and 2 female), from the E-act Academy and St. Wilfred's School in order that the nominees can be invited to Mayor Making. Both schools have confirmed they will contact the Council around the 25th April and then invitations will be sent to the youngsters to attend Mayor Making.

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346/14 TWINNING

A progress report on the arrangements to appoint a mining town of a similar size to twin with Featherstone was given at the meeting. Contact has been made with the Clerks to Blaenavon Town Council, and Coed y Cwm Community Council, which are towns with surviving coal mining features, who will put the suggestion to their next Council meetings. It was stressed by the Town Clerk to the officers of the above Councils that the twinning proposal would not incur great expenditure Featherstone Council was keen to share historical links with Welsh mining towns.

Councillor M Isherwood said that as chair of the Administration & Finance Committee she would not wish to see any costs borne by the Council. The Town Clerk advised that since the Heritage & Culture Committee ceases to exist after Mayor Making then a further report will be brought back to the Administration & Finance Committee. Councillor Mulroe suggested that the Mayor's budget be increased slightly to accommodate a visit to Wales. Councillor Vickers said that he had a vision of a small visit and to help put the schools in touch with each other to share information of the historical nature of the towns. Councillor G Isherwood suggested that the website and newsletter could be used to promote this.

RESOLVED: A further report would be made at the next meeting of Administration & Finance Committee in May.

347/14 PLANTSCAPE CHRISTMAS TREES

The Council has received an enquiry from Plantscape as to whether it would like to order the solar powered trees for 2014 which cost £120 each for the wall mounted type and £105 for the lampposts (need two for each pole). Members discussed the display and the nice comments made by residents. It was

RESOLVED: To order the trees again for 2014.

This is the last meeting of the Heritage and Culture Committee after Mayor Making it will be known as the Events Committee.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.