

3.

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the GENERAL PURPOSES and PLANNING COMMITTEE, held at 6.45 p.m. on Thursday, 22nd June, 2006 in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

9420. **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, Cllr. C.J. MacRae

Cllr. G.R.K. Brown (Chairman)

Cllrs: C.A. Billington; M. Bird; D.A. Byrne; G.P. Davies; D.A. MacRae; R. MacRae; M. Medlicott; B.C. Roberts; J. Stubbs; R.G. Waters (see Min. 9425(d))

Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)

9421. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs: J.A. MacLennan; J. Mortimer; R. Peacock

9422. **Disclosure of Interest**

Cllr. G.P. Davies – see Min. 9246(a)

9423. **It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the GENERAL PURPOSES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE, held on 18th May, 2006**

9424. **Matters Arising on Those Minutes :**

a) Min. 9351(a) -Town Council Website

It was NOTED that the domain 'abergeletowncouncil.gov.uk' is now active and work is in progress on uploading pages. These will be circulated to members for checking prior to 'going live'.

It was FURTHER NOTED that Adobe software would be required, as used by Conwy County Borough Council and authorised by this Council on 18th February, and that this had now been sourced at a reduced price.

b) Min. 9351(b) - Proposed Removal of Brazier at Pensarn Beach

It was NOTED that the Clerk had had discussions with Andrew Wilkinson, C.C.B.C., and was awaiting further information on whether tree cutting equipment could be used or if an outside contractor would need to be brought in to remove the structure.

c) Min. 9351(c) – Eyesore at Glanrafon

It was NOTED with satisfaction that this had now been removed.

4.

d) Min. 9351(e) –Abergele Bus Services

- (i) Members considered the map and timetables received detailing the new summer timetable for the bus services currently operating in the Abergele area, the original enquiry and the response from Mr Bob Saxby.

It was NOTED that no changes had been made to any of the services following the points raised.

It was RESOLVED to write again to Mr Saxby to seek his further comments on this.

- (ii) Any response to the request for an additional bus stop at Smithy Cottages, near St. George.

It was RESOLVED to write again to request a response and to query whether Arriva drivers are obliged to stop in more rural areas without a formal bus stop being required.

e) Min. 9351(f) – Abergele Hospital

- (i) Cllr. B.C. Roberts gave a verbal report from the special meeting held recently with Andrew Butters, arranged by the N.W.A.T.C., and issued a copy of the presentation to members.

Concerns raised at this meeting included; problems travelling to the three main sites; the community infrastructure not being in place to support the proposals; the presumption that local doctors would be happy to accept additional responsibilities; how funding would be secured for the major works which would be required.

Cllr. Roberts was thanked for his attendance and report.

- (ii) It was NOTED that the Abergele Visitor had agreed to run a campaign, on behalf of the town council, to seek the views of residents on the proposed changes.

It was RESOLVED to write to the Editor to thank him for his support in running the campaign and to forward the responses on to the Project Manager.

- (iii) A response from the W.A.G. to an enquiry about the deeds to the hospital site was NOTED.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk would make further enquiries with the Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust.

f) Min. 9351(g) –Claimed Footpath near Tower Hill

It was NOTED that Cllr. Pitt had requested that the previous file on this should be retrieved from the County archives.

5.

g) Min. 9351(i) – Traffic Calming

A response from Highways Department regarding the four routes identified as requiring some form of traffic calming measures was NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to ask Gary Ashton of North Wales Police to comment on the proposals by CCBC to develop a policy on 20 mph speed limits and give further details as to why the police, at this time, are unable to provide enforcement.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to write to request up to date information on what funds are raised from the Arrive Alive campaign, where these funds go and what they are used for.

h) Min. 9351(j) – Temporary Traffic Regulations (Water Mains works)

It was NOTED that C.C.B.C. will be considering in July the need for free parking at Water Street car park for the duration of the water mains works in September.

It was FURTHER NOTED that a public meeting is to be held on Wednesday 16th August regarding the road closures and traffic management issues for the September works.

A brief discussion took place regarding the new timing of the town centre traffic lights and the impact this was having on journey times and safety at both junctions.

It was RESOLVED to write to Highways to request an explanation of the changes made recently to the timing of both sets of lights and raise concerns about the safety aspect.

i) Min. 9351(l) – Casual Vacancy

It was NOTED that two nominations had been received and that an election would therefore be called for Thursday 13th July.

j) Min. 9351(m) – Planning Applications

Members NOTED a response to the letter sent to the Head of Planning, C.C.B.C., regarding concerns that a decision had already been made on planning application 0/31652 before expiry of the consultation period.

It was RESOLVED to DEFER any further discussion on this pending any further information from the original complainant.

k) Min. 9352(f) – The Mount

The Clerk gave a brief verbal report from a recent site meeting held with the project manager and Cllrs: D.A. Byrne, D.A. MacRae and B.C. Roberts to discuss the landscaping works.

6.

It was NOTED that the area would be rotavated and re-seeded prior to transfer to the council to ease ongoing maintenance.

9425. Correspondence:

a) Defective Footpaths

- (i) A further response from Alan Thomas regarding defective footpaths initially reported in November 2005 and advising that all footway works in Abergele, except for emergency repairs, had been delayed for 12 months to allow Welsh Water to complete their mains renewal programme, was NOTED.

It was FURTHER NOTED that the Eldon Drive link path is not an adopted footway and responsibility for maintenance lies with the Parks Department.

It was RESOLVED to write to the Chief Executive to request his assistance in ensuring in future that correspondence sent to one department of the Council is forwarded directly to any other relevant department rather than being returned to the sender.

- (ii) Members then considered correspondence from Cllr. G.R.K. Brown regarding concerns raised with Highways about footpaths in the Woodlands Estate.

It was NOTED that the problem paths are on the old part of the estate.

It was RESOLVED to write to Ian Lord to request a satisfactory solution be found to the problems raised, which include a poor surface and overgrowth (a particular hazard for taller people), which gives an untidy appearance and encourages litter to collect.

b) Rural Development for Wales, 2007-2013

(i) Consultation Draft

It was NOTED that a very large separate consultation document has been received and that copies available from the Clerk on request.

- (ii) A Consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment – Executive Summary for the above was also NOTED.

c) Conwy Voluntary Services Council:

It was NOTED that the following documents had been received:

- (i) E-mail Information Service – June 2006
(ii) Circulation 65 – June 2006 (copies available from the Clerk)

d) Quality Assurance of General Practitioner with Special Interest Services

A separate file regarding the development of GPwSI services within the NHS in Wales was NOTED.

- Cllr. R.G. Waters arrived at this juncture.

7.

It was RESOLVED to write to the Abergele Surgery to query whether they intend to develop any new Special Interest Services.

- e) It was NOTED that a letter of thanks had been received from Cllr. Linda Groom, past Chairman of Conwy County Borough Council.
- f) It was NOTED that a Meeting of the National Assembly North Wales Regional Committee will take place on Friday 7th July at 10am in Northop and that the subject will be Crime Prevention and Anti-Social Behaviour.
- g) Colwyn Bay Carnival

A letter from Alun Pritchard, Marketing Officer (Events) regarding the resurrection of the Colwyn Bay carnival was NOTED.

- h) Sport Relief Mile

Details of the events taking place on 15th July were NOTED.

- i) Electoral Arrangements in Wales

A consultation document issued by the Local Government and Public Services Committee of the W.A.G. was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to REFER this to the Local Government Sub-Committee for consideration.

- j) Open Watercourse – Eldon Drive

A letter sent to The Mayor by Mr Jones of Eldon Drive regarding ongoing health and safety concerns with the open watercourse adjacent to his property was NOTED with concern.

It was RESOLVED:

- (i) **To write to Mr Jones to inform him that this Council shares his concerns and, although this Council is powerless to act itself, it will be taking the action detailed below.**
- (ii) **To write to the Chief Executive of CCBC, with a copy to the A.M. and M.P., to highlight these concerns and request his intervention in this matter.**
- (iii) **To send a copy of this letter to the new Member for the Environment, Cllr. Mike Priestley and request he visits the watercourse.**

- k) Conwy CHC Joint Meeting

It was NOTED that a special joint meeting will be held on Monday 26th June to discuss the Secondary Care Review.

8.

l) Review of Local Public Services in Wales

It was NOTED that a report of the review is to be launched on Monday 10th July in the Cwmaman Institute, Aberdare.

9426. **Planning / Licensing Applications**

- a) The planning applications detailed on Schedule 'A' attached were discussed and concluded as recorded on that schedule.

- Cllr. G.P. Davies declared an interest and took no part in the discussion on application 0/31972.

County Councillors J. Stubbs and R.G. Waters took no part in the discussion on planning applications.

- b) The planning decisions issued by C.C.B.C. for the Abergele area between the 22nd May and 4th June, 2006, as detailed on Schedule 'B' attached, were NOTED.
- c) Members had no objections to any licensing applications registered by C.C.B.C. for the Abergele area between 5th and 16th June.

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

..... Chairman