

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 8th January 2015 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

397/14 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, B.C. Roberts;
Cllrs: M. Bond; B. Kinsey; J.A. MacLennan; D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medicott;
D. Meredith; S. Rowlands; R.G. Waters; A. Wood;
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

398/14 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: M.D. Bird; G.P. Davies; J.E.H. Pitt; M. Roberts; T. Rowlands; J. Stubbs;
K.J. Sudlow;

399/14 **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).
None were declared

400/14 **A Word of Condolence**

Cllr B C Roberts advised members of the sad news of the recent passing of previous Councillor and Mayor of Abergele Town Council Mr Charles Billington. The full Council stood for a minute silence as a mark of respect.

401/14 **Visitors to the Council**

(a) As the Abergele Place Plan was not ready to be presented to members, Mr James Harland from the Planning section of CCBC postponed his visit to the 19th February 2015.

Standing orders were suspended

(b) The Mayor welcomed Mr Darren Millar AM to the meeting who provided members with an update regarding local matters of interest. Mr Millar thanked members for the good working relationship from members and the Clerk and stated that he wishes to work with the Town Council. Recent matters that Mr Millar has been involved with include the Abergele Hospital, Baby Care at Bodelwyddan and the LDP.

One current matter that Mr Millar is currently involved with is the proposal by CCBC to install a Gypsy Travellers Site in Bodelwyddan, but the site is actually in St George, Abergele which will affect the community, schools, and St George. Mr Millar has been working with County Councillors on this matter. Mr Millar then provided an update on the process that has been undertaken to reach this point in time.

Mr Millar also stated that Superfast Cymru is on its way to Abergele although no homes have currently been signed up.

Pressure on the emergency services and that Ysbyty Glan Clwyd is in a poorer position than the England hospitals, with more pressure on waiting times and a reduced budget in recent years.

A member stated that the Community Health Council advised the Ministers that this would be an issue and nothing was done. Mr Millar stated that there has been clashes regarding the closure of Community Hospitals and Minor injury units and that two have closed in Mr Millar's area. This will continue to put pressure on Emergency Departments, together with beds closing from acute units.

A member stated that prior to 2007/08 North Wales had the best response times and now only has 50% arriving on time. Mr Millar stated that this is an unacceptable situation with queues, too little beds; operations cancelled, and stated that there is a meeting on Monday to discuss such matters and requested that members and the public get in touch with regard to such matters.

A member informed that child and adolescent is a particular problem with young people being sent to the South of England.

Mr Millar thanked members for the invite and looked forward to seeing members at the Public Meeting on Friday and invited members to attend the Senedd as a delegate of the Assembly.

Standing orders were reinstated

402/14 **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 the 4th December 2014**
- (b) **Confidential Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on the 4th December 2014**

403/14 **Matters Arising from those Minutes:**

- (a) An update from the Clerk with regard to a more prominent place to present the Council attendance on the website was discussed. **It was RESOLVED that the attendance is added to the members section under their email address as suggested, together with apologies and no apologies.**
- (b) An update with regard to the change of waiting times at the Library Carpark was discussed. **It was RESOLVED to support the proposition and RECOMMENDED that the times are amended to 2hrs with no return within 12 hours between the hours of 8am and 8pm, Monday to Saturday**

404/14 **Correspondence**

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

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for January 2015
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees for January
- (c) The CVSC mail from 10th December 2014 to 2nd January 2015
- (d) The OVW emails from 10th December 2014 to 2nd January 2015
- (e) Membership request with Play Wales was APPROVED
- (f) Notification of road closure from CCBC on St George Road to Tan y Fron

- (g) An email for consideration from Cllr Bird was NOTED
- (h) An email from Burbo Bank with regard to an evening reception on the 22nd January 2015
- (i) A letter from CCBC with regard to the band 'D' base rate for 2015/16 was RECEIVED
- (j) An email from CCBC with regard to a road closure at Plas Newydd
- (k) An email from OVW with regard to the Draft National Transport Plan. **It was RESOLVED for members to forward their observations regarding the Plan to the Clerk prior to the next Local Government Meeting for inclusion in the pack and consideration at the meeting.**
- (l) An email from Welsh Government with regard to the Town Council's response to the recent Reforming local government white paper
- (m) An email from CCBC with regard to a consultation on Change of use within Town and neighbourhood centres supplementary Planning Guidance. **It was RESOLVED to DEFER the item to the General Purpose and Planning Meeting for consideration.**
- (n) An email from CCBC with regard to a road closure Ffordd y Berth St George Road
- (o) An email from OVW regarding a seminar in Llanrwst on the 22nd January with regard to Public Assets
- (p) An email from CCBC with regard to a proposed event in Pentre Mawr Park was APPROVED.
- (q) An email from CCBC with regard to temporary traffic regulation in Market Street to High Street. **It was RESOLVED to return the item in a list with the closure dates.**
- (r) Information from OVW regarding a Data Protection and Freedom of Information Course in Caernarfon on the 29th January 2014 was RECEIVED. The Clerk expressed an interest in attending but had another meeting on the same evening. It was APPROVED that if the Clerk does not have to attend the first meeting that she can attend the course. Cllr. Bond also expressed an interest in attending.
- (s) A notice from the NMWALC of a forthcoming meeting on the 23rd January 2015. Cllr MacLennan and Cllr Brian Roberts will be attending. Cllr Waters would inform the Clerk closer to the time.
- (t) A letter from the current Internal Auditor following the recent resolution was RECEIVED.

405/14 **Draft Minutes**

The Draft Minutes from the following Meetings/Committee were RECEIVED:

- (a) Estimates Sub Committee held on the 8th December 2014

406/14 **Matters arising on those Minutes**

(a) **Estimates Committee –**

- (i) Recommendations made by the Estimates Committee in preparing the Draft Annual Estimates for 2015/16 were CONSIDERED. **It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the Draft Budget with one amendment to item (13) Elections figure of £500 to be increased to £2500 and to be funded from the Reserves in order to not affect the precept figure.**
- (ii) The Annual Estimates for 2015/16, the level of the precept, for submission to CCBC was CONSIDERED, and it was PROPOSED and SECONDED that the reduction in precept is APPROVED at £38.24

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to APPROVE the Annual Estimates for 2015/16 and the level of precept was as agreed by the Estimates Committee, for submission to CCBC, and for the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Financial Plan & Annual Estimates.

Members thanked the Estimates Committee and the Clerk for their hard work

407/14 **Urgent items**

No urgent items were received

408/14 **Update from County Councillors**

- (a) The next meeting of the Abergele Place Plan will be held on the 28th January 2015 from 9:30am to 12:30pm
- (b) At Principal Scrutiny County members were informed that resources have a shortfall of £37m over the next 3 years
- (c) Final Settlement has been confirmed with a reduction of £7m, an overall reduction of 4.3%
- (d) A business case will be submitted in the Summer for the Conwy and Denbighshire amalgamation

409/14 **Minutes**

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

- (a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 20th November 2014.
- (b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 20th November 2014

410/14 **Documents for Information**

The following documents for information were NOTED

- (a) A Christmas message from Cllr Phil Edwards
- (b) CVSC News

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed
(Chairman)