

# Abergele Town Council

## MINUTES

A meeting of the POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE was held at 6.45pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2013, in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

443/13 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, A. Wood;  
 Cllrs: M.D. Bird; M. Bond (Chairman); G.P. Davies; B. Kinsey; J.A. MacLennan;  
 D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medlicott; D. Meredith; B.C. Roberts; M. Roberts; S.  
 Rowlands; T. Rowlands; K.J. Sudlow; R.G. Waters;  
 Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

444/13 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from:  
 Cllrs: J.E.H. Pitt; J. Stubbs;

445/13 **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).  
 Declarations of interest were received from:  
 Cllr K J Sudlow Min No: 454/13

446/13 **Visitors to the Council**

- (i) The Mayor Cllr Andrew Wood opened the meeting and welcomed the Winners of the 2013 Christmas Window Competition to the meeting who were presented with a prize and certificate as follows:  
 Third place went to Beauty Rooms  
 Second Place went to Hairaholics  
 First Prize went to Girls World

The Mayor thanked them all for attending and for their hard work and creativity.

- (ii) The Chairman welcomed Cllr Mike Priestley Cabinet Member for Environment, Roads and Facilities of CCBC to the meeting who attended the meeting by request to discuss the Market Car Park with members.

*Standing orders were suspended*

The Clerk provided an overview of the situation to date stating that members signed an Agreement in the summer to use the car park free of charge but for 50% of the profit after expenses occurred to be paid to CCBC.

Cllr Priestley informed members that Andrew Wilkinson is now overall in charge of Environment, Roads and Facilities. Free parking in CCBC owned car parks has been granted from 3pm daily from the 8<sup>th</sup> December to January. An overall review of car parks is to be carried out in the new year. Members explained that the Town Council is funding free parking on a Saturday and Sunday in the Water Street car park until the end of February to support the Town. Members explained that they are currently paying for a clean of the Library car park and are happy to pay the £50 if it includes the cleaning. Cllr

Priestly stated that CCBC are happy to consider the Town Council taking over the Library car park for a peppercorn rent.

Members informed Cllr Priestly that the regular town cleaner was transferred to another area and the Town suffers from bird mess and could do with an increase in cleaner hours. The park has won an award for presentation.

Members enquired if all parking could be free and were informed that parking is making a loss to date.

Members informed Cllr Priestly that there was an ongoing consultation with regard to the provision of one or two disabled spaces on Market Street. The Town Council support the provision of two. Cllr Priestly informed that he would take the Town Council's views on board when he makes his decision in the New Year. Members requested parking in the Library car park is improved.

A County Member enquired if Cllr Priestly was aware of an incident that occurred in the Town recently and enquired if the driver had been dealt with and if the lady had received a letter from the County? Cllr Priestly stated that he was not aware of the incident but would investigate.

Members enquired how often the Parking attendants visit the Town and were informed that visits take place up to 8pm in the evening. Members informed Cllr Priestly that between 6:30pm and 8pm is a problem with cars parking on the pavement by the Post Office, and enquired how many hours' officers spend in Abergele. A member informed that in Denbighshire and Flintshire parking fees are lower than in Conwy and enquired if other county charges are taken into consideration when charges are set?

The Chairman thanked Cllr Priestly for attending and Cllr Priestly thanked members for the opportunity to meet with members.

### *Standing orders were reinstated*

The Clerk informed members that an incident had been reported by a trader on the Market. The Clerk has informed members that the Market Officer had been informed and would speak to the traders and inform them that such incidents are detrimental to the future of the Market. A request from the Market Officer that the Market is only held on the first Sunday in January and February and then recommences in March, due to a fall off of traders at this time of year was APPROVED.

#### 447/13 **Minutes**

**-It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the last meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee, held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013.**

#### 448/13 **Matters arising on those and previous Minutes**

- (a) (i) An email cost from CCBC for the removal of the tree at the front of the Town Hall and replacement was RECEIVED
- (ii) A cost for the removal of the tree at the front of the Town Hall from the Tree Warden was APPROVED.

- (b) An update from the Clerk with regard to the provision of a cost for bollards/hanging basket columns on Market Street was RECEIVED and APPROVED for inclusion in the 2014/15 Estimates.
- (c) An update from CCBC with regard to the Pensarn Barrier project was DEFERRED to the next meeting
- (d) An email from Welsh Government with regard to the Ill Health Insurance Scheme was NOTED
- (e) A letter from Abergele Golf Club with a request to sponsor the Abergele Junior team was RECEIVED. The Clerk informed members that 7 of the 8 youths were from Abergele. **It was RESOLVED to donate £500 to the youth team for the tournament. It was FURTHER RESOLVED to send a letter of congratulations and a request to complete a grant application for future funding.**

449/13 **Correspondence**

-the following items of correspondence were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and NOTED:

- (a) An email from Parking shop regarding their online shop was NOTED.
- (b) A letter from Welsh Government with regard to the Consultation of Accounts and Audit Wales Regulations 2005 was NOTED
- (c) A letter from Gwynedd Pension Fund with regard to the new scheme commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 was RECEIVED. It was AGREED that staff members could attend the presentations and that a request from Gwynedd Pensions to hold the presentations in the Chamber was APPROVED free of charge.
- (d) A letter from WPS with regard to an online survey
- (e) A letter from Welsh Government with regard to the Section 137 sum for 2014/15

450/13 **To consider any urgent Items of Correspondence**

- (a) A Councillor informed members that TIWs had been burgled last Sunday evening. Members expressed concerns regarding the effect that this may have on businesses in the Town should this become a trend. **It was RESOLVED to increase the Mayors fund by £200 for this financial year.**
- (b) The release of a grant payment for 2013/14 for Friends of Abergele Parklands deferred originally for audited accounts in a financial year was APPROVED.

451/13 **Draft Meeting Notes**

The draft meeting notes from the Task and Finish group regarding hiring of rooms at the Town Hall for approval was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the RECOMMENDATION of the group.**

452/13 **Draft Minutes**

**In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and with Standing Order no.68, it was RESOLVED that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.**

The DRAFT CONFIDENTIAL Minutes for APPROVAL from the following Committee were RECEIVED.

- (a) Staffing Sub Committee held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 (CONFIDENTIAL FILE page 1-8)

**It was RESOLVED at the RECOMMENDATION of the Chairman of the Staffing Sub Committee to DEFER item 421/13 (C) (i) back to the Staffing Committee and 421/13 (d) to the next meeting due to the lateness of the hour. Item 421/13 (b) was APPROVED.**

453/13 **The Financial Situation as at today was NOTED:-**

	£
Current Account	22214.01
Monthly Interest Account	110540.39
General Reserve	<u>51389.00</u>
	<u>184143.40</u>

**TOTAL:**

	£
Hall & Development Account	<u>56925.91</u>
Regeneration Reserve	<u>272.21</u>

454/13 **Payment of Accounts**

The payment of accounts falling due, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached was APPROVED.

455/13 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the following Meetings/Committees were RECEIVED:

- (a) Christmas Decoration Sub Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013
- (b) Local Government Sub Committee held on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2013
- (c) Staffing Sub Committee held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2013

456/13 **Document for information**

The following documents for information were NOTED

- (a) Christmas Card from Conwy TC
- (b) Foodbank Newsletter
- (c) Draft Accounts and Audit Regulation 2014
- (d) Revocation and remaking of the Accounts Nov 2013

Meeting closed at 8:20pm

Signed .....  
(Chairman)

# Abergele Town Council

## SCHEDULE 'A'

Payments authorised as at 19th December 2013:

		Chq No:	Total £	Incl. VAT £	Notes / Statutory Powers (new or unusual payments)
1	Salaries	DD	2825.75		December salaries
2	CCBC	DD	696.00		December payment
3	Scottish Power	DD	71.00		December payment
4	Bank Charges	DD	26.97		
5	BT Phone	DD	416.26		quarterly telephone bill
6	HMRC	DD	805.90		December salaries
7	Gwynedd Pension	104772	902.17		December salaries
8	Petty Cash	104771	102.78		
9	Girls World	104768	150.00		1st prize xmas window comp
10	Hairaholic	104769	75.00		2nd prize xmas window comp
11	Beauty Rooms	104770	50.00		3rd prize xmas window comp
12	WNW x 2	104773	172.02	28.67	Envelopes/paper
13	CCBC	104774	144.00	24.00	Xmas concert flyers
14	Paul A Roberts	104775	1454.40	242.40	new urinals
15	Next Day Coffee	104776	113.48	4.00	refreshments
16	Digital Dreams	104777	45.00		host charge
17	Best One	104778	4.16		
18	Liveteck	104779	96.00	18.00	final invoice
19	Barritt and son	104780	2220.00	370.00	xmas trees 2013
20	FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd	104781	4000.00		Rugby Club match funding for WREN
21	JT & M Signs	104782	36.00	6.00	water street sign free parking
22	Eirlys Roberts	104783	625.00		refreshments
23	NWN Media x 2	104784	470.00	40.00	advert in journal and distribution
24	IDB	104785	150.00	25.00	audio system repair
25	Cathedral Leasing	104786	13.00	2.17	monthly charges
26	John Ffrancon Griffiths	104787	59.34		translation
27	Abergele Theatre Group	104788	200.00		replacement cheque
28	Canon	104789	215.90	35.98	rental charges for jan-march 14
29	S J Ward	104790	204.84	34.14	light fault in room 5 and emergency light
30		104791			
31		104792			
32		104793			
33					
34					
35					
	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16,344.97</b>	<b>830.36</b>	

\*\* 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.