

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on Thursday 8th May, 2008, at 6.45 p.m. in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

01/08 Welcome from the Retiring Mayor, Cllr. G.P. Davies

The Mayor welcomed all Members to the first meeting of the municipal year and congratulated everyone on their success in the recent elections. It was hoped that Members would work amicably together for the benefit of the town.

02/08 Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. G.P. Davies (Chairman)
Cllrs: M. Bird; M. Bond; J.A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; D. Meredith;
J.D. Mortimer; R.D. Peacock; B.C. Roberts; S. Rowlands; T. Rowlands; J. Stubbs;
K.J. Sudlow (see Min. 009/08(b)); R.G. Waters
Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)
Several Members of the public

03/08 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: G.R.K. Brown; R.M. Medlicott; J.E.H. Pitt

04/08 Signing of Declarations of Acceptance of Office

The Clerk confirmed the signing of declarations of acceptance of office by all Members present, along with Cllrs. G.R.K. Brown and J.E.H. Pitt.

It was RESOLVED to permit Cllrs. R.M. Medlicott and K.J. Sudlow additional time to sign their declarations at or before the Annual Meeting of the Council, to be held on Thursday 15th May.

05/08 Declaration of Interest: Code of Conduct

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

06/08 Police Liaison

- a) It was NOTED that Inspector Jane Banham has sent her apologies for this evening's meeting, due to having to attend a course, and that she now hopes to attend the Ordinary meeting in July.
- b) It was NOTED that no Police Liaison report had been received from Sgt. Paul Foulkes or P.C. David Hall, who was on a training course this week.

Concerns were expressed about the lack of effectiveness of the CCTV cameras in the town and it was RESOLVED to ask the Clerk to contact P.C. Hall to enquire what assistance, if any, the CCTV cameras had been to the police in investigating recent crimes.

It was NOTED that concerns had been expressed by a number of residents in the Water Street area regarding the recent extension to the Licence for the Castle Hotel, but that this was a matter for the police and the Licensing Authority.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to convene a meeting of the CCTV & Crime Prevention sub-committee to look into any problems.

07/08 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 3rd April 2008.

08/08 To Consider Matters Arising on Previous Minutes:

a) Min. 631/07(f) – Request for A55 Tourism Signs

- (i) It was NOTED that no reply has been received to the further letter sent to Transport Wales (Welsh Assembly Government) in January and that a chasing letter has been sent.
- (ii) A copy of a letter sent by Darren Millar A.M. to the Deputy First Minister, supporting the request of this Council, was RECEIVED.

It was NOTED that a new tourism sign for the beach had recently appeared at Pensarn roundabout.

It was RESOLVED to DEFER this item to await any response.

b) Min. 735/07(b) – Library Car Park

A response to the letter sent to C.C.B.C. querying the possible use of the hard-standing area at the rear of the Community Centre for additional car parking was RECEIVED.

It was NOTED that Cllr. Waters had received a letter from Mark Smith, Parking & Policy Services Manager, indicating that the library car park may be brought within the County's off-street parking order at some time in the future, which would then allow enforcement action to be taken.

It was FURTHER NOTED that Water Street car park was currently under-utilised, due to the level of charges for parking. County Council Members were asked to pursue the request for additional free parking close to the town centre, to support local businesses.

c) Min. 740/07 – Litter on Rhuddlan Road

(i) It was NOTED that no response has been received as yet to the letter requesting regular scheduled litter picks of the stretch of road from the roundabout to beyond the 's' bends.

(ii) A copy of a letter sent by Darren Millar A.M. in support of this request, was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to write to the Environment Agency state concerns about this stretch of road and to request that the levels of litter be closely monitored.

A discussion took place regarding litter bins in and around the town and it was NOTED that CCBC will be installing a number of new litter and dog bins at previously agreed locations in the Abergele area, commencing later this month.

d) Min. 784/07(c) – The Mount

It was RESOLVED to set up a Task & Finish Group, comprising Cllrs. D.A. MacRae, S. Rowlands and R.G. Waters, to:

(i) **Liaise with the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust regarding:**
- a geophysics survey of The Mount
- an Information Board for The Mount

(ii) **Liaise urgently with Conwy County Borough Council regarding the need for a 'watching brief' during works on the new footbridge at The Mount.**

e) Min. 785/07(b) – Principles of Good Administration

A response on behalf of the Ombudsman acknowledging the omission of any mention of 'efficiency' within the document was RECEIVED.

f) Min. 785/07(b) – Rhyl Flats Offshore Wind Farm

It was NOTED that Abergele Library has now been included by NPower as an outlet for the distribution of newsletters to members of the public and that Tesco had also been contacted, but the Duty Manager was not prepared to make copies available there.

g) Min. 788/07(a) – Standing Orders

It was NOTED that all Members will be issued with a file containing copies of the updated Standing Orders and other current policy documents and that the files issued to new members also contain a copy of the 'Good Councillor's Guide', published by the Welsh Assembly Government.

09/08 **Correspondence:**

a) Conwy Voluntary Services Council

It was RESOLVED to renew of membership for 2008/09 at a cost of £15 and to note that a copy of Circulation 73 (April 2008) is available from the Clerk.

b) Request for Financial Assistance – Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan 6th Form Choir

An urgent request for support towards travel costs for the Choir to compete in the Lloyds TSB In Tune with Wales competition was RECEIVED and considered.

It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that a contribution of £500 be made towards the costs for the Choir to represent Abergele in the competition.

An AMENDMENT that £750 be given was PROPOSED and SECONDED.

The amendment was CARRIED by a majority of five in favour to four against (with four abstentions), following a casting vote by the Chairman.

- Cllr. K.J. Sudlow arrived at this juncture

c) Urdd Eisteddfod

It was NOTED that the Abergele fundraising committee had succeeded in raising in excess of £24,000 (target £22,000) towards the Urdd Eisteddfod, which is to be held in Penrhyn Bay later this month.

A request for bunting to be put up in the town to celebrate the event was considered. It was NOTED that the Council does not currently have any bunting in store.

It was RESOLVED to support the putting up of bunting in the town, if this could be supplied by the local committee.

010/08 **Meeting Dates**

The schedule of meeting dates for 2008/09 was considered and approved.

011/08 **Nominations**

It was RESOLVED to put forward the following nominations for consideration at the Annual Meeting, to be held on 15th May 2008:

- a) **Town Mayor – Cllr. Ron D. Peacock**
Proposed by: M. Bird Seconded by: J.D. Mortimer

- b) **Deputy Mayor – Cllr. Delyth A. MacRae**
Proposed by: M. Bird Seconded by: J.A. MacLennan
- c) **Chairman General Purposes and Planning – Cllr. John A. MacLennan**
Proposed by: B.C. Roberts Seconded by: D.A. MacRae
- d) **Vice Chairman General Purposes and Planning – Cllr. Richard G. Waters**
Proposed by: M. Bird Seconded by: B.C. Roberts
- e) **Chairman Policy and Finance – Cllr. Kenneth J. Sudlow**
Proposed by: J.A. MacLennan Seconded by: D.A. MacRae
- f) **Vice Chairman Policy and Finance – Cllr. B.C. Roberts**
Proposed by: M. Bird Seconded by: J.A. MacLennan

012/08 **Representation on Outside Bodies for 2008/09**

The list of representatives for 2007/08 was considered and vacant positions were discussed.

It was RESOLVED to approve the representatives on outside bodies for 2008/09, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to request that the Clerk seeks advice regarding when the term of office of school governors appointed by this Council comes to an end, before the Council considers any appointments to governing bodies for 2008/09.

013/08 **Retiring Members**

It was RESOLVED that the presentation of a Certificate of Service to those Members who have recently retired from the Council should be made at the forthcoming Annual Meeting of the Council, providing they are present.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to purchase and present a special gift, within an agreed budget, to Mr David A. Byrne, in recognition of his long service to the community (30 years).

014/08 **Minutes of Committees and Sub-Committees**

The draft Minutes of the following Committees were RECEIVED:

- a) The General Purposes and Planning Committee, held on 17th April 2008
- b) The Policy and Finance Committee, held on 17th April 2008

015/08 **Planning / Licensing**

- a) The planning applications, as detailed on Schedule 'B' attached, were considered and concluded as detailed on that schedule.

- b) Additional correspondence received regarding planning application 0/34431, for the erection of 2 two storey buildings incorporating Dentist, Pharmacy, and Physical Disability Centre and 1 Single storey office building with associated parking and landscaping at Plot 1200, North Wales Technology Park, Abergele, was RECEIVED and considered.

It was RESOLVED not to amend the original objections of this Council, based on the continuing belief that residential living accommodation should not be permitted on the business park under any circumstances.

- c) The planning decisions issued by C.C.B.C., as detailed on Schedule 'C' attached, were NOTED.
- d) It was NOTED that the following licensing application has been submitted to C.C.B.C.:

Premises Licence: M C Stores, 46 Maes Canol, for sales by retail of alcohol between the hours of 07:30 – 22:00 Mon to Sat and 08:00 to 22:00 Sun

It was NOTED that there is a presumption in favour of such licences being granted and that this Council has no powers to object to the application.

016/08 **Thanks**

The Mayor thanked her fellow councillors for their help and co-operation during her year of office and gave best wished for the year ahead.

The Meeting Closed at 8.30 p.m.

..... Chairman

Abergele Town Council

SCHEDULE 'A'

Representation on Outside Bodies 2008/09

Abergele Royal British Legion (Branch)	M Medicott
Abergele Community Centre Focus Group	G R K Brown; R M Medicott; J Stubbs
Abergele Carnival Committee	G R K Brown; J Stubbs
Abergele Leisure Centre Focus Group	G R K Brown
Abergele Old Peoples' Committee	M Bond
Abergele Regeneration Team	J A MacLennan; R M Medicott; R G Waters;
Abergele Youth Action	R Peacock; T Rowlands
Campaign Protection Rural Wales	G P Davies
CCTV Forum (C.C.B.C.)	M Bird
Clwyd Community Chest	G P Davies
Colwyn, Abergele & District Twinning Association	G R K Brown; M. Bond
Conwy Voluntary Forum	G P Davies
Conwy Voluntary Services Council	G P Davies
Cycle Paths	J D Mortimer
East Promenade Consultative Group	J A MacLennan
Joint Burial Committee	B C Roberts; J A MacLennan; R G Waters; D A MacRae
North Wales Association of Town & Larger Community Councils	J A MacLennan; B C Roberts; R G Waters
North Wales Play & Playing Fields Association	J Stubbs
One Voice Wales	G R K Brown; R G Waters
Police Community Consultative Group	M Bird; G R K Brown; J A MacLennan; M Medicott; R Peacock; B C Roberts

School Governing Bodies:

St George	(vacancy)	(to ...)
Glan Gele	R M Medicott	(4 years to ...)
Glan Morfa	G R K Brown	(4 years to ...)
St Elfod	G P Davies	(4 years to ...)

St George Quarry Liaison M Bird; D Meredith

St George Village Hall Trust D A MacRae

Woodland Trust G R K Brown; T Rowlands; K J Sudlow

Youth Area Liaison Forum G R K Brown

Abergele Town Council

Schedule 'B' - Planning Applications

Date Considered	Planning Ref No	Description	Applicant(s)	Determination Level	Observations
8.5.08	0/34722	Demolition of existing industrial storage buildings and erection of three storey building to house 2no. self-contained apartments and 1no. storage/warehouse facility at former Builders Yard, Water Street, Abergele	Mr J Gizzi - J & T Gizzi Builders Ltd		Objections: The Council has concerns about traffic and access to the site from a busy road and about the loss of a potential economic development site. There are also concerns about visual amenity. Request application is referred to the Conservation Area Panel.
8.5.08	0/34724	Retention of car port and balcony at Tan y Bryn Lodge, Ffordd y Berth, Abergele	Mr P Davies		No Objections
8.5.08	0/34745	First floor extension to dwelling at 6 Heol y Coed, Abergele	Mr & Mrs Espley		No Objections
8.5.08	0/34762	Extension to dwelling at 34 Lon y Berllan, Abergele	Mr & Mrs Britton		No Objections
8.5.08	0/34795	Variation of Condition 11 of planning permission granted under Code Ref: 0/25936 (Alterations to existing buildings to form 10no. dwelling units to allow the culverting of open ditch at Bodoryn Fawr St George, Abergele	J & T Gizzi (Builders) Ltd		Objections: This application would seem to be contrary to the policies of both the Environment Agency and CCBC, who do not encourage the culverting of open watercourses (disagree that this is a ditch and not a watercourse). The 'ditch' forms part of the landscaping for the site and, as stated in the justification statement, the open fields surrounding the site currently drain into the 'ditch'.

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SCHEDULE 'B'

Planning Decisions issued by Conwy County Borough Council from 7.4.08 to 20.4.08

0/33488 Erection of 2no. dwellings on land off Ffordd y Morfa, Maes Canol, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions

0/33849 Internal alterations including removal of pews, organ and pulpit (Listed Building Consent) at ex-Presbyterian Church, Marine Road, Pensarn, Abergele

Decision: Refused

0/33850 Change of use from Church to Children's' Play Centre at ex-Presbyterian Church, Marine Road, Pensarn, Abergele

Decision: Refused

0/34549 Erection of single storey conservatory to rear of dwelling at 76 Clifton Rise, Abergele

Decision; Approved with conditions
