

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee, held on Thursday 21st September, 2006 in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

9567. **Attendance Register**

As at the General Purposes and Planning Meeting held today, see Min. 9556.

9568. **Apologies for Absence**

As at the General Purposes and Planning Meeting held today, see Min. 9557.

9569. **Disclosure of Interest**

None recorded.

9570. **It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee, held on 20th July, 2006**

9571. **Matters Arising on Those Minutes:**

a) Min. 9505(b) – Heraldic Plaques

It was NOTED that the coasters and plaques had now been received.

It was RESOLVED to authorise the Clerk to purchase gold labels for the reverse with suitable wording and to make the coasters and plaques available for purchase at a price of £1 and £3 respectively.

b) Min. 9505(c) – Refuse Collections

It was NOTED that a revised invoice is still awaited from CCBC following the letter sent to query the invoice received for trade waste charges, which will now be backdated to December 2005.

c) Min. 9505(d) - Repair / Renewal of Benches

The inventory of benches, including an update from C.C.B.C. on damaged benches and details of provisional locations for four new benches to be provided by Laing O'Rourke / Welsh Water was considered.

Concerns were expressed regarding proposals to site two of the new benches in Sea Road, particularly as a previous bench had been removed following complaints by local residents.

16.

It was **RESOLVED** that local residents should be consulted before a new bench is placed in this location and that a suggestion should be made to Welsh Water that one of the new benches is placed on Llanfair Road, outside Mynydd Seion (opposite High Street) instead.

It was **FURTHER RESOLVED** that a Task & Finish group should be set up, comprising Cllrs: R. MacRae, J.A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; M. Medlicott; C.J. MacRae; K. Sudlow and R. MacRae, co-ordinated by Cllr. Kevin Brown, to look at the suitability of the locations of all current benches in the town.

- d) Min. 9505(e) – Abergele War Memorial – Renovation Work

It was NOTED that work is scheduled to commence next week.

- e) Min. 9505(f) – Joint Burial Committee

It was NOTED with some concern that no further information has been received regarding the precept for 2006/07.

It was RESOLVED to write to the Secretary to request details regarding the precept and to see if any assistance is needed.

- f) Min. 9506(a) - Annual Grants

A letter of acknowledgement of grant from Abergele Golf Club was RECEIVED.

It was NOTED that the deadline for annual grant applications is Friday 6th October and that these will be considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

It was RESOLVED to ask the Visitor to include brief details in next week's edition, if possible.

- g) Min. 9506(b) – Christmas Decorations Budget

It was NOTED that the Christmas Decorations Sub-Committee had appointed a contractor to carry out the infrastructure improvements and ordered six additional column mounted motifs, within the amounts allocated in the revised budget.

- h) Min. 9506(c) - S.L.C.C. Welsh Conference

The Clerk gave a brief report from the recent one day conference of the Society of Local Council Clerks and thanked the Council for giving her the opportunity to attend.

- i) Min. 9507 – Appointment of Internal Auditor

It was NOTED that David Shore has accepted the post of Internal Auditor to the Council for 2006/07 and has returned the duly signed letter of engagement, which confirms his ongoing independence from the Council.

9572. **Correspondence:**

a) Neighbourhood Policing

A report from Cllr. Graham Rees regarding a presentation made to the Community Safety Scrutiny Committee by Chief Superintendent Michele Williams was NOTED.

b) North Wales Regional Swimming Pool

A letter from Paul Frost, Head of Leisure and Community Development Services, regarding revenue funding for the new regional pool was NOTED.

c) Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations

(i) It was NOTED that a consultation exercise is underway on the options for a new-look Local Government Pension Scheme in England and Wales and that a copy of the consultation paper is available from the Clerk.

(ii) It was NOTED that a copy of the Gwynedd Pension Fund Communication Improvement Plan is available from the Clerk.

9573. **Bank Mandate**

The current bank signatories were reviewed.

It was RESOLVED that the Mayor (or Deputy Mayor, if the Mayor is already a signatory) would become a bank signatory during his / her year of office and that the mandate would now be updated accordingly, to include Cllr. C.J. MacRae.

In accordance with the Mandate for Local Authorities, issued by H.S.B.C., it was RESOLVED:

a) **That the Council requests H.S.B.C. to continue accounts in its name and the Bank is authorised to:**

(i) **Pay all cheques and other instructions for payment signed on behalf of the Council by two authorised signatories from the list of six, namely Cllrs: D.A. Byrne; G.P. Davies; J.A. MacLennan; C.J. MacRae; B.C. Roberts; R.G. Waters.**

(ii) **Deliver any item held on behalf of the Council by the Bank in safe keeping against the written receipt or instructions of any two authorised signatories.**

(iii) **Accept the Town Clerk, Mrs C.J. Earley, as fully empowered to act on behalf of the Council in any other transaction with the Bank.**

b) **That the Council agrees that any debt incurred to the Bank under this authority shall, in the absence of written agreement with the Bank to the contrary, be repayable on demand.**

18.

- c) That the Town Clerk, Mrs C.J. Earley (the 'Proper Officer') is authorised to supply the Bank as and when necessary with lists of persons authorised to sign, give receipts and act on behalf of the Council, and that the Bank may rely on such lists.
- d) That these resolutions be communicated to the Bank and remain in force until changed by a resolution of the Council and a copy, certified by the Chairman and Proper Officer, is received by the Bank.

9574. Travel Expenses

It was RESOLVED to authorise payment of travel expenses for the Mayor and Mayoress to visit the Houses of Parliament (following an invitation by David Jones, M.P.), at an estimated cost of £120.

9575. The Financial Situation as at Today :-

	£
Current Account	2,877.06
Monthly Interest Account	<u>95,181.21</u>
TOTAL:	98,068.27
Hall & Development Account	444.28
Hall & Development Reserve	<u>62,136.57</u>
TOTAL:	62,580.85

9576. Payment of Accounts

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

The Meeting Closed at 9.30 p.m.

..... Chairman

Abergele Town Council

SCHEDULE 'A'

Payments authorised on Thursday 21st September 2006:

	Cheque No:	Total £	Incl. VAT £	Statutory Powers: (new or unusual payments only)
a) Conwy County Borough Council National Non-Domestic Rates		529.00		
b) Inland Revenue (Sept Salaries)	667	739.24		
c) Gwynedd Pensions (Sept)	668	534.92		
d) Tiscali (Broadband)	D.D.	18.79	2.80	
e) Petty Cash (August)	657	89.46		
f) Sion Jones - Photograph (Mayor's Gallery)	656	5.40		
g) Communicorp re: Local Council Update	658	60.00		
h) Canon UK Ltd - photocopier rental	659	168.85	25.15	
i) WNW - stationery	660	6.04	0.90	
j) Homebase - materials re bench maintenance	661	181.26	27.00	Parish Councils Act 1957 s.1
k) Mark Macualey Catering re: Civic Service	662	601.00		
l) Mrs C.J. Earley Re: SLCC Conference (Accommodation)	663	95.90	0.00	
m) Colwyn Link - Sept Newsletter	664	40.00		
n) Garden Pride - grounds maintenance Aug	665	118.00		
o) Greaves Welsh Slate Co.	666	449.44	66.94	**

** Under the Local Government Act 1972, Sect. 137 & 139, the Council can incur expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its' inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.