

# Abergele Town Council

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 8.10pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

633/08 **Attendance Register:**

The Mayor, Cllr. R.D. Peacock

Cllr. K.J. Sudlow (Chairman)

Cllrs: M. Bird; M. Bond; G.P. Davies; J.A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medicott;

P.D. Meredith; J.D. Mortimer; S. Rowlands; T. Rowlands; A. Wood

Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)

634/08 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were RECEIVED from:

Cllrs: B.C. Roberts; R.G. Waters

635/08 **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).

The following interests were declared:

- Cllr. K.J. Sudlow, item 6(b)(ii) – request for donation from Ysgol St Elfod

- Cllr. G.P. Davies, item 6(b)(ii) - “ “ “ “ “ “ “

- Cllr. A. Wood, item 5(f) – employment of webmaster

636/08 **Minutes**

**It was RESOLVED to APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee, held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009.**

637/08 **Matters Arising on Previous Minutes:**

a) Town Maps – Min. 472/08(b)

(i) It was RESOLVED to delegate authority to a small working party comprising Cllrs: D.A. MacRae, R.D. Peacock and J. Stubbs to decide the exact locations for the remaining two maps (Water Street corner and in Pensarn/Belgrano), with advice from the local Highways officer.

(ii) It was NOTED that a quotation for the installation of the additional maps could not be obtained until the exact locations had been decided.

b) The Mount – Min. 598/08(b)

A response from Stepnell to the quotations submitted for the landscaping works was RECEIVED.

**It was RESOLVED to ask Mr Smith to attend a site meeting with representatives from the Council to view the land and agree the work required to bring it to a standard whereby it can be maintained by this Council.**

c) Pensarn Promenade Barriers – Min. 591/08(a)

A brief e-mail update was RECEIVED from Cllr. D. Holland, confirming that the Parking Section were looking at drawing up proposals for the barriers.

- d) Government Gilts – Min. 591/08(c)  
It was NOTED that One Voice Wales have referred the enquiry about Gilts to NALC, who employ an advisor qualified to give investment advice, but that yields have now dropped to around 2%.
- e) Bright Ideas Competition – Min. 595/08(b)(iv)  
It was NOTED that an initial design proof had been received for the proposed winning design but that it had been returned as it was considered to be too perfect and had not accurately reflected the drawing submitted. A further proof was now awaited.
- f) Council Website – Min. 595/08(c)  
A quotation received from a locally based webmaster for the cost of his time in making the agreed amendments to the content and layout of the website was considered.

- Cllr. A Wood declared a personal and prejudicial interest and withdrew from the meeting whilst the matter was discussed and concluded.

**It was RESOLVED to approve up to five hours work initially, at a rate of £22.50 per hour, to be paid via the webmaster's employer, Woods Motorcycles, to make the agreed amendments and additions to the site.**

638/08 **Correspondence:**

- a) North Wales International Music Festival  
A previously deferred request for sponsorship of a community tour in 2009 was considered.  
**It was RESOLVED to approve a sponsorship package at a cost of £750, to provide four performances at two suggested venues in the town, Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan and a suitable community venue (possibly a Rotary organised event for local groups).**
- b) St Elfod Junior School  
(i) A letter of thanks for the donation made by the Council in 2008/09 was RECEIVED.  
(ii) A request for financial assistance towards the costs of a trip to Cardiff to participate in the National Urdd Eisteddfod was RECEIVED and considered.  
  
- Cllr. K.J. Sudlow retired from the meeting, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, and it was resolved that, in the absence of the Vice-Chairman, The Mayor, Cllr. Ron Peacock should act as temporary Chairman.  
  
It was proposed to make a donation of £10 per pupil (total £130) towards the cost of the trip.  
An amended proposal of £250 was made, but this was defeated by a vote of 4 in favour to 6 against (3 abstentions).  
**It was RESOLVED by a majority of 6 for to 0 against (7 abstentions) to approve the initial proposal of a donation of £130.**  
- Cllr. K.J. Sudlow returned to the meeting and took his place as Chairman.
- c) Abergele Surgery Action Group  
A request for the free use of a meeting room for a presentation on fund-raising ideas was RECEIVED and considered.

**It was RESOLVED to inform the group that the hire charges cannot be waived and to suggest that the Practice be asked to contribute towards the cost.**

- d) Standard Life Bank  
Notification of a further reduction in interest rates was RECEIVED.
- e) Society of Local Council Clerks – Regional Conference  
**It was RESOLVED to authorise the Clerk to attend the annual Regional Conference for Wales, to be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July at Venue Cymru, at a cost of £49.**
- f) Conwy Youth Service
  - (i) An update on youth service provision for the Abergele Area was RECEIVED and NOTED.
  - (ii) **It was RESOLVED to authorise the annual grant to the Youth Service of £1,000, as per the approved Estimates.**

639/08 **Minutes**

- The draft Minutes of the following sub-committees were RECEIVED:
  - a) The Local Government Sub-Committee, held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2009

640/08 **To Consider the following Matters Arising from Those Minutes:**

- (a) Proposals on the Future of Community Health Councils in Wales -Min. 610/08  
**It was RESOLVED to ENDORSE the response to the consultation questions, as detailed in Schedule 'A' to the minutes.**

641/08 **To Note the Financial Situation, as at today :-**

	£
Current Account	21,220.78
Monthly Interest Account	<u>94,754.55</u>
TOTAL:	115,975.33
Hall & Development Account	472.54
Hall & Development Reserve	<u>69,577.76</u>
TOTAL:	70,050.30

642/08 **Payment of Accounts**

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

643/08 **Confidential Business**

**In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and with Standing Order no.68, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was considered advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded.**

- a) Members received and considered three quotations received for new curtains for the Main Chamber.  
**It was RESOLVED to DEFER this item pending receipt of an amendment to one quotation and additional quotation from a local company.**

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

..... Chairman

## Abergele Town Council

### SCHEDULE 'A'

Payments authorised on Thursday 16th April 2009:

	Chq No:	Total £	Incl. VAT £	Notes / Statutory Powers (new or unusual payments)
a) Salary payments	BACS	2,785.52		
b) Inland Revenue (Salaries)	103384	1,020.03		
c) Gwynedd Pensions	103385	927.44		
d) Tiscali (Broadband)	DD	18.79	2.80	
e) University of Gloucestershire - Clerk's Training	DD	131.00		
f) CCBC - National Non-Domestic Rates	DD	599.25		
g) Petty Cash Imprest Acc	103372	50.50		
h) CCBC - Play equipment for Parc Gele	103362	10,000.00		
i) SP Manweb plc - Energy supply for floodlighting	103363	1,583.55		
j) Micrographics - Town Maps	103364	49.45		
k) CCBC - litter bin sponshorship	103365	1,730.00		
l) CCBC - Design & supervision fees - floodlighting	103366	4,995.00		
m) CCBC - Xmas lighting infastrucure	103367	174.79		
n) CCBC - Xmas lighting infastrucure	103368	1,330.23		
o) Merlin Lighting - purchase of LED bulbs	103369	2,794.50	364.50	
p) Plus Publishing - Town Guide	103370	4,140.00	540.00	
q) Slaters - Mini-bus hire re: Chief Exec visit	103371	45.00		
r) D H Window Cleaining	103373	22.00		
s) Banner Business Services Ltd - stationery	103374	54.62	7.12	
t) WNW - stationery	103375	65.60	8.56	
u) G Roveo-Franco	103376	130.00		
v) Meirion Jones Landscapes	103377	230.00	30.00	
w) CCBC re: planting by River Gele	103378	200.00		
X) One Voice Wales - annual membership	103379	1,284.00		
y) Centregreat Ltd - Floodlighting	103380	19,502.92	2,543.86	(awaiting new invoice -5%) LA (MP) Act 1976 s.19
z) Staples - ink & folders	103381	129.87	16.94	
aa) WPS - insurance renewal	103382	3,172.48		
ab) Canon - service charge Jan-Mar	103383	176.70	23.05	
ac) Public Works Loan Board	DD	2,366.67		

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