

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 4th July 2013 at 6.45p.m. in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

138/13 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, A. Wood;
Cllrs: M.D. Bird; M. Bond; G.P. Davies; D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medicott; B.C. Roberts; M. Roberts; J. Stubbs; R.G. Waters;
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)
Member of the public

139/13 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: D. Meredith; R.D. Peacock; J.E.H. Pitt; T. Rowlands; K.J. Sudlow;

140/13 **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

141/13 **Visitors to the Council**

(a) The Chairman welcomed Mr Huw Webb, Flood Awareness Officer for Natural Resources Wales to the Meeting who provided members with an overview of communities that are at risk of flooding from the River Gele. Mr Webb informed that he is working with communities who are most at risk with the aim of building a Community Scheme Plan. Defences are still being carried out and this is beyond what is required in order to be able to ensure that the information is received by the emergency services. Mr Webb explained that they are constantly monitoring and preparing a scheme to ensure that early severe flood warnings are received and developing a guide for local knowledge. Individuals can sign up and receive an update of flood warnings. Mr Webb further explained that they are seeking to appoint Flood Wardens and hope to encourage individuals and Councillors in affected areas to join. Work that was completed last year has reduced the risk of flooding in the area. To date the team have visited 700 homes in the area to promote the plan and are meeting the junior schools next week. The team are keen to appoint Flood Wardens to report potential blockages. A member provided an overview of a potential problem in the Gele Park area and was informed that work is due to commence in three weeks' time. A member requested a link from Mr Webb to add the Town Council's website in order to make the public aware. The Chairman thanked Mr Webb for attending the meeting.

(b) The Chairman welcomed Claire Duffy from NW Windfarms to the Meeting who provided members with an overview of the current situation. Ms Duffy informed members that she is an Environmental Planner for Scottish Power who is responsible for providing the electricity cables to the Windfarms linked from Mid and North Wales, Shropshire and Cheshire. Ms Duffy explained that they are legally required to provide a connection if a company purchase a new connection.

Current projects included for consideration are Brennig, Nantbach, Durbach, and Codainog Forest. The latter is with the Planning Inspector Wales for

consideration under the consent process. The connection agreement is due to commence July 2014, with the St Asaph, Llansannan, Denbigh, Ruthin, and Corwen area under consideration.

If a connection of 132,000 vaults in St Asaph takes place it is likely to be an overhead cable, due to the cost of the steel lattice towers and a wooden pole to connect across the A55 to connect offshore to the Windfarm. Overhead installations are chosen as an option to avoid the removal of trees. There is a three corridor wide plan for St Asaph proposed through Denbigh, Henllan and Llansannan, which has been out to Consultation.

North Henllan to St Asaph, and Cefn is likely to have an overhead cable on a 100m wide corridor. Environmental and Technical will be another Consultation to follow. A request has been submitted to the Planning Inspector and is hoped to commence at the start of next year dependant on factors. It can take up to 18 month to obtain consent. A member asked the question as to why St George was restricted as to the consent and why the two connections could not be carried out at the same time. Ms Duffy informed that the National Grid carries out the underground and the overground is carried out by Scottish Power. Therefore, it is a different process to connect, cost and economics between the two different businesses. The Department of Energy has introduced a new system for all. Ms Duffy asked if the Town Council would be providing a view regarding the cables and was informed that the Town Council object to overhead cables and would be submitting a letter to state this.

The Chairman thanked Ms Duffy for attending.

142/13 **Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to receive, approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on 6th June 2013

143/13 **Matters Arising from those Minutes:**

- (a) The Clerk provided an update regarding the Pensarn Beach Car Park and informed members that the white lines will be repainted in both car parks in the next two weeks. An update regarding budget for the barriers and obtaining the tarmac chippings has still not been confirmed
- (b) An email update from Conwy Access regarding the request to be informed of future meetings in the area was NOTED
- (c) An email update from CCBC with regard to the NW police speed survey carried out on Llanfair Road was NOTED. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts NW Police for an update with regard to the location of the GoSafe vehicle.**

144/13 **Correspondence**

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

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for July 2013
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees with an amendment to the date of Staffing Sub Committee to 11th July, and the cancellation of the Police Liaison Sub Committee until September
- (c) A letter from OVW regarding the latest Edition of the Voice and Welsh National Memorial – Flanders. **It was RESOLVED to enquire with other Town Councils how much they plan on donation and forward to the**

Policy & Finance Committee for consideration. It was FURTHER RESOLVED to enquire how to apply for the £500 website grant.

- (d) A letter from the Ombudsman with their Annual Report 2012/13 was NOTED
 - (e) An email from CVSC regarding a Network meeting on the 15th July
 - (f) (i) Members RECEIVED and CONSIDERED emails from local residents regarding the provision of a licence for the Rugby Club and a copy of a recent article in the Daily Post
 - (ii) A letter from CCBC regarding the Licence application
- It was RESOLVED to forward the emails to CCBC on behalf of the residents and to inform the residents that ATC are not a Statutory Consultee**
- (g) An email from Business Wales with an invitation to an event on 4th July
 - (h) An email from OVW regarding a consultation on the Draft Supplementary Planning Note on Renewable and Low Carbon Energy
 - (i) An email from CCBC with regard to road closure for the Abergele Carnival on 6th July 2013
 - (j) An email from a local resident regarding the gating order review on Glyn Avenue
 - (k) An email letter from Welsh Government regarding Public Services Governance and Delivery
 - (l) The Clerk provided an overview of the Town & Community Council Forum Meeting which was held on 1st July 2013
 - (m) An email from Welsh Government regarding Renting homes White paper
 - (n) The subscription renewal for Colwyn Bay, Abergele and District Twinning Association was APPROVED

145/13 **Request by the Mayor**

- (a) The monthly Mayors Surgeries in the Abergele Library on the first Monday of a month was APPROVED
- (b) Members considered the request that the Town Council take over the organisation of the Annual Fireworks and Carnival. **It was RESOLVED not to accept the offer at this time.**

146/13 **Membership of Sub-Committees for 2013/14**

The updated Membership of the Sub Committees was RECEIVED

147/13 **Representation on Outside Bodies**

The updated Council's representatives on Outside Bodies for 2013/14 was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts the LEA to confirm the Community Governors for the local schools.**

148/13 **Proposal for a Market in Abergele**

Members received an update from the Clerk with regard to the proposal for a Market to run for a trial period in the Library Car Park stating that Licencing dept. confirmed that the stallholders would not be willing to work on a Monday and therefore the only day available is a Sunday. Members APPROVED the six week trial of the market in the Car Park at the rear of the Library with a vote of 5 in favour, 1 abstained and 3 members opposed and wished for their names to be recorded as Cllr Waters, Cllr MacRae and Cllr Davies.

It is proposed that the Market will commence in August and **RESOLVED that the Clerk requests that Traffic Wardens are present in the Town on that day and that a press release is made to the local Newspapers prior to the commencement of the Market.**

149/13 **Abergele Joint Burial Committee**

Members RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and APPROVED the Draft Room Hire Agreement from the Clerk for hire of a room by the Abergele Joint Burial Committee with an amendment to read Committee not Board.

150/13 **Urgent Correspondence**

- To RECEIVE any additional items of urgent correspondence

(a) The Draft Minutes from the Special Meeting were RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. Members APPROVED a pledge of £4000 to Abergele Rugby Club on the understanding that all relevant paperwork is received, as this is legislation set out by Welsh Government.

(b) Members RECEIVED an email request from the Rugby Club with regard to the above and requested that the Club accounts be submitted.

It was RESOLVED to form a small working group with the Rugby Club to ensure that the lines of Communication are kept open and Cllr MacRae, Cllr Bird, Cllr Brian Roberts, and Cllr Waters agreed to join the group on behalf of the Town Council. Cllr Wood agreed to join on behalf of the Friends of Abergele Parklands. It was FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk request a visit for members to the Club to view the work to date.

(c) The Chairman requested volunteers for Stewards for the Carnival on Saturday.

151/13 **Update from County Councillors**

- This item was DEFERRED to the next meeting

152/13 **Minutes**

- The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were RECEIVED:

(a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 16th May 2013.

(b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 16th May 2013

(c) Town Guide Sub Committee Meeting held on the 22nd April 2013

153/13 **Documents for Information**

The following documents for information were NOTED

(a) The Voice – One Voice Wales

(b) Colwyn Bay & Abergele Twinning Assoc Summer Events

(c) Welsh Government News

(d) Clerk and Council's Direct May

Meeting Closed at 9:05pm

Signed
(Chairman)