

# Abergele Town Council

## MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

127/15 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, S Rowlands;  
Cllrs: M.D. Bird; M. Bond; D. Hancock; J Hudson; A. Hunter; S. Jones-Roberts;  
C. MacRae; D.A. MacRae; R.M. Medicott; D. Meredith; G. Maddison; B. C. Roberts;  
R.G. Waters; A. Wood;  
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)  
5 Members of the Public

128/15 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from:  
Cllrs: J.A. MacLennan; T. Rowlands;

129/15 **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).  
None were declared

130/15 **Visitor to the Council**

*Standing orders were suspended*

The Chairman welcomed Lisa Jeffers an Abergele resident who is studying Medicine at Cardiff University to the Meeting. Lisa provided members with a presentation on defibrillators, and commenced with an overview of how defibrillators are used, who can use them and the current machine which has been installed in Tesco.

Lisa then provided an overview why it was so important to have as many defibrillators in the Community as possible, stating that for every minute lost the chances of survival decrease by 10% and questioned if one machine is enough when there are over 10,000 residents in the Community. Figures provided from Community Heart Beat stated that there is a 5% chance of survival from CPR and a 50% chance of survival when a defibrillator is used.

Lisa then went on to query if the public know that the Defibrillator is available and that this is an opportunity for Abergele to lead the way. Lisa is confident that any member of the public will be able to use these machines and requested that the machine is publicised as much as possible i.e. in the Newsletter.

To access the machine a code is required and this is obtained by dialling 999.

A member of the public stated that the Cricket Club was in the process of purchasing a Defibrillator for Pentre Mawr House and had received a cost of half the normal cost. The Rotary have already donated £750-800 towards the machine and requested a donation from the Town Council.

Members were informed that the Pensarn Community is also mainly of an elderly population and a machine should be located in that area. Location of the Defibrillators was considered to be crucial.

The Mayor thanked Lisa for her informative presentation

*Standing orders were reinstated*

131/15 **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 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

132/15 **Correspondence item (h) & (i)**

**As members of the public were present with an interest in item (j) and (k) and with the permission of members of the Council it was RESOLVED to move the item up the Agenda.**

*Standing orders were suspended*

- (a) A copy of a letter from the Post Office regarding the relocation of the Abergele Post Office was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED to invite Mr Adrian Welsh to a meeting with the Councillors to discuss the proposed move.**
- (b) A letter from a member of the public with a request to address members regarding the closure of the Post Office RECEIVED and APPROVED and Mrs Mayne Flower addressed members as follows:  
Members were informed that the Postmistress had not agreed to the move of the Post Office as stated in the leaflet issued and is aware of the impact that the relocation would have on the Town of Abergele and the detrimental effect on the customers who use the current location. The Abergele Post Office has received accreditation as the Best in Wales and second in the UK. The process to sell the business is that the current Postmaster has to resign and then a buyer is found. This was done and has been put on hold since the plan to relocate has been suggested. All of the Services will not be relocated; there will not be any space for mobility, easy chairs, photocopier, or photobooth.  
The retail leaflet states that the Post Office only offers cards and stationery, but it also has gifts. It has had 44 years of service by the family, who is total have 160 years of Postmasters. The proposed location will not have to cover the cost of the alterations, which was not the case with the current Post Office.

It was suggested by a member that the Town Council should support the opposition to the move of the facility which would include the redundancy of staff and further traffic congestion at a pinch point on the highway. It was suggested that the Town Council write to the AM and MP for support. It was further suggested that Adrian Wales is invited to a meeting to discuss the proposal as the alternative premises is not fit for purpose. Members of the Council raised several areas of concern with regard to adaption, staff, Disabled Disability Act.

Members gave a vote of thanks to the member of the public from bringing the matter to the Council.

*Standing orders were reinstated*

133/15 **Matters Arising from those Minutes:**

- (a) An update from CCBC with regard to the Register of members' interest was RECEIVED. A copy of an email from One Voice Wales which was verbally received at the last meeting was RECEIVED, together with the relevant section from the code of conduct
- (b) A copy of the document from Ombudsman Wales with regard to Code of Conduct was RECEIVED.

134/15 **Correspondence**

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

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for July 2015
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees was RECEIVED. It was NOTED that the that the iPad training session will take place on the 16<sup>th</sup> July and not the 2<sup>nd</sup> July as stated on the notice.
- (c) The CVSC mail from 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015 to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015
- (d) The OVW emails from 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015 to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015
- (e) An email from CCBC with regard to proposed work at Ty Crwn was RECEIVED. Members were informed that the diversion to the A547 is hazardous and a member has discussed the matter is Conwy Highways who have stated that they will add better signage around the Tan y Ogof area to warn traffic that there are cyclists on the road. **It was RESOLVED to inform the County that the work is being carried out at an unsuitable time of year.**
- (f) A copy of a letter and email from CCBC with regard to Diversity in Democracy Project
- (g) An update from BT with regard to the new telephone system was RECEIVED.
- (h) **It was RESOLVED to move this item to item 132/15 (a) above**
- (i) **It was RESOLVED to move this item to item 132/15 (b) above**
- (j) A letter from CCBC with regard to the Registry Office Service
- (k) An email from Gwyrch Preservation Trust with regard to a forthcoming event was RECEIVED. The following members confirmed their intention to attend the event – Cllrs: Wood +1, Bond +1, Hunter +1, Waters +1, Roberts, Jones-Roberts, the Mayor and Mayoress, Medicott, MacRae, and MacRae.
- (l) An email from CCBC with regard to the proposed waiting times at the Library Car park was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED to forward the following response to CCBC - members of the Town Council approved a 3 hour stay with no return within 12 hours.**

**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, 9 & 10)**

- 135/15 Members of the Council received the costs mitigating works for the pigeon problem in the Town Centre and together with an update from the Clerk. **It was RESOLVED**

- to increase the budget to £6000 and for the work to commence on the first phase as soon as possible.**
- 136/15 A cost for the repair of an electrical cable in the car park was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. **It was RESOLVED to hold and see if the original contractor returns to rectify the problem and the matter was DEFERRED. Members stated that the cable should be sunken 18” and not left on the surface.**
- 137/15 (i) A copy of a letter from the Town Council's Solicitor was RECEIVED and NOTED on the Confidential Minutes  
(ii) A copy of an email sent by the Clerk and verbal update was RECEIVED  
(iii) A second copy letter from the Town Council's Solicitor was RECEIVED and NOTED on the Confidential Minutes
- 138/15 **Membership of Sub-Committees for 2015/16**  
The following Committees were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and NOTED on the schedule for amending:  
(a) The existing Sub Committees  
(b) The membership of each Committee  
(c) Members wanting to vacate a seat  
(d) Members to fill vacancies
- 139/15 **Representation on Outside Bodies**  
- The Council's representatives on Outside Bodies for 2015/16 were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and NOTED on the schedule for amending
- 140/15 **Members Details**  
Members' details were REVIEWED and amend accordingly
- 141/15 **Revised list of Councillors as at May 2015**  
- A revised list of Councillors in order of seniority for the Members Information file was RECEIVED
- 142/15 **Update from County Councillors**  
- Verbal reports from County Councillor were RECEIVED as follows:  
a) A new map proposal has been submitted with the joining of Conwy and Denbighshire, which is been considered by Conwy CBC. A review of boundaries is currently being undertaken and members will update an update in due course.  
b) Garden Society Party, Carnival, Craft Fair all taking place in the next week  
c) Cllr S Rowlands informed members that he is no longer on the Conwy Fostering Panel.
- 143/15 **Draft Minutes**  
The Draft Staffing Committee Meeting Minutes approved at the last Policy & Finance Committee were RATIFIED
- 144/15 **Minutes**  
- The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were RECEIVED:  
(a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015.  
(b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015.  
(c) Local Government Sub Committee held 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015

- (d) Local Government Sub Committee held 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015
- (e) Newsletter Sub Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015
- (f) Christmas Decoration Sub Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015

145/15 **Documents for Information**

The following documents for information were received:

- a) Ombudsman Wales - Code of Conduct
- b) Gwyrch Castle Preservation Trust Summer Newsletter
- c) OVW/SLCC Training Strategy 2015-2019

Meeting Closed at 8:45pm

Signed .....  
(Chairman)