

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE, held at 8.30 p.m. on Thursday 18th February 2010, immediately after the General Purposes and Planning Committee, in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

475/09 **Attendance Register:**

The Mayor, Cllr. D.A. MacRae

Cllr. B.C. Roberts (Chairman)

Cllrs: J.M.D. Bird; G.P. Davies; J.A. MacLennan; R.M. Medicott; P.D. Meredith; R.D. Peacock; S. Rowlands; J. Stubbs; R.G. Waters; A Wood

Mrs C.J. Earley (Clerk)

476/09 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were RECEIVED from:

Cllrs: M. Bond; J.D. Mortimer; T. Rowlands; K.J. Sudlow

477/09 **Disclosure of Interest**

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

None were declared.

478/09 **Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the last meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee, held on 21st January 2010

479/09 **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

a) Digital Mapping Software – Min. 385/09(a)

It was NOTED that the digital mapping software from Parish on-line is now available for use and has been used to provide maps to assist the Friends to plan improvements for Pentre Mawr Park.

b) Land at The Mount – Min. 258/09(b)(ii)

(i) It was NOTED that Howell Jones & Company make no charge for the retention of deeds and that the Deeds/Land Registry Documents for both the Town Hall and The Mount have now been lodged at the local office.

(ii) No update was available on the completion of the transfer of land adjacent to The Mount.

c) Pensarn Promenade Protection Measures – Min. 391/09(a)

The Clerk gave a verbal update, following a meeting convened by Shane Wetton of the Bay Life Initiative earlier this week, attended by Cllr. K.J. Sudlow, Alan Sharp, Rob Dix and Gareth Daniels of CCBC, Cllr. Dave Holland, the Clerk and Shane Wetton.

It was NOTED that the tenders had now been received for the project and that the cheapest of these, at over £48,000, was £8,000 over the amount budgeted. A draft Project Initiation Document (PID) had been submitted to Shane to apply for £20,000 WAG SRA funding towards the project, omitting the final resurfacing of the pavements to keep the project to within the £40,000 budgeted. However, Shane had indicated that this was

unlikely to be acceptable to the SRA Board, due to the need for 'patching up' instead of resurfacing once the barriers are installed and the Board's desire to see design improvements to make more of the 'entranceway' location of Pensarn.

Alan Sharp, who is responsible for managing the concessions on the promenade, stated that he would like to see the scheme widened to incorporate improvements to the shelters, toilets, benches etc.

Following some discussion, it was noted that a recommendation had been made that CCBC take over as the lead body for the scheme and that some design elements from the Colwyn Bay Waterfront scheme are incorporated into a wider scheme of improvements for Pensarn beach and promenade.

The protection measures for the car parks and improvements to the shelters and seating could then be submitted to the larger SRA pot as 'phase one' of a larger scheme of works, designed to attract tourism.

Shane Wetton and Alan Sharp agreed to arrange a meeting with representatives from Environmental Services, the Harbour Master's Office and Highways to look at the scheme from a strategic perspective and Abergele Town Council was requested to earmark the £12,500 set aside in the current financial year towards the project.

It was RESOLVED to support the CCBC led approach, but to request that the work done to date is not ignored and that close liaison with Abergele Town Council continues.

d) DWF LLP Documents – Min. 435/09(d)

It was NOTED that Cllr. R.G. Waters has now listed all the documents received from DWF LLP, which had previously held by J R Williams & Co Solicitors.

It was FURTHER NOTED that CCBC had an interest in some of the documents and hoped to arrange to pick up the boxes shortly.

It was RESOLVED to ask if CCBC would defer collecting the items for the time being, to allow the Council to copy those items which were of interest in the local area.

e) Premises Maintenance – Min. 442/09

(i) It was NOTED that the removal of paper, re-plastering and painting of ceilings in rooms 1, 5 and 6 and the replacement of lights in the main chamber is scheduled to take place during w/c 22nd February.

(ii) It was NOTED that the new photocopier will be ordered, for delivery once the work in Room 1 is complete.

480/09

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were RECEIVED and considered:

a) Abergele Joint Burial Committee
- Notice of the precept for 2010/11

b) Welsh Assembly Government

(i) Consultation on Accounts and Audit (Wales) amendment Regulations

It was NOTED that the main changes affecting town and community councils include the bringing forward of the date that the RFO must sign the draft accounts, ready for audit, to 30th June, with the Council approving the final accounts by 30th September, assuming the audit has been concluded. These changes will not come into affect until

2011/12.

(ii) Review of Councillors' Allowances Regulations

It was RESOLVED to REFER this document to the Local Government Sub-Committee, for a response by 11th June.

c) Requests for Financial Assistance

The following late requests for financial assistance were RECEIVED and considered:

(i) Denbighshire & Flintshire Agricultural Society

- Denbigh and Flint County Show – August 2010

It was NOTED that the amount available for annual grant applications for 2009/10 had been fully committed at the October grants meeting and that there were no further funds available.

It was RESOLVED to write to inform the society that there are no funds available this year and that applications are considered annually, in October.

(ii) Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan

- Funding towards harp renovation work

It was RESOLVED to write to inform the school that there are no funds available at the present time and that applications of a non-urgent nature are usually only considered annually, in October.

(iii) North Wales International Music Festival

It was RESOLVED to DEFER considering the sponsorship of a community outreach tour until the new financial year.

(iv) North Wales Police – Youth Reward Trip to Alton Towers

- request for funding towards cost of coach hire.

It was RESOLVED to inform PCSO Mulvaney that the Council has no funds available at the present time.

d) Appointment of Legal Advisors

A letter of thanks was RECEIVED from Howell Jones & Co, following their appointment as legal advisors to the Council.

e) The following additional items of URGENT correspondence were RECEIVED:

(i) Ysgol Sant Elfod

- Letter of thanks for grant funding for 2009/10 (not yet spent) and details of how the grant proceeds were used in 2008/09

(ii) 'Bright Ideas' Competition

- Two versions of the ropelight design for the winning entry were considered – one static and one animated.

It was NOTED that the cost of the animated design was almost double that of the static version.

It was RESOLVED to place an order for the static Robin motif, at a cost of £396.50 plus VAT.

481/09 **Sub-Committee Minutes**

- The Minutes of the following sub-committees were RECEIVED:

- a) The Newsletter Sub-Committee, held on 25th January 2010
- b) The Newsletter Sub-Committee, held on 8th February 2010

482/09 **Matters Arising on Those Minutes:**

- a) March Newsletter

It was NOTED that the March edition of the newsletter, which is in a trial bi-lingual format, has now been sent for printing.

483/09 **The Financial Situation, as at today, was NOTED:-**

	£
Current Account	1,637.85
Monthly Interest Account	<u>116,591.82</u>
TOTAL:	118,229.67

Hall & Development Account	472.78
Hall & Development Reserve	<u>70,684.39</u>
TOTAL:	71,157.17

484/09 **Payment of Accounts**

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

The Meeting Closed at 9.00 p.m.

..... Chairman

Abergele Town Council

SCHEDULE 'A'

Payments authorised on Thursday 18th February 2010:

	Chq No:	Total	Incl. VAT	Notes / Statutory Powers
		£	£	(new or unusual payments)
a) Salary payments	BACS	2,836.60		
b) Inland Revenue (Salaries)	103727	1,043.45		
c) Gwynedd Pensions	103728	945.26		
d) Tiscali (Broadband)	DD	18.79	2.80	
e) CCBC - National Non-Domestic Rates		NIL		
f) Petty Cash Imprest Acc	103729	86.29		
g) NWAT&LCC - quarterly meeting	103715	37.50		
h) Friends of Abergele Parklands	103716	400.00	**	
i) WNW - stationery	103717	10.78		
j) Spurcroft Ltd - civic plaques	103718	264.38	39.38 **	
k) Alexander Locksmiths - brass plates fitted	103719	32.90	4.90	
l) D H Window Cleaning	103720	22.00		
m) Pennine Tea & Coffee Ltd	103721	52.38	1.23	
n) SLCC Enterprises - Clerk's Practitioners Conference	103722	229.12	34.12	
o) Scottish Power - christmas lighting	103723	636.96	94.87	
p) N MacRae - maintenance and fence repairs	103724	73.00		
q) Travel Claims: R G Waters - OVW meetings	103725	107.60		
r) John Ffrancon Griffiths - translation	103726	75.55		
s) WNW - stationery and supplies	103730	81.41	12.13	

** 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.