

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on Thursday 1st October 2009 at 6.45 p.m. in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

224/09 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, Cllr. D.A. MacRae (Chairman)

Cllrs: M. Bond; G.P. Davies; J.A. MacLennan; R.M. Medlicott; P.D. Meredith; R.D. Peacock; J.E.H. Pitt; B.C. Roberts; T. Rowlands; J. Stubbs; K.J. Sudlow; R.G. Waters

Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)

Cllr. Dr. S Anderson, CCBC

Cllr. D. Holland, CCBC

225/09 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllrs: J.M.D. Bird; J.D. Mortimer; S. Rowlands; A. Wood

226/09 **Declaration of Interest: Code of Conduct**

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

227/09 **Visitor to the Council:**

The Mayor, Cllr. D.A. MacRae welcomed Cllr. Dr. Stuart Anderson, Chair of Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee, CCBC, to give a brief presentation on a paper circulated regarding the site identification and development plan for a two-storey safe refuge programme on the West Morfa Rhuddlan coastal floodplain.

The presentation covered the 1990 North Wales coastal flood disaster and the subsequent recommendations of the Wales All-Party Commons Select Committee, which had never been fully implemented due to a lack of political support. The current SPACE programme (Sustainable Prosperity around Conwy East) gives the opportunity to think radically to solve problems and create solutions to the threat of rising sea levels and unpredictable storm surges. Several maps were shown, highlighting the extent of land at risk, possible locations for safe refuges and exit routes. It was stressed that the proposed safe refuges would be primarily for disabled and vulnerable residents, but could also be used for storage of emergency equipment such as boats, wetsuits etc. More resilience was also needed for all residents and planning consent for upper storey loft conversions for bungalows should be supported in most cases, despite possible concerns about overlooking neighbouring properties.

A brief question and answer session followed the presentation, with questions about global warming, cycle paths, the extent of land at risk from flooding and the design of new properties on land on the floodplain which is already designated for housing.

228/09

Minutes

It was RESOLVED to receive, approve and sign as a correct record the following Minutes:

- a) **The Ordinary Meeting, held on 3rd September 2009**

229/09

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

- a) Strategic Regeneration Area – Min. 671/08(d)
It was NOTED that the Steering Group will be considering engagement with town and community councils at its next meeting on 21st October.
- b) Request for Raised Bus Pad – Min. 173/09(d)
It was NOTED that the store manager had contacted the supplier and arranged for a survey of the bus stop and a quotation, which has now been forwarded to Head Office for consideration.
- c) Water Street Pavement Improvements – Min. 617/08(d)
It was NOTED that the proposed pavement improvements had now been put back to December.
It was RESOLVED to request all County Councillors to raise concerns about the delays with this urgent work and query why it has been prioritised behind work at Llanfair TH and Maes Canol.
- d) Traffic Calming at Maes y Dre – Min. 615/08(b)
(i) It was NOTED that the officer dealing with the advertisements and tender process has been on long-term sickness absence. Consequently progress has been slow and this will now be picked up by another officer.
(ii) It was FURTHER NOTED that a number plate survey is to be undertaken in the Kinmel Avenue / Alexandra Road / Groes Lwyd area and routine pedestrian surveys are taking place at school crossings on Rhuddlan Road and Faenol Avenue.
- e) Policing of Parades – Min. 051/09(i)(i)
A response from Inspector Essi Ahari to the letter sent to the Chief Constable on 19th June was RECEIVED and NOTED.
- f) Community Skips – Min. 106/09(g)
It was NOTED that the skip provided at the Town Hall on 18th September was poorly attended and members were asked to consider changing the location of the skip proposed for Saturday 9th January.
It was RESOLVED to move the skip in January to Pensarn (either at the rear of St Davids or on the promenade) and arrange a skip in Maes Canol for March/April.
- g) Bulb Planting – Min. 173/09
It was NOTED that permission has now been obtained from Highways and CCBC will be planting a 16 metre length of mixed crocus bulbs along the grassed verges at both Eldon Drive and Llanfair Road, with the additional planting to be funded by CCBC.
- h) A55 Boundary Stone – Min. 174/09(l)
It was NOTED that the replacement boundary stone is finally in place.

DRAFT –TO BE CONFIRMED

- i) Planning Enforcement Matters – Min. 174/09(g)
- (i) Fence at Heol Conwy
Further advice/information was RECEIVED from:
1. Peter Lloyd, Planning Consultant
 2. One Voice Wales
 3. CCBC Planning Officer
 4. Darren Millar AM
- (v) Unauthorised Advertisement
It was NOTED that the unauthorised sign on the corner of Dundonald Avenue / Clwyd Avenue has now been removed.
- j) CVSC Training – The Role of Trustees – Min. 174/09(l)
It was NOTED that Cllr. G.P. Davies attended the session and a copy of the presentation notes are available on request from the Clerk.
- k) CCBC Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Min. 174/09(p)
The Clerk gave a brief verbal report on the presentation given by the Boundary Commission for Wales to the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, CCBC.
It was NOTED that:
- (i) The review of Conwy commenced on Monday 28th September and could take up to 9 months or more to complete.
 - (ii) The community areas that were established 30+ years ago would not be affected by this review and there would be no changes to Town and Community Council boundaries or numbers of councillors.
 - (iii) Each Electoral Division must include one or more whole community areas (they cannot be split between two or more divisions).
 - (iv) The review will include the total number of county councillors, the number and boundaries of electoral divisions, the number of councillors representing each electoral division and the name of electoral divisions.
 - (v) The Commissioners have a duty to consider what is desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government and must pay due regard to W.A.D. directives.
 - (vi) To achieve parity for voters and in accordance with a WAG directive, the ratio of electors to councillors should be, as nearly as possible, the same in every electoral division in the principal area, with an aim of being no lower than 1:1,750.
- The Clerk provided information on the current ratios of electors to councillors in Conwy and in the current Abergele electoral divisions and gave information on the timetable and process for the review.
It was RESOLVED to await the draft recommendations of the Commission before making any representations.
- l) Proposed 40mph Speed Limit A548- Min. 173/09(g)
A further response was received from CCBC, which failed to understand the request of this Council.
It was RESOLVED to request that the Clerk sends a map, clearly identifying the suggested location for the commencement of the 40mph zone.
- m) Schools Modernisation Programme – Min. 174/09(b)
It was NOTED that further guidance had been forwarded to all members by the Clerk from Iwan Davies, CCBC, regarding the circumstances in

which members should declare personal and/or prejudicial interests. It was FURTHER NOTED that training materials for town and community councillors had been received from CCBC on the Code of Conduct and any members who were unsure about any aspect of the Code were asked to contact the Clerk to request training.

230/09

Correspondence

- The following items of correspondence were RECEIVED and considered:

a) CCBC Regulatory Services - Community engagement road show events
It was NOTED that the Clerk hoped to attend the event in October at Kinmel Bay.

b) Conwy District CAB – An invitation to attend AGM, together with an information sheet and list of members.

c) Colwyn Bay, Abergele & District Twinning Association
- Minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2009

d) One Voice Wales
It was RESOLVED that Cllr. J.A. MacLennan attends the annual conference and AGM, to be held on Saturday 10th October from 10am, at a cost of £70, plus travel expenses.

e) Mayor's Diary
- Details of the Mayor's forthcoming engagements, including the Civic Service, to be held on Sunday 1st November at 2.30pm

f) Future Meetings
- Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees

g) Urgent Correspondence
- The following items of urgent correspondence were RECEIVED:

(i) A request to vote on nominations for the Play Wales Trustee Board
- It was RESOLVED to support the nomination for Mary Davies

(ii) Y Bont – a new bulletin from N W Police Authority

231/09

Update from County Councillors

- A brief update was RECEIVED from the following County Councillors on matters relating to their Wards:

a) Cllr. J.E.H. Pitt
- a formal complaint has been made against the Planning Department by Mr Sewell, Bryn Castell

b) Cllr. T. Rowlands
- A complaint has been submitted regarding the timing of the traffic lights and it was discovered that one loop was defective and will need repair.
- The Gele Avenue disabled parking bay will be removed (the sign will be removed now, but the removal of the marked bay may take up to six months)
- A task and finish group at CCBC will be asked to consider parking issues at Glanrafon.

- c) Cllr. R.D. Peacock
- Has been told that the planning application for the pharmacy at the business park has now been passed by Planning, with some reservations.
- d) Cllr. D. Holland
- An Engineer from the Infrastructure Service has now been appointed to progress seeking detailed quotations for the height barriers and associated ground work at the Pensarn Promenade car parks and he has recommended a hoop style barrier to protect the boundaries of the car parks. It was mentioned that planters were not considered suitable, as they would block the pavement. Cllr. Holland asked the Council if it was happy to see a standard type barrier used, as at Water Street Car Park, or whether something more ornamental should still be pursued.
It was RESOLVED to request several quotations, if possible, to include both utilitarian and more ornamental styles of barrier.
- 'The Next Step', Cllr. Holland's recent report, has now been submitted at CCBC and feedback is awaited.
- Changes will be made next year to the 'no dogs' areas of the beach, to allow dog walkers easier access to the permitted areas.
Concern was expressed that the fingerpost signs on the Promenade had been painted over and the lettering was now virtually impossible to read.
It was RESOLVED to request that this matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the East Promenade Consultative Group.

232/09 **Meeting with Darren Millar, AM**

A copy of the notes from the recent meeting with Mr Millar was RECEIVED and NOTED.

233/09 **Public Meeting re: Pentre Mawr Park**

- a) A copy of the informal notes from the public meeting held on 28th September was RECEIVED.
- b) Members considered and agreed the arrangements for the follow-up meeting, scheduled to take place on Tuesday 13th October at 6.30pm.
It was RESOLVED that this should be a meeting of the new 'Friends of Pentre Mawr Park' and not a Council meeting.
It was FURTHER RESOLVED that at least two members of the Parks & Play Areas Sub-Committee should attend the Friends meeting, to enable a discussion about the different roles of the Friends and the Town Council to take place and to allow information and ideas to flow freely between the two bodies and the County Council.
It was NOTED that details of the meeting would be circulated again in the town and the park and that the Clerk would send an invitation to the Rugby Club, Football Club, Cricket Club, Youth Club and the police. It was hoped that Cllrs: J.D. Mortimer, R.M. Medlicott, P.D. Meredith and S. Rowlands would be able to attend this first meeting, on behalf of the Council.

234/09 **Police Liaison**

The report and recommendations from the meeting held on Monday 28th September and a copy of the Policing Pledge were RECEIVED and considered.
It was RESOLVED to write to Ian Roberts, Chair of the N.W. Police Authority, regarding the concerns about Officers being taken off neighbourhood policing duties to cover Response.

235/09 **Representation on Outside Bodies**

A request by Cllr. T Rowlands that a replacement Councillor be appointed to the Board of Governors at Ysgol Glan Morfa was considered.
It was RESOLVED to appoint Cllr. R.M. Medicott.

236/09 **Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to DEFER the receipt of the draft Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees until the next meetings:

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

237/09 **Planning / Licensing**

- a) The planning applications, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached, were considered and concluded as detailed on that schedule.
- b) The planning decisions issued by C.C.B.C., as detailed on Schedule 'B' attached, were NOTED.
- c) It was NOTED that no licensing applications had been listed by C.C.B.C. for the Abergele area for the period 14th to 25th September 2009.

The Meeting Closed at 8.35 p.m.

..... Chairman

Abergele Town Council

Schedule 'A' - Planning Applications

Date Considered	Planning Ref No	Description	Applicant(s)	Determination Level	Observations
1.10.09	0/36316	Variation of Condition No. 1 of planning permission No. 5/3179 dated 17.4.67 to allow for the use of a hot food takeaway at Jolly Fryer, Water Street, Abergele	Mrs Maria Fontana		No objections
1.10.09	0/36330	Extension to dwelling and erection of garage at 111 Lon y Cyll, Pensarn, Abergele	Mr & Mrs Cooper		No objections

Abergele Town Council

SCHEDULE 'B'

Planning Decisions issued by Conwy County Borough Council from 24/08/09 to 20/09/09

0/36137 Erection of conservatory at 39 Coed Bedw, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions

0/36153 Erection of replacement dwelling at Bryn Teg, Llanfair Road, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions

0/36167 Conversion of existing shop, store and toilets to restaurant including hot food take-away, to include internal alterations and installation of flue pipe at 4 Market Street, Abergele

Decision: Withdrawn

0/36183 Demolition of existing garage and utility room and erection of new single storey extension at 15 Clwyd Avenue, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions

0/36195 Change of use from garden to form extended seating area in conjunction with existing coffee lounge and wine bar (Retrospective Application) at Land to rear of 9B Market Street, Abergele

Decision: Refused

0/36212 Erection of garage to rear of dwelling at 21 Maes Canol, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions

0/36249 Construction of new access ramps and installation of new shop front with integral security shutters at Pensarn Post Office, 62-64 Marine Road, Pensarn, Abergele

Decision: Approved with conditions
