

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council were held on Thursday 4th February 2016 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

568/15 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, S Rowlands;

Cllrs: M.D. Bird; M. Bond; J Hudson; S. Jones-Roberts; J.A. MacLennan; C. MacRae; D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medicott; D. Meredith; G. Maddison; B. C. Roberts; T. Rowlands; R.G. Waters; A. Wood; Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

569/15 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from:

Cllrs: D. Hancock; A. Hunter;

570/15 **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).

Declarations of interest were received from:

Cllr B C Roberts	Min No:	576/15
Cllr R G Waters	Min No:	576/15
Cllr D A MacRae	Min No:	576/15
Cllr T Rowlands	Min No:	576/15
Cllr R M Medicott	Min No:	574/15 (n)
Cllr A Wood	Min No:	574/15 (n)
Cllr J Hudson	Min No:	574/15 (n)

571/15 **Visitor to the Council**

Standing orders were suspended

The Chairman welcomed Emma Dowell from Conwy CBC – CCTV section to the meeting, together with her Manager Mr Matthew Francom who provided members with an overview of the current CCTV system in the Abergele area. Ms Dowell explained to members that the service has been cut by £56k last year and a further £100k this year and therefore has lost staff in this current year.

There are 6 cameras in the Abergele area, the cost for maintenance of the camera is £281 each and this would equate to £1686 for the 6 cameras in the area. The Abergele cameras are more expensive than those of other Towns along the coast such as Llandudno and Colwyn Bay as they are further from the hub. The service will be moving to the new premises in Colwyn Bay in the future with a new category 2 system which is linked to the Police. The system will be upgraded from analogue to digital and Ms Dowell showed members the difference in the technology for the new and old systems.

As CCTV is not a statutory service the impact of cuts effects with service and the provision of delivery for the future. The system is in need of investment and they are looking for Stakeholders to support the service. Ms Dowell informed members that they would provide notice to the Council if a camera was to be switched off.

The Chairman thanked Ms Dowell for their presentation.

Standing orders were reinstated

It was RESOLVED to defer the matter to the next Agenda for consideration and to request a list of crime from NW Police in which the use of the CCTV cameras aided in the solving of the crime for consideration.

572/15 **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 7 January 2016

573/15 **Matters Arising from those Minutes:**

- (a) An update from CCBC with regard to the proposed waiting times at the Library Car park was NOTED
- (b) An update from Conwy Planning with regard to the recent request regarding Planning application number 0/40507 was RECEIVED.
- (c) An update from CCBC with regard to a query from members regarding the Consultation on Community Infrastructure levy (CIL) – Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule was RECEIVED. It was NOTED that 15% of the levy was to return to Town & Community Councils and for this to be investigated.

574/15 **Correspondence**

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

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for February 2016
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees
- (c) CVSC mail from 16 January to 29 January 2016
- (d) OVW emails from 16 January to 29 January 2016
- (e) The renewal of the membership subscription for Play Wales was RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and APPROVED
- (f) An email from a local resident with regard to the achievement of pupils from St Elfod in the Urdd was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED to send a letter of congratulations to the pupils and to add the item to the Newsletter and website**
- (g) A letter from Welsh Government with regard to the Section 137 expenditure for 2016/17 was NOTED
- (h) A copy of the Minutes from the last Voluntary Access group was RECEIVED
- (i) A letter from OVW with regard to the membership for 2016/17 was RECEIVED. Members received an overview to the current situation from Cllr Waters in support of remaining as members. Cllr Waters was thanked for his report.
It was RESOLVED to remain in the association with a unanimous vote in favour, and one abstention
- (j) A copy of a letter sent to Cllr Hudson with regard to a proposed development from a planning agent for land on Towyn Road, Pensarn, Abergele was RECEIVED and NOTED.
- (k) An email from Abergele and Pensarn Hubbub with a request for a member to attend their next meeting. **It was RESOLVED that the Mayor would attend the event and an open offer to other members if they wished to attend.**
- (l) An email from CCBC with regard to a temporary traffic regulation for parking on Water Street was RECEIVED.
- (m) A message of thanks from Mr Ken Finch was NOTED

- (n) A copy of the minutes from the last meeting of the newly formed Abergele & Pensarn Action group and a copy of their constitution as requested by the Council to the previous group, Friends of Abergele Parklands, in order to obtain grant funding was RECEIVED. The Clerk informed members that she had received a further update following the minutes stating that the Friends of the Parklands were to continue and were not disbanding. The Clerk suggested that in order to move the matter forward that the Friends withdraw their grant application and that the newly formed group submit an application if they are to carry out the tasks to ensure that the green flag status is upheld. **It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the RECOMMENDATION by the Clerk.**

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 (Agenda items 8)

575/15 Clerks Report

A copy of a report from the Clerk with regard to the appointment of the new Cleaner/Caretaker and an update from the Clerk with regard to the Finance Support Officer. The Clerk informed members that the Cleaner/Caretaker post had been offered and was awaiting the receipt of satisfactory references. The Clerk informed members that the Finance Support Officer had been offered a full-time post and resigned. A meeting of the Staffing Committee took place last Monday evening and the decision was to offer the post to the second candidate who had declined the post as it was not enough hours. The post is now out to advert in the press.

576/15 Housekeeping

- (a) A copy of a report from the Town Council's auditor with regard to the Internal audit plan for 2015/16 (received at the Estimates Committee held on the 25 January 2016) was RECEIVED.
- (b) The schedule of meetings for 2016/17 was RECEIVED and members NOTED the amended dates. Members requested that the meeting to be held on the 5th May clashed with the Election day for the Assembly and requested it is amended and if the June amendments could be relooked at as members had booked holidays around the original dates.
- (c) The annual agreement between the Town Council and the Abergele Joint Burial Committee for continued shared hire of room 5 was RECEIVED and APPROVED.

577/15 County Councillors update

An update from County Councillors was RECEIVED as follows:

- (a) The gypsy site report is in the process of being drafted
- (b) There has been a reshuffle in the cabinet with Cllr Pierce now responsible for Communications, Cllr Phil Edwards has resigned, Cllr Sue Lloyd Williams is responsible for Social Services, Cllr Goronwy Edwards is responsible for Finance.
- (c) CCBC have responded to the Draft Wales Bill
- (d) The results of the Staff and Public Survey regarding the merger has been received the first choice is not to merge, second choice is with Denbighshire

578/15 Minutes

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

- (a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 17 December 2015.
- (b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 17 December 2015.
- (c) Local Government Sub Committee meeting held on the 11 November 2015
- (d) Staffing Sub Committee held on the 7 December 2015

(e) Executive Meeting held on the 10 August 2015

Meeting closed at 8:10 pm

Signed
(Chairman)