

3.

Abergele Town Council

DRAFT MINUTES

A meeting of the GENERAL PURPOSES and PLANNING COMMITTEE, held at 6.45 p.m. on Thursday, 19th October, 2006 in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

9609. **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, Cllr. C.J. MacRae
Cllrs: C.A. Billington; G.R.K. Brown; G.P. Davies; D.A. MacRae; R. MacRae;
M. Medlicott; J.D. Mortimer (see Min. 9613(o)); B.C. Roberts; K.J. Sudlow;
R.G. Waters
Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)

9610. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs: M. Bird; D.A. Byrne; R. Peacock; J. Stubbs

9611. **Disclosure of Interest**

None recorded.

9612. **It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the GENERAL PURPOSES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE, held on 21st September, 2006**

9613. **Matters Arising on Those Minutes :**

a) Min. 9561(a) -Town Council Website

The following advice received from the Monitoring Officer of C.C.B.C. was NOTED:

'Although there is no obligation to include individual members' contact details on the website or in the newsletter, it is good practice and within the spirit of being an elected member to have an e-mail address, home address or telephone number publicly available.'

The Monitoring officer suggests that the Council seeks advice from a local association (e.g. One Voice Wales) if individual Members still have concerns.'

It was further NOTED that the contact details for all members are already publicly available on the Conwy County Borough Council website.

It was RESOLVED that individual members contact the Clerk if they wish to amend the contact details published on the Town Council's website.

b) Min. 9561(b) - Replacement of Beacon at Pensarn Beach

It was RESOLVED to delegate authority to the Clerk, in conjunction with the Mayor, Cllr. C.J. MacRae, to order concrete for the base of the rock, up to a maximum cost of £100 and to thank Cllr. MacRae for his offer of assistance in dressing the base of the rock.

4.

c) Min. 9561(c) – ‘Designed for North Wales’ and implications for Abergele Hospital

(i) A response from the Community Health Council Federation thanking this Council for supporting its rejection of the plan ‘Design for North Wales’ as it presently stands was NOTED.

(ii) **It was RESOLVED to receive and endorse a press release submitted to the Visitor by the Clerk following concerns expressed by the Abergele Hospital League of Friends that this Council had made no mention of the fight to save the hospital in its quarterly newsletter.**

It was NOTED that the Community Care Sub-Committee had requested that the Clerk contact the League of Friends to discuss their concerns and update them on recent action taken by this Council.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to thank the Editor of the Visitor for their assistance in the recent campaign to save the hospital.

d) Min. 9561(d) – Claimed Footpath near Tower Hill

This item was DEFERRED in the absence of Cllr. J.E.H. Pitt.

e) Min. 9561(e) – Traffic Calming

It was NOTED that no response had been received to date to the letter sent by the Clerk on 27th September.

f) Min. 9561(g) - Footpath No. 6 (Woodland Estate)

It was NOTED with concern that the recent request for improvements to this footpath had been passed back to the maintenance budget, which has been cut and is insufficient to cover the work required.

It was RESOLVED to write back to Mr. Lord to request that this work be considered as an ‘improvement’ to the footpath and therefore be funded from his own budget.

g) Min. 9561(i) – Open Watercourse – Eldon Drive

(i) It was NOTED that the County Council ward members have not yet met with Cllr. Mike Priestley to progress this matter up the agenda and look at possible solutions.

(ii) It was NOTED that the Environment Agency state that they have no authority over this watercourse, which is not a main river, and are not therefore able to get involved.

(iii) A copy of a letter sent by David Jones, M.P., to the Head of Environmental and Technical Services urging that immediate consideration be given to culverting this watercourse was RECEIVED.

5.

(iv) A further letter from Mr Jones, a resident of Eldon Drive, was also NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to write again to state that it would be a waste of money to fence this watercourse, with the only permanent solution to the ongoing problems being to culvert it, and to seek further information regarding the cost of culverting and the amount of money available in the drainage budget this year.

h) Min. 9561(j) – Withdrawal of Post Office Card Account

A copy of a letter sent to the Secretary of State by Alun Pugh, AM, in response to concerns expressed by this Council and other constituents, was NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to write to the Secretary of State for the Department for Work and Pensions again, to state the ongoing concerns of this Council.

i) Min. 9561(l) –The Mount

(i) It was NOTED that the Clerk has not yet received any update on progress with the landscaping of the parcel of land to be transferred to this council.

(ii) It was NOTED with concern that no response has yet been received to the letter sent to Environmental & Technical Services regarding fly tipping and litter in The Mount area, which was sent on 28th July and chased on 27th September.

During a site visit to discuss Safer Routes to School held on 17th October, it was NOTED that litter and fly tipping in the River Gele and surrounding area is still a problem, which not only spoils the appearance of this open area, but could become a flood risk.

It was RESOLVED to write again to chase a response to this Council's request that the area be included on a regular litter picking round and that the fly tipping be dealt with.

j) Min. 9561(m) – Proposed Transfer of Housing Stock by C.C.B.C.

A report by the Clerk from the presentation on Monday 9th October by Mr Andrew Bowden, Head of Social Care and Housing, and the Chairman of the Housing Options Task & Finish Group was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to thank the Clerk for her comprehensive report.

k) Min. 9561(n) – Abergele Bus Services

A further response from Bob Saxby detailing the cost of introducing extended services for routes 43 and 48 and plans to introduce these from May 2007 was NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to write to thank Mr Saxby and to state that this Council looks forward to the improvements being implemented.

6.

l) Min. 9562(f) - Abergele War Memorials

- (i) A further letter from Mr. Lovelock requesting photographs of the Town Hall and Community Centre War Memorials was NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to supply Mr Lovelock with any further information available regarding these and other Memorials in the town.

- (ii) It was NOTED that work to re-pave the base of the Memorial in St. Michael's churchyard has now been completed and that favourable comments had been received.

It was RESOLVED to write to the contractor to thank him for completing the works.

- (iii) Concerns were expressed about possible damage to the newly laid paving stones in St. Michael's churchyard from vehicles driving in to the church grounds through the narrow grade I listed Lych gate.

It was proposed by Cllr. C.J. MacRae that a letter submitted by him be sent to the Parish Church Council to advise them that if this practice continues, this Council can not be held responsible for any future damage to the paving slabs surrounding the base of the Memorial.

It was RESOLVED that the letter be sent.

m) Min. 9562(g) - Conwy Local Development Plan

- (i) A brief verbal report was given by Cllr. G.R.K. Brown on the seminar held at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday 10th October in Bodlondeb. It was NOTED that details on the Preferred Strategy were also available in the local press and on the County Council's website and that the consultation on this would be ongoing until 22nd November.

- (ii) Members RECEIVED a copy of the Conwy Local Development Plan Preferred Strategy and Response Form (see separate file) and it was NOTED that copies of the following background papers are available from the Clerk:

Paper 1 – Related Plans and Strategies (43 pages)

Paper 2 – Population and Household Projections (8 pages)

Paper 3 – Options Report (43 pages)

Paper 4 – Conwy Urban Land Capacity Study (15 pages)

Paper 6 – The European Habitats Directive and Natura 2000 sites (19 pages)

Paper 7 – Employment Land Availability (19 pages)

and that Paper 5 – The Sustainability Appraisal – is available on request from the Development Plan team.

It was RESOLVED to REFER these documents to the Local Government Sub-Committee for further consideration and to draft a response.

7.

n) Min. 9562(j) – Room Hire Enquiry

A request from Llandudno Magistrates Court to book rooms to hold two family court cases in Abergele Town Hall in March and May 2007 was considered.

Concerns were expressed regarding possible disruption to the Employment Tribunal Service, which may have to seek alternative accommodation on these dates, and also regarding the security of the premises and its suitability as a court now other staff are based in the building.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk find out more information regarding which rooms would be used and what security measures would be required.

o) Min. 9564 – Dog Fouling

It was NOTED that C.C.B.C. had recently implemented new procedures for categorising areas and frequency of visits by the dog wardens and that Pentre Mawr Park was listed as category B, which means it is considered 'bad' and will receive weekly visits. A record of visits and fixed penalty notices issued would be maintained.

- Cllr. J.D. Mortimer arrived at this juncture.

p) Min. 9565 – Sale of Land at Maes y Dre

A response from Mr Andrew Bowden, Head of Social Care and Housing, advising that the proceeds from the sale of Housing Revenue Account land have to be returned to the Housing Revenue Account and that the use of these moneys is restricted by legislation was NOTED.

9614. **Correspondence:**

a) Remembrance Day Parade

Details of this year's parade, which will take place on Sunday 12th November, were RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to contact the Royal British Legion to request that clarification be sought as to the most suitable site to take the salute.

It was NOTED that wreaths would also be available for the services at St. George and St. David's churches.

b) Conwy Voluntary Services Council

It was NOTED that the A.G.M. is to be held on 27th October 2006 at 2 pm in the Llanwrst Community Centre and that a copy of the papers has been given to Cllr. G.P. Davies.

8.

c) North Wales Play & Playing Fields Association

It was NOTED that the A.G.M. is to be held at Faenol Fawr, Bodelwyddan, on 15th November 2006 at 7 pm and that a copy of the papers has been given to Cllr. D.A. Byrne.

d) Local Councils Update

A copy of Issue 84 – October 2006 was RECEIVED.

e) Conwy County Borough Council Refuse Collections

A copy of a letter sent to the Rhyl Journal by an Abergele resident complaining about a recent letter about recycling issued by CCBC was NOTED.

f) Welsh Language Board

An invitation to an open evening in Llanwrst on Thursday 2nd November was RECEIVED.

g) Temporary Traffic Restriction Orders

(i) An Order made by the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks to prohibit traffic either eastbound or westbound from the A55 Trunk Road between St.Asaph and Abergele was NOTED.

Concern was expressed regarding the intention to close one side of the carriageway completely and the effect this would have on the diversion routes.

It was RESOLVED to write to the Welsh Assembly to query why a contraflow system could not be used whilst the carriageway resurfacing works are done, as has been used during other recent works on the A55, and to seek full details of the timescale of the proposed works.

(ii) It was NOTED that a section of Ffordd Tan-y-Gopa, south of the entrance to Tan-yr-Allt, would be closed from 23/10/06 to 27/10/06 between 09:00 and 16:00 for work by Anwyl Construction.

h) Conwy Local Health Board – Consultation regarding an application to provide pharmaceutical services

It was NOTED that an application had been made to the LHB by K & F Jones of Moelwyn Pharmacy Ltd, Blaenau Ffestiniog, to provide pharmaceutical services from premises at the North Wales Business Park, Abergele. Background information regarding the need for a 3rd pharmacy and the services proposed at the site was RECEIVED.

It was PROPOSED to respond that the Council has no objections in principle to another pharmacy entering into the process to apply to provide services from the Business Park.

9.

This was CARRIED by a majority of 7 FOR, 3 AGAINST and 1 ABSTENTION.

i) Annual Leave

It was NOTED that the Clerk is on leave from Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November. Members were reminded that the next Ordinary meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday 9th November.

9615. **Abergele Carnival**

It was RESOLVED to DEFER discussion of this item to allow Cllr. Jean Stubbs to be present to give further details regarding her proposal that the Council should be involved in the organisation of the annual carnival.

9616. **Planning / Licensing Applications**

- a) The planning applications as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached were considered and concluded as recorded on that schedule.
- b) The planning decisions issued by C.C.B.C. for the Abergele area between 25th September and 8th October 2006 were NOTED.
- c) It was NOTED that one licensing application was registered by C.C.B.C. for the Abergele area from 2nd to 13th October, for the Mayor's charity musical evening on 28th October.

There were no objections to this application and members were requested to return any requests for tickets for this event as soon as possible.

The Meeting Closed at 8.25 p.m.

..... Chairman

Abergele Town Council

SCHEDULE 'A'

Planning applications considered on Thursday 19 October 2006

0/32432 Reduce 1no. Lime tree by 35% at 12 Lon y Dail, Abergele

Applicant(s): Mr Smith

Conclusion(s): Endorse Tree Warden's observations – see attached

0/32443 Extension to dwelling and retention of conservatory at 31 Min y Don
Abergele

Applicant(s): Mr J R Jones

Conclusion(s): No objections

0/32482 Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed use for erection of garage for use
with residential dwelling at Tan y Bryn Lodge, Ffordd y Berth, Abergele

Applicant(s): Mr P Davies

Conclusion(s): No comments – uncertain as to the direction of this application

0/32493 Extensions and alterations to dwelling at Tan yr Onnen, Foxhole
(Twill Llwynog), Abergele

Applicant(s): Mrs M Taylor

Conclusion(s): No objections – however, re-positioning of gas storage will
require Health & Safety considerations.
