

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 5th February 2015 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

467/14 Attendance Register

The Mayor, B.C. Roberts;
Cllrs: M.D. Bird; M. Bond; B. Kinsey; J.A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medicott;
S. Rowlands; T. Rowlands; R.G. Waters;
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)
Mr. David Lee – North Wales Coast Guard
Member of the public

468/14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: G.P. Davies; D. Meredith; A. Wood;

469/14 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).

Declarations were received from:

Cllr. D MacRae	Min No:	472/14 (b)
Cllr. T Rowlands	Min No:	472/14 (b)
Cllr. S Rowlands	Min No:	473/14 (i)

470/14 Visitors to the Council

Standing orders were suspended

The Chairman welcomed Mr Barry Scales, Pest Control Officer, who provided an overview of a proposed plan to members of the solution to the pigeon problems in the Town. Mr Scales explained how the different organisations that he works with operate and their qualifications for the task.

Mr Scales provided an overview of the different methods available to alleviate the problem, i.e. spikes, gel, anti shock, cage trapping, and netting.

Mr Scales also provided an overview of the organisations that they have worked with to date, such as North Wales Police, Rhyl Town Council, and Prestatyn Town Council. Some sites will require a cherry picker to have access to the roofs and road closures. The cooperation of the Businesses in the Town through the Town Council is essential. Scaring and shooting are not options for Abergele.

The location where the pigeons are coming from is not yet known, but there is a minimum of 300 birds in the Town, which will produce 1400 tons of guano every year

Proofing, netting, spikes and trapping are to be considered. Costs would depend on the work to be programmed. Mr Scales is willing to trail the system for one week.

Standing orders were reinstated

It was RESOLVED to DEFER the matter to the Parks and Street Scene Committee for further consideration and an action plan.

471/14 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on the 8th January 2015

472/14 Matters Arising from those Minutes:

- (a) As no update with regard to the change of waiting time at the Library Car Park had been received by the Clerk the item was DEFERRED to the next meeting.
- (b)(i) An update following the recent march at St George regarding the Gypsy Travellers site was provided, stating that over 200 forms were distributed and over eighty were submitted on the day.
- (ii) A copy of David Jones MP Comments form was RECEIVED.
- (iii) A copy of Cllr Wood's response to CCBC regarding the Site was RECEIVED.
- (iv) The DRAFT comment form for ATC, prepared by the Clerk and Cllr T Rowlands was RECEIVED and APPROVED for submission with minor amendments by the deadline of Friday.
- (v) Observations RECEIVED for inclusion in the above comment form from members were NOTED

473/14 Correspondence

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

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for February 2015
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees
- (c) CVSC mail from 15th January 2015 to 29th January 2015
- (d) OVW emails from 15th January 2015 to 29th January 2015
- (e) A letter from the British Weights and Measures Association regarding allotments was NOTED
- (f) An email from the National Assembly for Wales regarding the Consideration of Powers: Public Services Ombudsman for Wales was DEFERRED to the Local Government Sub Committee for consideration
- (g) A Planning application from CCBC with regard to the proposed solar Panels application number 0/40999 was DEFERRED to the end of the meeting.
- (h) An email and copy of OVW's response to the Planning Committee Consultation was NOTED
- (i) A Freedom of Information request from the Chairman of Finance and Resources at Ysgol Emrys ap Iwan was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk confirms to the School that the Council have not spent any public funds on the adoption of the Roundabout field as a Village Green to date.**
- (j) An email from CCBC with regard to Social Housing was RECEIVED
- (k) An email from CCBC with regard to a road closure was NOTED
- (l) An email from a local resident highlighting the condition of the Information Board at the Mount was RECEIVED. The Clerk informed members that she had been in contact with Natural Resources Wales to enquire if they were going to replace the board and had been informed that due to the change from Environment Agency to Natural Resources that the board required a new logo and would look into the matter. **Members RESOLVED to wait for an update before considering further**

- (m) A copy of the OVW response to the Consultation on Overriding Easements and other rights. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk enquires with One Voice Wales on who's influence were the responses to this document submitted?**
- (n) A copy of the OVW response to the consultation on Front loading of the Development management system
- (o) An email from Conwy Access with regard to a request to the Abergele Surgery. Members of the Council support the request by Conwy Access for the Surgery to have a stock of batteries for the public's hearing aids.
- (p) An update from the Clerk following the recent Community & Town Councils forum was RECEIVED.
- (q) An email from CCBC regarding the proposed early merger between CCBC DCC was RECEIVED. The Clerk informed members that at the recent meeting above, CCBC expressed their shock at the recent decision by the Welsh Government not to accept the Conwy/Denbighshire merger.
- (r) An email from Grayling.com with regard to Superfast Cymru
- (s) An email from CCBC with regard to Victoria Pier, Colwyn Bay and future funding was RECEIVED
- (t) A copy of the plan from Wales & West for the gas pipe replacement scheme in Abergele was RECEIVED. The Mayor informed members that large containers had been placed on the grass verge on Llanfair Road, near Compton Way, which normally had wild flowers growing on. **It was RESOLVED that the Clerk informs the Company of this and requests that they ensure that the verge is reinstated following the completing of the works.**
- (u) An email from OVW with regard to the appointment of an Independent member to the BCHB

474/14 Leave of Absence

This item was DEFERRED to the end of the meeting

475/14 Committees

The Clerk requested that members consider the following:

- (a) An amendment to the name of the Town Guide Sub Committee to Marketing and Promotion Sub Committee as the Committee currently encompasses more than the production of the Town Guide i.e. website, email etc. was APPROVED.
- (b) The creation of an Events Committee, with a delegated budget for 2015/16 as the Town Council is involved in numerous events each year i.e. Remembrance Sunday, WWI Service, Remembrance Tree, Civic Sunday and there is a need to formalise the procedures and arrangements was APPROVED. **It was RESOLVED to set up the Committee with a £2000 budget and the following members wished to be part of the membership: Cllr B Roberts; Cllr S Rowlands; Cllr MacRae; Cllr MacLennan; Cllr Medicott; and Cllr Bird.**

476/14 Request from the Mayor

The Mayor Cllr Brian Roberts made a request to members to approve a Songs of Praise evening in St Michael's Church on the 24th April 2015 at 7pm. No associated costs would be requested from the Town Council, except for the production of a small amount of posters in the Town to promote the event. **It was RESOLVED to approve the event**

477/14 Urgent items

The Clerk informed members that she had received the resignation of Cllr Stubbs. Members expressed that they were saddened to receive the news. **It was**

RESOLVED to forward a letter of appreciation to Cllr Stubbs for her many years of service. The Clerk further informed members that the process of electing new members will now commence in line with the statutory procedures set out in the Local Government Act 1972.

478/14 Update from County Councillors

- The following verbal reports were RECEIVED from County Councillors:
 - (a) Gypsy travellers Site and the Road Closures in Chapel Street have been the main focus of attention this week
 - (b) The White paper received by County Council regarding the future of Local Government
 - (c) Principal Scrutiny has been considering the Budget and Council Tax with £10m savings year on year, having to be made for the next three years.
 - (d) Abergele Placeplan, Officers will be delivering the plan in the near future
 - (e) A seamless package for the elderly is being considered.

479/14 Minutes

- The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees was RECEIVED:
 - (a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 18th December 2014.
 - (b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 18th December 2014

480/14 Documents for Information

The following documents for information were NOTED

- (a) Amberol
- (b) Gwynt y Mor Community Investment update
- (c) Wales & West – Abergele Gas Pipe replacement scheme

481/14 Min No: 473/14 (g) deferred from above was CONSIDERED as follows:

An amendment to the Planning application from CCBC with regard to the proposed solar Panel farm, application number 0/40999 was CONSIDERED. **It was RESOLVED to forward the observations as detailed on the Schedule to CCBC Planning Committee**

482/14 Min No: 474/14 DEFERRED from above was CONSIDERED as follows:

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

- (a) A leave of absence Report for Cllr Gwyneth Davies was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. **It was RESOLVED to AUTHORISE the leave of absence under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.**

Meeting Closed at 8:50pm

Signed

(Chairman)