

Abergele Town Council

DRAFT MINUTES

A meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee, held on Thursday 18th January 2007 in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele

33/007 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, Cllr. C.J. MacRae
Cllr. M. Bird (Chairman)
Cllrs: C.A. Billington; G.R.K. Brown; D.A. Byrne; G.P. Davies; D.A. MacRae; R. MacRae; M. Medlicott; J.D. Mortimer; R. Peacock; J. Stubbs; K.J. Sudlow; R.G. Waters
Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)

34/007 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs: J.A. MacLennan; J.E. H. Pitt; B.C. Roberts

35/007 **Disclosure of Interest**

Cllr. G.R.K. Brown – see Min. 41/007, item ()

36/007 **It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee, held on Thursday 23rd November, 2006**

37/007 **Matters Arising on Those Minutes:**

a) Min. 9678(a) –Refuse Collections

Members considered the policy of the Council with regards to assisting with the future cost of refuse collection from the cemetery at St. Michael's, following the introduction of charges by CCBC for additional bins last year.

It was PROPOSED that the Council informs the Church that the charges levied for burials should be increased, if necessary, to provide sufficient revenue to cover any additional cost for refuse collection from the cemetery. However, the Council would be happy to consider a grant request from any local Church for conservation, should they wish to apply.

This was CARRIED by a majority of 8 FOR, with 3 AGAINST (3 abstentions).

b) Min. 9678(b) - Repair / Renewal of Benches

(i) It was NOTED that maintenance work on benches by the probation team had commenced prior to Christmas and that they would continue to work through the list.

(ii) It was NOTED that no further progress had been made with repairing damaged benches as, despite advertising in the town council's newsletter, no suitable contractor had been found.
Members were requested to inform the Clerk if they knew of anyone locally who may be able to assist with this work.

c) Min. 9678(c) – Joint Burial Board Precept

It was NOTED that a meeting of the Joint Burial Board is to be held later this month to approve any precept request for 2006/07 and 2007/08. The Chairman, Cllr. D.A. Byrne, was asked if he could supply the council with a copy of the minutes from future meetings.

d) Min. 9678(d) & 9679(a) - Annual Grants

(i) It was NOTED that acknowledgements of annual grants have been received from the following recipients:

St Kentigern's Hospice
Abergele Ramblers
Cantorion Gele Singers

(ii) Members considered further information received in support of the grant application by the Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Centre.

It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that a grant of £100 be approved for the current financial year.

An AMENDMENT was PROPOSED and SECONDED that a grant of £250 be approved. This was NOT CARRIED, with 5 votes FOR and 9 AGAINST.

The original proposal was then put to the vote and was CARRIED by a majority of 9 FOR and 4 AGAINST (1 abstention).

e) Min. 9678 (e) – Microphone Equipment

Details regarding the cost of annual servicing of the audio equipment were RECEIVED and considered.

It was RESOLVED not to proceed with the annual cover, but to make arrangements for a call-out as and when required.

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Correspondence

a) **Annual Grants**

Late grant applications from the following organisations were RECEIVED and considered:

(i) Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan – Grant requested towards the cost of uniforms purchased, following qualification for the semi-finals of a National Songs of Praise Choir competition.

It was RESOLVED to authorise a grant of £500, equivalent to £10 per head, for the purchase of uniforms.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to DEFER the following non-urgent applications until the next October grants meeting:

- (ii) Conwy Branch Alzheimers Association
- (iii) Community Mediation North Wales
- (iv) Samaritans of Rhyl and North East Wales
- (v) Cwmnir Frân Wen

b) Summer Shout Out funding

A detailed report on the activities part-funded by this Council for summer 2006 was RECEIVED and NOTED.

c) Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod

It was NOTED that a request for grant funding towards the summer 2007 event had been RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to DEFER consideration of this application until the start of the new financial year, as a grant had already been made this year.

d) Local Government Pension Scheme

A copy of a statement regarding proposed reforms to the LGPS in England and Wales from April 2008 was RECEIVED and NOTED.

e) Budget Monitoring Report to 31st December 2006

A copy of the budget monitoring report produced by the Clerk was RECEIVED.

f) Clerk's Training

(i) It was NOTED that the Clerk was progressing through the 'Working with Your Council' training pack and had recently attended a discussion session in Wrexham to complete a further section.

(ii) It was RESOLVED to support the Clerk in attending a two day conference for the practitioner in Stoke-on-Trent in March, at a cost of £190 + VAT.

g) Insurance Renewal

(i) It was NOTED that information requested by Zurich to calculate the renewal premium for 2007/08 had recently been submitted by the Clerk.

(ii) A letter from WPS offering a quotation for a town council insurance policy with Norwich Union was RECEIVED and considered.

It was RESOLVED to return the pro-forma to request a quotation.

39/007 **Annual Estimates**

It was NOTED that the Estimates Sub-Committee will be meeting again on Monday 22nd January to complete drafting the annual Estimates for 2007/08, for approval at the Ordinary Meeting on 1st February.

40/007 **The Financial Situation as at Today :-**

	£
Current Account	1,910.55
Monthly Interest Account	<u>100,034.52</u>
TOTAL:	101,945.07
Hall & Development Account	446.84
Hall & Development Reserve	<u>63,023.92</u>
TOTAL:	63,470.76

41/007 **Payment of Accounts**

It was RESOLVED to authorise payment of the accounts, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached.

The Meeting Closed at 9.25 p.m.

..... Chairman