

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 5th March 2015 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

528/14 Attendance Register

The Mayor, B.C. Roberts;
Cllrs: M. Bond; B. Kinsey; J. A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; R. M. Medicott; D. Meredith(arrived at 7:10pm); S. Rowlands (arrived at 6:55pm); A. Wood;
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

529/14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: M.D. Bird; G.P. Davies; J.E.H. Pitt; M. Roberts; T. Rowlands; K.J. Sudlow;
R.G. Waters;

530/14 Declaration of Interest: Code of Conduct

Members were reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of any personal interests (using the form provided for this purpose).
None were received

Cllr S Rowlands arrived at this juncture

531/14 Visitors to the Council

Standing orders were suspended

The Chairman welcomed Caroline Turner, Definitive Map Officer for CCBC, who provided members with an update with regard to the adding of the path at Ty Crwn to the definitive map. Ms Turner shared a report with members which included a response from Network Rail stating that they had evidence that a sign had been displayed under the 1959 Act which was still valid. If the matter is pursued Network Rail has indicated that they will challenge the matter and the Planning Inspector would have to become involved.

Ms Turner provided an overview of the historic notice that had been served and is still in existence together with an objection by the owner of Ty Crwn who plans to reinstate the gate.

The matter was discussed at length and Ms Turner indicated that if the matter is pursued and moved forward that it will be referred to the National Assembly. The recommendation by Ms Turner is not to pursue the matter, as there is a risk that the adoption could fail and Network rail could then take steps to ensure that the public do not have access across the bridge. Network Rail has suggested that they would agree to keep the path if the Town Council contribute towards it.

Cllr Meredith arrived at this juncture

As the path is not recorded as a right of way the risk is that Network Rail may close the bridge.

It was RESOLVED to obtain additional Evidence Statements. It was FURTHER RESOLVED that Ms Turner pursues that matter on behalf of the Town Council.

Standing orders were reinstated

532/14 **Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on the 5th February 2015

533/14 **Matters Arising from those Minutes:**

- (a) An update with regard to the change of waiting time at the Library Carpark was RECEIVED. Members requested confirmation of what times had been proposed.
- (b) A request from Cllr Medicott with regard to the previous request from Conwy Access to support their request for the Abergele Surgery to hold a stock of hearing aid batteries. **It was RESOLVED to write to the surgery to enquire if they are prepared to hold a stock of batteries and FURTHER RESOLVED to write to the Local Health Board to make further enquires and solutions. It was FURTHER RESOLVED to forward copy AM, MP**
- (c) The Clerk provided an update with regard to the vacancy in Pensarn, stating that the Casual Vacancy is now advertised

534/14 **Correspondence**

- the following items of correspondence were RECEIVE, CONSIDERED and NOTED:

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for March 2015
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees were RECEIVED with an amendment to the Local Government Committee meeting from the 2nd March to the 23rd March, to note that the WW1 and Standing Order meetings are DEFERRED until April and the Parks and Street Scene Committee meeting will commence at 4pm on the 26th March 2015.
- (c) CVSC mail from 12th February 2015 to 26th February 2015
- (d) OVW emails from 12th February 2015 to 26th February 2015
- (e) Emails from CCBC with regard to a road closures. **It was RESOLVED to write to CCBC with regard to Chapel Street road closure expressing the concern raised by the public.**
- (f) An email from BCCHC regarding the Health Watchdog. **It was RESOLVED to write to Minister and Shadow Minister informing that the Council support the principal of the letter but are dismayed by the action by the Community Health Council**
- (g) A report from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report
- (h) A copy of an email from Cllr Wood to CCBC with regard to the Gypsy Travellers site. Members were informed that if the land reverts back to the Kinmel Estate that CCBC are happy to utilise the remainder of the land for the gypsy site.
- (i) A Consultation from CCBC with regard to On-shore Wind Turbine Development Supplementary Planning Guidance was DEFERRED to Local Government Sub Committee
- (j) An email from Pacetelecom with regard to telecom solutions
- (k) An email from OVW with regard to the Draft National Training Strategy 2015-19 was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk completes the questionnaire on behalf of the Council with the comment that members are unable to support the document as many courses are cancelled and this is having a detrimental effect on members wishing to add their names on to courses.**

- (l) An email from OVW with regard to the launch of their new website
- (m) An email from a local resident with regard to defibrillators and an offer to present to members was APPROVED. **It was RESOLVED to thank the resident for their invitation and to inform that a defibrillator is to be installed in Tesco.**
- (n) An email from a local Business with regard to the launch of their loyalty scheme was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED to thank the Business for the offer of their loyalty card but must decline as members of the Council are not able to receive gifts.**
- (o) An email from Welsh Government with regard to the Consultation on Land Transaction Tax was NOTED
- (p) A letter from the Ministry of Justice for information
- (q) An email from Welsh Government with regard to the recent North Wales Transport Plan

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and with Standing Order no.68, it was RESOLVED that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

535/14 **Leave of Absence**

The report to receive and consider authorising a leave of absence for Cllr Morris Roberts was RECEIVED. The Clerk informed members that a letter of resignation had been received from Cllr Roberts and that the process of election had commenced. **It was RESOLVED to write to Mr Roberts to thank him for his service.**

536/14 **Draft Minutes**

The following items from the Confidential Draft Minutes deferred from the Committee were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and NOTED

- (a) Staffing Sub Committee held on the 2nd February 2015
 - (i) Min No: 465/14 (a) was APPROVED
 - (ii) Min No: 466/14 (a) was APPROVED

537/14 **Letter before Claim**

An update from the Clerk with regard to the pending claim by a local business regarding knot weed and to advise the Clerk on how members wish to proceed with this matter (Details on Confidential Minutes)

538/14 **Petty Cash Authorisation**

An authorization letter to the new Town Council's bank to enable officers to be able to cash the Petty Cash was APPROVED

539/14 **Nominations**

- The nominations for the Office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2015/16, in preparation for the Annual Meeting, to be held on 14th May 2014 was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED as follows:

With a unanimous majority, Cllr S Rowlands was offered the role of Town Mayor 2015/16.

Proposed by Cllr J MacLennan

Seconded by Cllr D MacRae

Deputy Mayor for 2015/16

It was proposed in his absence that Cllr Richard Waters in offered the role of Deputy Mayor for 2015/16 and the matter is DEFERRED to the next meeting for confirmation

540/14 **Urgent items**

No urgent items were received.

541/14 **Update from County Councillors**

- Verbal reports from County Councillors was RECEIVED

- a) A ward audit was carried out with the Chief Executive and Cllr MacRae recently and the lack of signage in Lon Ffawydd was highlighted with a visit to Smithy Lane, St George and Kinmel Hall
- b) The 2015/16 Budget was recently approved.

542/14 **Minutes**

- the Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees was RECEIVED:

- (a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 22nd January 2015.
- (b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 22nd January 2015.
- (c) Staffing Sub Committee meeting held on the 28th November 2014
- (d) Local Government Sub Committee meeting held on the 1st December 2014
- (e) Town Guide Sub Committee meeting held on the 12th January 2015
- (f) Town Guide Sub Committee meeting held don the 30th January 2015

543/14 **Documents for Information**

The following documents for information were RECEIVED.

- (a) Draft National Training Strategy
- (b) Play Wales
- (c) Woodberry of Lamington Spa
- (d) A flyer from Aces with their next Murder Mystery

Meeting closed at 9:05pm

Signed
(Chairman)