

# Abergele Town Council

## MINUTES

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

### 277/08 Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. R.D. Peacock  
Cllr. K.J. Sudlow (Chairman)  
Cllrs: M. Bond; G.P. Davies; J.A. MacLennan; R.M. Medicott; P.D. Meredith;  
J.D. Mortimer; J.E.H. Pitt; B.C. Roberts; S. Rowlands; T. Rowlands; J. Stubbs;  
R.G. Waters  
Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)

### 278/08 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: M. Bird; D.A. MacRae

### 279/08 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 Members declared a personal (but not prejudicial) interest regarding applications for grants (see Min. 238/08(iii)) and completed the necessary declaration forms:

Cllr. G.P. Davies (Awel y Mor and Pensarn Coffee & Chat Club)  
Cllr. R.M. Medicott (Elfod Heritage Group)  
Cllr. J. Stubbs (Canolfan Dewi Sant and Pensarn Coffee & Chat Club)  
Cllr. K.J. Sudlow (Abergele Rangers U12 F.C.)  
Cllr. R.G. Waters (St. George School and Elfod Heritage Group)

### 280/08 Minutes

**It was RESOLVED to APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee, held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008.**

### 281/08 Matters Arising on Previous Minutes:

#### a) Abergele Carnival – Min. 221/08(e)

Information from several local Councils regarding the organisation and funding of their annual carnivals was RECEIVED and considered. It was NOTED that the support given by the Town Council varies quite considerably.

**It was RESOLVED to DEFER taking any decision on support for the Abergele Carnival, pending a report back from The Mayor, Cllr. R.D. Peacock, and Cllr. S. Rowlands, who have recently been appointed as the representatives of this Council on the Carnival Committee.**

b) Street Scene Sponsorship – Litter Bin Requests – Min. 222/08

A list of the litter bin requests made by Members to date was RECEIVED.

Members were asked to inform the Clerk of any additional requests to be added to this list, which would then be considered by this Committee at the next meeting, with a view to recommending three requests be put forward to CCBC under the new litter bin sponsorship scheme.

c) Internal Audit

It was NOTED that David Shore has agreed to continue to act as the Internal Auditor to the Council for 2008/09.

282/08 **Correspondence:**

a) Abergele Golf Club

A letter of thanks for sponsorship of the Open Week competition was RECEIVED.

b) International Sheep Dog Society

A letter of thanks for the support given to the trials was RECEIVED.

c) UHY Hacker Young

(i) Confirmation of a clean report from the External Auditor for 2007/08 was RECEIVED.

(ii) **It was RESOLVED to authorise payment of the invoice for the audit fee of £550 + VAT**

d) Abergele Youth Action

It was NOTED that Abergele Youth Action has been successful in obtaining lottery funding and **it was RESOLVED to send a letter of congratulations and good wishes from the Council.**

e) Pitney Bowes Postage Meter

It was NOTED that the Council had been offered a 30 day free trial of a Postage Meter.

f) Glan Gele Infant School

A letter of thanks for the recent grant, together with a detailed account of expenditure from the grant given in 2007/08 was RECEIVED.

283/08 **Annual Grants**

(i) **It was RESOLVED to authorise payment of the annual grant of £100 to St George school for maintenance of the war memorial planters.**

(ii) It was NOTED that a request has been received from an individual for sponsorship of a gap year project and that a response would be sent by the Clerk to outline the reasons why the Council was unable to assist and to suggest alternative grant sources.

(iii) **Members considered the applications for annual grants for 2008/09 and it was RESOLVED to authorise payment of grants to a number of applicants, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached.**

A number of Members declared personal interests in applications, as detailed in Min. 279/08 above.

Cllr. B.C. Roberts took over temporary Chairmanship of the meeting during the consideration of applications A5 and A6, due to a personal interest declared by the Chairman.

**It was RESOLVED to DEFER consideration of all the non-urgent applications under section F (section 137) until the next meeting of the committee.**

284/08 **Membership of Sub-Committees**

**It was RESOLVED to appoint Cllr. G.P. Davies to fill the vacancy on the Christmas Decorations Sub-Committee, which reports to the Policy and Finance Committee.**

285/08 **Minutes**

It was NOTED that the Newsletter and Town Guide sub-committee meetings, due to be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October, had to be re-scheduled.

The Minutes of the following sub-committees were RECEIVED:

- a) The Local Government Sub-Committee, held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008
- b) The Christmas Decorations Sub-Committee, held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2008

286/08 **Matters Arising on Those Minutes:**

a) **Local Government Sub-Committee**

(i) Min. 259/08

The response of the sub-committee to the W.A.G. Consultation on Planning Policy Changes to Support Sustainable Development in Rural Areas was NOTED.

(ii) Min. 260/08

**It was RESOLVED to ENDORSE the response to the W.A.G. consultation of a Refocused Post Office Development Fund.**

b) **Christmas Decorations Sub-Committee**

(i) The resolutions of the sub-committee, including the switch-on and switch-off dates for the lights for 2008/09 were NOTED.

287/08 **Finance Report**

a) The Financial Situation, as at Today, was NOTED :-

	£
Current Account	11,848.24
Monthly Interest Account	104,085.78
High Interest Bond	<u>30,000.00</u>
TOTAL:	145,934.02

Hall & Development Account	470.20
Hall & Development Reserve	<u>68,501.49</u>
TOTAL:	68,971.69

b) A copy of the quarterly budget monitoring report for the period to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008 was RECEIVED. Members were asked to contact the Clerk if they had any queries regarding this report.

c) Dynamic Risk Assessment

It was NOTED that the Council's financial assets are currently shared across two separate banking institutions, neither of which have been involved in any recent Government rescue package.

**It was RESOLVED to request the Clerk to make enquiries about the availability of National Savings products or Government issued Gilts/Bonds, due to some concern about the current financial instability in the banking sector.**

288/08 **Payment of Accounts**

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

The Meeting Closed at 9.05 p.m.

..... Chairman

## Abergele Town Council

### SCHEDULE 'A'

Payments authorised on Thursday 16th October 2008:

	Chq No:	Total £	Incl. VAT £	Statutory Powers (new or unusual payments)
a) Salary payments	BACS	2,606.93		
b) Inland Revenue (Salaries)	103232	946.38		
c) Gwynedd Pensions	103233	852.15		
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	571.00		
g) Staples - stationery and ink	103218	16.25 112.17	2.42 16.71	
h) MSI Alarms - replacement battery	103219	36.43	5.43	
i) Banner Business Supplies	103220	40.81	6.08	
j) Garden Pride - grounds maintenance	103221	208.00		
k) Merlin Lighting Installations (50% of contract)	103222	4,664.75	694.75	
l) Travel Claims:				
G P Davies (CVSC Mtg Colwyn Bay)	103223	6.00		
Conwy T.C. (Clerks travel to SLCC meeting- Ruthin)	103224	7.80		
R G Waters (One Voice Wales meetings)	103227	171.20		
C J Earley (University of Gloucestershire weekend)	103228	227.35		
J A MacLennan (One Voice Wales meeting)	103234	14.40		
m) WNW - stationery and supplies	103225 103230	86.03 39.59	12.81 5.90	
n) Pennine Tea & Coffee Ltd	103226	55.97		
o) Public Works Loan Board	DD	2,410.42		
p) E.N. Roberts (plumbing)	103229	146.88	21.88	
q) Petty Cash Imprest Acc	103231	119.19		

\*\* 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 its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.