

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee, held on Thursday 22nd June, 2006 in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

9427. **Attendance Register**

As at the General Purposes and Planning Meeting held earlier today, see Min. 9420.

Cllr. M. Bird – Chairman

Mr David Shore – Internal Auditor (see Min. 9430)

9428. **Apologies for Absence**

As at the General Purposes and Planning Meeting held earlier today, see Min. 9421.

9429. **Disclosure of Interest**

Cllr. G.R.K. Brown – see Min. 9436

9430. **Statement of Accounts 1st April 2005 – 31st March 2006**

- a) **It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Annual Statement of Accounts for 2005/06, circulated to Members beforehand.**

The Clerk was thanked for her efforts in producing a clear and comprehensive set of financial accounts.

- b) The Internal Auditor, Mr David Shore, gave a brief verbal report indicating that there were no outstanding items from his Internal Audit visit and any points raised had been satisfactorily resolved.
- c) Members completed the Statement of Assurance in Section 2 of the Annual Return for the External Audit.
- d) The draft responses to the Intermediate Audit Supplementary Assurances and Information Requests were NOTED and APPROVED.

Mr David Shore was thanked for conducting the Internal Audit and attending the meeting and he retired from the Chamber.

9431. **It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee, held on 18th May, 2006 and circulated to members beforehand.**

9432. **Matters Arising on Those Minutes:**

22.

a) Min. 9361(a) – Gele Park

- (i) Members considered a letter received from Lyn Davies following a meeting held on 22nd May with P.C. Duffy and the Clerk to discuss the plans for new equipment and other improvements for Gele Park. A debate took place regarding the inclusion of a youth shelter in the plans, with several members stating their ongoing concerns with this proposal following the recent petition received by this Council.

It was RESOLVED to inform Mr Davies that this Council is interested in being a partner in the scheme and to request that the audit of the area be carried out and that local groups and residents be consulted to find out what would be acceptable and desirable. Although the Council is not against a youth shelter in the town, it would not feel able to support its siting in the park, if this was not acceptable to local residents.

b) Min. 9361(b) – Heraldic Plaques

- (i) It was NOTED that the six wall plaques have now been received.
- (ii) **As no further information was available regarding a definite quote and minimum order quantities for the smaller items, (slate coasters or mats) it was RESOLVED to REFER this matter to the Executive Sub-Committee for a decision to be made on the quantity to be ordered.**

c) Min. 9361(c) – Refuse Collections

- (i) It was NOTED that CCBC are to withdraw the policy of charging the churches for additional wheelie bins.
- (ii) **Due to (i) above, it was RESOLVED to DEFER payment of the outstanding invoice for £48.88 for the period 6/2/06 to 31/3/06.**
- (iii) It was NOTED that no response had yet been received to the letter sent to CCBC to query the invoice received for trade waste charges, which was backdated to April 2005.

d) Min. 9361(d) - Repair / Renewal of Benches

- (i) It was NOTED that a further update is awaited from Lyn Davies regarding benches removed and whether these will be repaired by CCBC.

It was RESOLVED to put an article in the next newsletter to ask if anyone was interested in donating new benches for the town.

- (ii) It was NOTED that the Probation Team had indicated that they may be able to offer assistance with bench maintenance, if the Council provided the necessary materials (wood stain etc.). A site meeting had been requested to discuss the works required.

23.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk and Cllr. D. Byrne would meet with the supervisor.

- e) Min. 9361(e) – Abergele War Memorial – Renovation Work

A report from members of the Task and Finish group following a recent site meeting was RECEIVED and NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to ENDORSE the recommendations of the group, seek three quotations for the work required and write to the Church to request permission to carry out the work.

- f) Min. 9361(g) – Joint Burial Committee

It was NOTED that no further information was available regarding the precept for 2006/07

- g) Min. 9362(a)

It was NOTED that an acknowledgement of grant has been received from Conwy Youth Service.

9433. **Correspondence:**

- a) The following requests for grants/sponsorship were considered:

- (i) Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan

It was NOTED that the school were seeking sponsorship from local businesses for their forthcoming production, Guys and Dolls.

- (ii) Abergele Regeneration Team

It was NOTED that this newly formed group were seeking financial support.

It was RESOLVED to request that a representative from the group attend a future meeting of the Council to discuss this request and their plans in more detail.

- b) Gwynedd Pensions

A letter received from Gwynedd Council regarding representation on the Pensions Committee was NOTED.

- c) Mayors' Photograph Gallery

It was RESOLVED to accept the design and quotation received from Torino Italian Design and place an order for frames for the Mayors' Gallery.

It was NOTED that, due to the specialist nature of this work, it would not be practical to obtain three quotations on this occasion.

24.

d) Standard Life

It was NOTED that Standard Life are 'demutualising' and that customers are being offered the opportunity to purchase shares at a discounted price.

It was FURTHER NOTED that this Council's Investment Strategy does not include investment in equities, due to the risk involved.

9434. Annual Grants:

Members considered payment of the Annual Grants to Primary Schools for 2006/07.

It was RESOLVED to approve grants using the same formula as last year, i.e. £500 per school plus the remaining £8,000 apportioned according to pupil numbers (equivalent to £9.86 per pupil):

a) Glan Gele	(270)	£3,165
b) St. Elfod	(329)	£3,745
c) Glan Morfa	(131)	£1,790
d) St. George	(81)	£1,300

9435. The Financial Situation as at Today was NOTED:

	£
Current Account	2,413.86
Monthly Interest Account	<u>68,018.12</u>
TOTAL:	70,431.98
Hall & Development Account	442.02
Hall & Development Reserve	<u>61,510.44</u>
TOTAL:	61,952.46

9436. Payment of Accounts

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

Cllr. G.R.K. Brown declared an interest in item p).

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

..... Chairman

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Abergele Town Council

SCHEDULE 'A'

Payments authorised on Thursday 22nd June 2006:

	Cheque No:	Total	Incl. VAT	Statutory Powers:
		£	£	(new or unusual payments only)
a) Conwy County Borough Council National Non-Domestic Rates	DD	529.00		
b) Inland Revenue (May Salaries)	612	573.33		
c) Gwynedd Pensions (May)	613	534.92		
d) Tiscali (Broadband)	DD	18.79	2.80	
e) Dorothy's Florist - Bouquet for Mayoress	599	25.00		
f) C.J. MacRae - Mayor's Allowance 2006/07	600	2,000.00		
g) Petty Cash Imprest Acc (May)	601	82.82		
h) Communicorp (Clerks & Councils Direct)	602	126.00		
i) Garden Pride - Grass Cutting May	603	116.00		
j) Staples - Stationery	604	23.98	3.57	
k) S.J. Ward - External Socket for Town Hall	605	180.95	26.95	
l) C.C.B.C.- grass cutting at Faenol roundabout	606	350.10		**
m) Thomas Fattorini - Town Council Plaques	607	198.46	29.56	
n) Barry Drew re: car parking signs	608	170.00		
o) Conlan International - Annual Meeting Buffet	609	375.00		
p) Travel Claims: G.R.K. Brown (PCCG Meeting)	610	9.45		
q) Firemaster - Service Fire Extinguishers	611	42.30	6.30	
r) Adobe Acrobat Software (re: website)	621	287.82	42.87	

** 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.