

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 14th June 2012 at 6.45p.m. in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

61/12 Attendance Register

The Mayor, T. Rowlands;
Cllrs: M.D. Bird; M. Bond; G.P. Davies; D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medicott; D. Meredith; R.D. Peacock; M. Roberts; S. Rowlands; J. Stubbs; K.J. Sudlow;
R.G. Waters; A. Wood
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

62/12 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: J.E.H. Pitt; B.C. Roberts;

63/12 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).
None were declared

64/12 Olympic Window Competition Winners

The Chairman welcomed the attending finalists to the Meeting and presented a Certificate to each, with third prize to Gwalia Butchers and first prize to Howell Jones Solicitors.

The Chairman thanked them for participating in the competition, which has received an unprecedented amount of contestants on this occasion, and for attending the meeting.

65/12 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record the Minutes of the following Meetings:

- (a) Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on 14th May 2012**
- (b) The Annual Meeting of the Council held 17th May 2012**

66/12 Matters Arising from those Minutes:

- (a) Play in the Park provision for 2012. An update from CCBC with regard to the suitability for activities in Gele Park. Members were pleased with the response that Gele Park was to be utilised on this occasion but wished for it to be noted that it should be addressed as Parc Gele not Gele Park and to request that CCBC ensure that the programme is advertised more widely this year
- (b) The Clerk provided an update to members following the interviews for the Administration Officer of the Town Council which were carried out on Wednesday 13th June 2012. Members RECEIVED a confidential file of the process undertaken and the Clerk provided a verbal report stating that Mr Dilwyn Jones had been offered the post with the official commencement date of 1st July 2012.

67/12 Correspondence

- The following items of correspondence were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and

NOTED:

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for June 2012
- (b) To receive details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees
- (c) Informal notes from the recent Police Liaison meeting, members referred to the various points which were NOTED.
It was RESOLVED to request further information regarding those points.
- (d) Photographs from the Annual Meeting were RECEIVED, members who wish to purchase please complete the form on the table and payment to be received by 21st June 2012
- (e) A letter of congratulations from a local resident following the Olympic Relay. Members commented on how many members of the public had congratulated the Council for their hard work and a special note of thanks was expressed to Cllr Wood, Cllr Medicott, Cllr Morris Roberts and Mr Gareth Jones Administration Assistant for all their hard work.
- (f) A letter from OVW regarding a forthcoming Conference and AGM. **It was RESOLVED that Cllr Waters would attend and the Clerk to enquire with Cllr MacLennan if he also wished to attend.**
- (g) A flyer from Patchwork Shares Timebank regarding their launch on Tuesday 19th June. **It was RESOLVED to take up the offer of a presentation to the Council.**
- (h) An email from One Voice Wales regarding the Stakeholder Reference Group
- (i) An email from Hope House requesting a vote
- (j) An email from CCBC regarding Council Prayers. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk provides a response on behalf of the Council stating that members support the petition for prayers to continue.**
- (k) An email from CCBC regarding Capturing Creativity – Pat Chown Award
- (l) An email from CVSC regarding a forthcoming event
- (m) An email from CCBC regarding a forthcoming meeting
- (n) An email from CCBC regarding ICO Advisory Visits. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk contact ICO to request that they provide further information to members.**
- (o) An email from CVSC regarding funding for Heritage Project. **It was RESOLVED to request a presentation is provided to the Heritage Sub Committee**
- (p) An email from OVW regarding Flooding. **It was RESOLVED to inform that premiums for insurance in these areas are high due to the risk factor.**

Standing orders were suspended

**As the third prize winner of the Window Competition had arrived, it was RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to present Girls World with the second prize for the Window Competition.
The Chairman thanked Girls World for attending and presented a certificate and prize.**

Standing orders were reinstated

- (q) An email from Community Action for Climate Change regarding a forthcoming event
- (r) An email regarding Marsh Tracks Annual General Meeting
- (s) A letter from CCBC regarding the Local Development Plan Revised Delivery Agreement. The Chairman informed members that at a recent meeting of CCBC the LDP had been approved with amendments. Some progress had

been made for Abergele including a proposal to remove of some Green field sites in favour of brown field sites. Abergele County Councillors were in favour of the Focus Changes and will continue to object to the overall nature of the LDP which was NOTED. A short 6 week consultation will be undertaken followed by submission to the Planning Inspector. There is still work to be done and the Chairman recommended that an LDP working group be formed. The message to Welsh Government and CCBC should continue to be that 6800 houses may be required but a large amount is in the Abergele area which is not feasible.

It was RESOLVED to keep the matter on the Agenda.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED to invite an Officer from CCBC and the Regional AM to a Meeting.

- (t) A letter from Darren Miller AM offering to meet with the Council. Members wished to thank Mr Miller for his invitation. **It was RESOLVED to accept Mr Miller's offer to attend a meeting.**
- (u) A letter from CCBC regarding Conwy's Community Walking Project requesting funding. **It was RESOLVED to forward a grant form to the group for the 2013 round of grant funding and FURTHER RESOLVED to offer free room hire to the group as an alternative to funding.**

68/12 **Town Centre Project**

The Mayor briefly outlined plans that he would like to the Council to consider with regard to forming a working group to help and promote local businesses in the Town and Pensarn area. With proposals to be presented at the Annual Grants Meeting. Areas of concern were street presentation, parking, bus stops etc. To possibly include representatives from local businesses and for the businesses to take ownership by offering incentives to tidy up their premises. **It was RESOLVED to formalise a working group.**

69/12 **Internal Audit and Annual Return for 2011/12**

- a) **It was RESOLVED that the Statement of Accounts for 2011/12, subject to External Audit was APPROVED AND SIGNED by the Chairman of the Council and Chairman of the Policy & Finance and the Clerk.**
- b) The Annual Return for 2011/12 was APPROVED for completion and signing of the Annual Governance Statement.

70/12 **Charity of Robert Roberts (Trustees)**

- (a) The Clerk provided an update from Janet Evans Solicitors with regard to the wording of the previous minutes. **Members RESOLVED to APPROVE the amendments recommended by the Solicitor as follows:**

To receive a copy of the recent Meeting Notes regarding the transfer of the Church Street property into the name of the Town Council as holding Trustee. The following points raised were CONSIDERED as follows:

- (xii) **It was RESOLVED to APPROVE a charitable donation to be made after the new Trustees are appointed of a maximum amount of £500 to the Charity of Robert Roberts for Old Age Pensioners for any maintenance work required**
- (xv) **It was RESOLVED that an amount not in excess of £1000 was APPROVED for Legal costs, Land Registry and Search fees incurred by the Town Council the transfer of the Church Street property to them as holding Trustee . It was FURTHER RESOLVED that the last four words of the paragraph should be removed (and any other expenses).**
- (xvi) **The Clerk provided an outline of Section 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 stating that the Town Council are not**

able hold and administer gifts to a charity for the benefit of inhabitants to be used for the benefit of the poor. Members AGREED that this is not the case as the Property is for the benefit of elderly people regardless of their financial status.

An additional item of correspondence from the Solicitor was considered and it was RESOLVED to confirm that the Mayor and the Chairman of the Policy & Finance Sub Committee would sign the document. It was FURTHER RESOLVED that a resume to date of the events that have taken place is provided to members.

- (b) The Clerk clarified the position of the Town Council once the transfer has taken place and the role of Holding Trustees which was APPROVED by members
- (c) An update was provided by the Clerk to inform members that the transfer had not been completed to date as the contact in the Red Cross was on leave at present.

71/12 Membership of Sub-Committees for 2012/13

- (i) Members considered the review of the existing Sub Committees and amendments were NOTED on the Schedule
 - (ii) A new Sub Committee to be named Street Scene Sub Committee was APPROVED
- (b) To review the membership of each Committee
- (i) Members wishing to vacate a seat were APPROVED and NOTED on the Schedule
 - (ii) Members wishing to fill vacancies, were APPROVED and NOTED on the Schedule
 - (iii) Mr Andy Clark – Street Lighting Manager as was APPROVED as a non-voting member of the Christmas Decoration Sub Committee

72/12 Website Details

The review the website details for each member it was RECOMMENDED that members contact the Clerk directly if any detail requires amending.

73/12 Representation on Outside Bodies

- The Council's representatives on Outside Bodies for 2012/13 were CONSIDERED and amendments NOTED on the Schedule

74/12 Members Details

The review of member details it was RECOMMENDED that members contact the Clerk directly if any details require amending

75/12 Urgent Correspondence

- To RECEIVE any additional items of urgent correspondence
A local member reported that boulders in the Pensarn Beach area had been moved which could allow travellers to access the beach. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk raises the issue with CCBC**

76/12 Update from County Councillors

- An update from County Councillors was RECEIVED as follows:
(i) LDP – as NOTED above in Min No: (s)

- (ii) CCBC AGM – has taken place and Cllr Dilwyn Roberts has been voted as the Leader. There has been a Cabinet re-shuffle with Cllr Chris Hughes holding the Portfolio for Social Services, and Cllr Mike Priestly for Highways.
- (iii) Principal Scrutiny has discussed the new Social Services proposals for Wales
- (iv) Sharing of Heads of Service
- (v) Mental Health Wales
- (vi) Following Consultation it was resolved that no fishing will take place in CCBC ponds in the County.

77/12 **Revised list of Councillors as at May 2012**

- A copy of the revised list of Councillors in order of seniority for the Members Information file was RECEIVED

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78/12 **Minutes**

- The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were RECEIVED:
 - (a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held 19th April 2012.
 - (b) Policy & Finance Committee held 19th April 2012

79/12 **Documents for Information**

The Following documents for information were NOTED

- (a) Hafan Cymru – Fundraising Events
- (b) Welsh Government News
- (c) Institute of Welsh Affairs
- (d) Action for Market Towns
- (e) An email from CVSC regarding a Self-help co-operative
- (f) CVSC Mail – Big Lottery Fund
- (g) WCVA
- (h) Planning Aid Wales Community Newsletter
- (i) CCBC LDP Conwy Delivery Agreement May 2012

Meeting Closed 8.55pm

Signed.....
(Chairman)