

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Charity Trustee Committee

Date of meeting: 29th June 2023

Title: Annual New Quay Memorial Hall update 2022-2023

Purpose of the report: To receive the annual update

For: Information

1. ANNUAL UPDATE

- 1.1 As Members may be aware the Hall was leased by the Council, as charity trustee, to 'New Quay Memorial Hall' a registered charitable incorporated organisation ("CIO") from the 10th February 2020 for 99 years.
- 1.2 Under clause 26.6 of the lease the CIO is obliged to provide the trustee on the 10th February every year an annual summary setting out the use that the property has been put to during the preceding 12 months. The purpose of this obligation is for the trustee to be able to monitor that the Hall is being used for community based activities and other uses within the objects of the Council trust being *'use as a village hall for the inhabitants of New Quay and the neighbourhood thereof without distinction of political, religious or other opinions including use for meetings, lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants'*.
- 1.3 Following a request from Officers, the CIO has now provided the update for 2022-2023 which is presented at Appendix 1 for information.

Recommendation(s): To note the update from the tenant covering the period 10th February 2022 – 9th February 2023.

Reasons for decision: To acknowledge the tenant's compliance with clause 26.6 of the lease dated 10th February 2020.

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Update from New Quay Memorial Hall

Head of Service: Ein Prysor – CLO Legal & Governance Services

Reporting Officer: Louise Harries – Solicitor

Date: 31/05/2023

APPENDIX 1 – UPDATE FROM NEW QUAY MEMORIAL HALL

Annual Report for New Quay Memorial Hall January 2022 – December 2022 ,
Summary of NQMH use for 2022.

The charity was formed in September 2018 when the activities, assets and liabilities of the previous 'War Memorial Hall' were transferred, and a new lease granted by the Ceredigion County Council to a new committee to re-organise and provide services to local inhabitants.

The Memorial Hall was closed for full renovation work following the WG grant, from early January 2020. This was followed by the Covid-19 Lockdown from March 2020, which extended into early 2022.

The Hall is now fully accessible both upstairs to the main Hall and downstairs to the snooker club and meeting rooms. Ramped access and safety rails, reserved disabled parking, CCTV, fully accessible toilets and baby changing areas are all now in place benefitting all age groups. A new fire door has been fitted to access the emergency exit steps, Wi-fi is available throughout the Hall, and we received a grant from CCC-Cynall y Cardi for a Hybrid 72" screen enabling hybrid meetings, training and events.

By April 2022 there was a gradual reopening of meetings, events and sports activities.

The New Quay Library, now run by volunteers, was opened in Room 4 at the Hall in October 2021 with initially a click and collect service. By early 2022 it was fully open.

The Friday Community Market resumed in April 2022, and was soon well booked with tables offering local crafts, donated bric a brac, produce, jams, eggs, cakes and savouries, plus a Volunteer run café.

Rural Futures Wales – Severn Wye , and Cwmpas - Social Business Wales, have continued to help and advise the Trustees, throughout 2022 and are currently helping the Trustees to apply for National Lottery funding for a full time Hub Coordinator to supplement the work of the Trustees and Volunteers. All Trustees have now attended Trustee training sessions.

New in August 2022 was the introduction of donated pre-loved clothing and school uniform 'The Clothes Rail Project'. The local response has been tremendous. This has prevented a huge amount of textiles being sent to landfill and filled an obvious need for low cost clothing. This proved particularly successful and during the worst cold weather for many years in November / December 2022 we were able to provide free winter clothing for anyone who required it.

New in the Autumn of 2022 and the onset of the 'Cost of Living Crisis', was the need for a 'Warm Space'. With the help of a grant from CAVO we were able to provide a warm friendly environment run weekly by volunteers with a variety of craft activities, Wi-fi, hot drinks and snacks. Our fundraising activities and increased sports use of the Hall has required additional storage facilities and we have now purchased a storage unit to house the additional equipment and donations.

Weekly and monthly events and activities at the Hall in 2022 included a weekly market and café, family support and nurture services, Yoga, Clonc – Welsh conversation, Salsa, table tennis, badminton, Qingong, and a variety of crafts and wellbeing groups. Also WI-Seaside Sisters, Camera Club, Cor-Cei – choir, Snooker Club and British Legion.

Additional users of the Hall include the Town Council, Council Election Services, Blood Transfusion Services, New Quay Yacht Club, RNLI, New Quay Primary School, Scout Association Cubs and Beavers, and very importantly, the local fundraising group, 'Working 4 New Quay – W4NQ', who have organised a variety of events at the Hall for all age groups throughout the year.

Plans for the future include a full time Hub Coordinator for 3 years – subject to a successful Lottery bid, a new club for young people in partnership with the Urdd Centre, an indoor bowls group, a baby toys and equipment loan service, mother and toddler group, Luncheon Club and a community mini bus in partnership with Dolen Teifi.

The Hall also continues to be used for training events, meetings, exhibitions, music events, family parties and celebrations.

Volunteers continue to be vital to the running of the Hall and the Library, however, all the wonderful volunteers are busy people and we would love to have more help, let us know if you can spare a few hours occasionally to help out.

We would like to thank our volunteers and many supporters, CAVO, Severn Wye Rural Futures Group, Working 4 New Quay, The Seahorse and everyone who has donated to our fundraising events.