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Abergele Town Council

DRAFT MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on Thursday 7th September, 2006, at 6.45 p.m. in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

9540. **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, Cllr. C.J. MacRae (Chairman)

Cllrs: C.A. Billington; M. Bird; G.R.K. Brown; G.P. Davies; J.A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; J.D. Mortimer; J.E.H. Pitt; B.C. Roberts; J. Stubbs; K.J. Sudlow; R.G. Waters

9541. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs: D.A. Byrne; R. MacRae; M. Medlicott; R. Peacock

9542. **Declaration of Interest**

Cllr. J.A. MacLennan (see Min. 9545(d))

9543. **Police Liaison**

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE the notes from the police liaison meeting, held on Tuesday 5th September.

It was NOTED that, in accordance with Standing Order No. 36a), the decision of the Council not to provide funding towards the purchase of a speed gun cannot be reversed within six months, unless a special resolution bearing the names of at least four members is proposed and carried.

An invitation to join P.C. Duffy on a walkabout at 7 p.m. on Friday 8th September was NOTED. Concern was expressed about possible danger to Members, should P.C. Duffy encounter any problems.

It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that future walkabouts should be arranged earlier in the day.

9544. **Condolences**

It was noted with sadness that Cllr. Peter Murray had recently passed away.

It was RESOLVED to send a letter of condolence to Towyn and Kinmel Bay Town Council.

a) **It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6th July, 2006.**

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9545. Matters Arising on Those Minutes:

- a) Min. 9456(s) – Damaged Milestone

It was RESOLVED to contact Alan Thomas, CCBC Highways , to state the dissatisfaction of the Council with the proposal to re-set the damaged milestone.

- b) Min. 9454 – Proposed Transfer of Housing Stock

(i) It was NOTED that Mr Andrew Bowden, Head of Housing Services, and Cllr. Dilwyn Roberts, Chairman of the Housing Options task & Finish Group, were due to be making a presentation to the Council on Monday 11th September at 6.30 p.m.

It was RESOLVED to DEFER this presentation, as a number of Members are unavailable on the 11th September.

(ii) A copy of the 'Conwy Bulletin' newsletter for tenants and leaseholders of C.C.B.C. was RECEIVED.

- c) Min. 9456(a) – Request for 'No Entry' Signs at Tesco Roundabout

It was NOTED that a further letter has been sent by Highways to Tesco to follow-up the request 'No Entry' signage at the exit onto the roundabout.

- d) Min. 9456(b) – Water Street Car Park Charges

- Cllr. J.A. MacLennan declared an interest, as Chairman of the Task & Finish Group set up by C.C.B.C.

It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Task & Finish Group has been delayed to allow time for meetings with two town councils.

- e) Min. 9456(c) - Town Centre Traffic Management

It was NOTED that the contractor had adjusted the timing of the lights on 26th July to allow additional traffic through from Water Street. This is on a sensor and will adjust back automatically when traffic flow is lighter.

It was RESOLVED to DEFER further consideration of the timing of the traffic lights until the town centre water mains works are complete.

- f) Min. 9456(d) - Water Mains Refurbishment Work

It was NOTED that the water mains works and town centre road closures were underway and that Water Street was due to re-open tomorrow.

It was FURTHER NOTED that Abergele had been incorrectly spelt on a diversion sign and that this would be reported to Highways.

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g) Min. 9456(e) - Public Conveniences Review

It was RESOLVED to chase an update on the proposed closure / transfer of the Water Street conveniences from Environmental Services, C.C.B.C.

h) Min. 9456(f) - Speed Limits

A response from the Highways department regarding the two ongoing issues was considered.

(i) It was NOTED that the proposed introduction of a 40mph limit on the A548 and the objections of this Council had not yet been reported to Cabinet.

(ii) **It was RESOLVED to write to confirm that the Council does wish to pursue the introduction of a reduced speed limit in St. George (preferably 20mph, due to the school and lack of pavements).**

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to request further details of the actual speeds through the village, as the 85th percentile figures given provide no indication of the speed of the 15% of vehicles which were exceeding 31.7mph.

i) Min. 9456(g) - C.C.T.V.

A response from the Public Protection Dept detailing the cost of providing a new link and camera for Pentre Mawr Park ((£24,000 initially, plus £2,000 per annum) was considered.

It was RESOLVED to await any future developments with new equipment, which could substantially reduce installation and operational costs.

j) Min. 9456(h) – Photograph Gallery

It was NOTED that the final design has been drawn up and the completed frames should be received shortly.

k) Min. 9456(j) - Abergele Regeneration Team

(i) The minutes of meetings held on 26th July and 2nd August were RECEIVED.

(ii) It was NOTED that two 'litter pick' events had taken place in recent weeks.

(iii) It was RESOLVED to authorise the Clerk to assist with sending out letters about the next meeting, due to the absence of the secretary.

l) Min. 9456(k) –Doctors' Surgery Relocation

(i) It was NOTED that the Local Health Board are still not in a position to submit the Business Case for the surgery to the Assembly. This is being delayed by ongoing discussions between the Developer and District Valuer

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on the rent arrangements, which have not yet been settled. The LHB are anxious for this matter to be resolved as soon as possible, as it is delaying the scheme.

(ii) It was NOTED that the Clerk has been asked to attend a meeting arranged by Conwy L.H.B. on 8th September to hear a complaint about waiting times and the appointments procedures at the current Abergele surgery.

It was RESOLVED that a member of the C.H.C. (possibly Cllr. John MacLennan) should be asked to attend instead of the Clerk.

m) Min. 9456(n) –One Voice Wales

(i) A copy of the Conwy/Denbigh Area Committee Bulletin was RECEIVED.

(ii) It was NOTED that Jane Evans, Regional Officer, will be attending the General Purposes & Planning Committee on 21st September to give an update and answer any questions.

n) Min. 9458(e) - Application to Site Army Cadet Force Hut

A letter from the Leisure and Community Development Service regarding the application submitted by the Clwyd Army Cadet Force and a response sent by the Clerk was NOTED.

o) Min. 9458(i) - Summer Play-schemes

Any report on the recent summer play-schemes, part-funded by this Council, was DEFERRED, due to the absence of Cllr. D.A. Byrne.

p) Min. 9458(l) – North Wales Association of Town Councils

(i) It was NOTED that a copy of the minutes of the recent Annual and Quarterly meetings is available from the Clerk.

(ii) It was NOTED that a Special Meeting will be taking place at the Town Hall on 12th September to discuss health issues with the Minister of Health, Dr. B Gibbons and that Cllrs. J.A. MacLennan and B.C. Roberts hoped to attend.

q) Min. 9458(m) – Communication with Town Councils

It was NOTED that no further update had been received following a letter sent by Bay of Colwyn Town Council to the Chief Executive of C.C.B.C. regarding developing a regular forum to discuss matters of mutual interest with town councils.

It was RESOLVED to request that the North Wales Association of Town & Larger Community Council take up this issue with C.C.B.C., as it affects many member councils.

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- r) Min. 9460(a) – Colwyn Twinning Association

It was NOTED that a copy of the constitution and signed twinning agreement had been received today.

It was RESOLVED to REFER this back to the Twinning Sub-Committee for consideration.

9546. Correspondence:

- a) Neighbourhood Watch

A copy of the July Newsletter was RECEIVED.

- b) Conwy Voluntary Services Council

It was NOTED that a copy of the e-mail information service for July is available from the Clerk.

- c) Clwyd Community Chest

It was NOTED that the Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 27th July and Cllr. G.P. Davies attended on behalf of this Council.

- d) W.A.G. Commissioner for Older People in Wales

It was RESOLVED to REFER the Draft ‘Commissioner for Older People in Wales Regulations’ and the ‘Commissioner for Older People in Wales (Appointment) Regulations’, which are open to public consultation until 20 October, 2006, to the Local Government Sub-Committee.

- e) The Local Authorities (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places) Regulations 2001

It was RESOLVED to accept the current designated areas as sufficient at the present time, subject to amending Dundonald Road to Avenue.

- f) Gambling Act 2005 – Formal Consultation

It was RESOLVED to REFER the Draft Statement of Principles formulated by C.C.B.C. and the consultation questions to the Local Government Sub-Committee for consideration and response.

- g) Local Councils Update

A complimentary copy of the monthly legal resource produced by Clerks and Councils Direct was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to subscribe to the monthly publication for a trial period of one year, at a cost of £60.

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h) Bus Stop Consultation Day

It was NOTED that the Bus Stop Project held a consultation day on 10th August.

i) Police and Community Consultative Group

It was NOTED that the next public meeting will be held on Thursday 14th September at 7.00 p.m. at Bodlondeb, Conwy and that a copy of the minutes of the last meeting is available from the Clerk.

j) Conwy District Citizens Advice Bureau

(i) It was NOTED that the A.G.M. was held on Wednesday 6th September and that the Mayor, Cllr. C.J. MacRae, was unable to attend.

(ii) An invitation for the Council or any of its members to become a member was NOTED.

(iii) It was FURTHER NOTED that a copy of the Annual Report for 2005-06 is available from the Clerk.

k) The Adjudication Panel for Wales – Annual Report 2005-2006

It was NOTED that a copy of the report is available from the Clerk.

l) Cymdeithas Tai Clwyd – Annual Report 2005-2006

It was NOTED that a copy of the report is available from the Clerk.

m) Wales Rural Forum – Resources for Rural Community Development

It was NOTED that a new website has been created www.cefngwlad.org and that a copy of a leaflet advertising the site is available from the Clerk.

n) Active Lifestyles – Community Capital Programme

Members considered any suitable projects which meet the detailed criteria and could be submitted by the very tight deadline of 8th September.

It was RESOLVED to put forward for consideration the proposed perimeter path for Pentre Mawr Park.

o) MacMillan Cancer Support – World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Details of this years event were RECEIVED and NOTED.

p) Environment Agency Wales – New Tidal Flood Warning System

It was NOTED that a request has been received from the Bangor office to make a presentation to the Council on the new tidal flood warning system for the North Wales Coast, which is due to come into operation in October.

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It was FURTHER NOTED that a provisional date of Monday 18th September at 6.00 p.m. had been agreed for the presentation, which will take approximately one hour.

q) Conservation Advisory Panel

It was NOTED that meetings of the Panel took place on 2nd August and 6th September and that Draft Appraisals for St. George and Abergele were considered.

r) Forthcoming Meetings

The dates of forthcoming meetings of the Council were NOTED.

s) Mayor's Diary

The forthcoming engagements of the Mayor were NOTED.

t) Urdd National Eisteddfod

It was NOTED that the event is to be held in the Colwyn District in 2008.

It was RESOLVED that Cllr. Gwyneth Davies will attend a meeting of the fund-raising committee, to be held on Wednesday 13th September.

u) Safer Routes to School

It was NOTED that a School Travel Plan meeting is to be held on Wednesday 13th September, but that Cllr. D.A. MacRae is unfortunately unable to attend.

It was NOTED that Cllrs. R.G. Waters, J.A. MacLennan and J. Stubbs hoped to attend.

v) Fund-raising for Pensarn Community Centre

It was NOTED that a Tramps Supper is to be held at St. David's church room on Friday 8th September at 6.30pm. Tickets are available on the door.

9547. **To Receive the Draft Minutes of the following Sub-Committees:**

- a) The Newsletter Sub-Committee, held on 27th July, 2006
- b) The Community Care Sub-Committee, held on 27th July, 2006
- c) The Executive Sub-Committee, held on 17th August, 2006
- d) The Newsletter Sub-Committee, held on 4th September, 2006
- e) The Community Care Sub-Committee, held on 4th September, 2006

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9548. Matters Arising on Those Minutes:

- a) Min. 9524(c) – Beecham Review of Local Service Delivery

It was NOTED that there is one further place available at the event at Wrexham on 19th September at 10.00 a.m., if anyone wishes to accompany the Clerk.

- b) Min. 9524(f) & 9539 – Llys Onnen

The action taken following the public meeting was NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to ENDORSE the recommendations of the sub-committee, as detailed in Minute No. 9539(v).

- c) Min. 9533 – Newsletter

(i) It was NOTED that the September edition was currently with the printers and was due to be delivered to residents on 27th September.

(ii) **It was RESOLVED to ENDORSE the recommendation of the sub-committee that a copy of the Welsh edition should be posted out on request to residents.**

(iii) It was NOTED that the publishers of the Journal had pulled out of delivery to houses in Pensarn and Belgrano in August.

It was RESOLVED to arrange a separate delivery of the September edition of the Newsletter by Direct 2 Door to houses in Pensarn and Belgrano, at an additional cost of approximately £60.00 and to REFER this to the Newsletter Sub-Committee for further consideration for future editions.

9549. Planning / Licencing

- a) The planning applications, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached, were discussed and concluded as recorded on that schedule.
- b) The planning decisions issued by C.C.B.C. from 31st July to 27th August, 2006, as detailed on Schedule 'B' attached, were NOTED.
- c) A concern that Building Regulation applications are not published and can be passed without any necessary planning permission being obtained was discussed.

It was RESOLVED to write to the Head of Planning to suggest that a copy of the relevant planning approval or an exemption certificate should be included in any application for Building Regulations.

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- d) Two recent licensing applications were considered and no objections were raised:
 - (i) An application for provision of late night refreshments at Pensarn Takeaway.
 - (ii) An application to extend licensing hours for the sale of alcohol, for special events or functions only, at Hesketh House, Bridge Street, Abergele.

The Meeting Closed at 8.20 p.m.

..... Chairman