

Abergele Town Council

DRAFT MINUTES

A meeting of the GENERAL PURPOSES and PLANNING COMMITTEE, held at 6.45 p.m. on Thursday 17th April 2008 in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

790/07 Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. G.P. Davies
Cllr. R.M. Medicott (Chairman)
Cllrs: C.A. Billington; M. Bird; G.R.K. Brown; D.A. Byrne; J.A. MacLennan;
D.A. MacRae; J.D. Mortimer (see Min. 795/07(j)); K.J. Sudlow; J. Stubbs;
R.G. Waters
Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)
Member of the Public

791/07 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: A. Lloyd-Roberts; R. MacRae; R. Peacock; B.C. Roberts

792/07 Thanks to Retiring Members

It was NOTED that three Members of the Council had decided not to stand for re-election in May.

It was RESOLVED to thank Cllrs. David Byrne, Ron MacRae and Alison Lloyd-Roberts for their valued contributions over the past 34 years, 12 years and 6 months respectively and to wish them all well for the future.

It was NOTED that Cllr. R. MacRae had requested the Clerk to pass on his thanks to all Members of the Council for their support.

793/07 Disclosure of Interest

Members were reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of their declared interests (using the form provided for this purpose).

794/07 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes and Planning Committee, held on 20th March 2008.

795/07 Matters Arising on Previous Minutes:

a) Min. 700/07(b) & 752/07(b) – Overhead Power Lines

(i) Further responses from Mark Isherwood A.M., Sandy Mewies A.M. and Elfyn Llwyd were RECEIVED and NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to send a letter to the Welsh Assembly in response to the Renewables Route Map document to state the concerns of this Council, including details of the support received from AMs and MPs.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to send a copy of this letter to Darren Millar, A.M., to request his support in leading on this matter with the Assembly, to seek for an amendment to TAN 8 (Planning Policy Wales– Technical Advice Note – Renewable Energy).

(ii) It was NOTED that no response has been received as yet to the letter sent to One Voice Wales.

(iii) A reply from the Campaign for Protection of Rural Wales, confirming that it “will continue to press the Assembly to ensure that under-grounding is recognised as a necessity, wherever possible”, was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to ask the Clerk to contact David Jones MP to enquire whether he would be willing to lead on this matter with parliament, to seek an amendment to UK planning policy, in favour of under-grounding of cables wherever possible.

b) Min. 700/07(c) & 752/07(c) – Proposed Lighting for Pentre Mawr Park

(i) It was NOTED that a meeting with the residents has not yet been arranged and is unlikely to take place now until after the forthcoming elections.

The arrangements for this consultation meeting are to be discussed by the Parks and Play Areas Sub-Committee on Monday 21st April.

(ii) A letter of thanks on behalf of the residents of Kinmel Avenue, for the support of this Council in arranging the residents’ meeting at Awel-y-Mor, was RECEIVED.

It was NOTED that Cllr. J.A. MacLennan has received some further correspondence, which will be circulated at the next meeting.

c) Min. 750/07 – Visit by Darren Millar A.M.

A report from the meeting held on 11th April 2008 with Darren Millar A.M. was RECEIVED and NOTED.

It was NOTED that the decision to allocate funds for a new burial ground in Abergele had already been taken by CCBC, prior to the involvement by Darren Millar, although it was also acknowledged that Mr Millar does work hard for the Abergele area.

d) Min. 752/07(d) – Neurosurgery Review

(i) A brief letter from Ann Jones AM regarding the ongoing independent review was NOTED.

(ii) A letter from Janet Ryder AM, enclosing a letter of update to AMs from the Minister for Health and Social Services, Edwina Hart, was RECEIVED and NOTED.

It was FURTHER NOTED that Cllr. J.A. MacLennan had attended a recent meeting of the House of Commons Welsh Affairs Committee and that there was Parliamentary support for retaining the use of services at Walton, or at an alternative new centre in North Wales.

e) Min. 752/07(h) – Demolition of Wall at Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan

A further response from Simon Richardson, Enforcement Officer, CCBC, was RECEIVED and NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to continue to monitor this, to ensure that the wall is eventually reinstated to its original specification.

f) Min. 753/07 – Local Elections

A copy of the details of the final nominations for the Community Council elections, to be held on 1st May 2008, was RECEIVED.

Congratulations were offered to the Members for Gele, Pensarn and St. George Wards, who have been re-elected unopposed.

g) Min. 753/07(c) – East Promenade Consultative Group

Cllr. J.A. MacLennan gave a brief verbal report on the Abergele issues discussed at the meeting held on 15th April, which included; the land adjacent to Castle Cove Caravan Park, sewage discharge at Ty Crwn, Pensarn SSSI, dog bins, seaside awards and restructuring at CCBC.

It was RESOLVED to send a letter to the new Head of Infrastructure Group, CCBC, to state the support of this Council for regular meetings of the East Promenade Consultative Group to continue, as these provide a useful forum for the discussion of local issues.

h) Min. 753/07(d) – Cattle at rear of Bryn Twr

It was NOTED that the Clerk has received a call from Roger Hughes, Rights of Way Enforcement Officer for C.C.B.C., who has visited the site to check repairs to the fence and has also instructed the fitting of a gate at the end of the footpath, between properties 53 and 55 Bryn Twr. It was FURTHER NOTED that if problems persist, they should be reported to Mr Hughes, who will then take further action. Letters have also been sent to affected residents by Mr Hughes.

- i) Min. 754/07 – Request for a Cycle Rack outside Abergele Library

It was NOTED that the Clerk has been in contact with the relevant Libraries Officer to discuss the possibility of including a cycle rack and a town map outside the library as part of the scheme of improvements for the Library (with the cost to be met by this Council).

It was RESOLVED to request the Clerk to follow this up to seek to obtain full details of the cost of providing and installing the map and cycle rack.

- j) Min. 756/07(b) – Colwyn Bay, Abergele & District Twinning Association

(i) An acknowledgement of membership for 2008/09 was RECEIVED. It was NOTED that meetings are held monthly and that Cllr. G.R.K. Brown is the current nominated representative of this Council.

(ii) A brief summary of past activities and the benefits these have brought to Abergele and its residents was RECEIVED.

- Cllr. J.D. Mortimer arrived at this juncture.

796/07 **Correspondence**

- a) Petition for a Football Pitch and Shelter in Belgrano

A letter from a Youth Worker enclosing a petition by young people in Belgrano for football pitch and shelter was RECEIVED and considered.

It was NOTED that Cllr. J. Stubbs has been involved in efforts to obtain a lease over a piece of land between Pensarn and Belgrano, but progress by CCBC has been very slow.

It was RESOLVED to:

- add this item to the agenda for discussion by the Parks and Play Areas Sub-Committee at the meeting to be held on Monday 21st April
- send a letter of support to Kris Kordiak, Conwy Youth Service
- recommend that Cllr. Stubbs approaches the North Wales Playing Fields Association for assistance

- b) Street Lighting – Investigation into Ways of Reducing Electricity Use

A letter received from Peter Adderley, Highways Department, CCBC, was RECEIVED and considered.

It was RESOLVED to write to Peter Adderley to state:

- (i) **Higher priority should be given to correcting faults which cause lights to be permanently on, as although this may not result in any immediate saving, if not tackled it will undoubtedly impact on the cost of future electricity supplies.**

- (ii) **This Council has concerns about the correlation between crime and a lack of lighting and the problems which may result if some lights are removed or are switched off between certain hours.**
- (iii) **This Council suggests that the County Council should investigate ways in which it could supply some of its own power, using renewable sources, thus eliminating the reliance on profit hungry, foreign owned suppliers.**
- (iv) **One minor area which could also be looked into is the unnecessary lighting of some street signs. As these are on reflective material, additional lighting is not seen as being of any benefit.**

c) North Wales Association of Town & Larger Community Councils

- (i) Notice of the next meeting, to be held on Friday 18th April in Bangor was RECEIVED. It was NOTED that Cllrs. R.G. Waters and B.C. Roberts would be attending, at a cost of £25.00.
- (ii) It was NOTED that a copy of the Minutes of the last meeting is available from the Clerk.
- (iii) **It was RESOLVED to renew Membership for 2008-09, at a cost of £57.50**

d) Licence for Civil Ceremonies

It was NOTED that the licence to hold Civil Ceremonies at the Town Hall will expire on 16th October 2008 and that the Licensing Department have now confirmed that they will not be requesting/paying for its renewal, as the demand for 'registry office' type ceremonies has fallen. The full cost of a licence at £655 for three years would therefore have to be met by the Council, if it wishes to renew.

It was RESOLVED to:

- (i) **Write to the Acting Head of Licensing and Registration to state concern about the cost of the renewal of the licence and to query why Llandudno is being actively promoted by officers as a superior venue.**
- (ii) **Request the Clerk to gather details of the number of services and the revenue received over the past two years and details of what is currently charged by other venues, such as Llandudno.**

e) Consultation Documents

Copies of the following consultation documents were RECEIVED:

- (i) W.A.G. - Proposals to Change the Structure of the NHS in Wales
- (ii) W.A.G. – Draft Fire and Rescue Service National Framework for Wales

It was RESOLVED to REFER both documents to the Local Government Sub-Committee in May, for a draft response.

f) Other Correspondence

Copies of the following documents were RECEIVED:

- (i) Open Watercourse Eldon Drive
 - A letter from the Head of Environmental and Technical Services confirming the current position.
- (ii) Play for Wales Newsletter – Spring 2008
 - It was NOTED that this document is available from the Clerk
- (iii) Conservation Advisory Panel
 - A letter enclosing details of the procedures to be applied to meetings
- (iv) Rhyl Flats Offshore Wind Farm: Construction Newsletter
 - A copy of the newsletter along with a covering letter and an update regarding local distribution points.
- (v) Local Councils Update – Issue 102 April 2008
- (vi) Notification of a request by Scottish Power for a temporary traffic regulation (carriageway closure) on St. George Road and Fardre Hill.

It was FURTHER NOTED that the surface of both St. George Road and Chapel Street (opposite the George & Dragon) is very poor, with large pot holes.

It was RESOLVED to contact Alan Thomas to request urgent resurfacing work.

- (vii) North Wales Technology Park
 - Confirmation of launch ceremony, to be held at 12.30pm on Friday 25th April, and request for final numbers to the Clerk by 18th April.

(viii) Conwy Walking Week

It was NOTED that Cllr. M. Medicott had been successful in his efforts to get an Abergele walk included in this year's Conwy Walking Week and that he hoped that there may also eventually be maps available of local walks. Cllr. Medicott was congratulated on his efforts.

797/07 **Planning / Licensing Applications**

- a) The planning applications, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached, were considered and concluded as recorded on that schedule.
- b) The planning decisions issued by C.C.B.C. for the Abergele area between 24th March and 6th April 2008, as detailed on Schedule 'B' attached, were NOTED.

The Meeting Closed at 8.00 p.m.

..... Chairman

Abergele Town Council

Schedule 'A' - Planning Applications

Date Considered	Planning Ref No	Description	Applicant(s)	Determination Level	Observations	Decision	Decision Date
17.4.08	0/34648	Change of use from B1 Workshop/Office to A1 Retail at 1-3 High Street, Abergele	Mr S J Young		No objections		
17.4.08	0/34678	Display of 1No.internally illuminated fascia sign at Woolworths plc., 28 Market Street, Abergele	Woolworths plc		No objections		
17.4.08	0/34700	Reduce 1no. Oak tree by 25-30%, remove 1no. Lime tree and to remove/reduce pollarded limbs from 1no. Lime tree at Tanrallt Lodge, Llanfair Road, Abergele	North Wales Technology Park- World Span International	Delegated	No objections provided <u>sufficient care</u> is taken to prevent any risk of flooding at adjacent houses in Heol Conwy - both during and after building work.		
17.4.08	0/34717	Erection of agricultural shed for fodder storage at Hendre Fawr, Rhuddlan Road, Abergele			Hendre Fawr is a very old, listed farm building. The Council has some concerns about the size of the 'shed' and requests that consideration be given to making it as unobtrusive as possible, either by requesting screening with trees or by siting it more within the existing complex of outbuildings.		

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SCHEDULE 'B'

Planning Decisions issued by Conwy County Borough Council from 24.3.08 to 6.4.08

0/34376 Demolition of chimney stack and erection of stainless steel
flue at St George Controlled School, Primrose Hill, St George

Decision Approved with conditions
