

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 1st October 2015 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

299/15 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, S Rowlands;

Cllrs: M.D. Bird (arrived at 6:50pm); D. Hancock; J Hudson; A. Hunter; C. MacRae; D.A. MacRae;

R.M. Medlicott; G. Maddison; B. C. Roberts; R.G. Waters; A. Wood;

Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

300/15 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from:

Cllrs: M. Bond; S. Jones-Roberts; T. Rowlands;

301/15 **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).

Cllr D Hancock Min No: 304/15

Mandy Evans (Clerk) Min No: 306/15 (b)

302/15 **Visitor to the Council**

Standing orders were suspended

Cllr Bird arrived at this juncture

The Chairman welcomed Mr Darren Millar AM to the meeting who provided members with an update regarding local matters of interest. Mr Miller outlined that there had been challenges over the last twelve months which included the hospitals, Gypsy sites and the Post Office.

Mr Miller stated that he enjoyed a good working relationship with the Town Council and that Cllr B Roberts had visited the Senedd earlier this year and extended the invitation to all members.

With regard to local issues the Health Service Consultation closes on Monday to suspend the doctor lead maternity service and the matter had received an outcry from the public. Four options have been presented to the public.

Noise Mitigation barriers on the A55, are to be extended next year, and will be installed between April 2016 and March 2017.

Parking has been an issue and a number of residents contacted the office to raise concern. Mr Miller is in favour of free parking.

Mr Miller thanked the Clerk and staff for keeping him in the loop on matters of local interest and was sure that the Council feel the same in return.

The Gypsy Needs Assessment plan had been proposed and moving forward is joint working with Denbighshire. There did not seem to be any opposition to the Conwy Town proposal. There is a need for a larger site than that proposed for St George. Members thanked Mr Miller for all his hard work on behalf of the Community and Mr Miller explained that the Health Authority was suffering from a lack of trained Doctors, a GP surgery in Prestatyn has given notice to quit with 18000 patients and a second surgery may quit with 2500 patients. Wales have great challenges ahead and the reputation of Betsi Cadwaladr does not attract Doctors with the uncertainty of services. There are discussions taking place with Welsh Government to train in North Wales who traditionally pick up skills in the North West. Golden hello's to recruit, immigration issues, golden handcuffs to retain staff for a given length of time are all factors to consider.

The CAMHS unit was set up in Abergele with 23 beds; nine are now closed for 18 months as they cannot recruit staff. Young people are being sent to England for care and this is not good for the young person's wellbeing.

The Nursing home sector has not been considered, creating a shortfall as no communication with the independent sector has taken place.

Mr Miller stated that it had been a pleasure to meet with members on an annual basis.

The Chairman thanked Mr Miller for attending.

Standing orders were reinstated

303/15 **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 3rd September 2015**
- b) Confidential Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on the 3rd September 2015**

304/15 **Matters Arising from those Minutes:**

- (a) (i) A letter from the Post Office with regard to the relocation of the Abergele Post Office was RECEIVED.
- (ii) A letter from a member of the public was RECEIVED.
- (iii) A letter from Rt Hon David Jones MP was NOTED
- (b) An update from CCBC with regard to the proposed waiting times at the Library Car park. **It was RESOLVED to request that the notice at the Library is amended as the current sign is misleading, as there will be no charge for the use of the car park**
- (c) An email from a local resident with regard to TTIP was RECEIVED. Members felt that the item is not applicable to Wales at present, but RECOMMENDED that the item is forwarded to the MEP on behalf of the resident.
- (d) A letter from NMWALC with a request to consider the contents before the next meeting and a report from the Clerk was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED to support the document of behalf of the Council.**

Cllr Hancock retired at this juncture

- (e) An email update from CCBC with regard to SPG on Fences and an update from Cllr Hancock with regard to the process was RECEIVED. **It was**

RESOLVED to receive a further update and request that the County Council enforce their guidance.

Cllr Hancock returned at this juncture

- (f) An email from Welsh Government with regard to the request that the key centre is listed was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED to DEFER to the Heritage Committee to make a case for the building to be listed.**
- (g) An email update from CCBC with regard to the request from residents to install a bus shelter near Pensarn Post Office was RECEIVED. The Clerk provided an update to members stating that a cost for the installation of the shelter had been received at £3686.00. **It was RESOLVED to seek grant funding for the Shelter.**
- (h) An email from Church in Wales following a request by members was NOTED. It was PROPOSED that a meeting is arranged with Estates Management as the building is not owned by the Church but gifted to the people of Abergele. **It was RESOLVED to search the archives for confirmation of the previous point. It was FURTHER RESOLVED to contact the Rev Kate Johnson to request a copy of the meeting notes with the Rev. Shirley Griffiths.**

305/15

Correspondence

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

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for October 2015
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees were RECEIVED. The Clerk informed members that the Local Government Sub Committee meeting was incorrect and should not have been on the sheet.
- (c) CVSC mail from 11th September to 23rd September 2015
- (d) OVW emails from 11th September to 23rd September 2015
- (e) An email letter from CCBC with regard to the Consultation on LDP 34 – Waste Storage and Collection in New Developments was RECEIVED.
- (f) An email from CCBC with regard to a proposed loading bay in Pensarn. **It was RESOLVED to establish that there is a pavement and if confirmed then members have no observations.**
- (g) A copy of an email from CCBC with regard to traffic issues in Abergele. Members were informed that a meeting is taking place on Friday with County Officers. **It was RESOLVED that members of the Town Council support the County officers on this matter.**
- (h) (i) An email from Conwy Access with regard to forthcoming meetings was RECEIVED.
(ii) An email from Cllr Hudson with regard to the meeting was RECEIVED. It was APPROVED that Cllr S Rowlands, Cllr Hudson and Access would have a site meeting to discuss areas of Abergele.
- (i) An email from a member of the public with regard to the traffic lights was NOTED
- (j) An email from James Harland with regard to the Placemaking plan was NOTED
- (k) An email letter from Darren Millar AM with regard to the proposed changes to maternity services at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd was NOTED
- (l) An email from CCBC with regard to Buildings and Structures of Local Importance

- (m) A notification from the NWMWALC regarding the forthcoming meeting on the 23rd October 2015 was NOTED
- (n) A notification from OVW with regard to a forthcoming meeting on the 14th October 2015 was NOTED

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.

- 306/15 A copy of the Draft Minutes from the last Staffing Meeting was RECEIVED. Members considered the recommendations by the Committee under Min No: 231/15 (a) & (b) and 233/15.
It was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the recommendation in point 231/15 (a) for the Council to appoint a part-time Finance Officer on 15 hours per week.

The Clerk retired at this juncture

Members considered the RECOMMENDATION 231/15 (b) and it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the recommendation by the Committee.

The Clerk returned at this juncture

- 307/15 An update from the pigeon Company with regard to the progress of the work to date was RECEIVED and NOTED on the Confidential Minutes.
- 308/15 (i) A draft letter from the Town Council's Solicitor was RECEIVED and NOTED on the Confidential Minutes
(ii) An update regarding the Town Council's Insurance was RECEIVED and NOTED on the Confidential Minutes
- 309/15 **Matter Arising from the Mayor**
A suggestion by the Mayor to assist the local Businesses with the set-up of a Business Forum in the Town was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. Departure Lounge, Girls World, Flamingo and the Knitting Shop have all expressed an interest in being part of a Forum. As part of the Town Council's engagement with the businesses it was APPROVED to facilitate an initial meeting with the business and that the first meeting is to be held at the Town Hall for the group to set up their committee.
- 310/15 **Informal Notes from the recent meeting with Nat West representative**
A copy of the informal notes with members of the Executive Committee and the Regional Manager were RECEIVED. Cllr B C Roberts informed members that he had collected a plaque from the bank which had been presented by the Town Council some years ago.
- 311/15 **Update from County Councillors**
- Written and verbal reports from County Councillor were RECEIVED as follows:
(a) The County Council has made a call for new Gypsy sites. It was suggested that the Council should recommend alternative sites otherwise the matter may return to St George

- (b) An accommodation Audit has been carried out by the County Council

312/15 **Minutes**

- The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were RECEIVED :
 - (a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 16th July 2015.
 - (b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 16th July 2015.
 - (c) Staffing Sub Committee held 16th March 2015
 - (d) Police Liaison Sub Committee held on the 8th June 2015

313/15 **Documents for Information**

The following documents for information were RECEIVED:

- (a) St Kentigern News
- (b) Wicksteed playgrounds

Meeting closed at 9pm

Signed
(Chairman)