

# Abergele Town Council

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee, held at 8.00pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

### 217/08 Attendance Register

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

### 218/08 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: M. Bird; R.M. Medicott; B.C. Roberts

### 219/08 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).

Declarations of interest were made by Cllrs: G.P. Davies; J.A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; K.J. Sudlow and R.G. Waters in respect of agenda items 7(b)(i) and (iii) (see Min. 223/08(b)), as school governors.

### 220/08 Minutes

**It was RESOLVED to APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee, held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2008.**

### 221/08 Matters Arising on Previous Minutes:

- a) Traffic Calming – Pentre Mawr Park – Min. 132/08(b)

It was NOTED that the project has currently been put on hold to await the outcome of discussions regarding protection measures for the park, following the recent traveller encampment.

**It was RESOLVED to instruct CCBC to go out to tender on the traffic calming element of the scheme only.**

**It was FURTHER RESOLVED to await further details of a site meeting to discuss suitable protection measures for the park and to query whether lockable wrought iron gates could be reinstated at the entrance to the park.**

- b) CCBC Street Lighting Replacement Programme – Min. 803/07(a)

A response from Peter Adderley, CCBC, to the request that a more decorative

style of lamp column be considered for the replacement programme for the town centre, was RECEIVED and it was NOTED that further details would be provided in due course.

c) OVW National Training Programme for Councillors – Min. 132/08(f)

It was NOTED that no response has been received by the Clerk regarding any interest by Members in attending any of the new training sessions offered by One Voice Wales and a nil return would be submitted, unless Members contacted the Clerk by Monday.

d) Clerk's Training

(i) SLCC Wales Conference – Min. 133/08(c)

The Clerk gave a brief verbal report on the annual Welsh Conference, held on 8<sup>th</sup> September in Llandrindod Wells.

(ii) Certificate in Local Policy

It was NOTED that the second year of the course is due to commence on Monday.

**It was RESOLVED to continue to provide study support for the Clerk and to authorise her attendance at two residential weekends, the first taking place on 10-12 October 2008 in Cheltenham.**

e) Abergele Carnival Committee – Min. 133/08(d)

A copy of the notes from an informal meeting with representatives from Abergele Carnival Committee, held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2008, was RECEIVED.

It was NOTED that support for the carnival has dwindled over recent years and that the committee are currently struggling with the organisation of the event, due to this lack of support. As a result of this, a number of problems had been experienced with this year's event.

Concern was expressed that this Council did not have the expertise or resources to be able to take over the running of this major annual event, even if the Committee were willing to permit this.

**It was RESOLVED to ask the Clerk to contact Colwyn Bay, Rhyl and Prestatyn Town Councils to find out what involvement (if any) they have in the organisation of the their local carnival.**

222/08 **Correspondence:**

a) CCBC Street Scene Sponsorship Packs

Details of sponsorship packs available for local businesses and organisations to sponsor flower beds, litter bins and trees were RECEIVED.

**It was RESOLVED that this Council should seek to provide three additional litter bins during the current financial year, at a cost of £1,500.**

**Members were requested to submit details of preferred locations within their wards to enable a 'wish list' to be compiled and prioritised by the Council.**

**It was FURTHER RESOLVED to recommend to the Estimates Committee that an amount be included in the Estimates each year for additional bins.**

b) Value Wales

Information about Value Wales, a W.A.G. initiative to obtain better value for money through 'smarter procurement' was RECEIVED.

It was NOTED that items currently available through this service included I.C.T., photocopiers and telecommunications.

c) Canon Photocopier

Notice of a slight increase in the copy (service) charge, with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008, was RECEIVED.

223/08 **Annual Grants**

a) Applications

It was NOTED that the closing date for receipt of grant applications is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September and that notices have been put on the Town Council's notice boards, in the library and sent to the local press. An article was also included in the September edition of the Council's quarterly newsletter. All applications received will be on the agenda for the next meeting of this Committee.

An enquiry from the Vicar regarding a possible application for the Canolfan Dewi Sant Centre was considered.

**It was RESOLVED to recommend that the committee submits an application for the October grants round.**

b) Schools

(i) Members considered the annual grants to local schools for 2008/09.

It was agreed that Members who were school governors did not need to declare a prejudicial interest, as the same formula was used for each school.

it was NOTED that the budget had been increased from £10,000 to £15,000 for 2008.

**It was RESOLVED to make a lump sum payment of £750 per school, with the remaining £12,000 to be split according to pupil numbers:**

<u>School</u>	<u>Pupil No's</u>	<u>Total Grant</u>
Glan Gele	246	£4,475
St. Elfod	326	£5,690
Glan Morfa	146	£2,965
St. George	74	£1,870

(ii) A brief message of thanks was RECEIVED from Mr Arwel Roberts, retired Headteacher of Ysgol Glan Morfa.

**It was RESOLVED to write to thank Mr Roberts for his contribution during his time as Headteacher of Ysgol Glan Morfa.**

(iii) Members considered a verbal request by Ysgol Glan Gele for funding towards a project involving the tidying, planting and ongoing maintenance of a piece of land by the garages on Peel Street, which is to be given to the school by CCBC.

It was NOTED that CCBC Housing is giving £1,000 towards the total cost of the project, which it is hoped will include a bench, litter bin, landscaping materials and plants, along with labour costs for clearing and landscaping work.

**It was RESOLVED by a majority of 5 in favour and 0 against (with governors of Glan Gele taking no part in this vote) to make a grant of £1,000 towards this worthwhile community project.**

(iv) Abergele Youth Action

It was NOTED that further information had now been received from Abergele Youth Action in respect of their recent application for start-up funding towards a project to take out a lease over Hesketh House from Conlan International (see Min. 189/08(m) from the Ordinary meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September).

A copy of the notes from a meeting with Linda Tavernor, a Director of Abergele Youth Action, was RECEIVED.

**It was RESOLVED to accept the further explanations provided and to approve a grant of £5,000 towards the start-up costs of this project.**

#### 224/08 Premises Maintenance

a) It was NOTED that the undertaking of an inspection of the premises for planned maintenance purposes is now overdue and that the last inspection had been carried out by ex-members, C J MacRae and D A Byrne.

**It was RESOLVED to approach the two ex-members to ask if they would be willing to assist the Council in undertaking another inspection, with the assistance of Cllr. D. Meredith.**

b) A quotation for the fitting of new lever operated taps to the second gents' toilet and a valve for the cold water supply was RECEIVED and considered.

**It was RESOLVED to instruct the plumber to proceed with this work as quickly as possible.**

#### 225/08 Appointment of Auditor

**It was RESOLVED to appoint Mr David Shore as Internal Auditor for 2008/09**

226/08 **The Mount**

It was NOTED that the footbridge works are now nearing completion, with the bow-topped fencing expected to be complete in the next three weeks.

**It was RESOLVED to instruct Stepnell Ltd to complete the outstanding landscaping works and to request a site meeting, to include members of The Mount Task & Finish Group, to confirm the work to be undertaken.**

227/08 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the following sub-committees were RECEIVED:

- a) The Christmas Decorations Sub-Committee, held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2008
- b) The Newsletter Sub-Committee, held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2008
- c) The Town Guide Sub-Committee, held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2008
- d) The Local Government Sub-Committee, held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008
- e) The Christmas Decorations Sub-Committee, held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2008

228/08 **Matters Arising on Those Minutes:**

- a) Christmas Decorations Sub-Committee - Min. 140/08

**It was RESOLVED to ENDORSE the recommendation that Cllr. G.P. Davies be appointed to fill the vacancy on this sub-committee.**

- b) Newsletter Sub-Committee - Min. 160/08

**It was RESOLVED to ENDORSE the recommendation that Cllr. R.M. Medicott be appointed to fill the vacancy on this sub-committee**

- c) Town Guide Sub-Committee

- (i) Min. 171/08

It was NOTED that members are in the process of reviewing the content of the first edition of the Town Guide in preparation for the next issue, due to be published in February 2009.

- (ii) Min. 172/08

**It was RESOLVED to approve the Terms of Reference for the Town Guide Sub-Committee, as detailed in Appendix 'A' to the Minutes.**

- d) Local Government Sub-Committee

- (i) Min. 201/08 – W.A.G. Review of Electoral Arrangements

**It was RESOLVED to approve the response to the consultation**

**questions, as detailed in Schedule 'A' to the minutes.**

(ii) Min. 203/08 – Setting Local Speed Limits Consultation

The response of the sub-committee to the consultation questions, as detailed on Schedule 'B' to the minutes, was NOTED and ENDORSED.

e) Christmas Decorations Sub-Committee

(i) Min. 208/08(a) – Design a Light Competition

It was NOTED that the motif has now been ordered and is hoped to be displayed on a lamp column at Tesco roundabout.

(ii) Min. 208/08(c) – Christmas Window Competition

It was RESOLVED to ENDORSE the recommendation that the Council runs the Christmas Window Competition again in 2008, with prizes the same as last year.

(iii) Min. 208/08(c) – Christmas Trees

It was NOTED that a new Christmas tree is to be provided on the grassed verge at Llanfair Road, near Lon Ffawydd, subject to receiving the necessary Highways consent and to quotations being within the budget agreed.

229/08 **The Financial Situation, as at Today, was NOTED :-**

	£
Current Account	1,820.77
Monthly Interest Account	132,085.78
High Interest Bond	<u>30,000.00</u>
TOTAL:	163,906.55
Hall & Development Account	470.20
Hall & Development Reserve	<u>68,243.82</u>
TOTAL:	68,714.02

230/08 **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 18th September 2008:

	<b>Chq No:</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Incl. VAT</b>	<b>Statutory Powers</b>
		£	£	(new or unusual payments)
a) Salary payments	BACS	2,858.33		
b) Inland Revenue (Salaries)	103210	694.98		
c) Gwynedd Pensions	103211	852.15		
d) Tiscali (Broadband)	DD	18.79	2.80	
e) University of Gloucestershire - Clerk's Training	DD	132.00		
f) CCBC - National Non-Domestic Rates	DD	571.00		
g) Dorothy's Florist (wreath)	103191	40.00		
h) CCBC - Planning Application	103192	159.00		
i) Communicorp : Local Councils Update subscription	103193	65.00		
j) CCBC - Trade Waste Apr-Sept 2008	103194	100.82	15.02	
k) BT - Combined bill to 21 Aug 2008	103195	298.07	44.39	
l) The Computer Shop - new power adaptor	103196	40.00	5.96	
m) Hywel Evans - Sept newsletter printing	103197	600.00		
n) John Ffrancon Griffiths - translation	103198	167.99		
o) Colwyn Link - Sept newsletter	103199	55.25		
p) CCBC - COSHH Training Course - caretaker	103200	30.00		
q) Livetech - website domain transfer & hosting	103201	205.63	30.63	
r) Racecraft Signs - signwriting honours board	103202	79.90	11.90	
s) Refund of half fees re: cancellation of bookings:	103203	25.00		
	103204	50.00		
t) Travel Claims: Mrs K Graham - Clerks's conference in Llandrindod W (half costs paid by Conwy Town Council)	103205	52.04		
u) Petty Cash Imprest Account	103206	133.50		
v) Canon - copier rental	103207	168.85	25.15	
w) NWN Media Ltd - newsletter delivery	103208	98.70	14.70	
	103209	88.77	13.22	

\*\* 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.