

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday 6th May 2015 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

656/14 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, B.C. Roberts;
Cllrs: M.D. Bird; J. Hudson; B. Kinsey; D.A. MacRae; G. Maddison; R.M. Medicott;
S. Rowlands; T. Rowlands; R.G. Waters; A. Wood;
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)
Mrs L. Whalley (Administration Officer)
Member of the public

657/14 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: M. Bond; G.P. Davies; J.A. MacLennan; D. Meredith;

658/14 **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).

Declarations of interest were received from:

Cllr A Wood	Min No: 660/14 (f)
Cllr M Medicott	Min No: 660/14(f)
Cllr M Medicott	Min No: 660/14(f)

659/14 **Message of Condolence**

A message of condolence from the Mayor Cllr Brian Roberts following the recent passing of Cllr John Pitt and Cllr Ken Sudlow was RECEIVED. Members stood for a moment silence as mark of respect to both members.

660/14 **Co-option Members for the Council**

- (a) The Chairman welcomed the Candidates for the Pensarn Ward to the Meeting, who then retired to Room 4
- (b) The applications were RECEIVED and CONSIDERED by members for the Pensarn Ward
- (c) Each of the candidates met members individually, and answered a few short questions with regard to becoming a Councillor and then retired to room 4.
- (d) Members voted to elect one of the applicants to fill this vacancy and a unanimous vote for Mrs Judy Hudson was RECEIVED. The remaining candidate returned to the Chamber and was thanked for his time.
- (e) Mrs Judy Hudson returned to the Chamber to complete the Declaration of Acceptance to Office, and took her place in the Chamber for the Meeting.
- (f) Members RECEIVED and CONSIDERED the applications received for the vacant seat on the Gele Ward
- (g) The applications were RECEIVED and CONSIDERED by members for the Gele Ward
- (h) Each of the candidates met members individually, and answered a few short questions with regard to becoming a Councillor and then retired to room 4.

As Cllr Andrew Wood had declared a prejudicial interest with regard to one of the Candidates he retired at this juncture

- (i) Members voted to elect one of the applicants to fill this vacancy and a majority vote for Mrs Gina Maddison was RECEIVED. The remaining candidate was thanked for his time.

Cllr Wood returned at this juncture

- (j) Mrs Gina Maddison returned to the Chamber to complete the Declaration of Acceptance to Office, and took her place in the Chamber for the Meeting.

661/14 **Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record the Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on the 2nd April 2015

662/14 **Matters Arising from those Minutes:**

- (a) An email update from Cllr Waters with regard to the Consultation on the Management Plan Supplementary Planning Guidance was RECEIVED.
- (b) The Clerk provided an update to the email from Fields in Trust with regard the local parks. Members CONSIDERED contacting CCBC to enquire if it is possible to transfer the ownership to ATC. Parc Gele has King George V status, members queried what protection this provided to the park and if Pentre Mawr could obtain Queen Elizabeth II status?
It was RESOLVED to contact OVW for advice on safeguarding open spaces
It was FURTHER RESOLVED to request that Mr Lyn Davies attends a meeting of the Council to discuss the options open to the Town Council to safeguard the future of the parks.
- (c) A copy of white paper response to Reforming Local Government from the following was RECEIVED:
 - i) CCBC
 - ii) OVW
 - iii) Welsh Government
- (d) Confirmation from CCBC with regard to various consultations responses submitted was RECEIVED

663/14 **Correspondence**

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

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for April 2015
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees
- (c) CVSC mail from 10th April 2015 to 30th April 2015
- (d) OVW emails from 10th April 2015 to 30th April 2015
- (e) An email from OVW with regard to Workforce Matters and outsourcing
- (f) An email from OVW with regard to an Event on the Future Generations Act
- (g) A letter from Darren Millar AM with regard to Maternity Services in Ysbyty Glan Clwyd
- (h) An email from Conwy Rural Forum
- (i) An email from Cllr MacRae for members consideration was RECEIVED
- (j) The subscription for DVSC was APPROVED.
- (k) A schedule of surgeries for CAB was NOTED
- (l) An email and letter from CCBC with regard to funding CCTV was RECEIVED and NOTED

- (m) An email from CCBC with regard to the electronic publication of information from 1st May. The Clerk informed members that a register of interests proforma will be distributed for completion and the information will be added to the website in due course. The Clerk further informed members that under section 5 (c) of the legislation that there will be a need for the Town Council to publish its correspondence file on the website. The Clerk will clarify what information can and cannot be released and will update members.
- (n) An email from OVW with regard to their Larger Councils conference was RECEIVED. The membership of outside organisations will be considered at the next meeting.
- (o) A letter from SP Manweb with regard to the notice of acceptance of an application for a development consent order for the North Wales wind farms Connection order. **It was RESOLVED to write to SP Manweb to express that the cables should be installed underground and not over ground.**
- (p) A letter from Ombudsman Wales with regard to Code of Conduct was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk print off a copy of the document and returns to the next meeting**
- (q) A letter from TV Licensing was NOTED
- (r) A thank you letter from OVW regarding the 2015/16 subscription was NOTED

664/14 **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.**

An update letter from the Town Council's solicitor with regard to the Japanese Knotweed was considered and recorded on the Confidential Minutes herewith.

665/14 **Nominations**

- The nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor for 2015/16, in preparation for the Annual Meeting, to be held on 14th May 2014 were CONSIDERED. Members were informed that Cllr John MacLennan had agreed to accept the role of Deputy Mayor for 2015/16 but is unable to attend the Annual Meeting. The Clerk informed members that guidance from the SLCC and OVW had stated that the Deputy Mayor does not have to be present but must sign the declaration at the earliest opportunity, no later than the first Ordinary Meeting.
Cllr MacRae will propose Cllr MacLennan and Cllr Water will second.
Cllr Bird will propose the Mayor Elect and Cllr Medicott will second.

666/14 **Town Council Standing Orders**

The revised Standing Orders of the Council forwarded from the Task & Finish group in preparation for the Annual Meeting on the 14th May 2015 were APPROVED.

667/14 **Membership of Committees for 2015/16**

The appointment of the Chairman and Vice Chairman for the General Purpose and Planning and Policy and Finance Committees for 2015/16 was CONSIDERED in preparation for the Annual Meeting. **It was RESOLVED to appoint the Vice Chairman of the GP&P Cllr Bond and P&F Cllr Waters as the Chairmen for the forthcoming municipal year. It was FURTHER RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Tim Rowlands as Vice Chairman of the GP&P and Cllr MacRae as Vice Chairman of the P&F Committees**

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Update from County Councillors

- A verbal report was RECEIVED from County Councillors present as follows:

- (a) A letter from CCBC Cabinet to the local press with regard to the Gypsy Site and a call for further sites. No progress in the short term.
- (b) A full explanation on the points system for Gypsy sites is expected
- (c) More matters are to be devolved to the Standards Committee to speed up the processes
- (d) A special meeting of the County Council took place to discuss the White paper and the general feeling is to oppose the paper. The Minister will address the boundary changes at a meeting of the WGLA on the 18th June 2015
- (e) Cllr S Rowlands informed members that he has stepped down from the Fostering panel due to taking on the role of Mayor of Abergele for the next municipal year
- (f) Audit will take place at the end of May

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Minutes

The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were RECEIVED:

- (a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 19th March 2015.
- (b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 19th March 2015.
- (c) Local Government Sub Committee held 12th February 2015
- (d) Newsletter Sub-Committee held 2nd March 2015
- (e) Town Guide Sub-Committee held 6th February 2015

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Documents for Information

The following documents for information were NOTED

- a) OVW – the Voice
- b) CCBC – Culture Centre
- c) SP Manweb location Map

Meeting closed at 9:05pm

Signed
(Chairman)