

## KEFALONIA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION-MEETING 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

### VENUE: 'LEGENDS BAR' SVORONATA

ATTENDANCE: N.Dimiratou (President), S.Hughes (Secretary), B.Noon(Officer), and L.Thompson (Officer).

Kefalonia Residents- R.Harrison, A.Harrison, P.Lee, A.Frangias, S.White, T.White, J.Randall, A.Randall, J.Massey, M.Desykes,

Apologies: V.Burton, P.Elbe, J.Cole, and R.Cole.

### Matters Arising From Previous Meeting

N.Dimiratou reminded Kefalonia Residents who owned their own homes and property would be required to register them with the map co-ordinates by Mid December. However, there would likely be delays to registration and local government in general due to the changes caused by the transition to the 3 Mayors system for Kefalonia plus this impact on local administration e.g. computer IT records. Nikki suggested that residents keep hard paper copies of any legal documents they needed to submit to the Town Hall in case there were any problems.

### Meeting With New Mayor of Argostoli Region

N.Dimiratou announced how in response to recent KIO meetings she was due to arrange a meeting with The Mayor of Argostoli Region Mr Theofilos Michalatos at the Theatre in October. Some of the topics for discussion would include: Parking, Fire Safety, and Life Guards. Ideally, this meeting would provide an opportunity for Kefalonia Residents to receive news about the Mayor's plans for the region over the next 4 years.

### Free Greek Lessons for Kefalonia Residents

N.Dimiratou announced how KIO would be arranging free Greek Lessons to be held in 2 different venues around the Island, probably in 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October. More information about this will be announced on KIO 'fb' page.

### The British Cemetery Kefalonia and Potential New British Cemetery

A.Harrison and R.Harrison had asked if KIO could clarify whether there has been any further progress since Malcolm Pugh's report in February 2019. KIO officers reported how the current status of the British Cemetery remained the same while the existing graves there would be maintained. Also no alternative site for a New British Cemetery had yet been identified. Hopefully, this matter can be clarified with the New Administration.

B. Noon and Randall briefly discussed their own recent experiences of arranging burials for their close relatives in Kefalonia. Both reported how helpful and efficient the Local Funeral Directors in Argostoli were. B. Noon reported added how the Town Hall was required to find a burial plot for residents. J. Randall's funeral director enabled a repatriation and cremation in the UK. S.Hughes added he could put some further guidance on KIO's 'fb' page if needed.

Nikki mention how generally Greek Orthodox Religious Law applied, meaning most residents were buried locally. R. Harrison asked if the system of burial plot re-use existed, but Nikki added although this was legal in Greece, it was not yet widespread in Kefalonia.

#### Proposed Plans for Recreation /Community Centre and Kefalonia Animal Trust (KATs) Building

N. Dimiratou mentioned how they had spoken to the Deputy Mayor about the opening of 2 spaces for a New Recreation/Community Centre and KATs Animal Charity. Nikki is awaiting further information about these proposals from the Deputy Mayor.

N.Dimiratou mentioned how the Deputy Mayor seemed concerned about the level and quality of complaints received about some local charities. J.Randall and P.Lee described some of the challenges and difficulties KATs had experienced with operating in Kefalonia, and hoped the climate would improve with the new administration.

Next KIO Meeting to be announced on KIO fb page.