

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the GENERAL PURPOSES and PLANNING COMMITTEE, held at 6.45 p.m. on Thursday 22nd May 2008 in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

030/08 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The retiring Chairman, Cllr. R.M. Medicott, opened the meeting and called for nominations for the Offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2008-09.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to elect Cllr. J.A. MacLennan as Chairman and Cllr. R.G. Waters as Vice-Chairman for 2008-09.

Cllr. J.A. MacLennan took the Chair and thanked his fellow Members for the confidence placed in him.

031/08 Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. R.D. Peacock
Cllr. J.A. MacLennan (Chairman)
Cllrs: M. Bird (see Min. 036/08(h)); M. Bond; G.R.K. Brown; G.P. Davies; D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medicott; D. Meredith; J.D. Mortimer; B.C. Roberts; S. Rowlands; T. Rowlands; J. Stubbs; R.G. Waters
Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)
County Councillor and Members of the Public

032/08 Apologies for Absence

Cllr. K.J. Sudlow

033/08 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).

Cllr. J.A. MacLennan – see Min. 036/08(j)

034/08 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes and Planning Committee, held on 17th April 2008.

035/08 Matters Arising on Previous Minutes:

- a) Allotments – Min. 494/07(a)

It was NOTED that a small article has been included in the June edition of the Council's newsletter to enquire if any local landowners know of any suitable land which may be available for use as allotments.

- b) Overhead Power Lines - Min. 700/07(b), 752/07(b) & 795/07(a)
- (i) A copy of the response sent by One Voice Wales to the Renewable Energy Route Map for Wales consultation document was RECEIVED.
 - (ii) It was NOTED that an acknowledgement has been received to the response sent by this Council to the Renewable Energy Route Map for Wales consultation document.
 - (iii) A response from Darren Millar, A.M. to the request that he leads on this matter with the Welsh Assembly Government was RECEIVED.
 - (iv) A response to the letter sent to David Jones, MP, asking if he could lead on this matter with the UK Government, was RECEIVED, together with a copy of a letter he has sent to the Minister of State (Energy)
 - (v) A letter, received via Bay of Colwyn Town Council, regarding a cross party inquiry into childhood leukaemia and power lines was also RECEIVED and NOTED.

It was RESOLVED to write a letter of thanks to David Jones, M.P., enclosing a copy of the letter regarding childhood leukaemia and power lines, and to await his further response.

- (vi) It was NOTED that a Community Fund will be launched by NPower Renewables once the Rhyl Flats wind farm is fully operational and further information will be sent out once specific details are finalised.

- c) Proposed Lighting for Pentre Mawr Park – Min. 795/07(b)

The arrangements for a meeting with residents to discuss the proposed lighting scheme were agreed as follows:

Date: Monday 30th June

Venue: Town Hall

Time: 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Officers to attend: Lyn Davies (Parks), Peter Adderley (Street Lighting), Alun Evans (Leisure) and P.C. Hall / Sgt. Foulkes.

It was NOTED that a personal letter of invitation will be sent to residential properties adjoining the park, including Awel y Mor, Pentre Mawr and households in Kinmel Avenue, Park Grove and Dundonald Avenue.

- d) Awel y Mor – Min. 795/07(b)

A copy of an e-mail from Cllr. J.A. MacLennan, giving an update on the proposals for Awel y Mor from Alan Smith, Corporate Modernisation Manager, CCBC, was RECEIVED and NOTED.

- e) North Wales Association of Town & Larger Community Councils – Min. 796/07(c)

(i) A copy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th April was RECEIVED.

(ii) A copy of the response from the Post Office to a request made by the Association that the public consultation on Post Office closures for Area Plan 5 (North Wales) be postponed until September was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to await further details on the public consultation process.

f) Town Hall Licence for Civil Ceremonies – Min. 796/07(d)

A response from the Registration Business Manager, CCBC, to the concerns of this Council was RECEIVED and considered.

The Clerk gave details on the number of civil services held at the Town Hall over the past two years (6 in 2006-07 and 8 in 2007-08) and the bookings for the current year (2). It was NOTED that an average of five bookings per year would be required to cover the premises licence fee of £655 (for three years) and that an Officer from the registration service would be happy to come along to meet the Council to offer advice on how to promote the venue.

It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that the Council should renew the licence for a further three years, in order to continue to provide a convenient venue in the town for civil ceremonies.

An AMENDMENT to the PROPOSAL, that the licence should not be renewed, was PROPOSED and SECONDED. This was defeated by a majority of 6 AGAINST to 4 IN FAVOUR.

The original proposal, that the Licence be renewed for a further 3 year period, was CARRIED.

g) Road Resurfacing Requests – Min. 796/07(f)

A response from Alan Thomas, Highways Engineer, to the concerns of this Council regarding the deterioration of parts of St. George Road and Chapel Street was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to write back to query what has happened to the original promise that the whole of the remainder of St. George Road would be resurfaced this year (as phase two of the scheme) and to state concerns about the delay to the resurfacing of Chapel Street.

h) Conwy Walking Week – Min. 796/07(f)

A copy of the programme of walks for July, including the Tower Hill walk, was RECEIVED.

It was NOTED that the booklet would be available in various locations around the town, but that this Council's website address had been incorrectly listed.

i) Review of Conservation Areas

An acknowledgement to the comments submitted by this Council was RECEIVED.

j) CCBC Street Lighting – Electricity Reduction

An acknowledgement and initial comments following the observations submitted by this Council was RECEIVED and NOTED.

036/08 **Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were RECEIVED and considered:

a) St. Elford School Eco-warriors

- A letter and photographs from the eco-warriors

It was RESOLVED to send a reply confirming that a new litter bin for outside the schools had been ordered and would be supplied shortly.

b) One Voice Wales

Notice of the 2008 Conference and AGM was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED that Cllrs. G.R.K. Brown and R.G. Waters would attend as representatives of this Council and that any motions to be put forward for debate would be put to the Council for consideration at the next meeting.

c) Conwy East Community Health Council

It was NOTED that the Annual and General meetings were held on Thursday 22nd May.

Cllr. J.A. MacLennan gave a brief verbal report, confirming that there were currently no issues affecting Abergele Hospital and there were not likely to be any changes until the Glan Clwyd rebuild programme had been completed.

d) Local Councils Update

A copy of the legal update for May 2008 was RECEIVED.

e) Denbighshire Local Development Plan 2006-2021: Pre-Deposit Public Consultation

Notice of the public consultation on the Denbighshire Local Development Plan was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to await further details and to refer the consultation documents to the Local Government Sub-Committee.

f) Open Doors

Information regarding Open Doors 2008 was RECEIVED and considered.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk, in conjunction with Cllr. D.A. MacRae, would investigate the possibility of taking part in this event with an Open Day at the Town Hall one Saturday during September.

It was NOTED that volunteers would be required to help show people around.

g) Colwyn Bay, Abergele & District Twinning Association

(i) A copy of the audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2008 was RECEIVED.

(ii) It was NOTED that an invitation to attend the AGM on 4th June 2008 had been passed to the two representatives of this Council, Cllrs. G.R.K. Brown and M. Bond.

h) Councillor Contact Details

A copy of the updated contact details for all members (CONFIDENTIAL) was issued.

- Cllr. M. Bird arrived at this juncture

i) Conwy County Borough Council Standards Committee

A letter regarding a vacancy for a Community / Town Councillor on the Standards Committee was RECEIVED.

It was RESOLVED to reply, proposing that Cllr. J.A. MacLennan be put forward for consideration.

j) Pre-Application Consultation – Fibrespeed ‘Open Access for Wales’: Proposed Development at North Wales Business Park, Abergele

- Cllr. J.A. MacLennan declared an interest and took no part in the decision on this matter.

Information regarding the proposed development, comprising an equipment cabin, cabin housing a standby generator and a 15m mast to give radio links to the wider Abergele area and to secure microwave coverage links in the future, was RECEIVED and considered.

It was RESOLVED to write to object to the proposed development, on the grounds that the mast and associated equipment is too close to residential properties and that a more suitable position within the business park should be considered.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to write to the AM and MP to alert them to the concerns of this Council.

037/08 **Minutes of Sub-Committees**

A copy of the following Minutes was RECEIVED:

- a) Parks & Play Areas Sub-Committee, held on 21st April 2008

038/08 **Matters Arising on Those Minutes**

- a) King George's Field Status – Gele Park – Min. 813/07(a)

Additional information from Fields in Trust regarding the King George's Field status of Gele Park was RECEIVED.

It was NOTED that Fields in Trust is the sole trustee of the King George's Field Foundation, responsible for the overall protection of the site, and that the Local Authority (CCBC) is currently the Managing Trustee, with responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of the King George's Field.

It was FURTHER NOTED that the Local Authority is able to apply for funding under the name of the charity, thus having access to funding sources not usually available to local authorities.

- b) Request for a Sports Field in Belgrano – Min. 814/07

It was NOTED that Chris Dyke of the Planning Department, CCBC, is currently dealing with this matter and he has recently written to the landowner to ask if negotiations regarding the use of the identified piece of land could be re-opened. If the landowner is in agreement, CCBC will need to then establish if it could be prepared for use as an open space at a reasonable cost, which will require a survey by engineers. A further update on this matter will be provided in due course.

It was RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to permit Cllr. Dave Holland, CCBC Member for Pensarn, to give a brief further update:

Cllr. Holland reported that he had now taken up this matter, started by Cllr. Jean Stubbs, and he had recently met with the local PCSO and CBM to discuss the way forward. It was hoped that they could arrange to meet with the landowner to re-open discussions about the possible use of the field.

- c) Terms of Reference

It was RESOLVED to approve the draft Terms of Reference of the Parks and Play Areas Sub-Committee (as detailed in Appendix 'A' to those Minutes).

039/08 **Re-appointment of Sub-Committees for 2008/09**

It was RESOLVED to re-appoint and approve amendments to the membership of all sub-committees, as detailed on Schedule 'C' attached.

040/08 **Planning / Licensing Applications**

- a) The planning applications, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached, were RECEIVED and concluded as recorded on that schedule.
- b) The planning decisions issued by C.C.B.C. for the Abergele area between 21st April and 4th May 2008, as detailed on Schedule 'B' attached, were NOTED.
- c) It was NOTED that two licensing applications had been registered by C.C.B.C. for the Abergele area during the period 5th to 16th May 2008:

Temporary Events Notice – Kinmel Hall Estate, Abergele:-
24-26 May 2008 & 22-25 August 2008, for the sale by retail of alcohol between the hours of 10:00 and 23:59.

041/08 **Additional Urgent Matter**

Concerns regarding the continued use of 'cut & mulch' type mowers in certain areas of the town were expressed.

It was NOTED that the Environmental Scrutiny Committee of CCBC had resolved to purchase new mowers and revert to cut and collect mowing in all areas.

It was RESOLVED to request the County Members to take up this matter with the County Council and also that a letter be sent on behalf of this Council to state concern that this resolution is not being adhered to.

The Meeting Closed at 8.05 p.m.

..... Chairman

Abergele Town Council

Schedule 'A' - Planning Applications

Date Considered	Planning Ref No	Description	Applicant(s)	Determination Level	Observations
22.5.08	0/34826	Conversion of ground floor storage area into 2no. self contained flats, construction of car parking spaces and part removal of canopy at Barry's of Pensarn, 17/19 Marine Road, Pensarn, Abergele.	Barry's of Pensarn		No objections
22.5.08	0/34835	Erection of open sided shelter for outdoor craft teaching at Dinorben Site, Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan, Faenol Avenue, Abergele	Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan		The Council has concerns about the proposed shelter which is adjacent to residential properties, and requests that consideration be given to making the building more aesthetically pleasing, or providing adequate screening. Also, there are concerns that it may attract youths during the evenings/school holiday and the Council would like to see full consultation with the local police before any permission is granted.
22.5.08	0/34838	Demolition of garage (Conservation Area Consent) at Meliden, Groes Lwyd, Abergele	Mr & Mrs R Hampshire		No objections

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SCHEDULE 'B'

Planning Decisions issued by Conwy County Borough Council from 21.4.08 to 4.5.08

0/34583 To remove 3 x Ash trees for reasons of safety at 8 Llys y Gopa, Abergele

Decision: Refused

0/34600 Remove 1no. Sycamore tree and reduce by 50% 1no. Sycamore tree at 49 Bryn Castell, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions

0/34601 Extension to dwelling at 6 Compton Way, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions

0/34603 Erection of two storey extensions and internal alterations at High Gate, The Village, St George, Abergele

Decision: Refused

0/34604 Change of use of outbuilding into dwelling at Tan Dderwen Farm Cottage, St George Road, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions

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

Decision: Approved with conditions
