

### 3.

## Abergele Town Council

### MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council, to be held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2006, at 6.45 p.m. in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

9396. **Attendance Register**

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr. G.P. Davies (Chairman)  
Cllrs: C.A. Billington; M. Bird; R. MacRae; M. Medicott; J.D. Mortimer; J.E.H. Pitt;  
J. Stubbs; R.G. Waters  
Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)

9397. **Apologies for Absence**

The Mayor, Cllr. C.J. MacRae  
Cllrs: G.R.K. Brown; J.A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; B.C. Roberts; R. Peacock

9398. **Declaration of Interest**

None recorded.

9399. **Visitor to the Council**

Nick Rees, Operations Manager, Conwy Community Transport, visited the Council to provide information regarding community transport services provided in the Abergele area.

He gave a brief presentation, including the beginnings of C.C.T. in 1998, when three existing services were combined; shop mobility, dial-a-ride and a voluntary car scheme. The service has grown rapidly since then and now operates two car schemes and nine vehicles from a base in Colwyn Bay. A new base is currently being set up in Llanwrst to cover rural areas.

Services are charged for at the rate of £1 per mile per vehicle, plus £6 per hour for the driver. The aim is that the service pays for itself and does not rely on grant income. However, grants are sourced to pay for new vehicles. Income last year totalled approximately £250,000 and around 25,000 passengers used the service. It is available to any person unable to access public transport and regular users include the elderly, disabled, youth groups and residents isolated in more rural areas.

Future plans include hopes to expand into the Abergele area, as the cost of bringing vehicles from Colwyn Bay currently makes the service too expensive for passengers. It is hoped that in the next couple of years a vehicle could be based in Abergele, possibly at Awel y Mor, subject to grant monies being found.

The only services currently available in this area are the voluntary car scheme and a W.A.G. initiative 'Supporting People', which provides a weekly shopping service to clients in their own homes, need assessed by Social Services.

## 4.

There is currently a waiting list in the County of 30 people for this service.

A short question and answer session followed. Mr Rees was thanked by the Chairman for attending and giving an informative presentation and he retired from the meeting.

### 9400. **Police Liaison**

The Police Liaison report from the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June was RECEIVED and discussed.

Cllr. Bird confirmed that the 7.5 tonne restriction did apply to the road to St. George and not just Gors Road and requested that this be policed.

A further discussion took place regarding severe traffic problems in the town on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June, which had not been mentioned. There were concerns that no police had been seen and that traffic seemed to have been diverted off the A55, despite assurance that this would not happen whilst the water mains works were underway.

### 9401. **It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2006 and circulated to Members beforehand.**

#### 9402. **Matters Arising on Those Minutes:**

##### a) Min. 9321(a) – Tesco Boundary Wall

It was NOTED that Sgt. Craig Jones is following this up and is currently in talks with Tesco and the Church to seek a satisfactory solution.

##### b) Min. 9323(a) – Tesco Roundabout

A response from Tesco regarding the reported incidents of vehicles using the exit road to gain access to the site was NOTED.

**It was RESOLVED to forward a copy of this to Highways.**

##### c) Min. 9323(b) – Water Street Car Park Charges

As no further update was available, it was resolved to DEFER this item.

##### d) Min. 9323(c) – Town Centre Traffic Problems

###### (i) Town Centre Traffic Management

It was NOTED that a contractor was planned to be on site on 7<sup>th</sup> June to try some amended timings at Chapel Street junction traffic lights, to improve the right turn movement.

## 5.

### (ii) Water Mains Refurbishment Work

- It was NOTED that a new schedule of works has now been agreed, following a further meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> May. A copy was issued to each member, for information.

- It was FURTHER NOTED that a request had been received from the contractor for Welsh Water for suggestions for something they could put back into the community when the work is complete (e.g. benches with a small plaque indicating who donated them).

Several ideas were put forward, including the perimeter path in Pentre Mawr Park, improvements to the Water Street toilets or new benches to replace those damaged.

**It was RESOLVED to enquire about how much funds were available, before making any firm recommendation.**

#### e) Min. 9323(d) - Public Conveniences Review

It was NOTED that no further update had been received.

#### f) Min. 9323(e) - Speed Limits

It was NOTED that no further update had been received.

#### g) Min. 9323(f) - C.C.T.V.

It was NOTED that a radio link into the existing Peel Street camera was not possible and that the CCTV Consultant would undertake a feasibility study to look at other alternatives.

It was FURTHER NOTED that the CCTV Task & Finish Group of CCBC had agreed to invite representatives from the town councils where CCTV is operating to future meetings.

**It was RESOLVED that one of the County Councillors would be requested to attend the next meeting, if held at short notice.**

#### h) Min. 9323(g) – Photograph Gallery

It was NOTED that a quotation was still awaited.

#### i) Min. 9323(h) - Fire Service

It was NOTED that no further update had been received regarding the plans to modernise the North Wales Fire Service, although recent press reports indicated that the proposal to remove the aerial ladder platform from Llandudno had been abandoned, due to concerns about extended response times.

## 6.

### j) Min. 9323(j) – Abergele Regeneration Team

A brief verbal report from the meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June was given by Cllr. R.G. Waters.

It was NOTED that the team's priorities are to commission a feasibility study and approve a formal constitution. These would be required before any funding could be obtained. Shane Wetton of Rural Community Action was assisting with this.

### k) Min. 9323(l) –Doctors' Surgery Relocation

(i) Any report from the Primary Care Estate Strategy workshop held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May (Cllrs: J.A. MacLennan; R. Peacock)

This item was DEFERRED, due to the absence of Cllrs. MacLennan and Peacock.

(ii) It was NOTED that a meeting of the Doctors' Surgery Focus Group is to be held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June.

### l) Min. 9323(m) –Police Reform in Wales

A report from the consultation meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> May was given by Cllr, M. Bird.

It was NOTED that the Chief Constables of the Welsh forces and the Home Secretary are still in favour of the merger plans, but that everyone else is against it.

Cllr. Bird also reported concerns that North Wales Police have suspended recruiting this year due to a vast overspend on a new computer system, which would not be compatible with the other three Welsh forces if the merger were to go ahead.

### m) Min. 9323(n) – Associations

(i) A.L.L.C.

It was NOTED that no information had yet been received from the A.L.L.C. regarding membership.

(ii) One Voice Wales

- A letter from One Voice Wales giving details of the new North Wales Regional Officer was NOTED.

- An Extract of the Minutes of the National Assembly for Wales Local Government and Public Services Committee was RECEIVED and NOTED.

## 7.

n) Min. 9323(o) – Grievance and Disciplinary Policy

It was NOTED that progress has been made on an initial draft which will be reviewed by the Clerk and Cllrs. J. Mortimer and J.A. MacLennan prior to circulation at a future meeting.

o) Min. 9323(q) - Proposals for Naming of Streets

It was NOTED that the current policy of Conwy County Borough Council for new street names is that Welsh names that have some direct connection with the area of land are used, wherever possible. However, C.C.B.C. has no control over the names developers choose to use to advertise their properties.

p) Min. 9323(t) – Casual Vacancy

It was NOTED that the required requests by ten electors for an election to fill the vacancy had been received and that the closing date for nominations was noon on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June. If the election is contested, the poll will take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July and individual poll cards would cost approximately £600.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr. C. Billington that individual poll cards should not be requested, should the election be contested. This was not seconded.

**An AMENDED PROPOSAL was made by Cllr. J.E.H. Pitt that poll cards should be issued. This was CARRIED by a MAJORITY of eight votes FOR and one AGAINST.**

q) Min. 9323(u) – Damaged Wall – Glanrafon

It was NOTED that the letter sent by this Council regarding the damaged capping stones had now been passed on to Alan Thomas, local Highways Inspector, as this was not a structural wall. No response has yet been received.

r) Min. 9324(i) – Listed Buildings

(i) A response from Planning declining the request for a copy of the full register was NOTED.

(ii) It was NOTED that an acknowledgement had been received to the request sent to CADW (and copied to planning) for an old Abergele property to be spot listed.

s) Min. 9324(l) – Good Practice Guide

**It was RESOLVED to DEFER any discussion on the W.A.G. guide, copies of which have now been circulated to all members, to allow further time for consideration.**

## 8.

t) Min. 9324(n) – Damaged Milestone

It was NOTED that a response is still awaited from Alan Thomas regarding what action is to be taken.

u) Min. 9329(d) – Proposed Mobile Telecommunications Mast

A letter from O<sub>2</sub> acknowledging receipt of this Council's objections to the proposed mast and enclosing a leaflet 'can mobile phones damage your health?' was NOTED.

9403. **Correspondence**

a) Mayor's Diary

(i) The forthcoming engagements of the Mayor, including the Abergele Hospital League of Friends Garden Fete on 24<sup>th</sup> June, were NOTED.

It was NOTED that provisional dates had been given for the Civic Service, Mayor's Concert and a Coffee Morning.

It was NOTED that, due to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor being unable to attend, the immediate Past Mayor, Cllr. Brian Roberts, had been invited to attend the Colwyn Bay Civic Service on 11<sup>th</sup> June.

(ii) It was NOTED that the Deputy Mayor had received a shield and plate from the Mayors of Roissy-en-Brie and Barnstadt at the recent Twinning Anniversary event.

b) Forthcoming Meetings

The forthcoming meetings of the Council were NOTED.

c) Temporary Traffic Regulation

The following temporary traffic regulations, made by C.C.B.C., were NOTED:

(i) Parking Restriction at Maes-y-Dre, Rhuddlan Road

(ii) Emergency road closure at Pleasant Place

(iii) Resurfacing works on the A548 Towyn Road, from Holland Drive to Golden Gate.

d) Defective Street Lights

A complaint made by Mr Colin Masters to the Street Lighting Section regarding defective lights was NOTED.

**It was RESOLVED to respond to Mr Masters that the Council shares his concerns and will forward these on to the Highways Department.**

e) Charter 88

A letter from Charter 88 regarding the Sustainable Communities Bill was NOTED.

## 9.

**It was RESOLVED to respond with details of this Council's support, previously given to 'Local Works'.**

- f) CVSC E-Mail Information Service

The bulleting for May 2006 was NOTED.

- g) Community Health Council Federation

(i) The provisional meeting dates for 2006-07 were NOTED.

(ii) It was NOTED that a Patients Conference will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2006 in St. Asaph to outline the proposed changes detailed in the recent consultation 'Designed for North Wales'.

- h) Open Day – Recycling Facility, Rhuddlan Road

It was NOTED that CCBC Waste Strategy Department are organising an open day at this facility on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2006 and all Town and County Councillors are invited along between 2pm and 8pm.

- i) WAG Cabinet Statement

A statement from Sue Essex regarding plans for the new W.A.G. office in North Wales was NOTED.

- j) Sports Facility Construction Exhibition and Seminars

Details of the programme of seminars on 13<sup>th</sup> June in Derby were NOTED.

### 9404. **Proposed Meeting Dates**

It was RESOLVED to approve the meeting dates for 2006/07, as detailed on Schedule 'C' attached.

### 9405. **Membership of Sub-Committees**

**It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the existing membership of sub-committees for 2006/07, as detailed on Schedule 'D' attached.**

**It was RESOLVED to DEFER filling the vacancies left by Cllr. Fowler until the next meeting, due to the number of absent members.**

### 9406. **Representation on Outside Bodies**

**It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the existing representation on Outside Bodies for 2006/07, as detailed on Schedule 'E' attached.**

**It was RESOLVED to DEFER filling the vacancies left by Cllr. Fowler until the next meeting, due to the number of absent members.**

## 10.

9407. **It was RESOLVED to Receive the Draft Minutes of the following Sub-Committees:**

- a) Christmas Decorations, held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2006
- b) Local Government, held on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2006
- c) Newsletter, held on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2006

9408. **Matters Arising on Those Minutes:**

- a) Min. 9380 – Newsletter
  - (i) A copy of the draft newsletter, due to be delivered to properties on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June was RECEIVED.
  - (ii) Min. 9380(d)(iii) – It was NOTED that any problems with delivery of future editions be notified to the Clerk as soon as possible after the delivery date.

9409. **It was RESOLVED to Receive the Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting, held on 25<sup>th</sup> May**

A letter of thanks from the Past Clerk was NOTED.

9410. **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 8<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2006, as detailed on Schedule 'B' attached, were NOTED.
- c) It was NOTED that no licensing applications were made for the Abergele area up to 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

..... Chairman